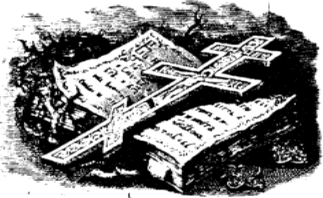


# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF TORONTO (CANADA) YOUTH DEPARTMENT

## Κανόνα Πίστewς και Εικόνα Πραότητος: St. Nicholas the Wonderworker



December 6th  
+St. Nicholas the  
Wonderworker,  
Archbishop of Myra

### VESPERAL READINGS

† Proverbs 10:7, 3:13-16 and selection

† Proverbs 10:31-32, 11:1-12

† Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15

See opposite for readings of Orthros and Divine Liturgy.

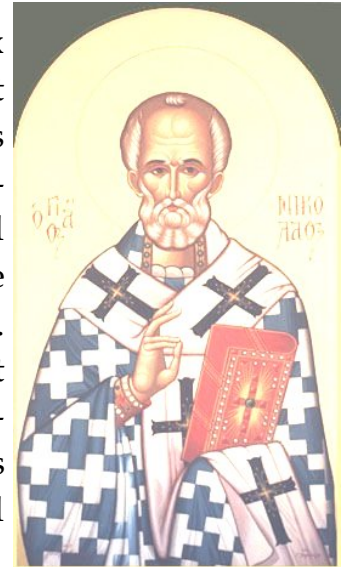
GREEK ORTHODOX  
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Throughout Church history, the Orthodox faithful have shown a genuine love and respect for certain influential Saints. Their feastdays are always celebrated with great joy and solemnity. One of the most well-known and beloved Saints for the people of Greece was the “Wonderworker” Archbishop of Myra in Lycia. This was a man who was present at the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea and helped Orthodoxy survive the heresy of Arianism. He is a Saint that has millions of Churches dedicated to him.



St. Nicholas lived during the time when Saint Constantine the Great ruled the Byzantine Empire. From a young age, St. Nicholas wanted to spend his time dedicated to God. But it was not until he went on his own religious journey to the holy city of Jerusalem where he found a quiet place and dedicated himself to prayer. Although his desire was to serve the Lord in this way, God would lead him back to his homeland to serve as its Shepherd, its Archbishop.

During his tenure as Archbishop, he was known to all the faithful as a man expressing great mercy, providing necessities to the poor and less fortunate people. St. Nicholas' life would not only remain within the confines of Myra, though; he would play a very important part in a Council which saw Bishops come together from all across the Christian World.

In the year 325 in Nicaea, Turkey, St. Nicholas joined the First Ecumenical Council of the Christian Church that included 318 Fathers.

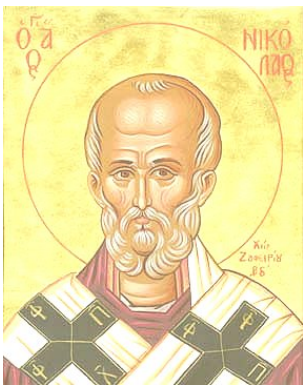
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GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF TORONTO (CANADA)  
YOUTH DEPARTMENT

The Apolytikion of St. Nicholas in Greek and English

Κανόνα πίστεως καί εικόνα πραότητος,  
εγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ανέδειξέ σε τή  
ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια,  
διὰ τούτο ἐκτήσω τή ταπεινώσει τά  
υψηλά, τή πτωχεία τά πλούσια, Πάτερ  
Ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ  
Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

You appeared to your flock as a rule of  
faith, an image of humility and a teacher  
of abstinence. Because of your lowliness,  
heaven was opened to you, because of  
your poverty, riches were granted to you.  
Holy Bishop Nicholas pray to Christ our  
God to save our souls.



This Council was the first time that the Church's Bishops met to discuss various issues, including the heresy of Arius. St. Nicholas loved Truth so much, he lashed out at Arius in a moment of frustration during the Council meeting. Since it was against the Church for any clergymen to act in such a manner against another person, the bishops of the Council were uncertain of the punishment that would be given to St. Nicholas.



**ORTHROS  
READING**

† John 10:1-9

**DIVINE LITURGY  
READINGS**

† Hebrews 13:17-21

† Luke 6:17-23

However, our Lord and our Lady Theotokos appeared to the bishops during the night, telling them that they should not punish St. Nicholas because his behavior towards Arius was out of his great devotion to the Orthodox faith. He passed away at a venerable age, fulfilling his call as Archbishop and a faithful servant of God.

St. Nicholas is usually referred to as "the Wonderworker" (ο θαυματουργός) because of the many miracles that are attributed to him. He is considered the Patron Saint of children, merchants, sailors, scholars, and anyone who travels by sea.

**St. N icholas Made a D ifference!  
Y ou Can T oo!**

St. Nicholas was a teacher of self-discipline and dedicated himself to prayer. He showed everyone that he had a passion for seeking the Truth. He spread the word of God by putting others before him and saving the innocent from death. We can be like him if we show this Christ-like love that St. Nicholas also displayed throughout his life. May His example be one for us to follow, to be closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Ἄγιε του Θεού, πρέσβευε υπέρ ἡμῶν!