St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

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Sunday, February 11, 2024

Tone 3 / Eothinon 3; Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
& Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew

Hieromartyr Blaise, bishop of Sebastia, and companions
Theodora the empress; New-martyr George of Serbia

Hierarchs and Parish Clergy:

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA (Isper)

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

His Grace Bishop JOHN (Abdalah)

Bishop of the Diocese of Worcester & New England

Father James Irving, Pastor Subdeacon Joseph Boruch

LITTLE ENTRANCE WEEKLY VARIABLES

<u>THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN)</u>: Save us, O Son of God, <u>Who art risen from the dead</u>, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

<u>RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE</u>: 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 OF ST. BLAISE IN TONE FOUR: By choosing the Apostles' way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Holy Martyr among bishops Blaise. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

<u>APOLYTIKION OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL</u>: O ye foremost of the heavenly host, we beseech thee, though we are unworthy. Pray that we may be encompassed with the shadow of thy unearthly glory. Preserving us who kneel and cry endlessly. Deliver us from oppression since Ye are the princes of the highest power.

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.

TRISAGION PRAYER

English: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have Mercy on us

Arabic: Qudoos El Laah, Quodoos El Qawi, Qudoos El Lathi La Yamoot,

Urhamnah

Greek: Agios O Theos, Agios Ischiros, Agios Athanatos, Eyleison Imas *Slavonic:* Svyatij Bozhe, Svyatij Krepkij, Svatij Bessmertnij pomiluj nas

<u>The Mission of St Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church</u> is to love and worship God, to grow closer to Him, and to proclaim and to spread the Good News of the salvation of Jesus Christ to our parishioners, our neighbors and people everywhere. We worship and pray in English. We experience the beauty and joy of living the Holy Orthodox Christian faith – sharing love and fellowship, teaching and leading by example, growing together through service, education, stewardship and forgiveness.

A NOTE REGARDING HOLY COMMUNION: Since we understand Communion to mean we have all things in common, sharing an identical Faith, only those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession may participate in Holy Communion. We invite all present to partake of the blessed bread distributed at the end of the service. UNLESS YOU ARE INJURED OR UNABLE, PLEASE REMAIN STANDING DURING COMMUNION

If you or your loved ones need to contact a member of the clergy in the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. James Irving, who can be reached by phone or text at (781) 468-8709 or by email at dnjamesirving@gmail.com.

Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.

SCHEDULE:

- Saturday, February 10
 - 3:30 PM Family Night
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- Sunday, February 11
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School / 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - o Annual Parish Meeting
- Saturday, February 17
 - o 3:30 PM Book Club
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- Sunday, February 18
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School / 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

In case of emergency, there are emergency numbers posted next to the telephones in the coat room and in the kitchen

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR

It is a great joy to have so many people join us for coffee hour! Please remember that coffee hour is potluck and is successful when we all pitch in by bringing food, serving, helping with set up and clean up or offering donations in the offering box on the counter. Please ask someone in the kitchen how you can help. May God continue to bless our community!

Our People are our Choir! We love to hear you sing with us! WELCOME! We are glad to have you worship with us today!

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Clap your hands, all ye peoples.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:1-10) Brethren, working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in hardships, calamities, afflictions, beatings, imprisonments, labors, watching, hunger; by tumults, purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:14-30, + Luke 8:8) The Lord spoke this parable: A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying: "Master, you delivered to me five

talents: here I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying: "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying: "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master answered him, "You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As Jesus said these things He cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE
ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Church will be held on **Sunday, February 11, 2024** immediately following Divine Liturgy. We look forward to your attendance!

DIOCESE SCHOLARSHIP

If your child will be graduating from High School this year, please contact Fr. James.

BOOK CLUB MEETING - February 17

On Saturday, February 17, before Vespers, we will gather to discuss the book "Pearl of Great Price" by Sergel Hackel. Please read chapters one and two in preparation. If you need to purchase a copy of the book we have them available at the bookstore. Please email Fr. James if you are planning to participate to receive email updates. See you at 3:30 pm on Saturday, February 17.

SAVE THE DATE: POST SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY - February 18

The Men's Group will be offering soup at the coffee hour. The funds raised will be used for the PLC 2024. More details as we get closer to the date.

PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2024

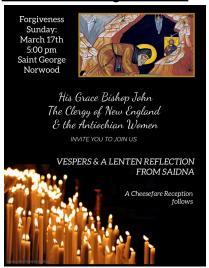
St Michael the Archangel of Cape Cod is very excited to host DOWNE 2024 PLC in Plymouth MA Jun 21-23. Join your Diocesan family as we come together in worship and love to grow in our Faith.

- The Hotel 1620 link <u>www.hotel1620.com</u> is now live for your reservations. Book early with the group code **SMPLC365**
- The event registration link <u>www.worcesterplc.org</u> will be live sometime in February. Keep checking back, please.
- Please book your sunset boat dinner cruise early. Limited spots are available.

HOLY UNCTION SERVICE - MAR 9 at Noon at St. Stephen Ludlow



FORGIVENESS SUNDAY - MAR 17 at 5 PM at St.George Norwood



LENTEN RETREAT & FAMILY DAY APR 5&6 at St George W Roxbury

April 5 at 6 PM - Akathist Service followed by Fr. Michael Elias speaking with the Teen SOYO.



Saint George, West Roxbury
9-00 Divine Liturgy
9-00 Divine Liturgy
8-00 Arch
Family Day activities begin
9-00 Pasto
Lunch, Second Session, Q & A

Advance Reigstration Required



https://Diocese-retreat.eventbrite.com Friday Night - Free Saturday: Adults - \$30 / Children - Free Questions: Contact Kh. Erin Kimmett

Sponsored by the Diocesan Council & Antiochian Women

PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2024 -JUN 21-23, Hotel 1620 Plymouth Hosted by St. Michael Church



THE SYNAXARION

On February 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Hieromartyr Blaise, bishop of Sebastia, and his companions.

Verses

Since the throat of Blaise was with the sword clean severed, From ailing throats he averteth harmful humors.

On the eleventh, unyielding bronze cut the neck of Blaise.

Born in Cappadocia, Blaise (Vlassios) was meek and God-fearing from early childhood. During a period of violent persecution of Christians, Blaise encouraged his flock and visited the martyrs in prison, among them the famous Eustratius. Later in life, Blaise retired to the mountain of Argeos and lived there in a cave. Ferocious wild beasts, recognizing a holy man, came to him and he gently tamed them. Persecutors sent by the emperor Licinius found the saint in that hidden spot and took him for trial. On the way there, Blaise healed a boy who had a bone stuck in his throat and, at the petition of a poor widow, made the wolf that had taken her pig return it to her. The dark judges tortured him, flogging him terribly. By his steadfastness, Blaise brought many unbelievers to the Christian Faith. Seven women and two children were thrown into prison with him. Together, they suffered and were glorified on this day in 316. Blaise's prayers are sought for the health and wellbeing of domestic animals and for protection from wild beasts. He is also invoked against ailing and sore throats.

On this day, we also commemorate Theodora the empress; and New-martyr George of Serbia. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.