

ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

905 SOUTH MAIN ST. ∞ WILKES-BARRE PA 18702

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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
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
Terry Thomas
Bob Langan

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jaclyn Witko (6/1)
Nadalie Solomon (6/1)
Gene Marinelli (6/2)

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

Elizabeth Lillian Clark
Louise Serhan

Zigmund Zlakowski	4/27/2001
Katlyn Marie Williams-Chaffman	4/28/2003
Jean Audi	4/29/1960
Jennie Morrash	4/29/1984
Helen Joseph Hladio	4/29/2009
Jean Namey	4/30/2014
Robert G. Wilbert	6/1/1960
Robert (Duke) Joseph	6/1/2003
Jennie George	6/2/1931
Leo George	6/3/1930
Joseph E. Evans	6/3/1969
Celia Cawley	6/3/2004



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.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & PARISH EVENTS

Monday, May 29 Annual Memorial Day Service at the Parish Cemetery

at 10:30 am
Thursday, June 4 Final Spaghetti Dinner for season
Sunday, June 4 Orthros at 8:50 am ^{or} Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

COMMEMORATIONS

Today None Today
June 11 Bulletin, Coffee Hour and Holy Bread sponsored/offered in
Loving Memory of Emily Taroli by Jerry Taroli and sons
June 25 Holy Bread and Bulletin offered in Loving Memory of Jillian
Witko by Reba, Jack and Jackie Witko

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 Qarmour
Diane Fort
John Moses Jr., Sbdn.
Richard Solomon

PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 28, 2017

- The Annual Memorial Day Service at the Parish Cemetery will be held on tomorrow at 10:30 am
- The Teens and Sunday School will be placing flags on the graves of the reposed veterans of the Parish today after Liturgy.
- Reservations are now being taken for Father David's retirement dinner. Flyers are in the back of the Church. All seats will be reserved (tables of 8). See Suanne, Joanne, or Norm to make a reservation. The deadline is August 13.
- If you would like to place an ad in the retirement booklet see the flyer in the back of Church. The deadline for ads is July 31. See Suanne, Norm or John to place an ad.
- Organization pictures for Father David's retirement book will be taken on June 11 after Liturgy. Please remain upstairs for the pictures.
- Congratulations to Alia Mazzatosta who was recently awarded the "Gary Inspires Me" scholarship. There is only one awarded in Luzerne County. Many Years to Alia and her Family!
- Final call for "Food for Hungry" donations! Please return your boxes so the change can be counted and deposited. If you were giving a check please make it out to the Church and put "Food for Hungry" in the memo line.
- We had our final Spaghetti Dinner for the season this past Thursday. The Spaghetti Team will take a well-deserved vacation for the summer months but will be back better than ever in the fall. Many Years to the good and faithful servants who work so hard to keep this wonderful ministry going each year!
- *FROM THE ARCHDIOCESAN WEBPAGE* In response to the love and concern expressed by many . . . to His Eminence, Metropolitan Joseph

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

regarding the crisis in Syria and the suffering of our Brothers and Sisters there, a special donation mechanism has been set up so that Antiochian Orthodox Christians and anyone else concerned about the suffering of the Syrian people can donate directly to the relief efforts through the Patriarchate of Antioch.

The Patriarchate of Antioch, has a very effective humanitarian non-governmental organization, the Department of Ecumenical Relationships and Development (DERD) operating through out Syria.

DERD is the largest independent local NGO (non-governmental organization, which is a non-profit, voluntary citizens' group that is organized on a local, national or international level) operating inside Syria with 10 offices and 25 multi-service centers, such as child protection, child-friendly space, and community centers, seeking to offer help to those who are in dire need, ensuring that all efforts are made to provide services to all, in order to spread the spirit of humanity, dignity, justice, tranquility and peace among those IDPs (an "IDP" is an internally displaced person and is defined as someone who is forced to flee his or her home but who remains within his or her country's borders) and those affected, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity. It seeks to go and have mercy, as did the Good Samaritan.

With YOUR donation, you can help them to survive.

With: \$1 YOU can feed a child for one whole day.

With: \$10 YOU can feed a family for a week.

With: \$50 YOU can keep a family warm for one month.

With: \$100 YOU can contribute to a life-saving surgery.

Any donation is welcome, please don't hesitate to help. Donations will be made to the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese Syrian Relief Fund, with 100% of donations going directly to the Patriarchate for DERD. Because you are making your contribution to the Archdiocese, your contribution will be tax deductible, to the extent allowed by law. You can donate today by sending a check made out to the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese with a memo: "Syrian Relief Fund/DERD" and mailing it today to: Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, Attn: Syrian Relief Fund/DERD; 358 Mountain Road, Englewood, New Jersey 07631

The Ladies are not (until further notice) accepting any more donations for their Fall Rummage Sale. We've also been asked to remind everyone to be mindful of the goods brought to the Church for the sales. Please bring only items you believe are in good enough shape to sell If something is broken, worn out or just plain beat up its probably better to just throw it out

REMEMBER Save The Date! We are planning a golf outing for Friday August 18, 2017. The tentative time is 1 PM at the Sand Springs golf course. More details to come.

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SUNDAY OF THE AFTER-FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL:
HIEROMARTYR EUTYCHIOS, BISHOP OF MELITENE; MARTYR HELICONIS OF THESSALONICA; VENERABLE
ANDREW OF CONSTANTINOPLE, FOOL-FOR-CHRIST; GERMANOS, BISHOP OF PARIS; IGNATIUS THE
WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF ROSTOV

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2017

THE EPISTLE

THE READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES. (20:16-18, 28-36)

In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

THE GOSPEL

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN. (17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

THE SYNAXARION

On May 28 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Eutychios, bishop of Melitene; Martyr Heliconis of Thessalonica; Venerable Andrew of Constantinople, fool-for-Christ; Germanos, bishop of Paris; and Ignatius the wonderworker, bishop of Rostov. On this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the first Ecumenical Council of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, which took place in Nicaea in Bithynia.

Arius, the notorious heretic, began to blaspheme against God and His Son the Word, saying that the latter was not God consubstantial with the Father, but that He was created as a stranger to the Substance of the Father and His glory. Alexander, the Archbishop of Alexandria, tried to constrain Arius from disturbing the faithful with this teaching; even though Alexander excommunicated him, Arius did not cease his blasphemy, which spread throughout the Church in all nations. Thus, Emperor Constantine the Great called the First Ecumenical Council, which gathered bishops and teachers in the Church from all lands. They all proclaimed, as by one mouth, the equality of the Son of God with the Father in Substance, thus laying down the noble Confession of Faith, The Creed, which we Orthodox Christians recite to this day. The Church regards these divine Fathers as preachers of the Faith next to the holy Apostles.

By the intercessions of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.



TODAY WE COMMEMORATE THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

The heresiarch Arius was a Libyan by race and a protopresbyter of the Church of Alexandria. In 315, he began to blaspheme against the Son and Word of God, saying that He is not true God, consubstantial with the Father, but is rather a work and creation, alien to the essence and glory of the Father, and that there was a time when He was not. This frightful blasphemy shook the faithful of Alexandria. Alexander, his Archbishop, after trying in vain to correct him through admonitions, cut him off from communion and finally in a local council deposed him in the year 321. Yet neither did the blasphemer wish to be corrected, nor did he cease sowing the deadly tares of his heretical teachings; but writing to the bishops of other cities, Arius and his followers requested that his doctrine be examined, and if it were unsound, that the correct teaching be declared to him. By this means, his heresy became universally known and won many supporters, so that the whole Church was soon in an uproar.

Therefore, moved by divine zeal, the first Christian Sovereign, Saint Constantine the Great, the equal to the Apostles, summoned the renowned First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, a city of Bithynia. It was there that the shepherds and teachers of the Church of Christ gathered from all regions in the year 325. All of them, with one mouth and one voice, declared that the Son and Word of God is one in essence with the Father, true God of true God, and they composed the holy Symbol of Faith up to the seventh article (since the remainder, beginning with "And in the Holy Spirit," was completed by the Second Ecumenical Council). Thus they anathematized the impious Arius of evil belief and those of like mind with him, and cut them off as rotten members from the whole body of the faithful.

Therefore, recognizing the divine Fathers as heralds of the Faith after the divine Apostles, the Church of Christ has appointed this present Sunday for their annual commemoration, in thanksgiving and unto the glory of God, unto their praise and honour, and unto the strengthening of the true Faith.