

ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

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ARCHDIOCESE WEB PAGE ∞ www.antiochian.org ∞

PARISH WEB PAGE ∞ www.stmaryorthodox.com ∞



WELCOME to the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. We are the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Christian Church whose roots trace directly back to the first century Antioch, the city in which the disciples of Jesus Christ were first called Christians (Acts 11:26).

The Orthodox Church is the oldest and second-largest Christian group in the world. We are called by God, our Creator, to worship and follow Him and to proclaim to the world His message of love, peace and salvation.

God loves all mankind and desires that all human beings should believe in Him, know Him, abide in Him, and receive eternal life from Him. To accomplish this God Himself came into the world as a man in Jesus Christ — becoming man that we might become like God.

The Parishioners of St. Mary Parish welcome you and are pleased that you have decided to worship Almighty God with our Parish family today. We encourage you to learn about our Orthodox faith and our Parish if you are not yet Orthodox.

Although the non-Orthodox may not receive Holy Communion, which may only be given to the Orthodox faithful, we invite you to come forward at the close of the Liturgy to receive a blessing from the Priest and blessed bread. Please also come downstairs to the Parish Hall join us for our fellowship hour.



Our Patronal Feast is the DORMITION (FALLING-ASLEEP) OF THE THEOTOKOS, which is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church and is celebrated each year on August 15. The Theotokos, the Virgin Mary, was "blessed amongst women," and she was chosen "to bear the Savior of our souls." Orthodox Christians consider her to be the Queen of all the saints and angels. Knowing she is eternally present at the throne of God interceding for mankind, we pray for her love, guidance, and protection.

TO ENCOURAGE OUR WORSHIP IN A PROPER SPIRIT OF PRAYER AND DEVOTION, WE RESPECTFULLY ASK YOU TO ENTER THE SANCTUARY QUIETLY DURING THE DIVINE LITURGY. PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS (1) - the Clergy censures the Sanctuary; (2) - while the Congregation is standing; (3) - during the Little Entrance with the Gospel; (4) - during the Reading of the Epistle and/or the Gospel; (5) - during the Homily/Sermon; (6) - during the Great Entrance or (7) - during the Anaphora. PLEASE REFRAIN FROM USING CELL PHONES IN THE NARTHEX AND SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES WHILE IN THE SANCTUARY.

FOR THE SERVANTS OF GOD THAT THEY MAY HAVE MERCY, PEACE, HEALTH, SALVATION AND VISITATION, PARDON AND REMISSION OF SIN; THE LORD GOD REMEMBER THEM IN HIS KINGDOM ALWAYS: NOW AND EVER, AND UNTO AGES OF AGES . . .

Deacon John
 Subden William
 George Morrash
 Jami Yanchik
 Eileen Attar
 Riad Attar
 Dallal Neddoff
 Lottie Everett
 Kim Yuhas Whitaker
 Tom Yuhas
 George Elias
 Rick Solomon
 Ben Austin
 Tom Raski
 Jim & Edna Wolfe
 James Hunter
 Jennie Elias
 Judith Muskauski
 Barbara Dorish
 Jack Witko

Bill Shirk
 Johanna C.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mike & Mary Lavin (5/8)
 Charles Kasko (5/9)
 Laura Winters (5/9)
 Issa Dahdal (5/9)
 Sandra Mamary (5/10)
 Mariah Achey (5/11)
 Sal & Jane Tolomello (5/11)
 David & Deborah Skaff (5/11)
 Lisa Moses (5/12)

All members of the American Military and their families;
 All police, firefighters and others who protect us and their families;
 All innocent people caught in conflict and natural disasters throughout the world

FOR THE SERVANTS OF GOD DEPARTED THIS LIFE: THE LORD GOD REMEMBER THEM IN HIS KINGDOM ALWAYS: NOW AND EVER, AND UNTO AGES OF AGES

NEWLY REPOSED

Metropolitan ELIA
 Elizabeth Lillian Clark
 Louise Serhan

Elizabeth Zira Brody

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Elias Achey | 5/07/1952 |
| George M. Solomon | 5/07/1972 |
| Martha D. Broody | 5/08/1965 |
| Raymond Hannye | 5/08/1974 |
| Hannah Mamary | 5/08/1992 |
| Jane S. Mamary | 5/09/1961 |
| George N. Solomon | 5/09/1961 |
| Thomas A. Raski | 5/09/1974 |
| Emily S. Saba | 5/09/1988 |
| Helen Elias | 5/09/2007 |
| Violet Cardillo | 5/09/2010 |
| Bruce Hannye | 5/10/1951 |
| John Ferris | 5/10/1960 |
| Robert Harris | 5/10/2003 |

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Miriam Saba | 5/12/1969 |
| Evelyn Hannye | 5/12/2005 |
| Elias Namey | 5/13/1953 |
| Albert E. Mamary | 5/13/1967 |
| Anthony Broody | 5/13/1988 |
| Sue Elias Nosal | 5/13/2007 |
| Theodore R. Simon | 5/14/1997 |

All members of the American Military reposed in service of our Nation;
 All police, firefighters and others who protect us reposed in the line of duty;
 All innocent people reposed in conflict and natural disasters throughout the world

CLERGY

Metropolitan JOSEPH,
Archbishop
Bishop THOMAS,
Bishop of Charleston, Oakland
& the Mid-Atlantic
Very Rev. Father David Hester,
Pastor
Very Rev. Father Herbert
Nahas, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Deacon John Karam
Subdeacon William Obeid
Subdeacon N.D. Namey
Subdeacon John Moses Jr.

PARISH COUNCIL

V. Rev. Fr David Hester
John Moses, Sr. Chair
Suanne Moses, Vice Chair.
Tracey Solomon, Sec.
N.D. Namey, Sbdn. Treas.
Karen Kasko, Fin. Sec.
Anne Hester
Lillian Bonomo
Joanne Tenneriello
Nancy Tenneriello
Nicola Qarmout
Diane Fort
John Moses Jr., Sbdn.
Richard Solomon

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Antiochian Women
Joanne Tenneriello
St. Mary Youth
K. Kasko & N. D. Namey
Fellow of St. John
John Moses, Sr.
Order of St. Ignatius:
Suanne Moses
Choir
N. Tenneriello
Parish Cemetery
Joanne Tenneriello, &
Suanne Moses



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & PARISH EVENTS

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Today After Liturgy | Parish Council |
| Thursday, May 11 | Spaghetti Dinner at 4:00 pm |
| Sunday, May 14 | Orthros at 8:50 am ♦ Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am |

COMMEMORATIONS

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Today | Holy Bread and Bulletin offered in Loving Memory of Elizabeth Zira Brody by Reba, Jack and Jackie Witko |
| May 14 | Holy Bread is offered in Loving Memory of Violet Cardillo by daughter Ann and Bulletin is sponsored in Loving Memory of Situ Violet Cardillo by Ryan, Kelsey, Alex and Samantha |
| June 25 | Holy Bread and Bulletin offered in Loving Memory of Jillian Witko by Reba, Jack and Jackie Witko |

PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 7, 2017

- **JUST A REMINDER** Its time to send in our "Food For Hungry People" donation boxes or checks Please remember, you do not have to use the boxes supplied by the Archdiocese ... you can make your contribution by check. If you choose to make your contribution by check, please make the check payable to "St. Mary" rather than "Food For Hungry". You can designate the contribution by writing "Food For Hungry" on the memo line of your check (which becomes part of your yearly statement from the Parish for IRS purposes).
- Our honoring of our 2017 High School graduates will be rescheduled ... stay tuned for a new date to be announced in the new future
- The Ladies thank everyone who donated goods and patronized their Spring Rummage Sale.
- The Teens Bake Sale has been postponed ... we'll hold a sale sometime soon
- Save The Date! We are planning a golf outing for Friday August 18, 2017. The tentative tee - time is 1 PM at the Sand Springs golf course. More details to come.
- Please keep in mind the last Spaghetti Dinner for the season will be on Thursday, June 1, 2017. The Spaghetti Team will then take a well-deserved vacation for the summer months but will be back better than ever in the fall.

THE SYNAXARION

On May 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Appearance of the Sign of the Precious Cross in the heavens above Jerusalem (351 A.D.); Martyr Akakios the centurion at Byzantium; John of Beverly, Bishop of York; and the Priest Alexis Toth of Wilkes-Barre, confessor and defender of Orthodoxy in America.

On this day, the fourth Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the Paralytic and, as is right, we celebrate the miracle wrought for him.

The word of Christ was strength for the paralytic; So that this word alone was the man's full healing.

Jesus healed the Paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, located near the Sheep's Gate of Jerusalem, where people sacrificed their beasts and washed their insides. The pool had five sides, with a porch and arch on each. A number of people, afflicted with various diseases, passed through them, waiting at the water for an angel to come down and stir it. Once it moved, whoever stepped into the water first was instantly healed. One poor man, whose story is recounted in today's Gospel lection in the Divine Liturgy, waited 38 years for someone to lower him into the water, because he was unable to move into the water himself. However, the Savior merely commanded the man to get up and walk, and he was healed.

In Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

A PRAYER INSPIRED BY CHRIST'S RAISING OF THE PARALYTIC

As of old You did raise up the paralytic, O Lord God, by your Godlike care and might, raise up my soul which is paralyzed by diverse sins and transgressions and by unseemly deeds and acts, that, being saved, I may also cry out: O Compassionate Redeemer, O Christ God, glory to Your dominion and might.

-Kontakion of the Paralytic

** Note * From time-to-time we include prayers we can incorporate into our Daily or Occasional prayers - we hope you find them helpful*

PASCHAL GREETINGS

ENGLISH

CHRIST IS RISEN!

INDEED HE IS RISEN!

ARABIC

AL MASEEH QAM!

HAQAN QAM!

GREEK

KRISTOS ANESTI!

ALITHOS ANESTI!

RUSSIAN

KRISTOS VOSKRESEY!

VOYISTINO VOSKRESEY!

PASCHAL RESPONSES

Priest: Christ is Risen!

People: Indeed He Is Risen!

Priest: Glory to His Holy Third-day Resurrection!

People: We adore His Holy Third-day Resurrection!

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs...

People: ...bestowing life!

TODAY WE COMMEMORATE THE SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

The fourth Sunday of Holy Pascha is observed by the Orthodox Church as the Sunday of the Paralytic. The day commemorates the miracle of Christ healing a man who had been paralyzed for thirty-eight years. The biblical story of the event is found in the Gospel of John 5:1-15.

Close to the Sheep's Gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep's Pool. It had five porches, that is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies awaiting the moving of the water. The first person to step in after the troubling of the water was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today's Gospel was lying, tormented by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, "Will you be made whole?" And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool." The Lord said unto him, "Rise, take up your bed, and walk." And straightaway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed rejoicing to his own house. According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.

A LESSON TO BE LEARNED FROM THE STORY OF THE PARALYTIC

"I Have No Man" --- Many ill and lonely individuals "have no man." Be a servant of God by visiting and/or helping those who need companionship and help. For example, see if there you have a relative or a neighbor who is elderly or has special needs and could use your assistance, either with simple companionship or aiding with a simple house- hold chore.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

It is apparent that, despite the hardship of physical infirmity, the greatest emphasis of well-being concerns the state of the soul and not of the body. The physical pain and suffering we endure in the current life does not equate to the importance of the lifting-up of our hearts and minds to God. Jesus Christ instructs the newly-healed man to "Sin no more, lest a worst thing come upon you." What is worse than being paralyzed for 38 years? Spiritual paralysis! As the paralytic, we need to ask Christ to heal us of the paralysis in our lives—the paralysis that keeps us from moving closer to Him!

Recent excavations in Jerusalem have un- earthed this pool, used for cleaning the sheep to be used for sacrifice at the temple, including its five porches. Certain Fathers of the Church equate the five porches with the five senses that can act as the doors of the passions, which in turn are the cause of our spiritual sicknesses: taste, touch, smell, sight, and hearing.

WISDOM OF THE HOLY FATHERS ...

God in His very benevolence, often allows misfortunes to befall even the righteous, so that He may, in this way, manifest to others the latent faith hidden in Him.

-St. John of Damascus

APPEARANCE OF THE SIGN OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS IN THE HEAVENS ABOVE JERUSALEM (351 A.D.); MARTYR AKAKIOS THE CENTURION AT BYZANTIUM; JOHN OF BEVERLY, BISHOP OF YORK; PRIEST ALEXIS TOOTH OF WILKES-BARRE, CONFESSOR AND DEFENDER OF ORTHODOXY IN AMERICA

—☩ SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017 ☩—

✠ **THE EPISTLE** ✠

THE READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE SAINTLY AND PURE APOSTLES. (9:32-42)

In those days, as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments, which Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, rise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

✠ **THE GOSPEL** ✠

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN. (5:1-15)

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda, which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first, after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for 38 years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the Sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.'" They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk?'" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befalls you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus Who had healed him.