

**Saint Nicholas  
Greek Orthodox Church**

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**Sunday, August 3, 2025**

*Eighth Sunday of Matthew*

8:45am: Orthros

10am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

## **Hymns of the Day**

### **Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode**

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. \* To the robber You opened Paradise. \* The lamentation of the myrrhbearing women You transformed, \* and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all \* that You had risen, O Christ our God, \* and granted the world Your great mercy.

**Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον. Ὕψχος βαρύς.**

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον· ἠνέωξας τῷ ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον· τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας, ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

### **Apolytikion of Saint Nicholas in the Fourth Mode**

An example of the faith and a life of humility: \* as a teacher of abstinence you did inspire and lead your flock, \* and through the truthfulness of your deeds \* were exalted to greatness through your humility, \* uplifting all, and by poverty gaining wealth. \* Father and hierarch Saint Nicholas, \* intercede with Christ our God \* that our souls may be saved.

### **Kontakion of the Transfiguration in the Grave Mode**

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance.

## **Gospel and Epistle Readings**

### **Epistle Reading**

#### **1 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 dissensions 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 Crispus and Gaius; lest any one 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 any one 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.

## Gospel Reading

### Matthew 14:14 – 22

At that time, Jesus 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 he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

# Saints and Feasts

## Isaac, Dalmatus, & Faustus, Ascetics of the Dalmatian Monastery

The son of a distinguished family, our holy father Dalmatus was a soldier from his youth. He served as an officer in the Second Company of palace guards and showed, despite the company he had to keep, a lively piety. When Emperor Theodosius was informed that Isaac, the Syrian hermit, had predicted to Valens his defeat against the Goths and had told him of his miserable death, the sovereign went to pay him homage, taking Dalmatus with him. Enchanted by Isaac's angelic mien and his words inspired by the Holy Spirit, Dalmatus went shortly afterwards to spend seven days with him, to enjoy his teaching. Renouncing all the honours and futile cares of the world, he soon became the most eminent of Isaac's disciples, both by the ardour he showed in ascetic labours and by his love of hesychia and compassion for the poor, who crowded to the monastery. Saint Isaac having fallen asleep in peace (406), the monks unanimously asked the Archbishop that Dalmatus take the succession.

When Nestorius, before spreading his fraud, was elected Archbishop of Constantinople, he went to visit the holy hermit. Dalmatus, however, sent him away, saying: 'First set right what you have hidden in your heart, and then you can come into my cell!' Nestorius having revealed his perfidious intentions and heretical opinions concerning the Mother of God, the Third Holy Ecumenical Council was convened in Ephesus. Thanks to the energetic action of Saint Cyril of Alexandria, the heresy was at once condemned by the bishops; but Nestorius' adherents, strengthened by their ascendancy over the Emperor and the court, still hoped to have the Council fail, blocking all communication with the capital.

Saint Cyril succeeded nevertheless in getting a letter to Saint Dalmatus by the hand of a man disguised as a beggar, who had hidden the missive in a hollow stick.

Followed by all his monks, who were joined on the way by a crowd of other religious and layfolk, holding candles in their hands and singing psalms, the Saint was admitted to Emperor Theodosius' presence, who was amazed to see before him this monk whom he had so often summoned without success. Informed of what had actually been happening and enlightened by the Saint about Nestorius' activities, the Emperor sent an edict to Ephesus, commanding that the Council's decisions concerning Nestorius' deposition be ratified, and ordered him to retire to his monastery near Antioch. It was after these events, which marked a decisive move towards the victory of Orthodoxy, that Saint Dalmatus was made archimandrite by the Council, and exarch of all the monasteries in the capital, a title inherited by his successors, making the Monastery of Dalmatus the first among the monasteries of the city and the bulwark of Orthodoxy.

Saint Maximian having governed the Church only for a short time, it was during Saint Proclus' episcopate that Saint Dalmatus fell asleep in peace at the age of eighty-five. After three days, a fragrant balm began to flow from the sarcophagus in which the Saint's body had been placed, and many of those who anointed themselves with it were healed of their ills.

Informed of the Saint's last wishes, the Archbishop consecrated Dalmatus' son Faustus abbot and archimandrite of all the monasteries. Refulgent with the grace of the Holy Spirit, wearing a venerable beard which made him look like Aaron and gifted with the gentleness of Moses, Saint Faustus showed himself not only to be an emulator of his father's virtues but also an imitator of his zeal in the defence of the true Faith at

the time of the condemnation of Eutyches, and also an inheritor of his wonderworking power. After having wisely governed his spiritual flock, he departed to join Isaac and Dalmatus in the Assembly of the Saints during the reign of Marcian.

## Wisdom of the Fathers

“Although the Lord had the power to supply wine to those feasting, independently of any created substance, and to fill with food those who were hungry, he did not adopt this course; but, taking the loaves which the earth had produced, and giving thanks, and on the other occasion making water wine, he satisfied those who were reclining at table, and gave drink to those who had been invited to the marriage; showing that the God who made the earth, and commanded it to bring forth fruit, who established the waters, and brought forth the fountains, was he who in these last times bestowed upon mankind, by his Son, the blessing of food and the favor of drink.”

- St. Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies* §3.

“He multiplied in His hands the five loaves, just as He produces harvest out of a few grains. There was a power in the hands of Christ; and those five loaves were, as it were, seeds, not indeed committed to the earth, but multiplied by Him who made the earth.”

- St. Augustine of Hippo, *Tractate* 24, §1.

“There were as many as five thousand men besides women and children, according to what another of the holy Evangelists has added to the narrative. Nor did the miracle end here. There were also gathered twelve baskets of fragments. And what do we infer from this? A plain assurance that hospitality

receives a rich recompense from God. The disciples offered five loaves. After a multitude this large had been satisfied, there was gathered for each one of them a basketful of fragments. Let nothing, therefore, prevent willing people from receiving strangers, no matter what there may be likely to blunt the will and readiness of men.”

- St. Cyril of Alexandria, *Commentary on Luke* 48.

“This bread which Jesus breaks is truly the mystical Word of God and a discourse about Christ which is increased while it is distributed. From a few discourses, he ministered abundant nourishment to all peoples. He gave discourses to us like loaves that are doubled when they are poured forth from our mouths. That bread in an incomprehensible fashion is visibly increased when it is broken, when it is distributed, when it is eaten without any understanding of how it is provided.”

- St. Ambrose of Milan, *Exposition of the Gospel of Luke* 6.86.

## Parish Prayer List

Please remember in your God-pleasing prayers the servants of God:

Connie (Constantina) Joufflas; Robert Tewis; Lance  
(Stylian) Schmitt; Olivia Coe

*If you would like for yourself or a loved one to be added to the prayer list, please contact Fr. Jeremy.*

## Parish Information

### Byzantine Chant Classes

Byzantine chant classes take place on **Saturdays at 4pm**. If you are interested in learning and helping out, please feel free

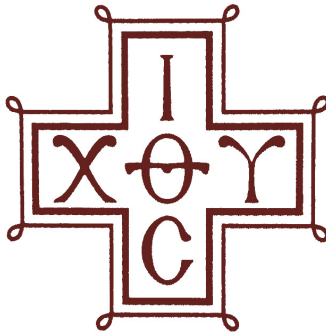
to attend!

### Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Breakfast will take place on Saturday, **August 2 at 8am**. Feel free to invite a friend!

### Ladies' Potluck Luncheon

Our Ladies' Potluck Luncheon group meets on the second Thursday of each month! The next luncheon will take place in the Church hall on **Thursday, August 14** at 12pm.



## This Week at St. Nicholas

- Monday, August 4: 6pm Great Paraklesis
- Tuesday, August 5: 6pm Great Vespers
- Wednesday, August 6 **Holy Transfiguration:** 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy, 6pm Small Paraklesis
- Friday, August 8: 6pm Great Paraklesis
- Saturday, August 9: 4pm Byzantine Chant Class, 5pm Great Vespers