
St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

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Sunday, February 23, 2025

Tone 2 / Eothinon 2

Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meat Fare)

Hieromartyr Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna;

Venerable Gorgonia, sister of Gregory the Theologian

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

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 TWO: When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades 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. 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 FOR SUNDAY OF LAST JUDGMENT IN TONE ONE: When Thou comest, O God, to earth with glory, and all creatures tremble before Thee, and the river of fire floweth before the Altar, and the books are opened and sins revealed, deliver me then from that unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O righteous Judge.

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.

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, February 22**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, February 23**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Bible Study (kids 10+)
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - Choir Rehearsal
- **Saturday, March 1**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, March 2**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Bible Study (kids 10+)
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - Forgiveness Vespers
 - 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!

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday of the Last Judgment)

The Lord is my strength and my song.

With chastisement hath the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (8:8-9:2)

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care, lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you—a man of knowledge—at table in an idol’s temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother’s falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday of the Last Judgment)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:31-46)

The Lord said, “When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, ‘Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or

in prison and visit Thee?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ Then He will say to those at his left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?’ Then He will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me.’ And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

SOYO PROJECT: Do you have a favorite book about Orthodoxy? This month's SOYO project is to spread the Gospel by donating books about the faith to local libraries. We are looking for suggestions for books you have found inspiring, educational, or helpful in your journey as an Orthodox Christian. Please reach out to one of the teens to let them

know your suggestion. If you are interested in helping to defray the cost of the books please also let us know.

LA FIRE RELIEF: THANK YOU to everyone who donated towards relief efforts for LA Fire Victims. Through your generosity, we collected \$890 which has been matched. A total of \$1780 is being sent to FOCUS (Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve) to be distributed to victims.

There is lots of work to be done, especially during Lent, and we need your help and your input to keep Christ's light shining on Cape Cod.

If you want to be part of the Outreach team, please reach out to Emma, Michelle or Soraya.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED: We are looking for a team of Sunday School teachers to lead the Sunday Classes for age groups 9 years old and younger. Weekly curriculum information will be provided. This ministry is an important part of our faith. Please contact Father James if interested.

The Lenten spring is upon us! Join us in reading the Psalter together as a parish this Lent

How it works :

- step one: sign up with Kh. Valerie, we need 20 people but more is OK too!
- step two: start reading your assigned Kathisma on the first day of Lent Monday March 3rd.

After day one continue to the next Kathisma, read one Kathisma every week day, until you come to the end of the Psalter, then start over again. Please see Kh. Valerie or Michelle Moeck for more details or if you have questions.



57TH BIENNIAL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
Archdiocese Convention
 July 20 – 27, 2025



EARLY BIRD PRICE

Now Until April 30, 2025

~~\$ 350~~
\$ 330

Per Person Total Value \$380

**Buy your Ticket Books Today
 and Save!**

HOTEL REGISTRATION

Hyatt Regency O'Hare Chicago

\$ 189 PER NIGHT

\$10/night for parking
 Complimentary shuttle to and from O'Hare

Reserve your Hotel Room!

"CONTINUING THE ANTIOCHIAN LEGACY IN CHICAGO"

Celebrating the

**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
 THE UNIFICATION OF
 NEW YORK AND TOLEDO
 and the
 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF
 THE WORD MAGAZINE**

- 100+ EVENTS AND MEETINGS
- CHURCH SERVICES
- ARCHDIOCESE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
- "ASK ABOUNA" ALL WEEK
- CLUB SAINT GEORGE AGES 4-12
- BIBLE BOWL
- ORATORICAL FESTIVAL
- TEEN EVENTS
- YAM EVENTS
- WORKSHOPS
- "MY KIND OF TOWN"
- ARABIAN NIGHTS DINNER AND HAFI
- ANTIOCHIAN LEGACY BANQUET AND GRAND HAFI

Visit

WWW.AC2025CHICAGO.ORG

*"Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her."
 Luke 1:38*

THE MIRACULOUS WEeping ICON
 Cicero, IL



With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Saba, for the first time, venerate the Miraculous Weeping Icon in the hotel Chapel all week.



**Contact us
 Host Parish**
 Saint George Antiochian
 Orthodox Church
 1220 S. 60th Court
 Cicero, IL 60804

(708) 656-2927
 Info@AC2025Chicago.org
 AC2025Chicago.org

Call to the 57th Biennial Archdiocesan Convention which will be held at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois from July 20 – 27, 2025. All information about the convention can be accessed through the official convention website: <https://www.ac2025chicago.org>

THE SYNAXARION

On February 23 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna; and Venerable Gorgonia, sister of Gregory the Theologian.

Today, we commemorate the Second and impartial Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Verses

*When the Judge of all sitteth to judge the earth,
Come now! Mayest Thou judge me worthy of Thy voice!*

It is the Sunday of the Last Judgment—known also as Meat Fare Sunday—the lesson of which occurs in today’s Holy Gospel. Jesus illustrates to us God’s ineffable goodness and His great love for mankind. And so lest some who are lazy should loiter and spend the time appropriate to their salvation in the pursuit of sin, and be suddenly overtaken by death, the divine Fathers decree that on this day the remembrance of the Second Appearance of Christ may be celebrated. The intention is to remind them that, as God is good and loving to mankind, He is also a very righteous Judge Who recompenses each according to his deeds. Our Lord teaches us that when we minister to our brother or sister, we really minister to Him. This brings us righteousness and life eternal.

By Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ God, make us worthy of Thy devoted voice, number us among Thy righteous ones and have mercy on us. Amen

Save the Date!

- 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

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.
