

HOLY  
APOSTLE  
TIMOTHY



Faithful  
Disciple  
of  
St. Paul

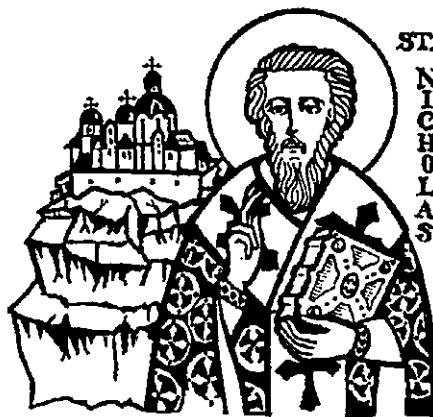


**Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church Bulletin**  
**And Holy Transfiguration Chapel**  
A Parish of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

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We would like to welcome all of our visitors and friends to Saint Nicholas Orthodox Parish. We would like to ask all of our new visitors to please sign our register so that we might be able to keep in contact with you about Parish celebrations and events. Through the intercession of Saint Nicholas we hope and pray that our community might continue to grow in numbers and in service to the Lord. Through your prayers and dedication of time, talents and donations, this can become a reality in all faith and in love.

In case of an emergency, please call Father Stephen day or night at the above telephone number.

**February 04, 2024**  
**Volume 17: Number 05**  
**Celebrating our 17<sup>th</sup> Year of Serving the Lord**  
**Schedule of Services and Activities**

Sunday, February 4 – 35<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 2  
9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful – Father Gus  
+James Pierman (3 Yr.), +John Loope (17 Yr.) – Kathleen Pierman

Sunday, February 11 – 36<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 3  
9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful – Father Gus

Sunday, February 18 – 37<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 4  
9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful – Father Stephen

Sunday, February 25 – 38<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5  
9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful – Father Gus

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**SCRIPTURAL READINGS**

35<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Mark 16:1-8; Liturgy: Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 18:35-43

Monday – Ephesians 1:22-2:3; Mark 10:46-52

Tuesday – Ephesians 2:19-3:7; Mark 11:11-23

Wednesday – Ephesians 3:8-21; Mark 11:23-26

Thursday – Ephesians 4:14-19; Mark 11:27-33

Friday – Ephesians 4:17-25; Mark 12:1-12

Saturday – 1 Corinthians 14:20-25; Matthew 25:1-13

36<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Mark 16:9-20; Liturgy: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1; Matthew 15:21-28

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## Saint Xenophon (Commemorated on January 26/ February 8)



Saint Xenophon, his wife Maria, and their sons Arcadius and John, were noted citizens of Constantinople and lived in the fifth century. Despite their riches and position, they distinguished themselves by their simplicity of soul and goodness of heart. Wishing to give their sons John and Arcadius a more complete education, they sent them off to the Phoenician city of Beirut.

By divine Providence the ship on which both brothers sailed was wrecked. The waves tossed the brothers ashore at different places. Grieved at being separated, the brothers dedicated themselves to God and became monks. For a long time the parents had no news of their children and presumed them to be dead.

Xenophon, however, already quite old, maintained a firm hope in the Lord and consoled his wife Maria, telling her not to be sad, but to believe that the Lord watched over their children. After several years the couple made a pilgrimage to the holy places, and at Jerusalem they met their sons, living in asceticism at different monasteries. The joyful parents gave thanks to the Lord for reuniting the family.

Sts Xenophon and Maria went to separate monasteries and dedicated themselves to God. The monks Arcadius and John, having taken leave of their parents, went out into the wilderness, where after long ascetic toil they were glorified by gifts of wonderworking and discernment. Sts Xenophon and Maria, laboring in silence and strict fasting, also received from God the gift of wonderworking.

Troparion - Tone 4 - O God of our Fathers \* always act with kindness towards us \* take not Your mercy from us \* but guide our lives in peace \* through the prayers of Venerable Xenophon and his family.

Kontakion - Tone 4 - You kept vigil in the courts of the Lord with your wife and two children, blessed Xenophon, \* and you gladly lavished your wealth on the poor. \* Therefore, you have inherited divine joy.

**PASTOR'S CORNER**  
**The Holy Mystery of Confession**

**Q. We have been talking a lot about Confession lately. My question is: are the only sins that we commit against the Ten Commandments or are there others?**

The Ten Commandments are naturally a good, moral base for us to start looking at our lives realistically. But, I'm sure that you know there is a lot more to consider. How many times as a priest have I heard, "I don't go to confession, Father, because I haven't killed anyone or I haven't stolen anything"...and yet we continue in our lives to "murder" people by slander and gossip and in the same way we "steal" their good reputation by our words and actions? There is more to sin than just the letter of the law: murder and stealing. There is the real aspect that when we do not live up to the two commandments of love: loving God and loving neighbor, that we have failed by missing the mark of the way a Christian is supposed to live. That is what the Greek word "hamartia" means: "missing the mark" - that we translate as "sin".

But I think that there is a whole series of sin that we do not think about. We look at the sins that we commit - but we fail to look at the sins of omission that we commit. The sins of omission would be failing to do what we know that we are supposed to do: sins of indifference to others; sins of wasting time that could have been spent on building up our Spiritual foundations, etc.

There is actually a Service for the Holy Mystery of Confession. In it, there are some petitions that help us to examine our conscience: "You detest those who worship false gods. But there were times when we gave ourselves to self-indulgence, and to money, and to escape from responsibility.... There were times when we grieved Your Holy Spirit with Whom we were sealed for the day of redemption, when we were blind to Your wonders, when we were deaf to Your Word, when we preferred ignorance to discerning Your will.... There were times when we were discouraged by our trials and pain, disheartened by evil like people without hope, when we did not pray as we ought, when we did not trust in You as the Lord Jesus commands.... There were times when we were careless, thoughtless and indifferent, when we missed opportunities, when we squandered time... There were times when we wronged our neighbor, when we did not treat others the way we would have them treat us, when we knew the right thing to do and did not do it.... There were times when we lacked compassion and generosity, times when we were slow to understand and forgive, but quick to

judge and condemn. We profess faith without practicing it.... There were times when we were angry but fell into sin, times when we nursed feelings of resentment and revenge, when we bore grudges...There were times when we said things we regret, when we told lies, when we did not control our tongues. Blessing and curse come out of the same mouth. And there were times when we broke promises, when we failed to honor our word...There were times when we were unfair, times when we condoned injustice, times when we did not stand up for what is right.... There were times when we were selfish and small, times when we were jealous, quarrelsome and disagreeable.... There were times when we were vain and self-important, disrespectful, times when we were conceited, provocative and envious. We have sinned against You, Lord. We pray You, hear us and have mercy!

In another service there are other petitions for the examination of our consciences: If I have placed too high a priority on myself, allowed superstition to rule my life, made an idol of any person or thing...If I have thought cruelly of others, wished them harm, hated or been envious or jealous of others...If I have had immoral thoughts or desires or committed immoral acts...If I have not trusted in Christ's love for me or if I have forgotten or ignored human dignity and have not been fair in seeing the views of others...If I have not loved God with all my soul or if I have neglected the Sacraments or the Fasts and Feast days of the Church...If I have not respected the Lord, His Church or the leaders of His Church; or if I have not repented when I knew I was wrong...If I have not attended Church regularly or neglected my duties to God and if I have not prepared properly for holy Communion....If I have not reflected the image of Christ, loved my neighbor, prayed, fasted or read the Word of God or stood firm in my faith and belief in Christ, His teachings or His Church....If I have over indulged in food or drink, harmed others or their possessions, committed immoral acts, used drugs harmful to my body....If I have forgotten that the body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit or destroyed animals unnecessarily, or if I have read or watched immoral books, movies or television shows...If I have allowed outside distractions to interfere with my worship, damage my faith or the faith of my fellow man; and if I have not been a good example as a "Follower of Christ"...If I have gossiped or listened to gossip or hurt others by my silence; if I have taken things which did not belong to me or if I have loved money....If I have spread rumors, led others to sin, or participated in or approved the sins of others and if I have gambled obsessively...If I have shown disrespect for my parents by deed or thought, if I have lied or forgotten that Sunday is a day of rest and for holiness and worship...If I have not been a good spouse, honest, patient, forgiving as Christ is, understanding, kind, loving,

trustworthy or a good child or parent...For all the sins which I may have committed, by thought, word or deed, known or unknown! Lord, have mercy!

We must look at ourselves realistically and not with "rose colored glasses". Let us work on our faults and our failings. Let us go to Confession to receive Christ's love and forgiveness. Let us be the Christians that we are called to be!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**REDNER FULL SALE SLIPS** – are still being collected. Please save the whole slip.

### **READER MINISTRY:**

**February 4** - Christina Mentis

**February 11** – Margaret Perkins

**February 18** - Subdeacon Kevin Minnich

**February 25** - Kris Scholl

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL** – Metropolitan Antony, Father Geroge Bazylevsky, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Constantine Christo, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Mark Leisure, Father John Nakonachny, Father James Norton, Father Paul Pappas, Father John Perich, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Pani Matka Lilly Lemar, Matushka Laura Odell, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Jamison, Mikey Arntz, Wakako Alexander, Theresa Barnes, Paul Calistor, Joe Chas, Rita Cook, Dmitra Cookson, Davis William Doty; Steve Forte, Thomas Holt, Dot Howell, Norma Husnick, Walter Katolic, Judith Kocinski, Kristina Koutsoudes, Olympia Koutsoudes, Gina Louk, Frederick McCarthy, Bruce McGloan, Patricia McGloan, Stephen McNulty, Chritina Mentis, Connie Mentis, John Moniodes, Olga Moniodes, Margaret Perkins, Barbara Perrigina, Natassia Perrine, Robert Perrine, Michael Previte, Sandra Ramondi,Carolynn Ritter; Jim Saturno, Clay Seman, Gail Sherman, Lorraine Sherman, Gerald Sovinski, Diane Staples, Nicholas Taylor, Kathy Theodorakos, Merryl Trader, Ralph Vurgich, Cheryl Zabowski, Edward Zabowski, Markos Zerefos.

## **“TIMOTHY, MY SON . . .”**

**I**n the New Testament, two of the Apostle Paul’s letters are directed to Timothy, who he refers to as being a “. . . true son in the faith.” (1 Tim. 1:2) Who was Timothy? Timothy was one of the 70 apostles appointed by our Lord to take His message to the world. He was born in Lystra - - son of a Greek father and a Jewish mother. His grandmother was a Christian, and it is said that she influenced him and nurtured his desire to be a follower of Christ.

It was in Lystra that Timothy met St. Paul. Impressed by the young man’s deep devotion and heartfelt desire to serve the Church, Paul asked Timothy to accompany him on his missionary journeys. Their travels took them to Achaia, Macedonia, Italy and Spain. Timothy’s eloquence, along with his gentle temperament, enabled

him to be a great asset in winning souls for Christ. Eventually, Timothy followed his own missionary trail to Corinth, Philippi and Thessalonica, keeping in constant touch with his mentor through the scriptural letters that now bear his name.

The Apostle Timothy finally settled in Ephesus, where he became a bishop of that thriving community. Despite his noble efforts, Timothy was met with great opposition there from the followers of the pagan god Artemis. One evening while attempting to disperse an unruly crowd of pagan worshippers, who had gathered outside his home, Timothy suffered martyrdom at their hands. His relics were later taken to the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople, where they were buried alongside the graves of the Evangelist Luke and the Apostle Andrew.