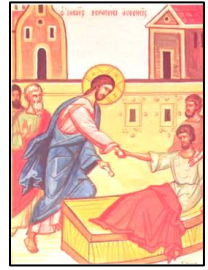


**ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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9112 OLEANDER AVENUE
FONTANA, CA 92335
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Served by: Rev. Stephen Casmus



**6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Glory to Jesus Christ!**

**JULY 21, 2018
Glory forever!**

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DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday 10:00 AM Holydays 7:00 PM
Confession: Sunday 9:00-9:30 AM or by appointment.

Welcome to all visitors to St. Nicholas Church. If you are new and wish to register as a parishioner, please see Fr. Stephen after the Divine Liturgy.

Parish Membership

The Family of Saint Nicholas of Myra is open to any Catholic, and to all:

- Who are interested in seeking the Lord Jesus Christ through His Word and Sacred Mysteries.
- Who accept the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Who will help us form a community based on the Lord’s love.
- Who are willing to grow as Christians within the legitimate traditions of the Byzantine Catholic Church.
- Who acknowledge the authority of the Pope, Bishop and Pastor.
- Who will attend Liturgical Services on Sunday, and on the Great Holydays.
- Who are willing to support the growth of the Church by sharing their Time, Talent and Treasure.
- Who will participate in the yearly Eparchial Appeal

Please join us in the hall after the liturgy for fellowship and light refreshments.

PRAY FOR THE SICK & INFIRMED OF OUR PARISH & PARISHIONERS RELATIVES:

Paul Bruckler, Robert Gubany, Gloria Brissette, Paul Basay and Fr. Stephen.

EPARCHIAL APPEAL – The annual Eparchial Appeal is a significant source of revenue for the Eparchy. Every parish household is expected to participate by contributing \$275.00. So far, 12 households have contributed. If you can't give that much, please give what you can. If you can afford more please be generous. We are currently about 63% of the parish goal of \$4400.00. If you have not done so, please submit your pledge or payment directly to the Eparchy or put it in the collection and we will forward it to the Eparchy.

THE FONTANA BREAKFAST LION'S CLUB hosts **BINGO** here at St. Nicholas on **Saturday evenings**. The kitchen has become a major source of income for the parish. Please participate in this fundraising effort. It is a good opportunity to get to know your fellow parishioners. Many hands make light work, but currently there are few that regularly participate. Please sign up in the hall to ensure there are at least three working.

Some parishioners have expressed an interest in praying the **Rosary** before the Divine Liturgy on Sundays. If you would like to join them please come at 9:30 to honor our Most Holy Mother of God.

07/14/19 Attendance: 31

Parish Income: Tithe -\$855.00, Donations -\$41.00, Eparchial Appeal - \$200.00, Fund Raiser - \$192.00

Total - \$1308.00

Dormition Fast

The traditional rule for the Dormition Fast is strict abstinence from August 1 to 14, with the usual mitigations (wine and oil) for Saturdays and Sundays, and the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6). It is, therefore, observed as the Great Fast. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season (Canon 880, §2). The observance of this fast is voluntary.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

SUN. JUL 21 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost
 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
 Panachida for Irma Figueroa
 Rom 12:6-14, Matthew 9:1-8

WED. JUL 24 – Boris and Gleb, Martyrs
 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy
 Rom 8:28-39, John 15:17-16:2

SUN. JUL 28 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost
 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
 Rom 15:1-7, Matthew 9:27-35

COMING UP

TUE. AUG 6 – Transfiguration of Our Lord
 10:00am Divine Liturgy
 2 Peter 1:10-19, Matthew 17:1-9

THR. AUG 15—Dormition of the Theotokos
 7:00 PM Vigil Liturgy (Wed. 8/14/19)
 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 Phil 2:5-11, Luke 10:38-42 & 11:27-28

6th Sunday after Pentecost

It seems far easier to say to a paraplegic “Your sins are forgiven you” than to say “Rise up and walk.” Since we overlook the offenses of other people all the time, it is easy to think that Jesus was just overlooking the offenses of the paralyzed man. And this oversight by Jesus seems to be no great thing. But to answer the question honestly, given the magnitude of the One doing the forgiving and the heinousness of sins before God, everything suddenly changes. “Rise up and walk” is seemingly a far easier task than saying “Your sins are forgiven you” if we are talking about the forgiveness of sins before

God. For this kind of forgiveness would have to contain an unearthly power, a power that no one on earth possesses for themselves, let alone for someone else.

It's no wonder the Pharisees became angry at Jesus. Claiming the power to forgive sins was blasphemy and only God could make the claim to forgive sins. Yet here was an obscure rabbi who had come from a remote, poor village on the outskirts of the country claiming to remove sins. To the religious elite it was an outrage. To back up his claims, Jesus answered his incisive question with a miracle. The lame man was healed, the witnesses marveled and God displayed his power and grace. It was probably a spectacular sight to see the paralytic man's atrophied leg muscles suddenly explode into shape at Jesus' command. But however the scene unfolded, what unfolded made even Jesus' accusers suddenly praise God for the miracle. In their astonishment, their accusations were suddenly dropped and everyone was forced to take note of the power that they had just witnessed.

But the greater miracle had taken place well before Jesus healed the man. When Jesus first noticed his faith he told the man to "take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." Christ had given the man eternal life on account of his faith. So the use of the man's legs was a temporal gift, but the forgiveness of sins by the Lord of the Universe is an eternal gift that will never perish or fade. The lame man's new legs may have allowed him to leap up for joy that day that he was lowered before Jesus, but the greater gift, the forgiveness of his sins, ensured that this man will be leaping forever.

From Annunciation bulletin 7/21/19