

## St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church

1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246

*"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"*

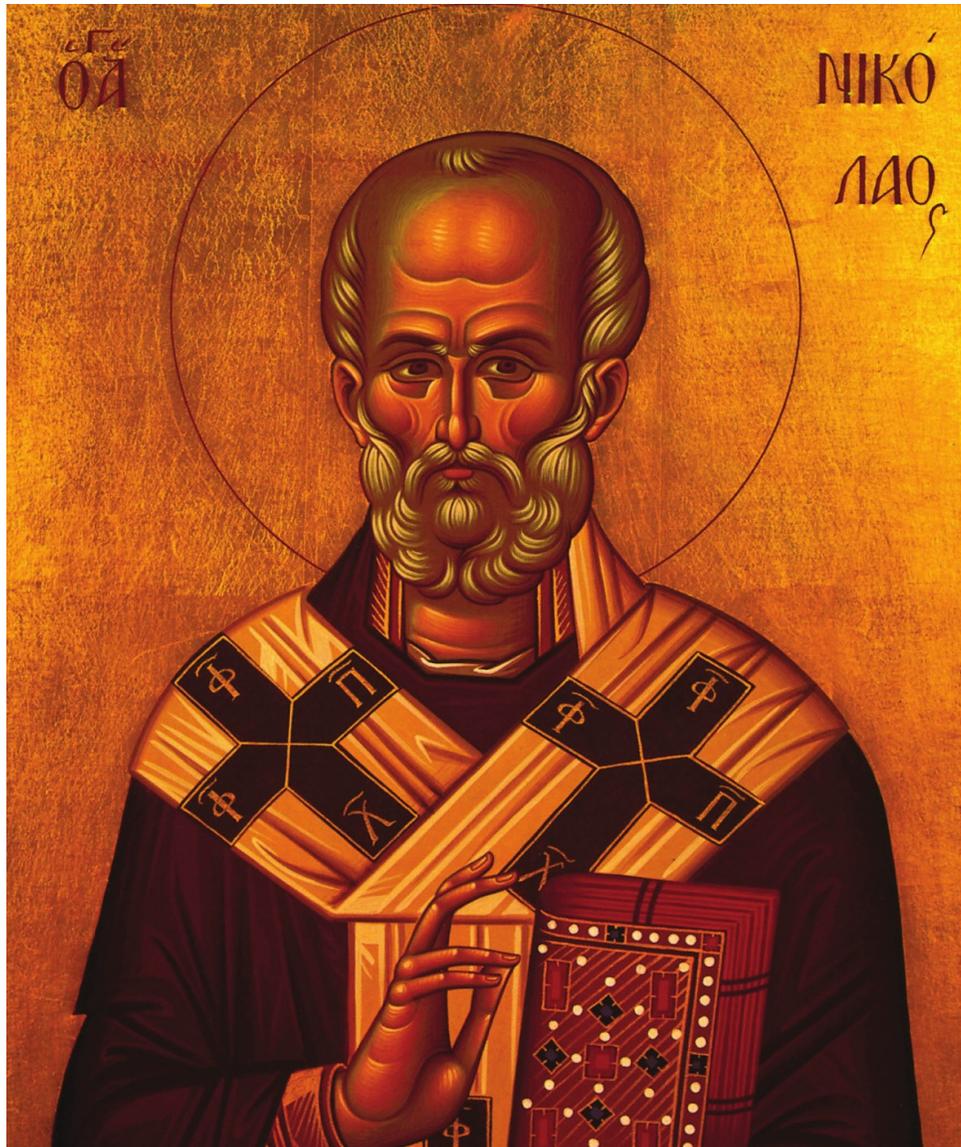
Rectory and Office: (414) 342-1543

The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: [byzantinemilwaukee.com](http://byzantinemilwaukee.com)

Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/ByzantineMilwaukee)

**December 6, 2020 — Tenth Sunday after the Holy Cross**



*Icon of Saint Nicholas of Myra—December 6th*

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### **Divine Liturgy**

*A recording will be made available sometime on Sunday on the parish's Facebook page: [facebook.-com/pg/ByzantineMilwaukee/videos/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ByzantineMilwaukee/videos/). An account is not needed.*

**Intention:** Happy and eternal repose of the soul of NABIL Wahhab (six months; req. by the Wahhab family)

#### **Troparia**

1. **Resurrection (Tone 2):** When you descended to death, O Immortal Life, You destroyed Hades by the splendor of your Divinity, and when you raised the dead from under the ground, all the Powers of heaven cried out: O Christ our God, the giver of life, glory to you.
2. **St. Nicholas:** O Father and Pontiff Nicholas, the holiness of your life was set before your flock as a rule of faith, an example of meekness and a teaching of temperance; wherefore you acquired greatness through humility and spiritual wealth through poverty. Pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.
4. **St. George:** O Great among the saints and glorious martyr, George, since you are a deliverer of captives, a doctor for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, intercede for us to Christ God, that he may save our souls!
5. **Kontakion of the Preparation of the Nativity:** Today the Virgin is on her way to the cave where she will give birth in a manner beyond understanding to the Word who is, in all eternity. Rejoice, therefore, universe, when you hear it heralded: with the angles and the shepherds, glorify Him who chose to be seen as a new-born Babe, while remaining God in all eternity.

**Prokimenon:** Precious in the Lord's eyes is the death of his holy ones.

*Stichon:* How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done to me?

**Epistle:** Heb 13:17-25

Brethren, obey your superiors and be subject to them, for they keep watch as having to render an account of your souls—so that they may do this with joy, and not with grief, for that would not be fitting for you.

Pray for us, for we are confident we have a good conscience, since we wish to live uprightly in all things. But I more especially

exhort you to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

Now may the God of peace, who brought forth from the dead the great Pastor of the sheep, our Lord Jesus, in virtue of the blood of an everlasting covenant, fit you with every good thing to do his will, working in you what is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom is glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**Alleluia:** Your priests, O Lord, shall be clothed with holiness, and your saintly ones shall shout for joy.

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*Stichon:* For the Lord has elected Zion, he has chosen it for his dwelling.

**Gospel:** The Stooped Woman, Lk 13: 10-17

At that time Jesus was teaching in one of their synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit; and she was bent over and utterly unable to look upwards. When Jesus saw her, he called her to him and said to her, "Woman, thou art delivered from thy infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and instantly she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, addressed the crowd, saying, "There are six days in which one ought to

work; on these therefore come and be cured, and not on the Sabbath." But the Lord answered him and said, "Hypocrites! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or ass from the manger, and lead it forth to water? And this woman, daughter of Abraham as she is, whom Satan has bound, lo, for eighteen years, ought not she to be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And as he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame; and the entire crowd rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

### 2021 Calendars Available

Follow along with the readings, and feasts and fasts, of the year. The 2021 eparchial calendars are now available on the back tables.

### Stewardship

Last week: stole offerings=\$50; candles=\$3; ordinary collections=\$375. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance): \$14,966.57.

There is a link to donate via PayPal on our website: [byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate](https://byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate).

### *The Bishop's Appeal*

Blessed Saint Nicholas, whose feast we celebrate with joy today is the Patron Saint of charity and the inspiration for all images of Father Christmas and Santa Claus throughout the world. Let us imitate his loving generosity by making a special gift to the Bishop's Appeal for the support of our Melkite Church in America and for our suffering Christians in Beirut from the recent explosion. **Please give an end-of-year, tax-deductible gift to the Melkite Church in America.** Please give generously so the vital works of our Church can continue and grow. May God bless you for your generosity.

Donate by responding to the mailing, using an envelope from the back tables or online: <https://melkite.org/products-page/donation/bishops-appeal>

### *Clothing/Diaper Drive and Fundraiser*

There will be a collection for gently used or new baby (newborn–24 months) winter wear for the Women's Center of Milwaukee (2051 W. Wisconsin Ave.) during Nativity

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Fast until December 21<sup>st</sup>. Cash donations, clothing and diapers will be brought to the Women's Center sometime on or around December 21<sup>st</sup>. Donation envelopes and information are available on the back tables; items may be placed in the marked box by the bishop's throne. Talk to Jerry Nora with any questions [jerry.nora@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.nora@gmail.com).

### Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Alice Herro\*, Nick Langenfeld, Barb & Bruce Moden (sister- and brother- in-law of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Bob Peterson, Joe Radanovich, the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz, John Zambo and Kathy Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor).

\* Please particularly remember Alice Herro who has been having health issues recently.

### Schedule for This Week

**Wednesday:** *Maternity of Ann*

**Thursday:** *Beginning of the Nativity Fast (Melkite Usage)*

**Saturday:** *Father Spiridon the Wonderworker*

**Sunday:** *Sunday of the Ancestors of Christ*  
10:30am Divine Liturgy

### City Mask Ordinance

It is our understanding that the city requires us to require wearing of masks when in the church building by anyone at least three-years old. Please help us by wearing one, taking it off, temporarily, for receiving communion. According to the Milwaukee Health Department, the best way to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 is to avoid being exposed to the virus and to avoid exposing other people. You can find more information about the ordinance in the form of an FAQ from the health department:

[city.milwaukee.gov/Coronavirus/Prevention](http://city.milwaukee.gov/Coronavirus/Prevention)

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### The Legendary Saint Nicholas

The absence of the “hard facts” of history is not necessarily an obstacle to the popularity of saints, as the devotion to St. Nicholas shows. Both the Eastern and Western Churches honor him, and it is claimed that, after the Theotokos, he is the saint most pictured by Christian artists. And yet, historically, we can pinpoint only the fact that Nicholas was the fourth-century bishop of Myra, a city in Lycia, a province of Asia Minor.

As with many of the saints, however, we are able to capture the relationship which Nicholas had with God through the admiration which Christians have had for him an admiration expressed in the colorful stories which have been told and retold through the centuries.

Perhaps the best-known story about Nicholas concerns his charity toward a poor man who could not afford the dowries for his three

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daughters of marriageable age. Rather than see them forced into prostitution, Nicholas secretly tossed a bag of gold through the poor man's window on three separate occasions, thus enabling the daughters to be married. Over the centuries, this particular legend evolved into the custom of gift-giving on the saint's feast. In the English-speaking countries, St. Nicholas became, by a twist of the tongue, Santa Claus further expanding the ex-

ample of generosity portrayed by this holy bishop.

The critical eye of modern history makes us take a deeper look at the legends surrounding St. Nicholas. But perhaps we can utilize the lesson taught by his legendary charity, look deeper at our approach to material goods in the Christmas season and seek ways to extend our sharing to those in real need.

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