

Exercise patience & openness
to God's Wisdom



JUNE 22. 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 us an 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 VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025
TONE 1 / EOTHINON 2; SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS OF ANTIOCH
& SECOND SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

Hieromartyr Eusebios, bishop of Samosata; Martyrs Zeno and his servant Zenas of Philadelphia in Arabia; Alban, protomartyr of Britain

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 ALL SAINTS OF ANTIOCH IN TONE FOUR

*(**Thou Who wast raised up**)*

O fellow trav'lers in the way of the faithful, * the saints of Antioch now let us all honor: * the pure and blest Apostles with the hierarchs, * martyrs with the righteous ones, * their worn path wisely walking, * wond'ring at their holy lives * overflowing with wonders; * thus let us walk in peace and fear of God * so that we all win * the dwelling in Paradise.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday of All Saints of Antioch)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

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 Agabos 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

(For Second Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:18-23)

At that time, as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. And going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And He went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

PASTOR'S PAGE – JULY, 2025

July in the Church . . .

begins with four baptisms on Saturday, July 5 at 11:00 for-

Mira Hill (St Markella)

Sponsor is Andrew Bodin (uncle).

Asher Hill (St Thomas)

Sponsor is Jonathan Bodin (uncle).

Benjamin Hill (St Joseph the Hesychast)

Sponsor is David Bodin (uncle).

Connor Wenzig (St Michael, the Archangel)

Sponsor is Jonathan Snyder.

Followed by pizza, watermelon, salad, and drinks.

Notes about the Saints above:

St Markella is venerated on the island of Chios. A very pious girl, she was left motherless at an early age. Her pagan father wanted to live with her as with a wife and Markella fled. Her father caught up with her and cut her into pieces. Stones near her church each year appear covered with blood and are taken to the church where the sick who touch them are healed.

St Thomas was one of the Apostles who at first disbelieved that Christ was risen from the dead. After seeing him face to face with holes in his hands and side, he said, "My Lord and My God!" Thomas was called to be a missionary to India from where he returned late for the repose and burial of the Theotokos. He asked that her tomb be open and the apostles found she was not there. Thomas continued his work in India, converting many rich and poor to the faith only to be martyred for doing so.

St Joseph the Hesychast was born on Feb 12, 1897 and reposed on August 15, 1959. He led a small group of monks on Mount Athos where he continued his ascetical life. Late in his life he was visited by the Theotokos who

gave him word of his death. On August 14, 1959 he attended Vigil and took the Blessed Sacrament and reposed the following day, August 15, 1959 (the Feast of Dormition) from heart failure. He is remembered from many helpful sayings as:

"When you are given a spiritual state full of grace, expect a temptation soon. Likewise when you have temptations and grief, be aware that consolation from God is near."

"When anger comes upon you, close your mouth tightly and do not speak to anyone."

"Never seek to correct one another with anger but with sincerity and love."

"Nothing can help calm anger and all passions as much as love for God and every fellow human being."

St Michael the Archangel is the leader of all the angelic hosts. When Lucifer fell away from God and drew others with him, St Michael stood up and cried out before the faithful angels: "Let us attend! Let us stand upright! Let us stand with fear!" and all the faithful angels cried out: "Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy Glory." All the angels are in obedience to the will of God. According to the Prologue every nation and each person has a guardian angel. A young man named Archippus did much fasting and prayer but was attacked by pagans who rerouted a river to flood his church. By his prayers the Holy Archangel Michael opened a crevice in a rock next to the church and the river water flowed into it. The place was saved and was called, 'Chonae' ("the plunging") because the water plunged into the open fissure.

UPDATE FROM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on May 18 and June 1. Building work for the summer was discussed. Financials summaries were reported by the Treasurer (below):

April

Total Income: \$9154.15

Total Expense: 2888.24

Net Income: \$6824.01

May

Gross Income: \$7055.70

Total Expense: 1880.04

Net Income: \$4965.56

July Birthdays

July 2 Yvonne Bennet

July 17 Luka Snyder

July 28 Brenna Covalt

July 28 Michael Snyder

No Services on Sunday, June 29

Fr Seraphim will be on vacation June 28-July 2 and the Parish Life Conference is also being held that week-end Antiochian Village. Be blessed to attend Divine Liturgy at the Monastery of the Transfiguration in Ellwood City or another parish that morning.

BABY SHOWER AUGUST 30

A BABY SHOWER WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 30 FRM 2-4:00 IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR PEPHILE & ESTEBAN DEJESUS. A SIGN UP SHEET WILL BE ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP CONTACT JESSICA HILL.

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

_We will return to our regular service schedule of Saturday vespers at 5:00 and Sunday Matins at 9:00 and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM the first week-end of September.

Also we will begin our Wednesday evening study and fellowship time on September 3 at 6:00 P.M. with Little Compline, a light meal, and study time from 7-8:00 P.M. The fifteen week series will continue through 15 weeks in the fall. Our topic is: **UNDERSTANDING AND DEVELOPING VIRTUES**. Did you know there are 228 virtues and 298 passions according to St Peter of Damascus. We will not discuss all of these but focus on some of each. Among questions we will consider are:

- WHAT IS A VIRTUE?
- WHAT DISTINGUISHES VIRTUES FROM PASSIONS?
- WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND VIRTUES?
- HOW DO YOU DEVELOP VIRTUES?
- WHAT IS DISPASSION?

All are welcome!

THE SYNAXARION

On June 22 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Eusebios, bishop of Samosata; Martyrs Zeno and his servant Zenas of Philadelphia in Arabia; and Alban, protomartyr of Britain.

On the Second Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the memory of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles, the Christ-loving shepherds and hierarchs, the holy and God-bearing Fathers, the glorious and victorious Martyrs and New Martyrs, and all the Saints who have shone as stewards of the Most Holy Patriarchate of Antioch, the Great City of God, from time immemorial to the present.

Verses

Thou hast, O Antioch, as an impregnable wall
Prayers and shelter of the multitude of thy Saints.

Most precious in the eyes of the Church is her choir of heavenly intercessors which stand before the throne of the Lord of hosts. The See of Antioch, whose apostolic establishment is recorded in the book of Acts (11:26), is especially blessed with an abundance of Saints in this glorified assembly. Being drastically reduced in both geographic area and numbers, having endured the ravages of time and wars, and bearing the loss of her finest church buildings and earthly goods, the Antioch knows full well the worth of having laid up its treasures in heaven. The harvest of Antioch includes the Chief Apostles Peter and Paul; the Martyrs Ignatius, Barbara and Christina; the Melodists Romanos and Cosmas; John Chrysostom and John of Damascus; Ephraim and Isaac the Syrians; Joseph of Damascus and Raphael of Brooklyn; the Hieromartyrs Nicholas and Habib Khasha; and countless other saints known and unknown. For two millennia, the light of Christ has shown brilliantly upon the See of Antioch through these glorified children and heirs of their Heavenly Father.

+++++

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“THE END OF THE LIFE OF VIRTUE IS TO BECOME LIKE GOD”

(ST. GREGORY NYSSA)

JUNE / JULY SERVICES

**ANNOUNCEMENT: FROM MAY 1ST THROUGH AUGUST 30TH
WE WILL NOT BE HAVING SATURDAY GREAT VESPERS**

(Fr. Seraphim has too many Saturday's away)

+++++

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

FR. SERAPHIM WILL BE AWAY FROM 6-28 THRU 7-2

JUNE 29TH SUNDAY — SUNDAY OF THE NEW MARTYRS

THE HOLY APOSTLES PETER & PAUL

NO MATINS OR DIVINE LITURGY

****** The PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE is being held at the
ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE from Wednesday 6-25 thru
Sunday 6-29. There is no coverage for our Matins &
Divine Liturgy this Sunday. You can visit the Monastery
of the Transfiguration in Ellwood City this Sunday for
Divine Liturgy at 9:30am. Fr. Nelko will be serving or a
church of your choosing.**

JULY 7TH SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

JULY 13TH SUNDAY — SUNDAY OF THE 4TH COUNCIL

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:

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

Catecumens: Connor, Mira, Asher, Benjamin

FOR THOU ARE THE RESSURECTION, THE LIFE, AND THE REPOSE OF THY SERVANTS WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ESPECIALLY:

Prayers are offered in memory of

+++++

Next Sunday June 29 we will commemorate the holy, glorious, all-laudable and foremost of the Apostles Peter and Paul.

Verses

Peter, who preached the Cross, died by crucifixion; And Paul by the sword's cutting, who cut down error. On the twenty-ninth Peter suffered the Cross and Paul the sword.

Together, they are the patrons and protectors of the Patriarchate of Antioch. Peter was the son of Jonah and the brother of Andrew, the First-called. He was of the Tribe of Simeon from the town of Bethsaida. He was a fisherman and, at first, was called Simon but the Lord was pleased to call him Cephas or Peter: "And when Jesus beheld him, He said, 'Thou art Simon the son of Jonah; thou shalt be called Cephas,' which is by interpretation, a rock" (John 1:42). He was the first of the disciples to clearly express faith in the Lord Jesus saying: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). His love for the Lord was great and his faith in the Lord gradually strengthened. When the Lord was brought to trial, Peter denied Him three times but after only one glance into the face of the Lord, Peter's soul was filled with shame and repentance. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter became a fearless and powerful preacher of the Gospel. Peter worked many powerful miracles; he healed the sick, resurrected the dead; the sick were healed even from his shadow. By order of the evil Emperor Nero, Peter was condemned to death in 64 A.D. Installing Linus as Bishop of Rome, counseling and comforting the flock of Christ, Peter proceeded joyfully to his death. Seeing the cross before him, he begged his executioners to crucify him upside down for he considered himself unworthy to die as did his Lord. Thus the great servant of the Great Lord reposed and received the wreath of eternal glory.

Paul was born in Tarsus of the tribe of Benjamin. At first, he was called Saul, studied under Gamaliel, was a Pharisee and a persecutor of Christianity. He was miraculously converted to the Christian Faith by the Lord Himself Who appeared to him on the road to Damascus. "Suddenly, a light from heaven flashed about him. And Saul fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?'" And he said, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:3-5). Saul was blinded, but regained his sight when he was baptized by the Apostle Ananias. Then he was called Paul and numbered in the service of the great apostles. With a fiery zeal, Paul preached the Gospel everywhere from the borders of Arabia to Spain, among the Jews and among the Gentiles. As horrible as his sufferings were, so much more was his superhuman patience. Throughout all the years of his preaching Paul, from day to day, hung as one on a weak thread between life and death. Since he fulfilled all days and nights with labor and suffering for Christ, since he organized the Church in many places and since he attained such a degree of perfection he was able to say: "It is now no longer I that live, but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20). Paul was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Emperor Nero at the same time as the Apostle Peter.

TRUST THE LORD



Back in the early days of television - when game shows were the rage - a program called "Who Do You Trust?" was popular. Teams of contestants - usually a man and woman - would compete for prizes in various categories. Before a question was asked, one of the team members would have to decide to either trust his partner or to trust himself to give the correct answer.

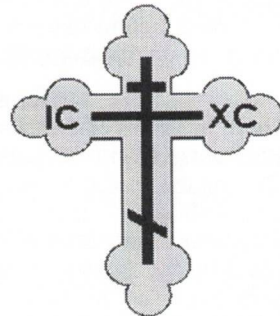
In life, exactly who do we trust? Without hesitation, an Orthodox Christian should know the answer to that question: we place our trust solely in God. Psalm 146 tells us plainly: "Put NOT your trust in princes or in sons of men, for in them there is no salvation." Sadly, however, what we describe as "trusting in God" is often nothing more than EXPECTING and DEMANDING that He fulfill our every wish like some celestial genie! Although our Lord did say "Ask and it shall be given to you," (Matthew 7:7) it's not quite as simple as putting in a call for room service at a hotel!

God knows our needs and hears all of our prayers. As our Heavenly Father, His answer to our supplications may be "no," or it may be "not now" at various times. Do parents always give their children what they want exactly when they want it? It is precisely at these times when we prove that we really do understand what it means to place our TOTAL trust and confidence in Him. It is not necessary for us to understand the workings of the Lord - only to accept them.

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

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ORTHODOX CHURCH
1501 8TH AVENUE
BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010**

**CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES
WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG**



OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment