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## **St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church**

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**Sunday, January 26, 2025**

**Tone 6 / Eothinon 9;**

**Thirty-second Sunday of Pentecost**

**& Fifteenth Sunday of Luke ("Zacchaeus")**

**Venerable Xenophon, his wife, Mary, and their two sons,**

**Arkadios and John, of Constantinople;**

**Translation of the relics of Venerable Theodore the Studite**

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**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**

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## LITTLE ENTRANCE WEEKLY VARIABLES

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

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX: When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL: 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.

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.

### TRISAGION PRAYER

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

*Arabic*: Qudoos El Laah, Qudoos 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

**The Mission of St Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church 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.**

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**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***

**SCHEDULE:**

- **Saturday, January 25**
  - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, January 26**
  - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School (kids 4-9 years) & Bible Study (kids 10+)
  - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
  - Choir Rehearsal
- **Saturday, February 1**
  - 5:00 PM Vespers
  - 6:00 PM SOYO: Bring a Friend to Church - Fun & Fellowship Night
- **Sunday, February 2 - The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple**
  - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School (kids 4-9 years) & Bible Study (kids 10+)
  - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
  - Teen SOYO Meeting
  - Outreach Meeting

**\*\*\*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!***

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## THE EPISTLE

(For the Thirty-second Sunday after Pentecost)

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.*

*To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.*

### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (4:9-15)**

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, Who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties; devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Fifteenth Sunday of Luke—"Zacchaeus")

### **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."

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## **ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS**

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

### **MEDICATION AND FASTING**

Orthodox Christians fast from food and drink from midnight the night before receiving Holy Communion. There are some exceptions. In regard to health: Fasting should not be detrimental to one's health. For example, if you need to take medicine in the morning, you can take it with food.

### **SOYO: BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH - FUN & FELLOWSHIP NIGHT**

The SOYO youth will be hosting a 'Bring a Friend to Church' Fun & Fellowship night on 2/1 after Vespers. We will attend services at 5 pm, then make dinner together in the kitchen and play games. Youth of all ages and their families are welcome! Please let Ned know how many visitors you will be inviting so we can have enough food.

**HOUSE BLESSINGS:** It is a tradition within the Orthodox Church that the Priest visits the homes of his parishioners to bless their houses with holy water that is blessed in church on the Feast of Theophany (January 6). In this way, God's sanctification of all things through Christ's Baptism extends into our lives. The family home is considered a small representation of the church where we fill our lives daily with Christ through prayer and togetherness with our family members.

When the Priest arrives, he will offer a short prayer, then move through the house sprinkling the holy water and chanting the Theophany hymn. Everyone then gathers back together and the Priest will offer a prayer and blessing for all who are present. It usually takes less than fifteen minutes. If you want him to pray for any members of your family or friends, also have a piece of paper with first names of the living on one side and those who have passed on the other.

Please call, 781-468-8709, or text or email Fr. James at, [dnjamesirving@gmail.com](mailto:dnjamesirving@gmail.com), to schedule a time for him to come and bless your home.

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The Bridgeport Islanders & the Orthodox Christian Community Presents

# FAITH AND FAMILY ★ NIGHT ★



BRUINS

vs

ISLANDERS



Saturday, Feb 15th, 2025 | Puck Drop 5pm

Total Mortgage Arena, 600 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604

Tickets \$27 | ON SALE NOW!

\*net proceeds go to IOCC for hurricane relief



Center Ice Seats  
Early Stadium Access

Post-game  
Picture on Ice

### TICKETS INCLUDE:

Pre-game Speakers:  
**Bishop JOHN Abdalah**  
(Diocese of Worcester and New England)  
**Rev. Peter Orfanakos**  
(St Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church Orange, CT)  
Theme: "All You Need Is Love"




Islanders Hat

Door Prizes  
(if purchased before Jan 31st)

& MUCH More

Each church community with 50+ tickets sold will receive a prize basket from the Bridgeport Islanders!

Be part of this *historic* gathering of Orthodox Christians from the New England and Tri-State areas for an evening of hockey, fellowship, and family fun

For More Information  [kyle.laham@stnicholasbridgeport.org](mailto:kyle.laham@stnicholasbridgeport.org)

## Save the Date!

- February 1: SOYO Bring a Friend to Church - Fun & Fellowship Night
- February 1: Mini Retreat @ St. Mary's Church Hall, Cambridge MA
- March 3: Great Lent begins
- March 22: Diocese Lenten Retreat & Family Day @ St. John's
- April 13: Palm Sunday
- April 20: PASCHA
- June 20-21: Tentative Dates for Diocese PLC
- July 20-27: Archdiocese Convention hosted by St. George in Cicero, IL
- August 10-16: Diocese Summer Camp

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## THE SYNAXARION

On January 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous Father Xenophon of Constantinople, along with his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Arkadios and John.

### **Verses**

*I offer up a dainty banquet of discourse to Xenophon and his family,  
though from earth departed.*

*On the twenty-sixth died Xenophon with children and wife.*

Prominent and wealthy citizens of the fifth century, Xenophon and Mary lived a God-pleasing life and dedicated all their attention to the Christian upbringing of their sons. When their sons reached adulthood, they were sent to study in Beirut; but it so happened that a storm capsized their boat. John and Arkadios were tossed ashore by the waves but in two different places so that each thought the other was drowned. Out of grief for each other, they both became monks in two different monasteries. After two years, their grieving parents came to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage to pay homage before the holy shrines. There, with the help of a spiritual father, first the brothers met and, after that, the parents with their sons. Out of gratitude to God, Xenophon and Mary distributed their entire estate to the poor and both of them were tonsured. Thus the Lord wonderfully guides the destiny of those who believe in Him. He permits pain and sorrow upon them that they may, later on, be strengthened in faith, in order to lead them into still greater joy.

On this day, we also commemorate the translation of the relics of Venerable Theodore the Studite. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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**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](mailto:dnjamesirving@gmail.com).**

**Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.**

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