

March 27, 2022

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America

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Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Rector, mobile: 810-247-4265 & Protodeacon Kerry Luke Gonser

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Welcome! We are honored that you have joined us in our celebration of the Lord's resurrection this day.

If you are a first-time visitor to our parish, we invite you to sign our guest book in the vestibule. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with Fr. Matthew, Deacon Luke, or with one of the ushers.

For our friends present with us who are not Orthodox Christians, please note that we have specific disciplines regarding receiving Communion. We ask that you refrain from going to Communion until you have spoken with Fr. Matthew after the Liturgy and understand our discipline and piety regarding this sacrament and its implication for responsibility towards and membership in the Orthodox Church. The bread offered at the end of the service is available to all.

If you are an Orthodox Christian from another parish who has prepared in accordance with your discipline, and have a blessing from your home priest to do so, we invite and encourage you to partake of Holy Communion. **Again, welcome!**

SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 7. Veneration of the Cross. Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica (3rd-4th c.). Martyrs Manuel and Theodosius (304). Ven. John the Clairvoyant, Anchorite, of Egypt (394-395). The “GLYKOPHYLOUSA” and the “AKATHIST” Icons of the Mother of God on Mt. Athos.

FIRST ANTIPHON

The light of Your countenance, O Lord, has been signed upon us. (*Psalm 4:6*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

You have given a sign unto them that fear You, that they may flee from before the face of the bow. (*Psalm 59:4*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

You have ascended on high, You led captivity captive. (*Psalm 67:18*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

You have given an inheritance to them that fear Your Name. (*Psalm 60:5*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

SECOND ANTIPHON

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. (*Psalm 97:3*) **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!**

Let us worship at the place where His feet have stood. (*Psalm 131:7*) **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!**

The eyes of the Lord are upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy (*Psalm 32:18*). **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!**

God is our King before the ages, He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth. (*Psalm 73:12*) **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!**

High above all nations is the Lord; You are Lord Most High over all the earth. (*Psalm 112:4*) **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!**

THIRD ANTIPHON

Exalt you the Lord our God, and worship at the footstool of His feet. (*Psalm 98:5*) **Tone 1** O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

O God, save Your people and bless Your inheritance. (*Psalm 27:9a*) **Tone 1** O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

Shepherd them and bear them up unto the ages. (*Psalm 27:9b*) **Tone 1** O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

TROPARIA

Tone 7 By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Tone 1 O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

Tone 4 In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, O Holy Father Nicholas, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

KONTAKION

Tone 8 O victorious leader of triumphant hosts! We, your servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to you, O Theotokos! As you possess invincible might set us free from ev'ry calamity so that we may sing: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!

IN PLACE OF THE TRISAGION, WE SING:

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify.

The prokeimenon in the sixth tone: O Lord, save Your people / and bless Your inheritance. (Psalm 27:9)
v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Psalm 27:1)

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (4:14-5:6)

Brethren: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a Priest to the age, according to the order of Melchisedek."

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. Remember Your congregation which You have purchased of old. (Psalm 73:2)

v. God is our King before the ages: He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth. (Psalm 73:12)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK (8:34-9:1) At that time Jesus called to him the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

INSTEAD OF "IT IS TRULY MEET ... ,": All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace: the assembly of Angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child, our God before the ages. He made your body into a throne, and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace. Glory to you!

COMMUNION HYMN The light of Your countenance is signed upon us, O Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (*Psalm 4:6*)

INSTEAD OF "WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT":

Tone 1 O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

The Holy Gospel according to John 20:1-10 (7th Matins Gospel)

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

The Third Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross

With the help of God, we have almost reached the middle of the course of the Fast, where our strength has been worn down through abstinence, and the full difficulty of the labour set before us becomes apparent. Therefore our holy Mother, the Church of Christ, now brings to our help the all-holy Cross, the joy of the world, the strength of the faithful, the staff of the just, and the hope of sinners, so that by venerating it reverently, we might receive strength and grace to complete the divine struggle of the Fast.

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