



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

We are honored by your presence as our doors are open to anyone seeking the fullness of the Truth. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church. We are a parish community within the Body of Christ striving to “seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Mt. 6:33) above all else. The Church is a spiritual hospital and our Lord Jesus Christ is the Great Physician who offers us healing, hope, and refuge – true life with real freedom. We answer Christ's call to repent and be transformed, healed of our brokenness, through a real spiritual life - our priority is to be in “perfect communion” with the living God.

Please make sure to sign our guest book at the visitors table in the Narthex/lobby area and join us after service for our fellowship hour in the pavilion. Fr. Paul is available to answer questions you may have about any facet of the Christian faith.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Your children are welcome here. Don't worry if they wiggle or squirm a bit. Unless your child is making more noise than our priest and choir, stay put. When they need a little more room, or a short break, it is OK to walk them to the back (or out) until they are ready to return. Please enjoy the “Children's Word” (bulletin) found on the banister upon entering the Nave (worship space).

If you want to raise your children in the Church, then they have to be in the church. The entire spiritual culture of the Orthodox faith is necessary formation for everyone, whether 40 days old, 40 years old, or 40 years a senior citizen.

It can be a sacrifice to raise children in the Church, and we know it, but if your child doesn't learn to incline his/her heart in worship, and turn aside from distraction from a young age, how in the world will they survive as an older Christian in a world which is designed to distract them?

+HOLY COMMUNION (EUCARIST)+

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. Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a unity with all the dogma, teachings, and practice of the Orthodox Church, it is natural that non-Eastern Orthodox Christians (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Non-Chalcedonian/Oriental, etc.) do not approach the chalice for Holy Communion but respect the official policy of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America and canonical boundaries of the One, Holy, Catholic (Universal), and Apostolic Church - the Orthodox Christian Church. Teaching the people of Corinth about the seriousness of the Holy Eucharist, St. Paul warns:

“Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord...For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep (i.e. die).” (1 Cor. 11:27;29).

We lovingly desire the salvation of all - not judgment and condemnation.

All Eastern Orthodox Christians are expected to prepare for the receiving of the Body and Blood of Christ through recent confession, prayer, and fasting from all food/drink approximately mid-night the night before. Please speak with Fr. Paul if medical conditions preclude it.



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

Please continue to pray for Fr. Joe and Kh. Diane Shaheen, Joe and the Hessney family, Christopher and the Sapp family, Al and Anna Castley, Victor and the Bard family, Ed and Marilyn Edge, Robert and Michaelene Aber, Mary Alvanette Kennan, the newly departed Jean Sam, Mary Ann Thomas, and Doris Hessney.

Pray for Vincent and Irene Benfatti. Last week, Vincent went to the hospital with abdominal pain, which resulted in gall bladder surgery. Unpredictably, there were complications and he was put on life-support. By the grace of God, he is on the mend with the ventilator now removed but the doctors are monitoring his kidney function.

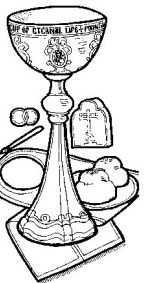
The Prospora (leavened bread) used at this Divine Liturgy was offered by Joe and Linda Shady for the health of Dorothy Darany and in memory of the recently departed hand-maiden of God Mary Ann Thomas.

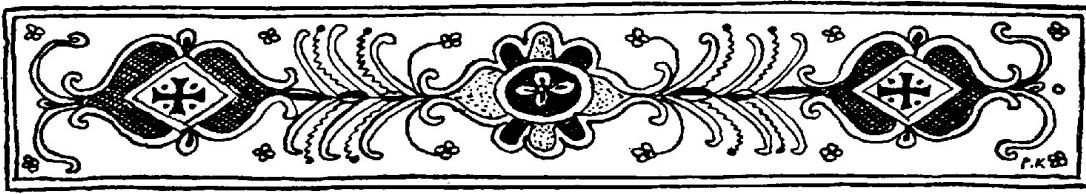
Prayers for the good health and recovery of Dorothy Darany are requested by Nicholas and Somaya Gorab.

Prayers for the memory of Michael Simone and for the good health of Dorothy Darany and all the Darany family are requested by Raffic and Kathy Mackie—daughter of George and Dorothy Darany.

Prayers for the health of Phil and Bette Ayoub, George and Dorothy Darany, and Al and Anna Castley are requested by Bob and Barbara Nader.

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





PARISH CLERGY

REV. FR. PAUL GIRGIS, PRESIDING PRIEST
V. REV. FR. JOSEPH SHAAHEEN, RETIRED ARCHPRIEST
REV. DN. NICHOLAS REID, ATTACHED DEACON

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 (1/26)

Sunday

Orthros 8:30AM
Divine Liturgy 9:30AM

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

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Resumes Thurs. 1/31 (6PM-7PM)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Great Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple— next Friday (Feb. 1):
 - Preparation Prayers 6PM
 - Divine Liturgy 630PM
- Annual Parish Meeting— next Sunday (Feb. 3) - A brief parish-wide meeting
 - Very important to attend in order to review past year, learn of plans for coming year and approve the new budget and revised constitution.
 - Please bring Annual Parish Meeting documents that were mailed to you.
 - Afterwards, a light lunch provided by AW for those who stay for meeting.
- Stewardship Cards are located on banister in back of Nave (worship space).
- Blessing Homes - contact Fr. Paul to get on the schedule!
- "Specialty Bread Sale": Visit the bread sale table in Narthex
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For more info, calendar of special services/events, visit: stpaulnaples.org or "facebook.com/stpaulnaples"



BLESSING HOMES

"... keep safe from harm all those who dwell herein. Vouchsafe them sanctification, purification and health of body, and grant their petitions which are unto salvation and life everlasting..."

Blessing homes of Orthodox Christians is done each year on or after the feast of Theophany. This act is the central sign of God's sanctification of all things through Christ's baptism in the river Jordan and His epiphany to the world... The sanctification of the home takes place with prayer and the sprinkling of holy water. The priest, at this annual visit, asks God to have mercy on the house, to rid it of every evil and to fill it with every blessing. Everyone of the house prays together for the living and the dead of the family... and process from room to room while the priest blesses the house.

(source: orthodoxwiki.org)

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN THE PRIEST BRINGS THE WATERS OF THEOPHANY INTO YOUR HOME?

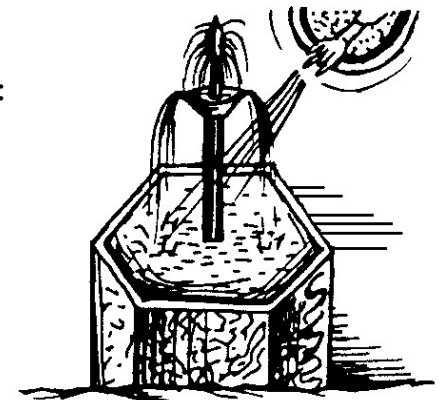
Fr. Paul will come with the angels, with the water of the Jordan and the blessing of Christ, to distribute holiness, encouragement, strength, joy, and grace, for the peace and purification of your life. This is why every Orthodox Christian should bless their home.

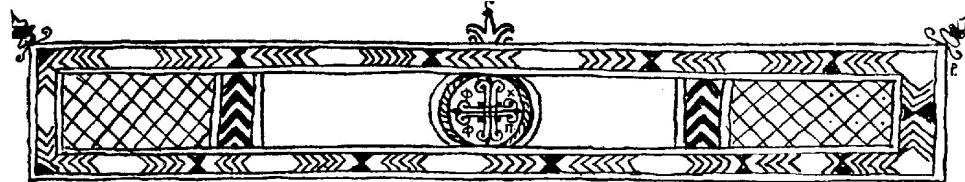
To schedule a house blessing and establish a "bond of holiness" between The Church and your home, contact:

Fr. Paul Girgis

frpaulgirgis@gmail.com

239-348-0828 (office)





THE SYNAXARION

(AN ABRIDGED COLLECTION OF THE “LIVES OF THE SAINTS”)

On January 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the recovery of the holy relics of our Father among the Saints John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople.

Verses

*As a dead man, O John, on thy throne thou sittest;
But as living in God, Peace be to all, thou criest.
That golden frame returned without breath on the twenty-seventh.*

The transfer occurred in 438 from the Armenian village of Comana, where Chrysostom died in exile, to Constantinople, where earlier he had governed the Church. Thirty years after his death, Patriarch Proculus delivered a homily in memory of his spiritual father and teacher. He so enflamed the love of the people and Emperor Theodosius the Younger toward this great saint, that all of them desired that Chrysostom's relics be brought home. The coffin containing the relics of John Chrysostom did not allow itself to be moved from its resting place until the emperor wrote a letter to Chrysostom begging him for forgiveness (for Theodosius' mother, Eudoxia, had the saint banished) and appealing to him to come to Constantinople. When this letter of repentance was placed on the coffin, its weight became extremely light. Many who were ill and who touched the coffin were healed. When the saint was brought into the Church of the Twelve Apostles and placed on the patriarchal throne, the masses of people heard the words from Chrysostom's mouth saying, "Peace be to all."

On this day, we also commemorate Marciana the empress; New-martyr Demetrios of Constantinople; and Venerable Peter of Egypt.

By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

SUNDAY - JANUARY 27, 2019

RECOVERY OF THE RELICS OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM & FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

MARCIANA THE EMPRESS; NEW-MARTYR DEMETRIOS OF CONSTANTINOPLE;
VENERABLE PETER OF EGYPT

+DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

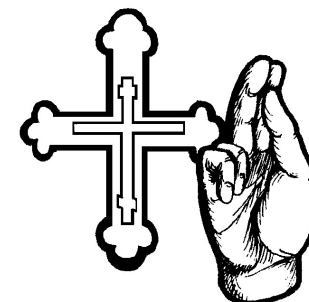
APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN TONE EIGHT

Grace shining forth from thy mouth like fire hath enlightened the universe, and disclosed to the world treasures of uncovetousness, and shown us the heights of humility. But as thou dost instruct us by thy words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede with the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls

+Now sing the apolytikion of the holy Apostle Paul+

KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind



THE EPISTLE

(For St. John Chrysostom)

My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. Hear this, all ye people.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (7:26-8:2)

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a High Priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; He did this once for all when He offered up Himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son Who has been made perfect forever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a High Priest, one Who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

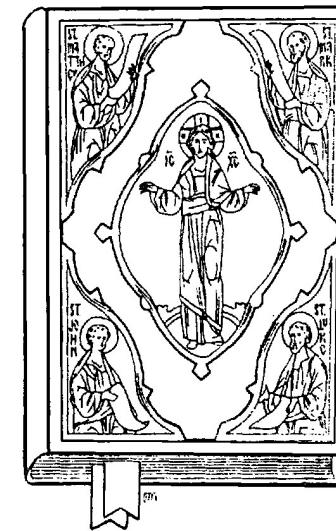


THE GOSPEL

For the Fifteenth Sunday of Luke — “Zacchaeus Sunday”)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (19:1-10)

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see Who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for He was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.” And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost.”



BELOVED FAMILY OF SAINT PAUL:

THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN of our Parish are offering each of us an opportunity to offer aid to the suffering people throughout our world by preparing:

EMERGENCY KITS*

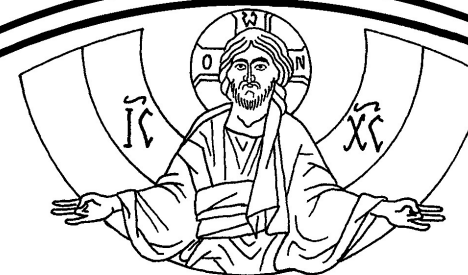
During February, March and April, we are preparing ***Hygiene Kits:*** Buy a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure and please assemble the following items:

- ❖ **One hand towel**
- ❖ **One washcloth**
- ❖ **One comb**
- ❖ **One nail clipper**
- ❖ **One bar of soap (bath size)**
- ❖ **One toothbrush (NO TOOTHPASTE)**
- ❖ **Six Band-Aids**

We recommend that you then place them inside the zippered bag & drop them into the clearly marked box in the Conference Room.



Any cash donations to offset mailing costs will be gratefully accepted.



A LITTLE DAILY WISDOM FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

Whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

+James 1:2-4

Others report that Amma Sarah struggled against sexual temptation for thirteen years. She never prayed that the spiritual warfare should end. Instead, she prayed, “God, give me strength.”

The testing of your faith produces endurance.

Source: “A Little Daily Wisdom from the Early Church” compiled by Bernard Bangely

