

## THREE SAINTS FOR SAINT GEORGE

Did you know that our parish of St. George of Boston is blessed by her association with three Glorified Saints of the Orthodox Church? Our parish was founded in 1900 and these three Saints all lived at that time and are part of our parish history.



**St. Tikhon of Moscow** [1865-1925] was our first Bishop and as the Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Mission in North America officially chartered the Arab immigrant community in Boston to establish St. George Orthodox Church under the spiritual guidance of Fr. George Dow Maloof in December 1900. He visited our community several times and he remained our bishop until 1907 when he presided at the consecration of Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny as Bishop. St. Tikhon was elected Patriarch of Moscow and later suffered persecution and imprisonment under the Communists. He died in Moscow on 7 April 1925. He was canonized a Saint of the Orthodox Church in 1981 and his Feast Day is on 5 October.

**St. Nicholas II** [1868-1917] the last Emperor [Tzar] of All Russia. In 1900, Tzar Nicholas officially sanctioned the establishment of St. George Orthodox Church in Boston as a church of the Russian Orthodox Mission in North America. He gave Bishop Tikhon approval to commission a priest to serve the community and sent his personal emissary to Boston to present Fr. George Maloof with a monetary gift and an Icon of the Mother of God for the new parish. Nicholas II was murdered along with his family in 1917 by the Communists. He was canonized as a Martyr and Passion Bearer by the Orthodox Church in 1981. His Feast Day is 17 July.



**St. Raphael of Brooklyn** [1860-1915] as a priest of the Russian Orthodox Mission in North America, Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny visited the Arabic speaking immigrant community in Boston several times in the late 1890's helping them to organize as a parish. In 1900 he made arrangements for Fr. George Dow Maloof to leave Syria [now Lebanon] and come to Boston. St. Raphael was a frequent visitor to St. George of Boston both as a priest and as a Bishop. St. Raphael commissioned Fr. George to make several extended mission trips across the country to found and establish parishes for the ever-increasing number of Arabic speaking Orthodox immigrants. St. Raphael was consecrated Bishop of the 'Syrian

Mission' of the Russian Orthodox Church in 1907 and remained as our Hierarch until his untimely death in 1915. He was canonized a Saint of the Orthodox Church in 2000. His Feast Day is 27 February and also on the First Saturday of November.