

WELCOME TO  
**SAINT NICHOLAS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Third Sunday after Pentecost & Third Sunday of Matthew – Tone  
2/Eothinon 3**

**Today's Hymns and Readings**

**Resurrectional Apolytikion Tone 2:** When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

**Apolytikion of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist Tone 4:** O prophet and Forerunner of Christ God's coming to us, all we who with longing now extol thee are at a loss to honor thee worthily. For thy mother's barrenness and father's long silence, by thine all-renowned and hallowed birth, were both ended, and the Incarnation of the Son of God is preached unto all the world.

**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.

**Ordinary Kontakion Tone 2:** O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

**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**

*The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me sorely.*

*The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans 5:1-10*

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.



**The Holy Gospel**

*The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 6:22-33*

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

## Leave-taking of the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist

On June 24 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Nativity of the venerable and glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John. TODAY (June 25) is the Leave-taking of the Feast.


Six months before his appearance in Nazareth to the All-holy Virgin Mary, the great archangel of God, Gabriel, appeared to Zacharias the high priest in the Temple at Jerusalem. Before he announced the miraculous conception to the unwed Virgin Mary, the archangel announced the miraculous conception to the childless old woman Elizabeth. Zacharias did not immediately believe the words of the herald of God and this is why his tongue was tied with dumbness and remained as such until eight days after the birth of John. On that day, the relatives of Zacharias and Elizabeth gathered for the young child's circumcision and for the sake of giving him a name. When they asked the father what name he wishes to give to his son and being dumb, he wrote on a tablet "John." At that moment, he could speak again.

Six months later, the iniquitous King Herod heard the news of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and sent soldiers to slay the male children under two years of age throughout Bethlehem, including our Savior and the Forerunner. Herod's executioners killed Zacharias between the altar and the temple (Luke 11:51). His blood coagulated and petrified on the stone pavers and remained a perpetual witness against Herod. Elizabeth hid with her child in a cave where she died soon after. The young child John remained in the wilderness alone under the care of God and God's angels.

### Parish Treasury Report

2023	May 2023	YTD
Income:	\$23,423.09	\$110,034.81
Expense:	\$24,170.54	\$108,442.25

6/5/2023 Checkbook: \$57,822.82 Mortgage: \$36,538.59



AN ORTHODOX COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE FIND TRANSFORMATION IN JESUS CHRIST

# SAINT NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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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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**W**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.