SAINT NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, June 11th, 2023

First Sunday after Pentecost: All Saints Sunday - Tone 8/Eothinon 1

Today's Hymns and Readings

Resurrectional Apolytikion Tone 8: From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of All Saints Tone 4: Thy Church, O Christ God, hath regaled herself in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout the entire world, as in porphyry and purple. Through them she lifteth her voice crying: Turn with Thy compassion toward Thy people, and grant peace to Thy city, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

Troparion of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker: In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness and a teacher of self-control. Therefore you have won the heights by humility, riches by poverty. Holy father Bishop Nicholas intercede with Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion of All Saints Tone 8: As first-fruits of our nature to the Planter of created things, the world presenteth the God-bearing martyred Saints in off'ring unto Thee, O Lord. Through their earnest entreaties, keep Thy Church in deep peace and divine tranquility, through the pure Theotokos, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.

The Trisagion Hymn:

English: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. **Arabic:** Qudduson ullah, Qudduson ulqawi, Qudduson ullahdhi, la yamut urhamna. **Greek:** Agios O Theos, Agios Ischiros, Agios Athanatos, eleison imas.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. Dynamis!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The Epistle

God is wondrous in His saints. In the churches, bless ye God. The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 11:33-12:2

Brethren, all the saints through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the Author and Perfecter of our faith.



The Holy Gospel *The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38;* 19:27-30

The Lord said to His disciples, "Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father Who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father Who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed Thee. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the New World, when the Son of Man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My Name's sake, will receive a hundred-fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

Synaxis of All Saints

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous..."

| AN ORTHODOX COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE |
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| A parish in the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast within the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America |
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| elcome to our church community! We are blessed to have |

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elcome to our church community! We are blessed to have you worshipping with us today. We are the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Christian Church whose roots trace directly back to first century Antioch, the city in which the disciples of Jesus Christ were first called "Christians" (Acts 11:26). The Orthodox Church is the oldest and second largest Christian group in the world. We are called by God our creator to worship and follow Him, and to proclaim to the world His message of love, peace and salvation.



Parish Treasury Report

| 2023 | April 2023 | YTD |
|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Income: | \$23,950.09 | \$86,611.82 |
| Expense: | \$21,557.50 | \$84,271.71 |

5/5/2023 Checkbook: \$54,306.35 Mortgage: \$38,923.59