



ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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 9112 OLEANDER AVENUE
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 Served by: Rev. Stephen Casmus



SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND
Christ is risen!

MAY 19, 2018
Indeed He is risen!

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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 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. MAY 26 – Sunday of the Man Born Blind
 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
 Acts 16:16-34, John 9:1-38

WED MAY 29 – Ascension of our Lord
 7:00 PM – Vesper Divine Liturgy
 Acts 1:1-12, Luke 24:36-53

SUN. JUN 02 – Sunday of the Fathers of the First
 Ecumenical Council
 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
 Acts 16:16-34, John 9:1-38

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

Χριστός воскрес! Воистину воскрес!

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη!

¡Cristo resucitó! ¡En verdad resucitó!

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, Gloria Brissette and Paul Basay.

05/19/19 Attendance: 35

Parish Income: Tithes -\$1185.00, Donations -\$24.00, Fund Raising -\$189.00

Total - \$1398.00

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. If you can't give that much, please give what you can. If you can afford more please be generous. We are currently about 14% of the parish goal of \$4400.00. If you have not done so, please submit your pledge or payment directly to the Eparchy before the end of May.

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.

MYRRH-BEARERS RETREAT

A retreat for girls, teens and women sponsored by the Eparchy of Phoenix will be held from June 28 to 30, 2019 at the Madonna Retreat Center in Albuquerque, NM. Pamphlets are available in the foyer and a poster is on the bulletin board in the hall.

Sunday of the Man Born Blind

When Christ anointed the eyes of the blind man with spittle and clay, He demanded that he go wash in the pool of Siloam. This blessed man did not object, even though in every outward sense, this act and order was very peculiar. He stumbled to the pool, all the while feeling the eyes of all upon him, who could not see. He must have looked pathetic - a blind man with mud caked on his face stumbling through the city. This first great act (of obedience, which is a hallmark of true faith) of the blind man affected the physical healing of his eyes. After he washed in the pool, his eyes and eyesight were made whole.

The envious Jews did not want to believe in this miracle, even though it was obvious that it had happened. They interrogated the man in a threatening way. This man had never seen Christ, and knew very little about Him. He answered their leading questions simply and elegantly, and these blasphemers unwittingly contributed to his second healing.

As the absurdity of the Jew's questions and their true motives became apparent, he who was formerly blind began to understand a little about Christ. It is clear that he still did not understand things completely, but he nevertheless showed remarkable courage, and rebuked the foolish Jews with an ironic question, in response to another foolish inquiry by them: "He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" (John 9:27). This courageous rebuke incensed the council, and they roared like lions: "They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from." (John 9:28-29). He who was blind stood alone, and undefended. His parents had deserted him, and he understood that he was in danger of being put out of the synagogue. Many men would back down in such an instance, and try to appease the leaders, because of fear. He still did not understand completely where Jesus was from, but his heart was filled with conviction and courage, as he sealed his fate among those who love the world more than God, and said: "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything." (John 9:30-33). For this, he was cast out.

After this, Jesus sought him out, a man who had gained eyes, but lost his patrimony and all standing in Jewish society. Certainly, Christ would not have presented himself again to a coward. The man had been courageous in defending Him Whom he had never seen, and because of this, he was vouchsafed to see and understand the God-man.

www.orthodox.net/questions/blind_man_1.html