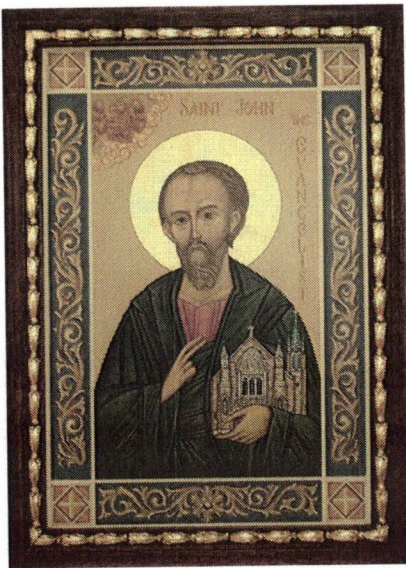


A MEETING AT THE WELL

May 18, 2025



***ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH***

1501 8TH AVENUE

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**HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND**

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

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

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

***Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .***

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

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

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshiping 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.

DIVINE LITURGY FOR SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025

TONE 4 / EOTHINON 7

FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN & AFTER-FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

MARTYRS PETER, DIONYSIOS, ANDREW, PAUL, CHRISTINA, HERAKLIOS, PAULINOS AND BENEDICTOS; STEPHEN THE NEW, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

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

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High. (***Refrain***)

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

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

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

That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee. (***Refrain***)

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. (***Refrain***)

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

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those that hate Him flee from before His face.

Refrain: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (***Refrain***)

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. (***Refrain***)

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. (***Refrain***)

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NO FAST DAYS FROM PASCHA THROUGH TO MAY 30TH.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying, Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION FOR MID-PENTECOST IN TONE EIGHT

In the midst of this Feast, O Savior, give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of true worship; for Thou didst call out to all, saying: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Christ our God, Fountain of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

O beloved Apostle of Christ God, Come quick and save a people with no recourse. He who let you rest your head on his breast, Will not reject your pleas on our behalf. Beseech Him then, O wise and holy Theologian, Dispel from us the dark and ominous clouds of disbelief. Grant us his peace and great mercy.

THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

THE EPISTLE

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (11:19-30)

In those days, when the apostles were scattered because of the tribulation that arose over Stephen, they traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one, except to Jews only. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who upon coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. The report concerning them reached the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas, to go as far out as Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they should cleave to the Lord; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great multitude was added unto the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year, they were gathered together in the church, and they taught a great multitude of people, and the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and signified by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over the whole world; and this took place in the days of Claudius Caesar. And the disciples, every one according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren who dwelt in Judaea; and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (4:5-42)

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as He was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His Disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that Thou, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, Thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Art Thou greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst forever; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered Him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and Thou sayest that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming [He Who is called Christ]; when He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I Who speak to you am He." Just then His Disciples came. They marveled that He was talking with a woman, but none said, "What dost Thou wish?" or, "Why art Thou talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, "Come, see a man Who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to Him. Meanwhile the Disciples besought Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the Disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He said to me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His words. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

MAY/JUNE SERVICES

**ANNOUNCEMENT: FROM MAY 1ST THROUGH AUGUST 30TH
WE WILL NOT BE HAVING SATURDAY GREAT VESPERS
(Fr. Seraphim has too many Saturday's away)**

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May 18th Sunday — SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON

(FR. SERAPHIM WILL BE AWAY MAY 19-26.)

May 25th Sunday — SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

NO MATINS / Divine Liturgy 10AM

FR. CHRIS DAVIS WILL BE SERVING ON May 25.

May 28th Wednesday Evening 6PM for Holy Ascension 5/29

June 1st Sunday — FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL

Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

June 8th Sunday — PENTECOST (No Matins)

Divine Liturgy 10AM followed by Kneeling prayers

June 15th Sunday—SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

June 16th Monday— Beginning of St. Peter & Paul Fast

**Abstain from Meat, Dairy, Eggs and on Wed & Fri—
Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs, fish, olive oil, & wine.**

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

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin, Harriet, Sassic Family, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Cindi, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Lori, Oliver. Claire, Pauline, Despina, Julius, John, and Bonnie.

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

Prayers are offered in memory of...

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THE SYNAXARION

On this day, the **fifth Sunday of Pascha**, we celebrate the feast of the **Samaritan Woman**.

Verses

Coming to obtain corruptible water, O woman,
Thou drawest living water, wherewith thy soul's stains thou wastest.

The Samaritan woman—the holy and glorious Great-martyr Photeini—met Jesus at midday at Jacob's Well, which was located in the city of Sychar. And being tired from travel and the heat, Jesus sat at Jacob's Well. A little after, the Samaritan woman came to draw water, and had a long conversation with Him (it is the longest recorded discourse between Christ and a single person in the entire Bible). Photeini did not want to talk to Jesus, because the Samaritans did not have any dealings with Jews; Jews considered her people heretics because Samaritans kept only the first five books of the Old Testament. However, the Lord talked with her anyway, read her heart, revealed her secrets and gave her to drink of the "Living Water"—the grace of the Holy Spirit that leads to eternal life and flows to all humanity. Photeini immediately ran throughout the city to proclaim Christ. Through her, many other Samaritans believed in Jesus.

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"CHRIST IF RISEN FROM THE DEAD TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMB BESTOWING LIFE.

COMMITTED TO THE SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY

Key points about the early Church are brought out in today's reading from the Book of Acts (Acts 11:19-30). We must note that there has been a definitive shift in how Christ's followers are perceived by those who are not attracted to their teachings: they are viewed as a threat that needed to be dealt with swiftly. With the stoning of Stephen, a terrible period of persecution was launched against the Christians. Despite meeting violent opposition from the Jewish religious leaders, the Church continued to grow.

In today's reading, we also see just how committed the first Christians were to helping one another in time of need. A great famine struck the ancient world, beginning in Judea and later spreading to Greece and Italy. It was to last nearly seven years, bringing with it much hardship. In an organized manner, the church responds to this crisis by sending relief to those affected by the famine in Judea, "each according to his ability." Their donations were taken there by Barnabas and Paul, who would later do extensive missionary work together.

An important fact is also mentioned in today's reading: "THE DISCIPLES WERE FIRST CALLED CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH." This was not originally a positive term. Non-believers ridiculed the disciples by referring to them in this manner. Far from taking offense at this word, it was embraced by the disciples as the greatest of honors to be called something that was directly related to their Master.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

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CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES

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Christ is Risen

Indeed He is Risen

OFFICE HOURS