

ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

905 SOUTH MAIN ST. ∞ WILKES-BARRE PA 18702

PARISH OFFICE (570) 824-5016 ∞ PARISH HALL (570) 824-1674

PRIEST'S HOME (570) 788-5170

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 censes 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

Freida Skaff (6/4)
 Eileen Attar (6/5)
 John Karam III (6/6)
 Kathy & Angelo Falcone (6/7)
 Father David & Anne Hester (6/9)

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

Mark Merlie

Nezha Coury 6/4/1958
 John J. Milbrodt 6/4/1995
 George (Jiggs) Ferris 6/4/2007
 Abraham Moses 6/5/1926
 Mary Jabore 6/5/1933
 Anna M. Weber 6/5/1968
 Frank Antosh 6/5/1984
 George Casper 6/6/1929
 Moses Serhan 6/6/1975
 Elias Leo Namey 6/6/1990
 Samuel S. DeNardo 6/7/1993
 John Huhn 6/7/2005
 George Solomon 6/8/1958
 Sarah Monsuer 6/8/1982
 Joseph Morrash 6/08/2010
 Toofi Johns 6/9/1954

Charles A. Broody 6/9/1967
 Simon E. Saba 6/9/1991
 William B. Abraham 6/10/1923
 Cpl. Joseph Schacair 6/10/1924
 Nicholas Simon, Sr. 6/10/1929
 Jabro Jabore 6/10/1940
 Franklin Antosh 6/10/1966
 Lewis N. Solomon 6/10/1977

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

Today After Liturgy Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, June 11 Orthros at 8:50 am ∞ Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

COMMEMORATIONS

Today Bread, Bulletin and Coffee Hour and offered/sponsored in
Loving Memory of Louise Serhan and Mark Merlie by Carol
Serhan Yanchik. and Chris Merlie
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, Sbdcn. Treas.
Karen Kasko, Fin. Sec.
Anne Hester
Lillian Bonomo
Joanne Tenneriello
Nancy Tenneriello
Nicola Qarmout
Diane Fort
John Moses Jr., Sbdcn.
Richard Solomon

PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JUNE 4, 2017

- Special thanks to Alia and Chloe Mazzatosta and their father Sean who stepped up and took on the responsibility for placing flags on the graves of the reposed veterans of the Parish last week after Liturgy. Schedules and the holiday created a situation into which the Mazzatostas jumped ... Many years to the good and faithful servants!
- *Act now* Reservations are being taken for Father David's Retirement Dinner. There are Flyers in the back of the Church. Please note all seats will be reserved (tables of 8). Please see Suanne, Joanne, or Norm to make a reservation. Please note the deadline for making reservations and getting your table is August 13.
- Please see the flyers in the back of the Church if you would like to place an ad with a special message for Father David and Anne. We are creating a wonderful booklet for the Retirement Dinner. The deadline for your special message 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 (that's next week). The Organizations include the following:
 1. Ladies
 2. Fellowship of St. John
 3. Parish Council
 4. Choir and Chanters
 5. Sunday School, Teens, and Altar ServersPlease remain upstairs for the pictures.
- Congratulations to Alia Mazzatosta who was recently awarded the "Gary Inspires Me" scholarship. This scholarship is given for "qualities that inspire others to become better people". There is only one

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

awarded in Luzerne County. Many Years to Alia and her Family!

Correction 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 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 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 tee - time is 1 PM at the Sand Springs golf course. More details to come.



THE SYNAXARION

On this day, the eighth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate Holy Pentecost.

In a mighty wind Christ distributeth the Divine Spirit

In the form of fiery tongues unto the Apostles.

In one great day, the Spirit was poured out on the Fishermen.

On this day—the fiftieth after Great and Holy Pascha—we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the holy Disciples and Apostles in the form of tongues of fire. Numbering about 120, they who followed the Master gathered in Jerusalem in the upper room of a house to await the Lord's promise to send the Holy Spirit. At about the third hour of the day, there came a sound from Heaven as of a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the house. Cloven tongues immediately appeared, like as of fire, and sat upon the head of each of them. The Apostles began to speak, not with the languages of their ancestors, but with other languages with which the Holy Spirit supplied them, as He inspired them. After the Apostle Peter explained what had happened, 3,000 people joined the Church on the inauguration of the priesthood of grace. The objectives of Pentecost are, namely, the coming of the Holy Spirit into the world, the fulfillment of the promise of Jesus Christ, and the completion of the undefiled hope of the Apostles.

By the intercessions of the Holy Apostles, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.



TODAY WE COMMEMORATE PENTECOST

Today we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, which happened and is always celebrated 50 days after the Resurrection of our Lord. At Pentecost, the disciples received the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire, fulfilling the promise that Christ had given them while He was still with them. This spirit was the Comforter who would lead them into the fullness of the Truth concerning God and would be for them their final preparatory gift from God for their ministry. As Orthodox Christians we each receive the seal of the Holy Spirit when we are chrismated into the Faith. This is our personal Pentecost. This feast reminds us of our apostolic calling as baptized and chrismated members of the Church—to spread the Gospel in word and deed wherever we happen to find ourselves in the world.

Because the main passage from the New Testament for this feast is from the Acts of the Apostles and is read as the Epistle during the Divine Liturgy, the Gospel reading quoted above, spoken

during Jesus' public ministry while the Jews were celebrating the feast of the Tabernacles, serves as a commentary on the Epistle. After summoning those who would follow Him and promising them the coming of the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ's divinity is in question as several voices debate the issue. It is probably safe to assume that the majorities in the crowd that day were seeking the Messiah and a prophet to lead them out of Roman oppression. However, Jesus Christ's role was not one of political freedom fighter. He is God incarnate and brings freedom to liberate humanity from sin, the devil, and death. We are called to witness our faith in Christ as Lord in the midst of a world that may strongly disagree and persecute us for our convictions. Yet those who choose to know the Light will be brought to Him through our living the light of the Gospel and will find in our heartfelt words the living water of the Spirit.

✠ THE GREAT FEAST OF PENTECOST ✠

THE FIFTIETH DAY AFTER PASCHA

— SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017 —

✠ THE EPISTLE ✠

THE READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES. (2:1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

✠ THE GOSPEL ✠

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN. (7:37-52; 8:12)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

From the Holy Fathers

"Our stay on earth is not for sojourning, but for a personal choice for good or for evil, for truth or for falsehood." – St. Nicholai of Zica

"Malice will never drive out malice. But, if someone does an evil act to you, you should do good to him, so that by your good work you may destroy his malice." – A Desert Father

"If a man has a full intention to please God, then God teaches him His will either through thoughts, through some other person, or through Holy Scripture." – St. Peter of Damascus

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

Diocese of Oakland, Charleston
and the Mid-Atlantic

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Beloved brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, God-fearing Monastics, and all my Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ our True God:

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter (that is, the Holy Spirit), will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. (Jn. 16:7, 13). On this feast of Pentecost, I greet you in the name of the thrice-holy Trinity, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit! Our Creator and our Savior now also becomes our Comforter! In the words of Saint Theodore the Studite, "O, the unutterable love for mankind! God Himself has become our Comforter. Thus, He Himself comforts those who are weighed down by misfortune, prevents them from becoming exhausted in spirit, as the Holy Apostle testifies, saying: Our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears. Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us (2 Cor. 7:5-6). He comforts the heart frightened by demonic fear, raising it up to invincible courage through bold hope, as the Prophet David testifies: For Thou, O Lord, hast holpen me and comforted me (Ps. 85:17). He comforts, encouraging the troubled mind, as it has been given a feast with God and rest, as the Apostle testifies, saying: as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:20); that is, have peace, with God."

The love of God for His creation is boundless and knows no measure. Our response to His munificence should echo the sentiments of the Psalmist, "What shall I render unto the Lord, for all that He has rendered unto me?" (Ps. 115:4). The Comforter descends from on high to assist us in the spiritual struggle and remind us that we have purchased at a great price. Saint Theodore reminds us, as a result of this, "we shall not be afraid of the enemy and shall not be frightened by opposing powers, but shall courageously and steadfastly hasten to the struggle and feat, experiencing them day after day, not being deluded by the deceptions of the snake, and not growing weary from his ceaseless attacks."

On this feast of Pentecost we are emboldened to cry out, "O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present, and fillest all things, Treasury of good gifts, and giver of life, come and abide in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One." Amen

Yours in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Bishop THOMAS (Joseph)
Auxiliary Bishop, Diocese of Oakland, Charleston, and the Mid-Atlantic

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

905 SOUTH MAIN STREET

WILKES BARRE PA 18702

KIBBEE SALE

JUNE 16, 2017

MUST PREORDER

ORDERS DUE BY JUNE 11th

PRICE \$3.00 EACH

Call Joanne (570-823-6692) or Suanne (570-822-4976) to
place an order

ORDERS MUST BE PICKED UP AT THE CHURCH KITCHEN

PICK UP TIME –JUNE 16 FROM 2-4 P.M.