



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*

Deacon Ephraim Vest

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.



PLEASE NOTE

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

COMMEMORATIONS

Today Bread, bulletin and Coffee Hour In Loving Memory of Barbara Audi and John "Skip" Audi by Gail and John Luksic

SCHEDULE OF PARISH LIFE AT ST. MARY

Tuesday, Sept 21	Father George at the Church from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Wed, Sept. 22	Day in Damascus Meeting for all workers at 6:00 pm in Parish Hall
Friday, Sept. 24	Father George at the Church from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday, Sept. 25	Confessions 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm followed by Great Vespers at 5:00 pm
Sunday, Sept. 19	Matins at 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

SPECIAL NEWS REGARDING THE EASING OF COVID RESTRICTIONS ...

We are now permitted to attend Services without wearing a mask or following the previous rule of 6 ft. social distancing. *However, if you would like to continue to wear a mask, you may do so.* Also, we will now be permitted to hold meetings in our Parish Hall, and no longer have limits on Choir members and may hold coffee hours or other events in our Parish Hall.

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Martyrs Trophimos, Dorymedon and Savvatos;

Hieromartyr Januarios of Benevento and his companions

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

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord.

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, knowing that a person is not justified by the works of the Law, but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; for by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified. But if, while we sought to be justified in Christ, we ourselves also were found sinners, is Christ then a minister of sin? God forbid! For if I build up again those things which I destroyed, 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, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself up for me.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

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 19 in the Holy Orthodox Church we continue the celebration of the Elevation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross, and we commemorate the holy Martyrs Trophimos, Dorymedon and Savvatos.

*O Trophimos, Dorymedon and Savvatios, but one in spirit, Ye are by sword and irons adorned with
meed and trophies. On the nineteenth fell Trophimos with fellow contenders.*

In 278, during the reign of Probus, Trophimos and Savvatios came to Antioch, and seeing the city celebrating the festival of Apollo at Daphne lamented the blindness of the people. They presented themselves as Christians to Atticus the Governor and refused to take part in the revelry. Atticus subjected each man to cruel tortures: Savvatios gave up his spirit during sufferings, but Trophimos was imprisoned in various places and beaten at each stop. At Synnada, Dorymedon, a counselor and a pagan, came to the prison and cared for Trophimos. When another pagan feast came, Dorymedon also refused to sacrifice to the idols, proclaimed himself a Christian, and was also imprisoned. The torturer ordered Trophimos and Dorymedon to be thrown to the wild beasts, but the animals would not touch them. They were eventually beheaded and all three martyrs now reign in Heaven.

On this day, we also commemorate the Hieromartyr Januarios of Benevento and his companions.

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

PARISH NEWS

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Hurricane Ida has caused devastation to Louisiana and other areas of the south. Our Parish and parishioners in that area have suffered greatly from this hurricane. Attached is a letter from Metropolitan JOSEPH concerning a special collection to be taken up in our churches to aid the church and those who have suffered loss due to this storm. We will be taking that special collection TODAY. Alternatively, you can also send your donation directly to the our church office earmarking your checks for "Hurricane Relief".

- ✘ Our DAY IN DAMASCUS FOOD FESTIVAL is Saturday, October 2nd. This is a pre-order Festival and all orders MUST be placed by TODAY! Please note we will not accept orders after today to ensure we are able to fulfill all our orders.
- ✘ On Wednesday evening, September 22rd, we will hold a Day in Damascus meeting at 6 p.m. in the Church Hall for ALL of our committee members to finalize our festival plans.
- ✘ The DAY IN DAMASCUS FOOD FESTIVAL Committee is asking for your help! We are asking you to help us out by donating bake sale items of any kind! Please drop off bake goods on Wednesday September 28th from 10:00-12:00 in the Church Hall. Also, we will also be holding a basket raffle. If you or anyone you know would like to donate a basket all donations would be greatly appreciated. In order to make this festival a success, on October 2, we are asking for your help! Don't forget to get your food orders in by September 19th!
- ✘ Our DAY IN DAMASCUS FOOD FESTIVAL is Saturday, October 2nd from 2-5 p.m. for order pick-up. Please remember this is a pre-order sale. ALL orders must be placed by TODAY! Please complete an Order Form if you haven't already placed your order.
- ✘ The DAY IN DAMASCUS FOOD FESTIVAL Committee has established the following schedule for Preparation and the Festival:
 - ✘ *September 29 -Dessert Drop-Off beginning at 10 a.m./Hummus Preparation*
 - ✘ *September 30 - Preparation of Rice, Beans and Taboolee at 10 a.m.*

- ✘ *October 1 - Set-up and Preparation at 10 a.m.*
- ✘ *October 2 - Cooking of Grape Leaves/Packaging of Food Items begins at 8 a.m./Order Pick-up 2-5 p.m.*

✘ Also ... We are currently accepting Donations to help offset the cost of the ingredients for our food preparation. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check out to St. Mary Church and note on the Memo it for "Festival Donation". You can also make a Donation online at our Website and again designate it for the Festival. Thank you.

✘ Please let Joanne Tenneriello or John Moses know if you can work during our DAY IN DAMASCUS FOOD FESTIVAL, which is fast approaching. We can use your help throughout our preparation for this important event.

✘ Beginning on Thursday, September 9th, Father George will be teaching Antiochian Liturgical Practice at St. Tikhon's Seminary on Thursdays, which necessitates a change in his usual Thursday office hours at Church. He will be sending out the revised schedule each week.

✘ Our Golf Tournament has been postponed and is rescheduled to October. More details will be provided on the new date in the near future.

✘ *Please let Father George or Sbdcn Norman if anyone can be removed from the Prayer List.*

NEWS OF EVENTS FOR OUR ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

From our Ladies President, Anna Veniamim

The AWE Board is excited to kick off the Church New Year with two exciting events for all to come together and grow spiritually in our faith.

First: Living Faith Series of the Season kicks off with an Ask Abouna Session featuring Fr. Nicholas Alford and Fr. Meletios Zafaran on September 26th, 2021 at 6:00 PM. Any questions, big or small, will be answered in Arabic or English.

Second: AWE Book Club resumes on October 17th at 6:30 PM welcoming Kh. Frederica Mathewes-Green author of "Mary As the Early Christians Knew Her", the NAB Book Selection for the New Year. You don't want to miss the author's introduction into the book that we will begin reading in October. Order your book now from Paraclete Press or Amazon.

Ladies with questions or who need help with logging onto the online events should see our Ladies President, Anna Veniamim ...