



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

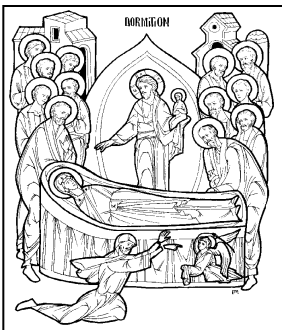
Subdeacon William Obeid + Subdeacon N.D. Namey + Subdeacon John Moses Jr.

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 PARISH LIFE AT ST. MARY

Today Parish Counsel Meeting
 Thurs. Sept. 19 -- Spaghetti Dinner at 4:00 pm
 Sat. Sept. 21 - Retreat at the Monastery of the Protection in White Haven + No Vespers this week at St. Mary
 Sun. Sept. 22 Matins at 8:50 & Divine Liturgy at 10:00 * Teen Meeting After Liturgy



PLEASE REMEMBER TO
 SILENCE YOUR CELL
 PHONES IN CHURCH

COMMEMORATIONS

✦ Today – Holy Bread, Bulletin & Coffee Hour are sponsored/offered by Gail and John Luksic in loving memory of Barbara Audi and John "Skip" Audi

Lighting candles is an important part of Orthodox worship ... Please however refrain from lighting candles (1) during the Epistle or Gospel; (2) during the Little or Great Entrance, (3) during the sermon, and/or the Anaphora - the Prayer of the Holy Eucharist ...

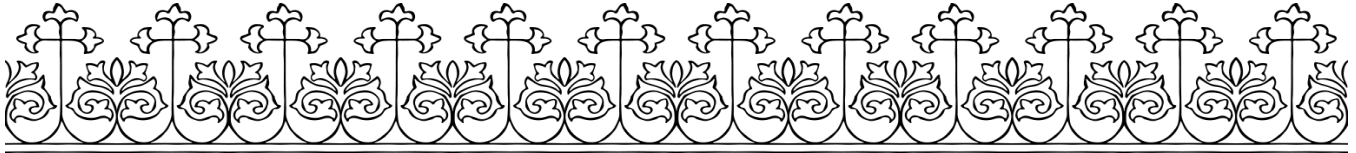


Please ask an Usher if you have a question or need help!



CONFESSION is one of the Sacraments of the Church & Is Important To Our Continued Spiritual Health The Church prescribes confession at least four (4) times a year Father George is available every Saturday before Vespers and Sunday after Liturgy or by appointment to hear your confession





DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019
SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
GREAT-MARTYR NIKITAS THE GOTH AND THOSE WITH HIM; MARTYR PORPHYRIOS THE MIME; VISSARION,
BISHOP OF LARISA; NEW-MARTYR JOHN OF CRETE; JOSEPH THE NEW OF PARTOSH

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

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 THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE FOUR

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

✠ THE EPISTLE ✠

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE GALATIANS. (2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

☩ THE GOSPEL ☩

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MARK. (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

THE SYNAXARION

On September 15 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the contest of the Holy Great-Martyr Nikitas the Goth.

Burned, Nikitas, thou becomest a victory-bearer, or rather say, a fire-bearing victory bearer. On the fifteenth Nikitas was cast into the furnace.

Nikitas was a disciple of Theophilus, Bishop of the Goths, who participated in the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea in 325. When the Gothic prince Athenarik began to torture Christians, Nikitas stood before the prince and denounced him for his paganism and inhumanity. Subsequently harshly tortured, Nikitas confessed his faith in Christ even more strongly, and prayed to God with thanksgiving. On his breast under his robe Nikitas bore an icon of the Most-holy Theotokos with the Pre-eternal Christ Child standing and holding the Cross in His hands. The Holy Theotokos had appeared to him and comforted him. Finally, the torturer threw the soldier of Christ into the fire, where the holy martyr breathed his last, but his body remained untouched by the fire. His companion Marianus took his body from the land of the Goths to the town of Mopsuestia in Cilicia. There, he built a church dedicated to Nikitas, and placed the miracle-working relics of the martyr in it. Nikitas suffered and was glorified in the year 372.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Porphyrios the mime; Vissarion, bishop of Larisa; New-martyr John of Crete; and venerable Joseph the New of Partosh in Romania.

By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

