

SAINT

JOHN

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MARCH 29, 2026



***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 CHARLESTON, 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 worshipping 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 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.

DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

TONE 1 / EOTHINON 9; FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

COMMEMORATION OF OUR RIGHTEOUS MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT

MARTYR MARK, BISHOP OF ARETHUSA, MARTYR CYRIL THE DEACON OF HELIOPOLIS AND THOSE WITH THEM; MARTYRS JONAH AND BARACHISIOS OF PERSIA AND THOSE WITH THEM

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

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 ST. MARY OF EGYPT IN TONE EIGHT

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

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 omanous clouds of disbelief. Grant us all of 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

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:11-14)

Brethren, Christ having appeared a High Priest of the good things to come, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; neither through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having found eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of bulls and goats and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

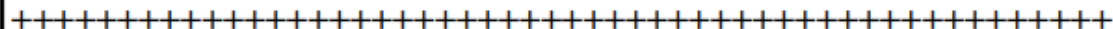
THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

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 SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On March 29 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Mark, bishop of Arethusa, Martyr Cyril the deacon of Heliopolis and those with them; and Martyrs Jonah and Barachisios of Persia and those with them.

On this same day, the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent, it was ordained that we make remembrance of our Godly Mother Mary of Egypt.

Verses

Spirit rose up, flesh melted away erewhile; hide, O earth, the worn bones of Mary's body.

Once, during the Honorable Fast, the priest-monk Zosimus withdrew into the wilderness. He caught sight of a withered woman named Mary; her hair was white as snow. Mary then told Zosimus that she was born in Egypt and at the age of 12 began to live a life of debauchery in Alexandria for 17 years. One day, she went to Jerusalem to enter the church to venerate the Honorable Cross. However, some invisible force restrained her. In great fear, she gazed upon the icon of the Theotokos in the vestibule and prayed that she be allowed to enter the church, all the while confessing her sinfulness. She was then permitted to enter the church. Having venerated the Cross she again entered the vestibule and, before the icon, gave thanks to the Mother of God. At that very moment she heard a voice saying: "If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest!" Mary left for the wilderness and remained there for 47 years in repentance. She bade Zosimus to come back in one year with Holy Communion, which he did. The following year, on Holy Thursday, April 1, 522, Zosimus discovered Mary's lifeless body, and buried her. Thus, the Lord glorifies penitent sinners. The Church exalts and exemplifies Mary to the faithful in Great Lent as an incentive for repentance that brings entry into the Heavenly Kingdom.

MARCH/APRIL SERVICES

MAR. 28TH SATURDAY— GREAT VESPERS 5PM

**MAR. 29TH SUNDAY — ST. MARY OF EGYPT
MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM**

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APR. 1ST WEDNESDAY

6PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy followed by a light meal.

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APR. 3RD FRIDAY

6PM Little Compline with Canon of Raising of St. Lazarus

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APR. 4TH SATURDAY — ST, LAZARUS SATURDAY

**MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY OF
ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10AM**

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APR. 5TH SUNDAY — PALM SUNDAY

**MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY of
St. John Chrysostom 10AM**

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APR. 5TH SUNDAY—BRIDEGROOM SERVICE 6PM

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APR. 6TH MONDAY — BRIDEGROOM SERVICE 6PM

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APR. 7TH TUESDAY — BRIDEGROOM SERVICE 6PM

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APR. 8TH WEDNESDAY— HOLY UNCTION 6PM

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**APR. 9TH THURSDAY — VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY OF
ST. BASIL for the institution of the Mystical Supper. 9AM**

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

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin, Perry Sassic & family, Roddy, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Cindi, Harriet, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Elias, Carrie, Oliver, Pauline, Despina, Julius, Jonathan, Kristen, Luca, Sam, chael, Esteven, Phephile, Kyriel, Holden, Justin, Levon, Aiden, Kayla, Kirsten, Jonathan K., Andrew and Rosemary.

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

Prayers are offered in memory of

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Today is last day for collecting donations for the seminarians and their families. Please place donation in bowl near altar.**
- 2) Today is last Sunday for collecting donations for The Antiochian Woman NAB's annual project: Widowed Clergy Wives Endowment Fund. Please use Envelopes on table in Narthrex.**

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“Then I came out of the church and went to her who had promised to be my security, to the place where I sealed my vow. And begging on my knees before the Virgin Mother of God I addressed to her such words as these: 'O Loving Lady, thou hast shown me the great love for all men. Glory to God who receives the repentance of sinners through Thee. What more can I recollect or say, I, who am so sinful? It is time for me, O Lady, to fulfill my vow, according to thy witness. Now lead me by the hand along the path of repentance.'”

(St Mary of Egypt)

WHAT MAKES GOD ANGRY?

What was Jesus like? The Gospels portray Him as someone with incredible patience and control. Even in the face of senseless questioning, ridicule and verbal abuse. Christ projected a calm and level demeanor.

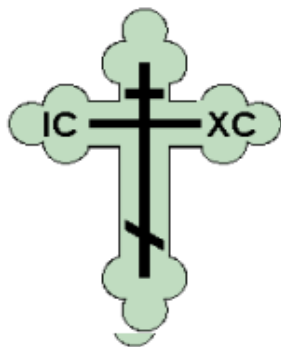
There was one incident, however, where Jesus reacted with anger and righteous indignation. While visiting the Temple in Jerusalem during a Passover celebration, Our Lord was scandalized to see merchants and vendors doing business on sacred ground. Quickly fashioning a whip of some cords, Jesus overturned their tables and angrily drove them out of the Temple, proclaiming; *"Take these things away! Do not make My Father's House a house of merchandise!"* (John 2:16)

This event gives us some insight into what God DOES NOT want to see in our behavior. Greed and avarice are definitely not Christian qualities and characteristics! Christ's confrontation with the money changers is one of many times that He expressed His disapproval of those who were driven by material profit and monetary gain. On the contrary, Jesus constantly reminded His followers that it would be meaningless to *"gain the whole world and still suffer the loss of their own soul."*

From this Temple incident, we also may draw the conclusion that we incur the wrath of our Heavenly Father when we lose sight of the true purpose and direction the Church should be taking. The Church as a BUILDING must be a place of PRAYER> The Church as an INSTITUTION must always reflect an attitude of prayerful holiness and sanctity as she leads her membership on a spiritual journey. Our ultimate destination is of course, the KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

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**OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment**