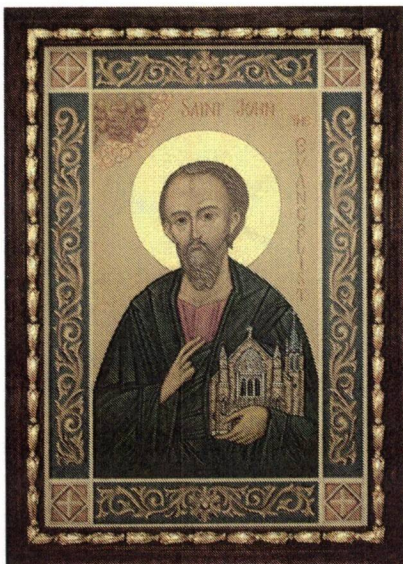




June 01, 2025



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

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

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 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 ON SUNDAY, JUNE 01, 2025

TONE 6 / EOTHINON 10

SUNDAY OF THE AFTER-FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Martyr Justin the Philosopher & companions at Rome; Archimandrite Justin
Popovic of Serbia

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Clap your hands, all ye nations; shout unto God with a voice of rejoicing. For the Lord Most High is terrible; a great King over all the earth.

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

He hath subdued peoples under us, and the nations under our feet. God is gone up in jubilation, the Lord with the voice of the trumpet. (***Refrain***)

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

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, in His holy mountain. The mountains of Sion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who didst rise from us in glory to the heavens, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

God is known in her towers when He cometh to help her. (***Refrain***)

For lo, the kings of the earth were assembled; they came together. (***Refrain***)

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

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world. My mouth shall speak wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. I will incline mine ear unto a parable; I will unfold my problem on the psaltery.

after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the Ascension:

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

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**FR. SERAPHIM WILL BE AWAY FROM
SATURDAY, JUNE 28 THRU TO WEDNESDAY, JULY 2**

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 ASCENSION IN TONE FOUR

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE EIGHT

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, 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.

KONTAKION OF THE ASCENSION IN TONE SIX

When Thou didst fulfill Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting the terrestrials with the celestials, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, inseparable in space, but constant without separation, and crying unto Thy beloved: I am with you, and no one shall be against you.

THE EPISTLE

***Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou art just in all Thou hast done to us.***

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (20:16-18, 28-36)

In those days, Paul was determined to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening, if possible, to be at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the priests of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you bishops, to shepherd the church of the Lord and God, which He purchased with His own blood. For I know that after my departure ravenous wolves will enter among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the

THE EPISTLE (cont.)

disciples after them. Therefore, remain watchful, remembering that for three years_ I did not cease to admonish every one, night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by such laboring we ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down on his knees with them all, and prayed.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Christ 's Ascension is our uplifting, and the hope of the body is raised, whither the glory of the head has gone on before."

(St. Leo the Great)

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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**June 1st Sunday — FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL
Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON**

**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
FATHER'S DAY**

**June 16th Monday— Beginning of St. Peter & Paul Fast
Abstain from Meat, Dairy, Eggs on Wed.
Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs, fish, olive oil, wine on Fri.**

June 21st Saturday — Community Breakfast 8:30-10:30AM

**June 22nd Sunday — ALL SAINTS OF ANTIOCH
ALL SAINTS OF NORTH AMERICA
Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM**

**June 29th Sunday — SUNDAY OF THE NEW MARTYRS
THE HOLY APOSTLES PETER & PAUL**

****The Parish Life Conference is held at Antiochian Village
from Wednesday 6/25 thru Sunday 6/29. There is no coverage
for our Divine Liturgy this Sunday. Let Fr. Seraphim know if you
plan to visit the monastery.**

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, 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... **George Volitich**

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THE SYNAXARION

On June 01 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Justin the Philosopher and his companions at Rome; and Archimandrite Justin Popovic of Serbia.

On this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the first Ecumenical Council of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, which took place in Nicaea in Bithyn

Verses

O ye light-bearing stars of the spiritual firmament, enlighten my mind with your rays.

Verses Against Arius

Calling the Son a stranger to the Father's essence, Arius proved to be a stranger to God's glory.

Arius, the notorious heretic, began to blaspheme against God and His Son the Word, saying that the latter was not God consubstantial with the Father, but that He was created as a stranger to the Substance of the Father and His glory. Alexander, the Archbishop of Alexandria, tried to constrain Arius from disturbing the faithful with this teaching; even though Alexander excommunicated him, Arius did not cease his blasphemy, which spread throughout the Church in all nations. Thus, Emperor Constantine the Great called the First Ecumenical Council, which gathered bishops and teachers in the Church from all lands. They all proclaimed, as by one mouth, the equality of the Son of God with the Father in Substance, thus laying down the noble Confession of Faith, *The Creed, which we Orthodox Christians recite to this day. The Church regards these divine Fathers as preachers of the Faith next to the holy Apostles.*

AN "ICON" IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Just like a picture, an icon can capture the essence of a moment with greater clarity than the written word. It can teach a story instantly. Today we turn our attention to the icon of the FEAST DAY OF THE ASCENSION. If we look at the Book of Acts 1:1-12, we see that the iconic depiction of the holy day carefully follows this scriptural account. The main focus of the icon is Christ Himself, Who was taken up into heaven as His Apostles watched. He is shown in such a way that it is impossible to determine whether He is LEAVING the earth or RETURNING to it. Angels appeared soon after He ascended, saying: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus Who was taken up from you into heaven will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

The Mother of God is also shown prominently in the Ascension icon. Church Tradition tells us that she was present for this joyous event, as well as for the Feast Day of Pentecost. While the Apostles seem to be perplexed by what they have just witnessed, the Theotokos wears an expression of peace on her face, fully comprehending the deep mysteries of her Son's Birth, Death, Resurrection and Ascension. Unlike the Apostles, she is not looking upward into the sky, but rather towards us in prayerful serenity. Note also that the Apostles are depicted without halos, a further symbol of their continued lack of understanding of the moment.

The icon of the Ascension certainly expresses the concept of Christ reigning over His Church. We, His followers, must embark on His Command to "go and teach all nations."

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Christ is Risen
Indeed He is Risen

CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES

WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

OFFICE HOURS