# SAINT NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Tone 7/Eothinon 8 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost & Eighth Sunday of Matthew

### **Today's Hymns and Readings**

**Resurrectional Apolytikion Tone 7:** Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world 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 the Transfiguration Tone 7: Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

#### 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 will give strength to His people. Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory. The Reading is from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 1:10-17

Brethren, I appeal to you, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissension among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispos and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.



#### The Holy Gospel

#### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 14:14-22

At that time, when Jesus went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to Him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish He looked up to Heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds.

## Paraklesis & Dormition Fast

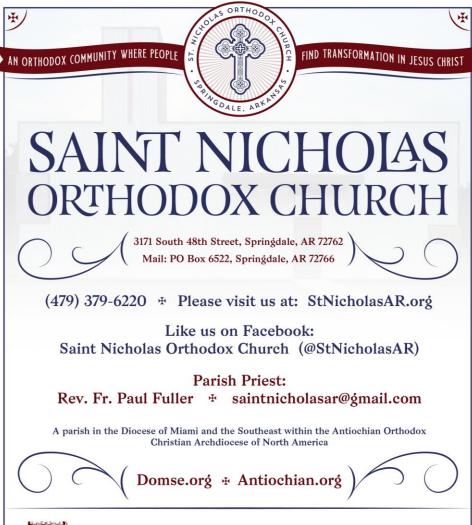
A paraklesis is a service of "supplication" specifically for the living (as opposed to a Memorial Service, which is a supplication for the departed). Paraklesis translated from Greek literally means "a pleading." This service is most often addressed to the Theotokos, but may be used to seek the intercessions of any saint. The distinguishing feature of a paraklesis is the inclusion of a supplicatory canon to the saint whose intercessions are being sought. A paraklesis can be served as a stand-alone service or, in a slightly abbreviated form, in conjunction with Vespers. It is appropriate to be served at any time of need. In Slavic practice, there is a similar service that is called a "molieben" – served as a stand-alone service or in conjunction with the Divine Liturgy.

During the Dormition Fast (August 1-14), a paraklesis is appointed to be served each evening, except on Saturday evenings and the eves of the feasts of Transfiguration (August 6) and Dormition (August 15). The paraklesis of the Dormition Fast use, on alternate days, Small Supplicatory Canon to the Most Holy Theotokos (composed by Theosterictus the Monk in the 9<sup>th</sup> century) and Great Supplicatory Canon to the Most Holy Theotokos (composed by Emperor Theodore I Ducas Lascaris in the 13<sup>th</sup> century). The cycle of the Dormition paraklesis is determined by two guidelines: (a) the cycle begins with the Small Supplicatory Canon whenever August 1 falls on a Monday through Friday; and (b) on Sunday evenings, the Great Supplicatory Canon is always appointed. *[Pastoral discretion is used for which canon will be served and when during the Dormition Fast for practical usage in a parish community.]* 

#### Parish Treasury Report

2023	June 30, 2023	YTD
Income:	\$18,912.90	\$128,947.71
Expense:	\$19,987.74	\$128,429.99

7/7/2023 Checkbook: \$57,206.70 Mortgage: \$32,894.71



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.

