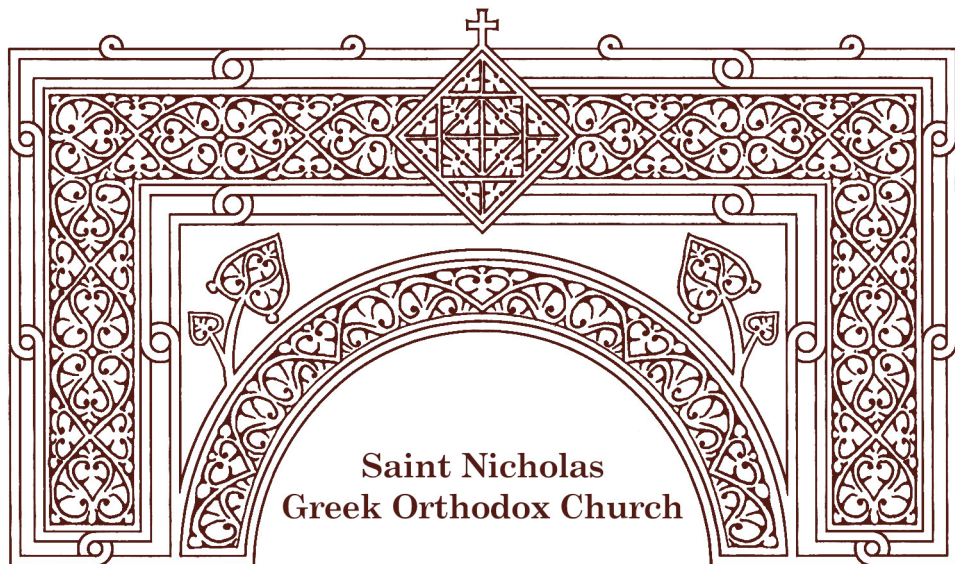




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Rev. Fr. Jeremy Troy, *Proistamenos*

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Sunday, November 16, 2025

Apostle and Evangelist Matthew

8:45am: Orthros

10am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον. Ἦχος πλ. β΄.

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμα σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ Ἰστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσχύλευσας τὸν ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστάς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion of the Evangelist Matthew in the Third Mode

Oholy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls forgiveness of offenses.

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 Entrance of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is she..

Communion Verse

Praise the Lord from the heavens. Alleluia.

Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν. Ἀλληλούϊα.

And the following:

His proclamation went forth into all the earth, and his words to the ends of the world. Alleluia.

Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτοῦ καὶ εἰς τὰ πέρατα τῆς οἰκουμένης τὰ ῥήματα αὐτοῦ. Ἀλληλούϊα.

Gospel and Epistle Readings

Orthros Gospel

Matthew 28:16 – 20

At that time, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age. Amen.”

Epistle Reading

Romans 10:11 – 21; 11:1 – 2

Brethren, the scripture says, “No one who believes in God will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and bestows his

riches upon all who call upon him. For, “every one who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.”

But how are men to call upon him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher? And how can men preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach good news!”

But they have not all obeyed the gospel; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ.

But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have; for “Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.” Again I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says, “I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation; with a foolish nation I will make you angry.” Then Isaiah is so bold as to say, “I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.” But of Israel he says, “All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people.”

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:9 – 13

At that time, as Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. And as he sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and

sat down with Jesus and his disciples.

And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Saints and Feasts

Apostle and Evangelist Matthew

This Apostle, who was also called Levi, was the son of Alphaeus and had Galilee as his homeland. A publican before being called by Christ, he became one of the Twelve Apostles, and an Evangelist. While still in Palestine, he wrote his Gospel first in Hebrew, being also the first of all to write the Gospel.

After preaching the Gospel throughout Palestine, the Apostle Matthew began ministering to the people of Ethiopia. He founded a Church in the city of Mirmena, and appointed his companion Platon as bishop there. The healings that the Apostle worked through the grace of Christ attracted the ire of the ruler Fulvian, who had him put to death by burning. Fulvian later repented of this deed, and was baptized by the bishop Platon.

When the Apostle Matthew is depicted in icons, there is portrayed next to him the likeness of a man, one of the symbolic living creatures mentioned by Ezekiel (1:10), which, as Saint Irenaeus writes, is a symbol of our Saviour's Incarnation.

Wisdom of the Fathers

“Why did he not call him along with Peter and John and the others? Just as in their case he came on the scene at the time he knew these people would believe, so too he called Matthew at the time he knew he would respond. This was actually the reason why he snared Paul after the Resurrection: knowing the heart, and aware of the unspoken thoughts of each one’s mind, he knew also when each of them would obey. Hence he did not call him in the beginning when he was still hardhearted, but only after the countless miracles and his widespread acclaim, when he knew he was in a better state of readiness to obey.

“Now, it is also worth admiring the evangelist’s sound values, how he makes no secret of his former life, and even supplies his name, whereas the other evangelists concealed his identity under another name. But why did he say he was ‘seated at the tax office’? To bring out the power of the one giving the call, the fact that he attracted him not when he had given up or desisted from this evil trade, but was involved in the evil practices.

“It was therefore like the way he also converted blessed Paul when he was ranting and raving and breathing fire, thus also providing a proof of the power of the one giving the call. He tells the Galatians, ‘You heard of my former life in Judaism, how I went out of my way to persecute the Church of God’ (Gal. 1:13). And the fishermen, too, he called while they were hard at work: it was a trade that did not attract calumny, but was for men of a rather rough disposition, without social skills, characterized by great simplicity, whereas the other occupation was marked by shamelessness and chicanery, profits that lacked any reasonable basis, highhanded dealings, and theft lurking under the guise of law.

“Yet the one giving the call was not deterred by any of

this. Why be surprised if he who is in a position to forgive every sin also makes this man an apostle?"

- St. John Chrysostom, *Homily* 30 "On the Gospel of Matthew," PG 57, pp. 362-63.

Parish Prayer List

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

Robert Tewis; Olivia Coe; Robert (Tikhon) Foster

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

Parish Information

Church School

Church School for our children begins following Holy Communion. We have two classrooms: one for elementary-school ages, and one for middle school and up. Please allow our Church School kids and their teachers to come up for Communion first.

Introduction to Orthodox Christianity

Our Adult Ed class meets on Sundays following coffee hour. We meet in the classrooms downstairs. Any who would like to learn more about our Orthodox Faith, whether a newcomer or a life-long member, are welcome to attend. Please contact Fr. Jeremy to be added to the distribution list for readings.

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, **December 20 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, November 13** at 12pm.



This Week at St. Nicholas

- Wednesday, November 19: 6pm Small Paraklesis
- Thursday, November 20: 6pm Great Vespers
- Friday, November 21 **Entrance of the Theotokos:**
8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Saturday, November 22: 4pm Byzantine Chant Class,
5pm Great Vespers