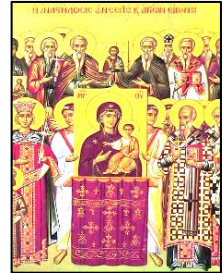


ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
st.nicholas.fontana@gmail.com
 9112 OLEANDER AVENUE
 FONTANA, CA 92335
 (909) 822-9917
 Served by: Rev. Stephen Casmus



1ST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST – THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY
Glory to Jesus Christ!

FEB 18, 2018
Glory forever!

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DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday 10:00 AM Holydays 7:00 PM

Sunday 1:30 PM at St. Philip the Apostle
 923 W Congress St, San Bernardino, CA 92410

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 anyone:

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

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

SUN. FEB 18 – 1st Sunday of the Great Fast

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Heb 11:24-26, 32-12:2, John 1:45-51

MON. FEB 19 – Archippus, Apostle

7:00 PM – Pre-sanctified Liturgy (St. Philip's)

Gen 3:21-4:7, Prov 3:34-4:22

WED. FEB 21 – Timothy, Venerable

7:00 PM – Pre-sanctified Liturgy

Gen 4:16-26, Prov 5:15-6:3

FRI. FEB 23 – Polycarp, Bishop-Martyr

7:00 PM – Akathist to the Mother of God

(St. Philip's)

SAT. FEB 24 – 1st & 2nd Findings of the Head of John the Baptist

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy with Panahida

2 Cor 4:6-15, Matthew 11:2-15

SUN. FEB 25 – 2nd Sunday of the Great Fast

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Heb 1:10-2:3, Mark 2:1-12

Please make an effort to attend as many of these services as you can so that your Lenten Spiritual Journey may be rich and bear much fruit.

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, Teresa Sandoval and Gloria Brissette.

02/11/18 Attendance: 18

Parish Income: Tithes -\$590.00, Donations -\$16.00, Fund Raising -\$312.00

Total - \$918.00

The Fontana Breakfast Lion's Club hosts **BINGO** here at St. Nicholas on **Saturday evenings**. The kitchen has become a significant 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.

First Sunday of the Great Fast – The Sunday of Orthodoxy

The Sunday of Orthodoxy is the first Sunday of Great Fast. The dominant theme of this Sunday since 843 has been that of the victory of the icons. In that year the iconoclastic controversy, which had raged on and off since 726, was finally laid to rest, and icons and their veneration were restored on the first Sunday in Lent. Ever since, this Sunday has been commemorated as the "Triumph of Orthodoxy."

The Seventh Ecumenical Council dealt predominantly with the controversy regarding icons and their place in Orthodox worship. It was convened in Nicaea in 787 by Empress Irene at the request of Tarasios, Patriarch of Constantinople. The Council was attended by 367 bishops.

Almost a century before this, the iconoclastic controversy had once more shaken the foundations of both Church and State in the Byzantine Empire. Excessive religious respect and the ascribed miracles to icons by some members of society, approached the point of worship (due only to God) and idolatry. This instigated excesses at the other extreme by which icons were completely taken out of the liturgical life of the Church by the Iconoclasts. The Iconophiles, on the other-hand, believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty.

The Council decided on a doctrine by which icons should be venerated but not worshipped. In answering the Empress' invitation to the Council, Pope Hadrian replied with a letter in which he also held the position of extending veneration to icons but not worship, the last befitting only God.

The decree of the Council for restoring icons to churches added an important clause which still stands at the foundation of the rationale for using and venerating icons in the Eastern Churches to this very day: "We define that the holy icons, whether in color, mosaic, or some other material, should be exhibited in the holy churches of God, on the sacred vessels and liturgical vestments, on the walls, furnishings, and in houses and along the roads, namely the icons of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, that of our Lady, the Theotokos, those of the venerable angels and those of all saintly people. Whenever these representations are contemplated, they will cause those who look at them to commemorate and love their prototype. We define also that they should be kissed and that they are an object of veneration and honor, but not of real worship, which is reserved for Him Who is the subject of our faith and is proper for the divine nature. The veneration accorded to an icon is in effect transmitted to the prototype; he who venerates the icon, venerates in it the reality for which it stands".

A Regional Synod was called in Constantinople in 843. Under Empress Theodora. The veneration of icons was solemnly proclaimed at the Hagia Sophia Cathedral. The Empress, her son Michael III, Patriarch Methodios, and monks and clergy came in procession and restored the icons in their rightful place. The day was called "Triumph of Orthodoxy." Since that time, this event is commemorated yearly with a special service on the first Sunday of Lent, the "Sunday of Orthodoxy".

From: <https://www.goarch.org/-/the-first-sunday-of-lent-the-sunday-of-orthodoxy>