



March 24, 2024



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

1501 8TH AVENUE

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WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

**HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND
METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA**

**HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON,
OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC**

PASTOR: REVEREND FATHER STEVEN SHAHEEN

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests praying with us.

***Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer,
please contact Fr. Steven***

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread. Please see Father Steven after Divine Liturgy.

DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024

TONE 1 / EOTHINON 9

FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY)

VENERABLE ZACHARIAH THE RECLUSE AND ARTEMON, BISHOP OF SELEUCIA

****DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT****

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty. The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength. For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Who shall tell of the mighty acts of the Lord? Who shall make all of His praises to be heard? Let the redeemed by the Lord say so, whom He has delivered from the hand of the enemy. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Let them acknowledge the Lord for His mercies, and for His wondrous works for the sons of men.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Let them exalt Him in the church of the faithful, and in the assembly of the presbyters. (*Refrain*)

The eyes of the Lord are upon those that fear Him, upon those that hope in His mercy; to hear the mourning of those in captivity, and to loose the sons of those appointed to death. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

.THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Let the heavens and the earth praise Him. This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. O Lord my God, I will acknowledge Thee forever.

*During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the **First Sunday of Great Lent.***

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 FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT 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. Wherefore, with thankfulness we cry aloud to thee: Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

APOLYTIKION OF SAINT JOHN

Apostle John, speaker of deity, the beloved of Christ our God, hasten to deliver your people, powerless in speech, for He on Whose bosom you lean accepts you as an intercessor. Beseech Him therefore to disperse the darkness of ignorance, and pray for peace and great mercy to be shown upon us

KONTAKION FOR SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT (AND AKATHIST SATURDAY) 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.

ST. BASIL LITURGY MEGALYNARION

All creation rejoiceth in thee, O thou who art full of grace: the angelic hosts and the race of men. O hallowed temple and spiritual paradise, glory of virgins, of whom God was incarnate and became a little child, even our God who is before all the ages; for he made thy womb a throne, and thy body more spacious than the heavens. All creation rejoiceth in thee, O thou who art full of grace. Glory to thee.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

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 pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of the Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the recompense of reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Sampson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and all the prophets, who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

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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."

MARCH/APRIL Services

March 23rd Saturday - Great Vespers 5PM

**March 24th Sunday - Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
(Sunday of Orthodoxy)**

The Procession of the Holy Icons

**Today: TRISAGION ON MARCH 24TH for
NICK and CATHERINE (Yvonne Bennett's parents)**

**Monday, March 25th—Annunciation of the Theotokos
Vespereal Liturgy @ 6pm**

**March 30th— Saturday of Souls—Divine Liturgy 9AM
Great Vespers 5PM**

**March 31st Sunday—Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
(Sunday for Gregory Palamas)**

**Wed. April 3rd—Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts @ 6pm
Friday, April 5th —Little Compline with Akathist Canon
@ 6PM**

April 6th Saturday—Great Vespers 5PM

**April 7th Sunday—Matins 9Am / Divine Liturgy 10AM
(Veneration of the Cross)**

April 13th Saturday—Great Vespers 5PM

**April 14th Sunday—Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
(John of the Ladder)**

Prayers are offered for the health and well-being of:

Fr. Steven, Evie, Kh. Paraskeva, Michael, John, Debbie, Jim (Health), Jeffery, Ann, Carol, Aiden, Shannon, Justin, William (Cancer), Donald, Harriett (Health), Jan (Health) Fr. Andrew (Health), Perry, Adalena, Rhonda, Karen, Cindy, Immanuel, Gloria, Josephine, Carlos, and Alfie.

For Thou are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servants who have fallen asleep especially:

Prayers are offered in memory of Patriarch Ignatius IV, Metropolitan Philip, Bishop Antoun, Archbishop Peter, Archbishop Michael, Igumen George, Archpriest Peter, Archpriest Theodore, Dn. Larry, Sh. Peggy, Priest Basil, Priest Solobadon, and Archpriest John, Mary, Infant Clyde Eddy, Child Mica, Mother Nektaria, Janis, AP Moses, Raymond, Eleanor, Dn Innocent, and Patricia

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4

THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE APOSTLES

In 842 A.D., the Council of Constantinople decreed that the first Sunday of Great Lent should annually be celebrated as the **SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY**. The purpose of this yearly commemoration is to draw attention to the triumph of the Church over the iconoclasts, who attempted to eliminate the use and veneration of sacred images in all public and private worship.

In recent years, it has become a tradition for Orthodox of all national and ethnic backgrounds to come together in prayer at special Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers. While attention is still given to the original intent prescribed for this day by means of moving processions with holy icons, it's scope has widened in significance. Today, we also pause to give thanks to God for our precious Orthodox Faith, which has

carefully preserved the theological, doctrinal and liturgical integrity of the "one, holy, catholic and apostolic church."

On the cover of today's Church Bulletin, the 12 Apostles are shown holding a church, a reminder to us that Christ entrusted His faithful followers with the enormous task of establishing and preserving His Church. With Jesus Christ being the "Chief Cornerstone," the Apostles laid the foundation for the Church. Their total commitment to doing the work Christ assigned them to do enabled this divine institution to rapidly grow in size and in impact on the world.

It is fitting, therefore, that the 12 Apostles are remembered on this Sunday of Orthodoxy, for the truths that they carried to all nations are still proclaimed by their successors today. Indeed, **THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE APOSTLES!**



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By Appointment Only