



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX  
CHURCH

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

HIS GRACE BISHOP NICHOLAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP  
OF THE DIOCESE OF MIAMI AND THE SOUTHEAST

## WELCOME VISITORS AND FAITHFUL OF ST. PAUL CHURCH

Welcome to St. Paul Orthodox Christian Church in Naples. We are honored by your presence. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church. Please join us after service for our fellowship hour in the pavilion. It is good to be together.

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The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist, or Lord's Supper, to be the paramount expression of Christian unity. While it is our deepest hope that Christendom will one day fulfill Christ's desire for true unity among all those who claim His name (John 17:21), the reality of our day is that various segments of Christendom are not unified with the historic Orthodox Christian faith - something truly unfortunate.

Since participation in the Eucharist (Holy Communion) expresses a unity with all the dogma, teachings, and practice of the Orthodox Church, it is natural that non-Orthodox Christians (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Non-Chalcedonian, etc.) do not receive Holy Communion but respect the official policy of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America and canonical boundaries of the entire Orthodox Christian Church.

We thank you for your understanding.

On that same note, all Eastern Orthodox Christians are called to prepare for the receiving of the Body and Blood of Christ through recent confession, prayer, and fasting from all food and drink approximately midnight the night before. Please speak with Fr. Paul if medical conditions preclude it.

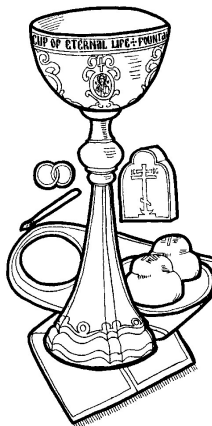
Fr. Paul is available after the service, or by appointment, to answer questions you may have about any facet of the Orthodox Christian faith.

May God bless you.

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Please contact Fr. Paul to request a pastoral visit for anyone hospitalized, sick, suffering, or alone.

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239.348.0828 (office)



**“...PRAY ONE FOR ANOTHER, THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED.  
THE EFFECTIVE, FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILS  
MUCH.” +JAMES 5:16**

Prayers for the health of Sam Davis and Jo Krevinko, as well as the memory of George Henney and Bob Mourad, are offered by Fr. Joe and Kh. Diane Shaheen.

Prayers for the newly-departed servant of God, George Henney, are offered by Elias and Barbara Hebeka.

Please especially keep in your prayers, the newly-departed George Henney, and the entire Henney family, Al & Anna Castley, the departed servant of God Robert Mourad, his wife Margaret and the entire Mourad family, Marianne Poppe, Robert Cardoos, Christopher and the Sapp family, Joe & Doris Hessney, and Jo Krevinko in your prayers.

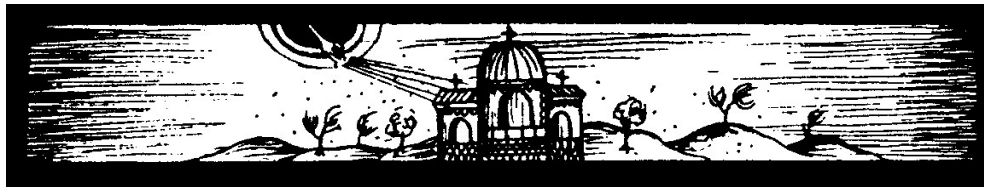
**MAY THE LORD OUR GOD HEAR OUR PRAYERS AND SEND DOWN UPON US HIS DIVINE GRACE FOR STRENGTH AND CONSOLATION.**

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### Why do we do this?

Orthodox Christians pray for the dead so that the Lord will have mercy on their souls, that He will grant them eternal rest “in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,” that He will extend His unfathomable love upon them, and that He will receive them into that state “in which there is neither sickness, nor sighing, nor sorrow, but life everlasting.” Saint Paul clearly teaches that those who have gone before us are still members of the Body of Christ, the Church. And it is the duty of the members of the Church to pray for one another. Just as the living continually beseech God to have mercy on them—and may rightly offer prayers to God on behalf of their living spiritual sisters and brothers as well as request prayers on their own behalf from others—so too we have the duty to pray for all members of the Body of Christ, even those who have departed this life and still “belong to Christ.” In asking God to have mercy on the souls of the departed, we also ask God to have mercy on us who are still in this life, and we recognize that we too shall die. All members of the Church, living as well as faithful departed, cry before the throne of God, “Lord, have mercy on us.” (source: oca.org)

**MAY THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE REMEMBER ALL OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES  
IN HIS KINGDOM.**



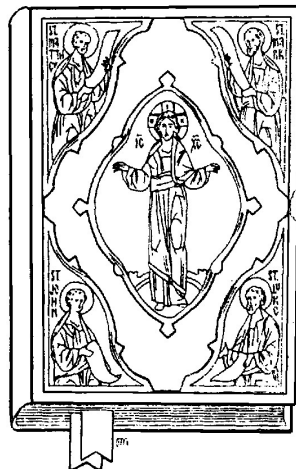
## ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN BASICS

### TRADITIONS OR SCRIPTURE?

**Does the Orthodox Church follow many traditions not found in Holy Scripture?**

The Orthodox Church does keep traditions that are not expressly found in the Scriptures. St. Paul wrote: “Hold to the **traditions** you were taught by us, whether by word of *mouth* or *letter*” (II Thessalonians 2:15).

The Orthodox Church adheres to the complete Apostolic teaching, whether this is contained in the Bible or comes to us by oral tradition in the Church. The Apostle Paul did not write “Don’t hold any traditions unless they are found in Scripture.”



## ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN BASICS

### TRADITIONS OF MEN OR WORD OF GOD?

**Jesus condemned the Pharisees for following the traditions of men instead of the Word of God (Mark 7:13). Doesn’t the Orthodox Church do the same thing?**

Jesus did not condemn the Pharisees merely for having traditions; He rejected the false traditions that the Pharisees practiced (Mark 7:9-13) and condemned them for making the observance of certain legitimate traditions more important than following the teachings of God’s Word (Matthew 23:23). The Pharisees were obsessed with practicing external observances in meticulous detail, while at the same time neglecting God’s commandments. Jesus taught his disciples to keep legitimate traditions, but to avoid being hypocritical as the Pharisees were (Matthew 23:1-3).

This is exactly the position of the Orthodox Church. The Orthodox Church rejects traditions that are at variance with the Scriptures, and practices only those which are proper expressions of the Christian Faith. The Orthodox faithful are warned in the services of the Church not to fall into the same errors as the Pharisees did.

(source: “An Eastern Orthodox Response to Evangelical Claims” by Fr. Paul O’Callaghan of the Antiochian Archdiocese)

# WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WEEKLY SERVICES

*"A sure sign of the deadening of the soul is the avoidance of church services."  
+St. John Climacus ("The Ladder of Divine Ascent")*

Saturday: Great Vespers 5:00PM

Sunday: Orthros 8:30AM; The Divine Liturgy at 9:30AM

*\*Fr. Paul hears confessions after Great Vespers Saturday and by appointment.*

**Sunday School Program** - On Summer Break!

**"Orthodoxy & Scripture" Group** - Resumes Thursday (Aug. 2) @ 6:00PM



**Dormition of the Theotokos Fast (Aug 1 - Aug 15)**

**Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (Aug 15)**

**Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (Aug 6)**

*Service Times & Dates TBA*

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*"The purpose of prayer is that we should acquire from it the love of God. For in prayer we find all sorts of reasons for loving God."  
+ St. Isaac the Syrian*

*"And conversely: if a man considers himself a believer, and has no misfortunes or illnesses, then this, according to the holy fathers, is a sign that he has not found favor with the Lord."  
+ Abbot Nikon Vorobiev*

**Fellowship Hour** - Please sign-up! Keep it simple & keep it delicious!

*For more information visit: [stpaulnaples.org](http://stpaulnaples.org)  
& Find us on "[facebook.com/stpaulnaples](https://facebook.com/stpaulnaples)"*

## A RECENT FEAST IN THE CHURCH:

### PROPHET ELIAS (ELIJAH) THE THESBITE (JULY 20)

On July 20 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the fiery ascent as it were into the Heaven of the holy and glorious Elias (Elijah) the Thesbite.

Elias was born in the town of Tishba for which he was called the Thesbite. When Elias was born, his father Savah saw an angel of God hovering around the child, wrapping the child in fire and giving him a flame to eat. This foreshadowed Elias's fiery character and his God-given fiery power. Elias confronted the Israelite King Ahab and his evil wife Jezebel. They worshipped idols and were turning the people away from serving the One and Living God. Jezebel, a Syrian, persuaded her husband to erect a temple to the Syrian god Baal. Through great miracles Elias displayed the power and authority of God: he closed up the heavens, so that there was not any rain for three years and six months; he lowered a fire from heaven and burned the sacrifice to his God which the pagan priests of Baal were unable to do; he accurately prophesied to Ahab that the dogs will lick up his blood and to Jezebel that the dogs will consume her flesh.

Before his death Elias took Elisseus (Elisha) and designated him as his successor in the prophetic calling. Elias was taken up into the heavens in a fiery chariot by flaming horses. He appeared on Mount Tabor to our Lord Jesus Christ with Moses on the Transfiguration. Before the end of the world Elias will appear again to put an end to the power of the anti-Christ (Revelation, Chapter 11).





**THE SYNAXARION**  
(AN ABRIDGED COLLECTION OF THE "LIVES OF THE SAINTS")

On July 22 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy and glorious Myrrh-bearer Mary Magdalene, the Equal to the Apostles.

**Verses**

*With immaterial touch, Mary doth touch Thee,  
To Whom, O Christ, Thou saidst 'Touch Me not' aforetime.  
On the twenty-second Mary Magdalene shut her eyes.*

She was born in the town of Magdala along the shore of Lake Gennesaret from the tribe of Issachar. She was tormented by seven evil spirits from which the Lord Jesus freed her and made her whole. Mary Magdalene stood beneath the Cross on Golgotha and grieved bitterly and mourned with the All-Holy Theotokos. When the Lord arose she saw Him on two occasions: once alone and the other time with the other myrrh-bearing women. She traveled to Rome and appeared before Emperor Tiberius Caesar and presenting him with a red colored egg, greeted him with the words: "Christ is Risen!" At the same time, she accused Pilate before Tiberius for his unjust condemnation of the Lord Jesus. Tiberius accepted her accusation and transferred Pilate from Jerusalem to Gaul where, this unjust judge, in disfavor with the emperor, died of a dread disease. After that, Mary Magdalene returned from Rome to Ephesus and joined John the Theologian, whom she assisted in the work of preaching the Gospel. She died peacefully and, according to tradition, was buried in the same cave of the Seven Young Sleepers of Ephesus.

On this day, we also commemorate the Virgin-martyr Markella of Chios.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.



**SUNDAY, JULY 22, 2018**

**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**MARY MAGDALENE, MYRRH-BEARER AND EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES**

**VIRGIN-MARTYR MARKELLA OF CHIOS**

**+DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM+**

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN**

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

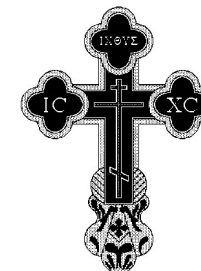
**APOLYTIKION OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE IN TONE ONE**

When Christ God had been born for our sakes from the Virgin, \* thou faithfully didst follow Him, keeping His statutes \* and heeding His sacred laws, O august Mary Magdalene. \* Hence, as we today observe thy holy remembrance, \* we receive the loosing of our sins and transgressions \* through thy holy prayers for us.

*+ Now sing the apolytikion of the holy Apostle Paul+*

**KONTAKION FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS 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

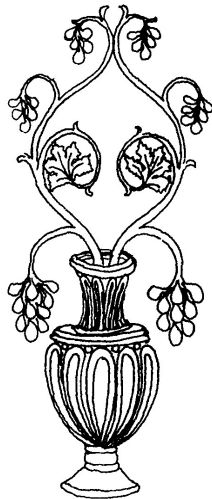
(For the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost)

*The Lord will give strength to His people.*

*Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.*

### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (1:10-17)**

Brethren, I appeal to you, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissension among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispos and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.



## THE GOSPEL

(For the Eight Sunday of Matthew)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:14-22)**

At that time, when Jesus went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to Him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish He looked up to Heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds.



