

Parish Announcements

- **Service Schedule:** Additional services will be held this week as follows (please see the online calendar for the latest updates):
 - Wednesday** – Presanctified Liturgy (6 PM)
 - Friday** – Akathist to the Theotokos (6:30 PM)
 - Saturday** – Akathist for the Departed (9:30 AM)
- **Standing During Holy Communion:** It is our custom to ask that everyone who is able stand during the distribution of Christ's precious Body and Blood at Holy Communion. After the pre-Communion hymn is read by all, when the curtain reopens, all should rise, remaining standing until the chalice and diskos are lifted by the priest or deacon for the final time. (Following Communion, he turns around from the Holy Table and raises them before the people, saying, "Blessed is our God, always now and ever and unto ages of ages.") We stand at attention, reverence, and solemnity even if not partaking of the Eucharist ourselves. We maintain profound hope that Christ's Body and Blood be for the healing of soul and body and for the granting of eternal life for ourselves and our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- **Lenten Women's Retreat:** AWE will hold its annual Lenten retreat from March 29-31 at Antiochian Village. If interested, please register by Friday (March 22); see <http://registration.antiochianvillage.org/Registration/Welcome.aspx?e=E6ED8FA87D2F01DF11B6C6DB2F82B759> for further details.
- **Wednesday Night Potlucks:** Presanctified Liturgies on Wednesdays during Lent will each be followed by a potluck meal.
- **Orthodoxy 101:** Classes will continue on Saturdays at 4 PM, concluding on April 20.

Ways to Get Involved

- **DERD Syrian Relief Program:** For details on contributing to relief efforts, see <http://antiochian.org/syrian-relief-program-introducing-derd>.
- **West Chester Food Cupboard:** We are now collecting **canned fruit, boxed pasta, and spaghetti sauce**. Please place your donations in the clear plastic bin in the library. Your contributions really help the needy in our West Chester area community! Thank you!



Sunday, March 17, 2019



HOLY ASCENSION

Orthodox Christian Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Diocese of
Charleston, Oakland, and the Mid-Atlantic

Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch
and All the East

Primate

His Eminence, the Most Rev. Metropolitan Joseph
(Al-Zehlaoui)

Diocesan Hierarchy

His Grace, the Right Rev. Bishop Thomas (Joseph)

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Daniel Meyer

Subdeacon

Vladimir Moses

Saturday Vespers - 5:00 PM

Sunday Orthros - 8:25 AM

Sunday Liturgy - 9:30 AM

Confessions - Saturday evenings,
following most divine services,
and by appointment

*For an updated service and event
schedule, visit our online calendar:*

HolyAscension.net/calendar

Divine Liturgy Variables

Resurrectional Apolytikion in Tone One

While the stone was sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world – for which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

Apolytikion of Sunday of Orthodoxy in Tone Two

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God – for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

Apolytikion of Holy Ascension in Tone Four

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit; and they were assured by the blessing that Thou art the Son of God and Redeemer of the world.

Kontakion for Great Lent in Tone Eight

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror – but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free; from all forms of danger free me and deliver me that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

Prayer Requests

LIVING:

Catechumen Laurie W.; Catechumen Roy B.; Catechumen Peter Y.; Catechumen Amira S., Catechumen Braden M.; Catechumen David S.; Kyle F.'s family (friends of Johnny B.); Seraphim B.; Kathy A. (cancer and stomach); Jeff K. (recent knee surgery); Marlan A.; Alexandra C.; Sue (Yiannis B.'s aunt, undergoing chemotherapy); Tom (Yiannis B.'s uncle); Fiona (Jane S.'s family friend); Elias (Lisa K.'s cousin, tumor); Mary (Jeff K.'s cousin, cancer); Erik (Joanna S.'s family); Vincent and Marteen (Mitri D.'s family); Bp. Alexander (undergoing chemotherapy); Christina (Lisa K.'s mother); Suad and Nasri (ill); Patty Y. (recovering from accident); Jack (Coleen's dad, for continued healing); Nicholas (John C.'s friend); Daniel (Mark R.'s son); Orthodox suffering from persecution; those suffering from war and disasters

DEPARTED:

Kyle F. (friend of Johnny B.)
Pete (Elizabeth M.'s grandfather)
Reader Maxim (John K.'s father)
Andrew M. (neighbor)
Priest Ibrahim
Bp. Athanasius of Kenya
Those killed in recent natural disasters
Orthodox Christians and others recently murdered and killed during the fighting in the Middle East, Africa, and elsewhere in the world

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Today's Scripture Readings

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (11:24-26, 32-40)
Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets; who 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, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release 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 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.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (1:43-51)
At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Did you know ...

The whole earth is a living icon of the face of God.

St. John of Damascus