

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
 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

John Neddoff (6/11)
 Jane Saba (6/11)
 Richard Allan (6/13)
 Jean Druby (6/13)
 David & Susan Kuhl (6/13)
 Reba & John Witko (6/13)
 Cadence Solomon (6/14)

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

Mary Boyd Moses 6/16/1986
 Norman Serhan 6/17/1994
 Betty Salitt 6/17/2006
 Jule M. Solomon 6/17/2012

Emily Taroli 6/13/1998

John Malta 6/11/1945
 Francis B. Carpenter 6/11/1969
 Simon J. Karam, Sr. 6/11/1984
 Beverly J. Saba 6/11/1988
 Rhoda Johns 6/12/1984
 Albert Moses 6/12/1997
 Marie Serhan 6/12/2005
 Margaret Ayoub 6/13/1964
 Joseph Allen 6/13/1969
 Abraham William Moses 6/13/1995
 Helen Sattof 6/14/1969
 Leo J. Elias 6/14/1990
 Tamini Solomon 6/15/1932
 Abraham Van Mitchell 6/15/1977
 Lillian Gary 6/15/2005

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 Organization Pictures for Father David's Retirement Book
Sunday, June 18 Orthros at 8:50 am ☩ Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

COMMEMORATIONS

Today 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 + Holy Bread and Bulletin offered in Loving Memory of the 2 Year Memorial of Sandra Abraham's Repose and in Loving Memory of Isaac "Zeke" Abraham

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

PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JUNE 11, 2017

- Congratulations to all our Parish graduates! We are proud to announce the graduation of our Parishioners from high school, college and graduate school Many Years to our graduates and ew pray each experiences much success in the coming years! Our graduates include the following

Our High School graduates are:

Alia Mazzatosta graduating from Holy Redeemer; and
Brittany Hebda graduating from Holy Redeemer; and
Carly Perloff graduating from Dallas.

Our College graduates are:

Adam Turoski graduating from James Madison University with a Bachelor of Science in Integrated Science & Technology who will be pursuing a Juris Doctorate Degree at California Western School of Law; and

Angela Marinelli graduating from the University of Scranton with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology who will be pursuing Master of Science Degree in Mental Health Counseling at the University of Scranton; and

Anthony Morrash Jr. who graduated in December from Kings College with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration who joined his father's business at TM Supply

Our Graduate School graduate is:

Nick Qarmout who graduated from Wilkes University with a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering.

- Congratulations to Brittany Hebda who was recently awarded the multiple awards, only some of which include the "Debbie Darling

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

Scholarship Award", "Student Leadership Award" and Athletic Perseverance Award". Many years to Brittany and her Family!

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

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 today after Liturgy. The Organizations include the Ladies, the Fellowship of St. John, the Parish Council, the Choir and Chanters, the Sunday School, Teens, and Altar Servers. The members of each Organization should remain upstairs for the pictures.

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESAN WEBPAGE In response to the love and concern expressed by many 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. 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

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.



THE SYNAXARION

On June 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy apostles Barnabas and Bartholomew; the Archangel Gabriel, and his appearance to a monk on Athos to reveal the Theotokion "It is Truly Meet;" Venerable Barnabas of Basa in Cyprus and Barnabas of Vetluga. On this day, the Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the feast of All Saints who shone forth throughout all the world, North and South, East and West.

David the Prophet and king, who revered the beloved of God, and respected them because of his great piety, said in the Psalms, "How precious are Thy beloved unto me, O God" (138:17). And the Apostle Paul, in his Epistle to the Hebrews, recounted the lives of the saints, when he wrote, "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that so easily besets us; and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (12:1). Therefore, as Orthodox Christians, we honor the beloved saints of God, respecting them as keepers of God's commandments, shining examples of virtue and benefactors of humanity. We commemorate all of the holy ones every year on this day, as the list of saints ever increases, even though some of their names escape us. Nevertheless, we honor them for their piety and strive to imitate their good works.

By the intercessions of Thine immaculate Mother, O Christ God, and of all Thy Saints from the beginning of time, have mercy and save us, since Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.



From the second Monday after Pentecost until the feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul on June 29th, Orthodox Christians celebrate the Apostles' Fast. This year, the fast commences on Monday, June 12, 2017.

Having celebrated the feast of feasts, the Lord's Pascha, and Pentecost fifty days thereafter, we are about to embark upon the Apostles' Fast, which this year begins on June 12, 2017, and ends with the commemoration of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul on June 29.

The Apostles' Fast is a prescribed fasting period of the Church, lasting from the day after the Sunday of All Saints to the 29th of June, the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul.

The fast of the holy Apostles is very ancient, dating back to the first centuries of Christianity. We have the testimony of St. Athanasius the Great, St. Ambrose of Milan, St. Leo the Great and Theodoret of Cyrrhus regarding it. The oldest testimony regarding the Apostles' Fast is given to us by St. Athanasius the Great (†373).

The spiritual benefit derived from the Apostles' Fast is great. Saint Leo the Great noted that, "After the extended feast of Pentecost, the fast is particularly needed in order to cleanse our mind by ascetic labors, and to make us worthy of the gifts of the Holy Spirit." Saint Leo also reminds us, "In the Apostolic canons inspired by God Himself, the Church fathers have, at the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, established first and foremost that all virtuous labors begin with fasting."

Excerpted from an Article entitled The Fast and the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul By Bishop Thomas and Peter Schweitzer published on the Archdiocesan webpage (where you can read the entire article)

☩ FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: ALL SAINTS SUNDAY ☩

HOLY, GLORIOUS APOSTLES BARNABAS AND BARTHOLOMEW; BARNABAS OF BASA IN CYPRUS AND BARNABAS OF VETLUGA; COMMEMORATION OF THE APPEARANCE OF THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL TO A MONK ON ATHOS AND THE REVELATION OF THE HYMN "IT IS TRULY MEET"

—☩ SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2017 ☩—

☩ THE EPISTLE ☩

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE HEBREWS. (11:33-12:2)

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith.

☩ THE GOSPEL ☩

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW. (10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)

The Lord said to His disciples, "Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father Who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father Who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed Thee. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the New World, when the Son of Man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My Name's sake, will receive a hundred fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

From the Holy Fathers

"If you would know of the Lord's love for us, hate sin and evil thoughts, and day and night pray fervently. The Lord will then give you His grace, and you will know Him through the Holy Spirit, and after death, when you enter into paradise, there too, you will know the Lord through the Holy Spirit, as you knew Him on earth." -- St. Silouan of Mt. Athos.