

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.

Sub-deacon David Rayahin + Seminarian Mark Makarios + Seminarian Christopher (Cody) Vest

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.



PLEASE NOTE

All our services can be watched as they occur on our Parish Face Book page at <https://www.facebook.com/StMaryAO/>

SCHEDULE OF PARISH LIFE AT ST. MARY

Saturday January 23 Teen & Young Adult Zoom Meeting 11:00 am
Sunday January 24 Matins at 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

COMMEMORATIONS

- ☒ Today Holy Bread and Bulletin offered in loving memory of Hal Morrash on the four year anniversary of her repose by her family also Trisagion Prayers are for Hal Morrash
- ☒ Jan 24, 2021 Holy Bread and Bulletin offered in loving memory of Thomas Yuhas Jr on the two year anniversary of his repose by Tom and Rose Yuhas *and also* Holy Bread and Bulletin offered in loving memory of Marla Hunter by Nancy and Jim Hunter and Family

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

We thought 2020 was difficult, but 2021 is starting out to be just as difficult! Nevertheless, let us start each day with the conviction that

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118.24).

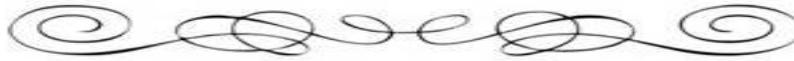
We show respect to and pray for our civil authorities, whoever they may be. We belong to the Kingdom of God; at the same time, we are not aloof from the cares and suffering in this world. Christians are in this world, but we are NOT of this world, and we cannot be entangled with its politics or overly troubled by them.

I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

Adapted from Bulletin of St. Nicholas Cathedral

**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021
VENERABLE AND GOD-BEARING FATHER ANTHONY THE GREAT &
TWELFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

Anthony the New, ascetic of Berrea in Macedonia; New-martyr George of Ioannina



RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT IN TONE FOUR

Thou didst become like the zealous Elijah in his condition, and followed John the Baptist in his upright ways, becoming a dweller in the wilderness and an establisher of the universe by thy prayer, O Father Anthony. Wherefore, intercede thou with Christ God to save our souls.

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 PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

THE EPISTLE

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

What shall I render to the Lord for all that He has given me?

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (13:17-21)

Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (17:12-19)

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

THE SYNAXARION

On January 17 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous and God-bearing Father Anthony the Great.

*Heaven hath somewhat greater even than Angels, Anthony, that is, the exarch of ascetics.
They took Anthony hence the seventeenth.*

Anthony was an Egyptian, born about the year 250 in the village of Koman near Herculea. Following the deaths of his noble and wealthy parents, he divided the inherited estate with his sister, who was a minor, and provided for her with some relatives. Anthony distributed his half of the estate to the poor and, he, in his twentieth year, dedicated himself to the ascetical life for which he yearned from his childhood. Anthony withdrew into the wilderness on the shore of the Red Sea. There, he spent twenty years as a recluse not associating with anyone except with God through constant prayer, reflection and contemplation, patiently enduring unspeakable temptations from the devil. His fame spread throughout the entire world and many disciples gathered around him whom he placed on the path of salvation by his example and words. When certain Greek philosophers tempted Anthony with literary wisdom, he shamed them with the question: "Which is older, the understanding or the book? Which of these two was the cause of the other?" Filled with many years of great works, Anthony died in the Lord in 355.

On this day, we also commemorate Anthony the New, ascetic of Berrea in Macedonia; and New-martyr George of Ioannina.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.



PARISH NEWS

- ✘ We Welcome Father David who will serve today in Father George's absence ... Many Years to Father David and Anne ... beloved servants!
- ✘ Please note Father George will be taking a part of his vacation time through Friday, January 22nd. We pray Kh. Carol enjoys a speedy, pain-free and complete recovery! Please keep both Kh. Carol and Father George in your prayers.
- ✘ Father George and Kh. Carol thank everyone for their prayers for Kh. Carol. She had her surgery and although they were unable to complete her operation, she is doing well, thank God. Because of COVID Father George has been unable to visit with her but has spoken with her and has shared the messages and emails in which you offered your thoughts and prayers for her. She and Father George are very appreciative of your love, concern and prayers.
- ✘ Next Saturday, January 23rd, we will begin our Saturday morning (11 am-Noon) Teen, College Student and Young Adult Zoom Class. Father George has sent out the login for the class. If you or your Teen or Young Adult have not received it, please let Father George know and he will see to it that you receive it. The Teen and Young Adult Zoom class will continue each Saturday for a total of 6 weeks. We encourage all our Teens, College Students and Young Adults to attend and participate. Father George will send the link to these sessions shortly.

- ✘ We hope and pray everyone will continue to protect themselves and others from this insidious and evil pandemic. Many of us are experiencing some amount of “pandemic fatigue” that might cause us to leave down our guards. It is however most important that we continue to fight the fight and abide by the recommendations of the CDC and continue to socially distance from each other as necessary and appropriate and of course wear a mask when out in public.
- ✘ We regret to advise everyone that we will not be resuming our take-out Spaghetti Dinners this month. We are hoping to be able to resume sometime next month – God willing. We will keep everyone posted and up-to-date concerning the return of our great take-out Spaghetti Dinners.
- ✘ Please take note the Church envelopes, for the Parishioners who request them are in the Narthex (vestibule) of the Church. Please take your envelopes and if you see envelopes belonging to your family, please take them and safely deliver those too ...
- ✘ Please let us know if there is anyone who can be removed from the prayer list. Please contact either Father George or Subdeacon Norman.

COVID-Related Reminders to Consider

We remind everyone to wear their masks while in Church. Please remember to wear your mask over both your nose and mouth. This may be uncomfortable at times but the CDC recommendations mandate wearing the mask over your nose and mouth. Please also observe social distancing while in Church to help avoid the spread of the virus.

We ask everyone to observe proper hygiene practices – no hugging, handshakes, or kissing ...Honor/veneration is to be shown to the Holy Icons and the Holy Cross by making the sign of the cross and bowing, keeping in mind not to kiss or to touch the Holy Icons and the Holy Cross. Please also use the hand sanitizer provided for your convenience.

Finally, please report to us if you learn you have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive or believes they may have been exposed themselves. We owe it to each other to be vigilant and warn of any potential exposure, no matter how inadvertent or innocent it may be