

Parish Announcements

- **Sunday School:** Classes will meet today following coffee hour.
- **Church Cleanup Day:** Our next cleanup day will take place on Saturday, May 11 from 9 AM to 2 PM. It will focus on interior maintenance; for details, contact Russ H.
- **Food for Hungry People:** Please return any remaining Lenten collection boxes.

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, May 5, 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

Hymn of the Resurrection
from the Paschal Canon

Having beheld the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. We venerate Your Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Your holy resurrection, for You are our God, and we know no other than You; we call on Your name. Come, all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection. For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His resurrection, for by enduring the Cross for us, He has destroyed death by death.

Divine Liturgy Variables

Apolytikion for Thomas Sunday in Tone Seven

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

Kontakion of Pascha in Tone Eight

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades, and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those who had fallen.

Prayer Requests

LIVING:

Catechumen Yiannis B.; Catechumen Amelia B.; Catechumen Laurie W.; Catechumen Roy B.; Catechumen Peter Y.; Catechumen Amira S., Catechumen Braden M.; Catechumen David S.; Joe (Sarah B.'s uncle, recovering from surgery); Cindy (Mark R.'s sister, recent hospitalization); Seraphim B.; Kathy A. (cancer and stomach); Jeff K. (recovering from 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); 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:

Gertrude (Patrick B.'s grandmother) Samir (Jeanne K.'s cousin)
Metropolitan Philip (5-year memorial) Henrietta (Fr. Daniel's great-aunt)
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

Today's Scripture Readings

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the Apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

