St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York &
Metropolitan of all North America
His Grace Bishop THOMAS, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland & MidAtlantic

The Very Reverend Father Samuel Haddad, Pastor
Deacon Matthew Benefield
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Tone 2 **August 16, 2026** Eothinon 11

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
AFTER-FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
RECOVERY FROM EDESSA OF THE ICON OF CHRIST NOT MADE BY HANDS: 'THE HOLY NAPKIN'

Today's Reader: Suresh Thomas

Next Sunday – August 23, 2026

Reader for August 23, 2026: **Matushka Loretta**

Commemorations and Bread Offering for August 23: **Nathaniel & Grace Keith**

Coffee Hour Luncheon next will be prepared by the Deighan & Shammaa Families

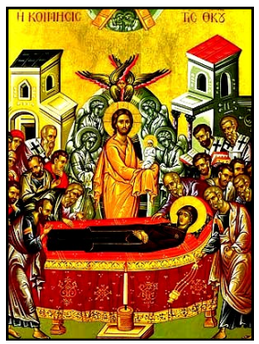
Bread for the Holy Oblation is offered for the Health and Salvation of Westley, Serenity and Solomon and the members of the Shammaa Family.

It is also Given In Loving Memory of the departed members of the Shammaa Family.

"the Disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)

Please note that **Holy Communion is reserved for members of the Holy Orthodox Church** who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession. However, all are welcome to partake of the blessed bread at the dismissal.

Please join us during our fellowship at the Coffee Hour immediately after the Divine Liturgy.



Make Note of the Following:

IMPORTANT ~ The Parish Council Meeting rescheduled to take place on August 30, 2026, at 1:30 pm. If you are not able to attend, please speak to Fr Samuel at the Luncheon today.

We will pray the Trisagion Prayers of Mercy this morning after the Divine Liturgy for the servants of God

Victor Lowen (Sdn. George's Father) 28 years
and
Clifford Haddad (Fr Samuel's Father) 17 years

May their memory be eternal

"Blessings Box" Collection Update

Beloved in Christ,
This year, we are collecting non-perishable food for our new BLESSING BOX! PLEASE KEEP BRINGING FOOD so that we may continue to stock our shelves and have food to stock adequately. We need to continue our efforts in providing food for those who are truly Hungry. God bless everyone for your holy efforts!

Tone 2 **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost & Eleventh Sunday of Matthew** Eothinon 11

After-feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Recovery from Edessa of the Icon of Christ Not Made by Hands: 'The Holy Napkin'

Troparion of the Resurrection, *in the Second*

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades 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.

Troparion of the Dormition, *in the First Tone*

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for living thou wast translated, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

Troparion of the Icon of Christ, *in the Second Tone*

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

Troparion of St. Nicholas, *in the Fourth Tone*

Thy righteous acts have manifested thee to thy flock as a model of faith, a reflection of humility, and a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nicholas. Therefore, through humility thou hast achieved exaltation, and through poverty riches. Intercede thou with Christ to save our souls.

Kontakion for the Dormition, *in the Second Tone*

Verily, the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercessions, who is never rejected, neither tomb nor death could control. But being the Mother of Life, He Who dwelt in her ever-Virgin womb did translate her to life.

Epistle

I Corinthians 9:2-12

Prokeimenon: The Lord is my strength and my song.
Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not nave thebe accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 18:23-35

Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, `Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, `Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, `Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, `You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Gospel *con't on following insert*

Calendar: August – November 2026

8/20/2026		The Prophet Samuel
8/29/2026		The Beheading of John the Baptist
9/1/2026		Feast of the Indiction (Church New Year)
9/7/2026 (Mon)	6:00 PM	Evening Divine Liturgy for Nativity of the Theotokos
9/8/026 (Tue)		Nativity of the Theotokos
9/14/2026 (Mon)		Elevation of the Cross
10/1/2026		Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos
Advent Fast 11/15/2026—12/24/2026		
11/20/2026 (Fri)	6:00 PM	Evening Divine Liturgy for Entrance of Theotokos
11/21/2026		Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Please Note

Important Announcement about the Parish Library:

- Temporarily, we will be pausing the lending of books from the library as we add new books to our collection. It is my hope that we will complete our work and open it back for lending around September 1.
- If you have books that you have borrowed and are finished reading them, please bring them back and leave them on the Conference Room table so we can include them in our inventory accounting.

Calendar for the Week of August 16, 2026	Saints of the Day
Sunday— August 16, 2026 **9:20 am** Orthros **10:30 am** Divine Liturgy	Diomedes the Martyr
Monday— August 17, 2026	Myron the Martyr
Tuesday—August 18, 2026	Florus and Laurus the Martyrs
Wednesday—August 19, 2026 **Fast**	Andrew the Martyr
Thursday—August 20, 2026	The Prophet Samuel
Friday—August 21, 2026 **Fast**	The Apostle Thaddaeus
Saturday— August 22, 2026 **5:00 pm** Great Vespers Confessions afterward	Agathonicus the Martyr
Sunday—August 23, 2026 **9:20 am** Orthros **10:30 am** Divine Liturgy	Lupus the Martyr

Please note that Confessions are heard at the time noted above in the coming week's schedule, or by appointment by calling Fr. Samuel at: (304) 254-0470, (304) 562-9129, or (304) 541-8550.