



# SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

"All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes" (Mark 9:23)

Metropolitan SABA  
Primate of the Antiochian  
Archdiocese

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## SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH, 2024 TONE 3 / EOTHINON 1 I THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

MARTYR KALLIOPIOS OF CILICIA; REPOSE OF TIKHON,  
PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW  
AND ENLIGHTENER OF NORTH AMERICA

**\*\*Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great\*\***

So glorify the cross now, so that you may boldly look upon it then and be glorified with it. And you should venerate icons of the saints, for the saints have been crucified with the Lord; and should make the sign of the cross upon your person before doing so, bringing to mind their communion in the sufferings of Christ. In the same way, you should venerate their holy shrines and any relic of their bones; for God's grace is not sundered from these things, even as the divinity was not sundered from Christ's venerable body at the time of His life-quickening death. By doing this and by glorifying those who glorified God—you too will be glorified together with them by God.

- St. Gregory Palamas

**Great Vespers:** Saturday 6:00 pm  
*Check the Calendar  
for possible cancellation*  
**Matins:** Sundays 9:20am  
**Divine Liturgy:** Sundays 10:30am  
**Confessions:** By appointment

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**ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN**  
Svitlana Sweat

**TEEN SOYO  
& YOUNG ADULTS**  
Sbdn. Chris Abdelahad  
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**ST. IGNATIUS ORDER**  
Jumana Misleh

**GIFT SHOP**  
Gail Bailey

We welcome all our guests and visitors worshipping with us at the Divine Liturgy.  
Please let our ushers know that you are visiting with us today. We would love to stay in touch!  
Please know that Holy Communion is offered to Orthodox Christians, after preparing themselves through prayers, fasting, & confession.  
Non-Orthodox visitors are welcome to receive blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy & share food with us at coffee hour.

## THE SYNAXARION

On April 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Kalliopios of Cilicia; and the repose of Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America.

On this same day, the Third Sunday of the Fast, we keep the feast of the Veneration of the honorable and life-creating Cross.

### *Verses*

*Let the whole world entire worship the Cross  
through Which it truly knew to worship Thee, O Word.*

Every hard and strenuous work is accomplished with great difficulty, which appears especially in the middle of such work; for the effort in this performance brings with it fatigue which makes the accomplishment of the rest difficult. Having arrived with God's grace at the middle of the Fast, our compassionate Mother—the Holy Orthodox Church—thought fit to reveal to us the Holy Cross as the joy of the world and power of the faithful to help us carry on the struggles of the divine Fast.

By its power, O Christ God, preserve us from the crafty designs of the evil one and account us worthy to worship Thy divine Passion and life-giving Resurrection, as we achieve the course of the Forty Days with ease, and have mercy on us, as Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.

### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

### APOLYTIKION FOR THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

### APOLYTIKION OF SS. PETER AND PAUL IN TONE FOUR

O foremost in the ranks of Apostles, and teachers of the world, Peter and Paul, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace unto the world, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

### KONTAKION FOR SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT (AND AKATHIST SATURDAY) IN TONE EIGHT

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

**For the Health of these Parishioners**

John & Lily Bitar	Showke George	Christo & Mary Christakis
Suad Shammass	Victor, Linda & Family	Hanneh Daoud
Mike & Dorothy Marge	Ibrahim Saah	Vilma Bellone
Michael Shihadi	Joanna Khoury	Sherrie Zachariah & family
Nadim Zarour	Michael Amouri	Nour & Anastasia & Sonny
Qustandi & Nahida Kaibni	Tagreed Tawil & Family	Asma Ayoub
Nuha & family	Yousef & Ghada	Elias, Taylor & Rami
Isabel Threded	Ghassan & Zakieh Jweied	Margo, Sam & family
Shakeh Kerjilian & family	Hind, Habib Debs & family	Barbara Zamer & family
Christopher Zolnerowich	Fred & Grace Saah	Edward & Eleanor Husson
Brian, Caroline & family	Fadia, Rich & family	Mary Sahouri
Steve, Jennifer & family	Antoine Hanna & family	Elizabeth Albinger & family

**DEPARTED**

Rudolph Sergei Malooley  
 Mary & Katter  
 John & Nymry  
 Marsha Malooley Irvin  
 Mufid Ayoub  
 Evelyn Kogok Hier

**MEMORIAL**

Evelyn Kogok Hier (10-years)

**Special Prayer this Week for**

Timothy Dowse	Wyne-Hareg	Elizabeth Carroll
Ruby Maggard	Ranya & Steven Thompson	Gino Michaels & family
Jeannine & family	Nabeel Mufarreh & family	Gibran, Larry, Joyce
Caroline & Nabil	Mona Ayoub & Family	Svitlana, Alexandra, Isabel
		Ronnie & Tom Hier & family

Lorna, Matthew, Amanda, Kristian, Kedzie, Kristian, Alexander, James, Joseph, Kimberly, Abigail, Andrew, Mary, Matthew, Alexandra, John

**Removal of Crowns**

Ranya & Steven Thompson

**Coffee Hour Available Dates**

April 28	June 9
May 12	June 16
May 26	June 23

Host Coffee Hour



Offer Holy Bread



**Holy Bread, Memorial Wheat & Coffee Hour** are offered by **Ronnie and Tom Hier** in memory of their mother, **Evelyn Kogok Hier**.

**Holy Bread & Memorial Wheat** are offered by **Lorna Malooley** in memory of her departed Family Members and for the health of Her Family.

If you want to offer Holy Bread or host Coffee Hour please use the codes on the side to do so.

## Coming Up @ Ss. Peter & Paul

**Next Sunday**, Meal Packing & Fr. Anastasios (of Cameroon) will join us!

Saturday, April 13th, **Great Vespers & Young Adults Dinner with Fr. Anastasios** @ 6 pm.

Friday, April 19th, **Cocktail Reception to Support Noursat TV Channel**. Details on the church website & flyers in the Narthex.

Saturday, April 20th, **Lenten Retreat With Fr. James & Kh Gigi Shadid**. Everyone is welcome. Sign up to attend.

### ***This Week's Services @ 7PM:***

**Monday:** Great Compline

**Wednesday:** Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy

**Friday:** Fourth Akathist (*madayeh*)

### **Calling all Medical Professionals**

**First Inaugural Lecture, TODAY, April 7th @ 7 PM (zoom)**

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Saba, the newly formed **North American Antiochian Orthodox Medical Professionals Fellowship** will host its inaugural lecture.

The Medical Professionals Fellowship seeks to assist His Eminence and the Archdiocesan clergy to serve parishioners who are ill, form a network for the spiritual encouragement and edification of its members, help new graduates spiritually and professionally, and organize medical mission trips as needed.



### **St. Raphael's Table**

#### ***The First Saturday of the Month***

Join us to serve Christ by preparing and distributing meals and toiletries to our neighbors in need. We will make 100 individually packaged meals and toiletry kits for the clients at the Downtown Day Services Center (DDSC), a daytime-only homeless shelter in DC.

**All ages are welcome to help with meal prep and toiletry kit packing**

**To join in preparation/distribution use this QR code**



**Amazon Wishlist** for Toiletry Bags is available here.

Thank you for your support!



### **1st & 3rd Tuesday**

**Bible Study**  
**(8:30 pm/Zoom)**

REGISTER HERE



### **Forever Young!**

**First Thursday of the Month**

May 2nd, June 6th  
11-2pm



**Naach (Bier) Decoration & Loved Ones Commemoration**

### **Naach Preparation**

Friday, May 3rd, at 10:30 AM

Bring your best garden pruners and maybe a Lenten dish to share!



### **Teen SOYO Good Friday Vigil**

May 3, 2024

**7:00 PM**

Lamentation Service

**9:30 PM**

Friday Night Vigil



**Bring a Sleeping Bag!**

### **Lenten Retreat Sign Up**

*Everyone has a place*

*You do NOT want to miss it*



For online donations, use **your phone's camera** to scan this code and follow the link to our secure donation portal.



## **THE EPISTLE**

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.  
Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God!*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (4:14-5:6)**

Brethren, since we have a great High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our infirmities, but one Who has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest, being taken from among the people, is appointed on behalf of the people in things pertaining to God, that he may offer up both gifts and sacrifices for sins; who can have compassion on the ignorant and on those who are erring, since he himself also is encompassed with infirmity. Because of this he is bound, as for the people so also for himself, to offer up for sins. And no one takes the honor upon himself, but as being called by God, as was Aaron. So Christ also did not glorify Himself to become a High Priest, but it was by the One saying to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee." As He says also in another place, "Thou art a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)**

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

### **Orthodox Young Professionals Conference**

*July 25-28, 2024*

**JW Marriott, Anaheim, CA**



4 day, 3 night Young Adult Conference  
hosted by the Young Adult Ministry of  
the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese.

### **Parish Life Conference**

*June 27-30*

**@ Antiochian Village**



***Registration is now open***

# ***The Easter Message 2024 from Their Beatitudes Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem***



## **PATRIARCHS AND HEADS OF THE CHURCHES IN JERUSALEM**

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### **Easter Message — 2024**

*We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. (Romans 6:9-10)*

We, the Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem, while observing two distant dates of commemoration this year, nevertheless join together in unity to proclaim to the world the Good News of Christ's Resurrection, first announced by angels nearly two millennia ago at the empty tomb here in the Holy City of Jerusalem.

This hopeful Easter message not only confirms Christ's triumph over sin and death, but also promises salvation to those who come to our Lord in faith with penitent hearts. As the Apostle Paul wrote, "just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4b-5).

In issuing this Easter proclamation, we fully recognize the intense suffering that surrounds us here in the Holy Land, as well as in many other parts of the world. Speaking more directly to our own circumstances, we repeat our denunciation of all violent actions in the present devastating war, especially these directed against innocent civilians, and we reiterate our call for an immediate and sustained ceasefire.

In concert with these, we renew our plea for the speedy distribution of humanitarian aid; the release of all captives; the unimpeded access of fully-equipped doctors and medical staff to tend the sick and injured; and the opening of internationally facilitated

negotiations aimed at ending and moving beyond the present cycle of violence. Only in this way, we believe, can a comprehensive solution be finally advanced for a just and lasting peace here in the land where our Lord sacrificed his life, breaking down the dividing wall of enmity, in order to offer the world the hope for reconciliation (Ephesians 2:14; Colossians 1:20).

While extending this Easter message to Christians and others around the world, we offer our special greetings to those of the faithful in Gaza who have been bearing especially heavy crosses over the past several months. These include those taking refuge inside St. Porphyrios and Holy Family Churches, as well as the courageous staff and volunteers of the Anglican-run Ahli Hospital, along with the patients they serve.

To them and to all who look to Christ's Resurrection in faith, even in the midst of the present darkness, let us affirm with St. Paul this hopeful acclamation: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).

It is in this confident spirit, that, whatever our circumstances, we can join with each other in repeating the ancient and joyous Easter greeting that continues to echo across the ages: "Christ is Risen! (*Al Maseeh Qam! Christos Anesti! Christos haryav I merelotz! Pikhirstos aftonf! Christ est Ressuscite! Cristo è risorto! Christus resurrexit! Meshiha qam! Christos t'ensah em' muhtan! Christus ist auferstanden!*) He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia!"

—The Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem

*This Letter was originally published on the website of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem ( <https://www.lpj.org/en/news/heads-of-churches-easter-message-2024>).*

## The Divine Liturgy

### Offertory: Great Entrance *(part two)*

During the offertory procession of the Great Entrance, the celebrant once again prays to God on behalf of all with the prayer of the Crucified Thief: "Remember, O Lord in Thy Kingdom." The bread and wine are placed on the altar table and the people conclude the Cherubic Hymn:

That we may receive the King of all who comes invisibly upborne by the angelic hosts. Alleluia. At this time the celebrant quietly recites verses which call to remembrance the absolute perfection and total sufficiency of Christ and His self-offering. For the Lord Who "fills all things" with Himself makes even His tomb "the fountain of our resurrection."

The Cherubic Hymn and the meditative verses of the celebrant just mentioned are a late addition to the Divine Liturgy. They were added in the imperial era of Byzantium in order to enhance the essential liturgical act of the offertory which is the movement of the Church offering itself to God the Father through its Head, High Priest and King Jesus Christ who is also the Suffering Servant, the Lamb of God and the New Passover; the sole sufficient sacrifice which is perfect, total and fully acceptable to the Father.

In the liturgical offertory, the faithful give themselves in sacrifice to God together with Christ. They do so through the Holy Spirit as those who have died and risen with Christ in baptism. In order for the liturgical act of offering to be genuine and true, it must be the living expression of the Church's constant and total self-offering to God. If each member of the Church is not in perpetual sacrifice with Christ to the Father and is not "bearing his cross" by the power of the Spirit, the offertory entrance of the Divine Liturgy becomes a sterile symbol devoid of reality. As such it is done not as a movement towards God, but unto condemnation and judgment.

## NEXT SUNDAY

### 2024 Saints Peter and Paul Lenten Community Service Project

#### Packing Meals for Area Families in Need

Please join us on Sunday, April 14, for our annual Lenten community service project. This year, we aim to pack 25,000 meals for area families in need. This will cost \$8,750.00. And we know that with everyone working together, we can meet this ambitious target!

**How can I contribute?** Please go to "make a donation" from the stewardship page on the Church's website and select "Charity Drive" in the drop-down menu.

Or you may see/contact Sarah Shames (sarahshames@yahoo.com), Serene Jweied (sjweied@gmail.com), or Steve Zolnerowich (stephenz2@verizon.net).

**Should I bring anything?** Hair nets, aprons, and gloves will be provided.

Just bring your enthusiasm and be sure to wear a pair of sensible shoes!



#### Young Adults Upcoming events - Save the Dates

**Saturday, April 13:** Vespers and Dinner - Talk with Fr. Anastasios from Cameron

**Sunday, April 14:** Grounded in Faith - Post liturgy Fellowship at Church Library

**Friday & Saturday, April 19-20:** Mini Lenten Retreat: SOYO + YAM with Fr. James and Kh. Gigi Shadid

**April 28-May 5** Holy Week & Pascha

**Saturday May 4** St. Raphael's Table Humanitarian Project : 10:30 am -12:30 pm

**Sunday, May 12:** Grounded in Faith-Post liturgy Fellowship at Church Library

**Saturday June 1:** St. Raphael's Table Humanitarian Project : 10:30 am -12:30 pm

**Saturday June 1:** Orthodoxy on Tap - Starr Hill Biergarten Tysons 7:30-9:30 pm

**Sunday, June 9:** Grounded in Faith - Post liturgy Fellowship

**June 26-30:** Parish Life Conference at the Antiochian Village

**Saturday, October 19:** Young Adults/ Professionals Gala

