



## ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA

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### CLERGY

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop THOMAS, Auxiliary Bishop of Charleston, Oakland & the Mid-Atlantic

Very Rev. Fr. George Alberts, Pastor

Very Rev. Fr. Dr. David Hester, Pastor Emeritus ✕ Very Rev. Fr. Herbert Nahas, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Deacon John Karam ✕ Rev. Deacon Joseph Clark (Temporarily Attached)

Subdeacon William Obeid + Subdeacon N.D. Namey + Subdeacon John Moses Jr.

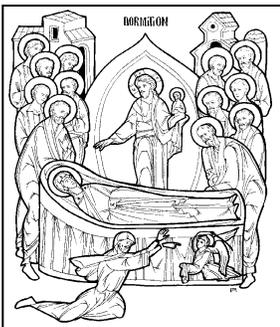
**WELCOME** to the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. We are the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Christian Church whose roots trace directly back to the first century Antioch, the city in which the disciples of Jesus Christ were first called Christians (Acts 11:26).

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.

**SCHEDULE OF  
UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS**

**ADVENT CONTINUES**

- **Tues. Nov 20** Vespers at 5:00 pm for the Feast of the Entry of the Virgin Mary to the Temple
- **Wed. Nov 21** Orthros at 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am for the Feast of the Entry of the Virgin Mary to the Temple
- **Thur. Nov. 22** HAPPY THANKSGIVING! No Spaghetti Dinner this week ....
- **Sat. Nov. 24** Confessions from 4:30 - 5:00 pm & Vespers at 5:00 pm
- **Sun. Nov. 25** Matins at 8:50 am + Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am
- **Wed. Nov. 28** Advent Paraclesis at 5:00 pm

*The Season of the Nativity is about nothing other than preparing a little room for the Lord Jesus Christ to come and shine in our souls. -- His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH*

**COMMEMORATIONS**

- ✦ **Today** Holy Bread is offered in loving memory of Sam Moses and Michael and Helen Moses by CJ Moses *and* Coffee Hour is sponsored in Loving Memory of Janine Saba and George Saba Sr. on the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their repose, and Thelma Raski on the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her repose
- ✦ **November 25** - Holy Bread, Bulletin & Coffee Hour in loving memory of Sam, Najoum, George, Abraham, Mary and Naphie Solomon by Sam Solomon - Trisagion Prayers for Sam, Najoum, George, Abraham, Mary and Naphie Solomon *and also* Holy Bread, Bulletin & Coffee Hour in loving memory of Helen Moses by John Moses and Family and Trisagion Prayers are also for Helen Moses
- ✦ **December 9** Holy Bread, Bulletin & Coffee Hour are sponsored in loving memory of Martha Joseph on the 40<sup>th</sup> day memorial of her repose *and also* Trisagion Prayers are for Martha Joseph for her 40 Day Memorial
- ✦ **December 16** Bread and bulletin offered in loving memory of Herman Reh (December 19, 1976) and Mary Namey Reh (December 19, 1998) by Nancy Reh Hunter & Family

**THE SYNAXARION**

On November 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy Great-Martyr Plato of Ancyra in Galatia.

*Plato almost escaped unnoticed; that Plato, I mean, whom the broad sword slaughtered.  
On the eighteenth, a saber slew Plato.*

Plato is the brother of the holy Martyr Antiochus the Physician (July 16). While still a youth, he left home and went through the cities, preaching the Word of God to pagans, amazing his audience with the persuasiveness and beauty of his speech, and his profound knowledge of Greek learning. For this, Plato was arrested and brought for trial to the temple of Zeus before the governor Agrippinus. At first, the judge attempted to persuade the saint to turn away from Christ by flattery. He assured the youth that he might be on a par of intellect with the greatest of the philosophers Plato, if only he worshipped also the pagan gods. To this, Saint Plato answered that the wisdom of the philosopher, although great, was but ephemeral and limited; whereas the true, eternal and unbounded wisdom comprised the Gospel teachings. Agrippinus ordered the holy Martyr Plato to be beheaded, and he entered the Heavenly Kingdom in 266.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Romanos of Antioch; Martyrs Zacchaeus the deacon and Alphaeos the reader of Caesarea in Palestine.

*By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.*

**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2018**  
**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & NINTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**  
HOLY MARTYR PLATO OF ANCYRA; MARTYR ROMANOS OF ANTIOCH; MARTYRS ZACCHAEUS THE  
DEACON AND ALPHAEOS THE READER OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT**

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three- day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**APOLYTIKION OF THE DORMITION**

In giving birth thou didst keep thy virginity and thy repose thou didst not forsake the world O Theotokos, for thou art the mother of life and thou didst pass over into life. And through thine intercessions from death thou dost redeem our souls.

**KONTAKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR**

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, \* the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, \* the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, \* into the House of the Lord \* on this day is brought forward \* and bringeth with herself the grace \* of the Most Divine Spirit; \* her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, \* for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

✠ THE EPISTLE ✠

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.  
God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (4:1-7)

Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, Who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

✠ THE GOSPEL ✠

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE. (12:16-21)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As He said this, Jesus called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

**A THANKSGIVING MEDITATION**

Everlasting King, Thy will for our salvation is full of power. Thy right arm doth control the whole course of human life. We give Thee thanks for all Thy mercies, seen and unseen; for eternal life, for the heavenly joys of the Kingdom which is to be. Grant mercy to us who sing Thy praise, both now and in the time to come: Glory to Thee, O God, from age to age!

*KONTAKION 1 from the Akathist for Thanksgiving*

## A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

*We include the following prayer adapted from a prayer posted on the Archdiocese Webpage .... This is a beautiful prayer if you are looking for a prayer for your family's Thanksgiving celebration ...*

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Lord, hear our prayer and attend to our supplication as we pray today for each member of our families, those gathered here today and those unable to be with us, granting them all health, strength, success and well-being.

We bow our heads on this day of Thanksgiving to offer You thanks, with a heart full of gratitude as we remember the poor as well as all innocent people caught in conflict and natural disasters throughout the nation and the world.

We thank you for our church family and for the church built for Your glory.

Lord, we pray for peace between people and nations. We pray for the wisdom of our civil authorities and leaders and ask that You bless our cities and our nation.

Remember our loved ones who have gone into eternal life and for those reposed as a result of conflict and natural disasters throughout the nation and the world.

Bless the food we are about to receive in Your name and the special hands that prepared it, as we always give our unending thanks to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. *Amen*

The Parish Council has received complaints concerning the noise and activity in the back of the Church and in the Narthex/Vestibule during the Divine Liturgy. The complaints have actually increased the recent past to the point that Council has been asked to address the issue.

The Parish Council discussed the complaints at a recent Parish Council Meeting. The Council's deliberations on the issue reveal that everyone has noticed the same problem. The Council's discussions were detailed and lengthy. The members of Council shared their own observations and potential remedies.

After reflection, the Council determined the necessary first (and hopefully last) step in addressing and eliminating the problems involves some education and kindly reminders about Church etiquette. It is our hope and prayer that no more pointed efforts will be necessary.

Based on the above, and in the spirit of love and reconciliation, the Council asks everyone to consider the following (which address the most common complaints):

- Let's please try to be on time and in your seat when the Liturgy starts;
- If you cannot be here on time (and we all understand sometimes it's hard) --- please be quiet when you enter the Church and then take your seat without talking;
- Be kind to the Clergy and Altar Servers and especially those who are reading the Epistle and/or the Gospel ... is extremely distracting, not to mention downright disrespectful to the sanctity of the service and the readers to move around the back of the Church and try to take a seat (1) during either the Little Entrance or the Great Entrance; (2) when either the Epistle or Gospel are being read; (3) when either the Creed and the Lord's Prayer are being recited and/or (4) during the Consecration.
- But most of all ----- Please do not talk during the Liturgy ... there is really no need to talk during the Divine Liturgy. However if you absolutely must talk please do so as discreetly and quietly as possible ... You would be surprised how much your voice will carry -- even if you think you're being quiet.

We'll have more to say in the future on this issue of Church Etiquette ....