

Parish Announcements

- **Service Streaming:** To view livestreams of our services, please visit https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGp9uDgdYDw_sqUBWP_8zeQ.
- **Service Schedule:** Paraklesis will be held on Friday (August 13) at 6:30 PM.
- **Agape Meal:** We will have a potluck following Liturgy.
- **Vacation Family Camp:** VFC will run from August 16-20. Each evening will feature dinner (5:30-6:30 PM), a talk by Fr. Christopher (6:30-7 PM), and a special fellowship activity (7-8 PM).

Monday – Prayer Rope Making

Tuesday – Games

Wednesday – Sushi Making with Dr. Fran

Thursday – Burgers and Beer Tasting

Friday – Movie Night

- **Fall Episcopal Visit Luncheon (RSVP for September 12):** His Grace Bishop Thomas will visit Holy Ascension the weekend of September 11-12. On Sunday, September 12, following the Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, we will be hosting a special luncheon to celebrate the Bishop's visit as well as the ten-year anniversary of our own Father Christopher's ordination to the priesthood (the day before). While all are invited to attend, we must have a headcount (both children and adults) for catering purposes. Please RSVP as soon as possible to Parish Council Secretary Fran H. either in church after services or by email. Please let Fran know if you will *not* be attending as well as if you *will* be attending the luncheon on September 12. We need to hear from everyone! For fun, the first 30 replies will receive a special thank you for timeliness (and for reading and acting upon this announcement!).
- **Health Guidelines:** If you have Covid symptoms or have tested positive, please follow current CDC guidelines (see the email announcement for full details).



Sunday, August 8, 2021



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 Hierarch

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

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Christopher Eid

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 Six

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb, and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world; O Thou Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of the Transfiguration in Tone Seven

When, O Christ our God, Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy Disciples in proportion as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners through the intercessions of the Theotokos. O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.

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 of the Transfiguration in Tone Seven

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God, so that when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

Prayer Requests

LIVING:

Catechumen John R.; Catechumen Dan S.; Vicki M. (health); Della (Jeanne K.'s friend); David K. (Vicki M.'s nephew); Carol (Vicki M.'s sister, health); Maggie (Fran H.'s sister-in-law, health); Thomas (Fran H.'s husband, health); Jean (Lisa K.'s friend, cancer); Sophia (infant granddaughter of Lisa K.'s coworker, leukemia); Marlan A.; Mitri, Tina, and family; Courtney M. (health); Maggie W. (health); Ariel (Barbara H.'s daughter-in-law) and baby; Barbara H. (shoulder); Bp. Alexander (health); Met. Hilarion (cancer); Jeanne K. (health); Dorothy (Fran's mother); Elizabeth G. (heart); Fiona (Jane S.'s family friend); Elias (Lisa K.'s cousin, tumor); Mary (Jeff K.'s cousin, cancer); Christina (Lisa K.'s mother); Suad and Nasri (ill); Jack (Coleen's dad, for continued healing); Daniel (Mark R.'s son); Orthodox suffering from persecution; those suffering from war, illness, and disasters

DEPARTED:

Those lost to illness or natural disasters
Orthodox Christians and others recently murdered and killed during the fighting in the Middle East, Africa, and elsewhere in the world

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
After-feast of the Transfiguration of Christ

Today's Scripture Readings

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (15:1-7)

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each one of us please his neighbor for that which is good for his edification. For Christ also did not please Himself; but, as it is written: "The reproaches of those who reproached Thee fell on Me." For whatever was written beforehand was written for our learning, that we might have hope, through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be of the same mind with one another, according to Christ Jesus, that with one accord and one mouth you may glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, receive one another, even as Christ has also received you, to the glory of God.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (9:27-35)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

Words from the Saints

Ever let mercy outweigh all else in you. Let our compassion be a mirror where we may see in ourselves that likeness and that true image which belong to the Divine nature and Divine essence. A heart hard and unmerciful will never be pure.

St. Isaac the Syrian