

Parish Announcements

- **Upcoming Episcopal Visit:** His Grace Bishop Thomas will be visiting us on the weekend of September 11-12. Please join us in welcoming him to our parish!
- **Episcopal Visit Luncheon:** Thank you to all who have RSVP'd already for the luncheon for His Grace Bishop Thomas on September 12. If you have not done so yet, we need to know immediately if you *are* attending or if you *are not* attending. Please see Parish Council Secretary Fran H. after church or email her at fran.zap@verizon.net. Thank you!
- **2021 Sunday School for Children:** With the Liturgical New Year (September 1) right around the corner, we are gearing up for Sunday school, which will start on Sunday, September 19. All parents are asked to complete a registration form for their children as soon as possible. Please pick up your form after church (they are next to the collection basket in the Nave) and return the completed forms to Father Christopher. Please contact Fr. Christopher if you have any questions.
- **Events for Youth:** We plan to offer Teen SOYO activities and events in the future. For Youth Month in October, there will be opportunities to learn to read the Epistle and participate in other church activities. Further details will follow.
- **Church Etiquette:** In anticipation of the visit of His Grace Bishop Thomas in September and ensuring that we put our best foot forward, it is time to review some basic church etiquette items for us to implement during and after services.

All agree that after a long week at work or school, it is nice to see our friends and church family members on Sunday mornings. However, when we are in the Nave, we are in the House of the Lord. Because of this, we all need to remember the following: All conversations, greeting friends, waving, etc. should be limited to time *after* the service, when we have exited the Nave (outside the double glass doors). Additionally, when the presiding clergy (be it the priest or the bishop) step outside the Altar for any reason (during either the Small or the Great Entrance, for the sermon, to bring Communion, or otherwise), all talking/chanting/singing ceases.

If we continue to practice these important items, this discipline will become a habit of loving behaviour not only towards Bishop Thomas and Father Christopher but also towards our fellow parishioners as they worship the Lord.



Sunday, August 29, 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 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 the Baptist's Beheading in Tone Two

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with songs of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner. Thou wast shown indeed to be the most honorable of the prophets, for in the waters thou didst baptize Him Whom they had proclaimed. After suffering with joy in behalf of the truth, thou didst proclaim even to those in Hades the God Who appeared in the flesh, Who taketh away the sin of the world and granteth us Great Mercy.

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 Nativity of the Theotokos in Tone Four

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness, and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

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



Beheading of the Forerunner and Baptist John

Today's Scripture Readings

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (13:25-33)

In those days, as John was fulfilling his course, he said, "Who do you suppose that I am? I am not He. But behold, there comes One after me the shoes of whose feet I am not worthy to unloose." Men, brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you is the word of this salvation sent forth. For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read on every Sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning Him. And though they found no cause of death in Him, yet they asked Pilate that He should be slain. And when they had fulfilled all the things that were written of Him, they took Him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. But God raised Him from the dead; and for many days He was seen by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now His witnesses to the people. And we bring you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, that God has fulfilled the same to us their children, in that He raised up Jesus again.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (6:14-30)

At that time, Jesus' Name had become known, and King Herod heard of it. Some said, "John the Baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in Him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. For John said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias' daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." And she went out, and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptizer." And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. The Apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.

Words from the Saints

Thou, O Christ our Savior, hast become for me the path of life which leads to the Father. There is but one path, and it is my joy, and at the end of it is the heavenly kingdom.

St. Ephraim the Syrian