
St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

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Sunday, May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of Pascha

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women,

Pious Joseph of Arimathaea &

Righteous Nicodemus

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 didst sit upon the foal of an ass, 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 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 JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA IN TONE TWO: The noble Joseph, taking Thine immaculate Body down from the Tree, and having wrapped It in pure linen and spices, laid It for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day Thou didst arise, O Lord, granting to the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN IN TONE TWO: Unto the myrrh-bearing women did the Angel cry out as he stood by the grave: Myrrh-oils are meet for the dead, but Christ hath proved to be a stranger to corruption. But cry out: The Lord is risen granting to the world Great Mercy.

THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT: Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

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.

MEGALYNARION FOR PASCHA IN TONE ONE: *The Angel cried unto her that is full of grace: O pure Virgin, rejoice, and again I say, rejoice; for thy Son hath arisen from the grave on the third day.*

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord hath arisen upon thee; dance now and be glad, O Zion, and do thou exult, O pure Theotokos, in the arising of Him Whom thou didst bear.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Receive ye the body of Christ; taste ye the Fountain of immortality.

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.*

Albanian: Krishti Ungjall! Vertete Ungjall!

Arabic: Al Maseeh Qam! Haqqan Qam!

English: Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

French: Le Christ est Resucité! Vraiment est Resucité!

Greek: Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

Polish: Khristus Zmartvikstau! Zaiste Zmartvikstau!

Portuguese: Christo Ressuscitou! Em Verdade Ressuscitou!

Romanian: Hristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat!

Russian: Khristos Voskres! Voistinu Voskres!

Spanish: Cristo ha resucitado! En verdad ha resucitado!

SCHEDULE:

- **Saturday, May 3**
 - 5:00 pm Vespers
- **Sunday, May 4**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - Church School for kids 4-9 years old
 - Outreach Meeting
- **Saturday, May 10**
 - 5:00 pm Vespers
- **Sunday, May 11**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - Church School for kids 4-9 years old
 - Choir Rehearsal

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

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

The Lord is my strength and my song.

With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (6:1-7)

In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: "It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Próchoros, and Nikánor, and Tímon, and Parmenás, and Nikólaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (15:43-16:8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathaea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb at the rising of the sun. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a long white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He is risen; He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

Prayer Rope fundraiser In an effort to raise money for scholarships for our kids to go to the New England Region Camp St. Joseph in Lenox Ma. this Summer, we will be making and selling Orthodox Prayer Ropes. That means that we need people to make them and donate them. We have the materials to make them, so if you know how, or would like to learn, please talk to David Easa. If you would like to order one in advance you can also talk to David, and there will be different colors and sizes available. Our goal is to help as many of our 9 campers as possible with the tuition which is \$575 per person. Thank you for your help.

QUILT RAFFLE: The Sisterhood of St. Martha & St. Mary are holding a raffle of a beautiful quilt handmade by Connie L., Father James' cousin. The quilt measures approximately 80" by 70".

Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$10 each or 3 tickets for \$25. Please see our Treasurer, Pauline R., or our President, Kh. Valerie for tickets.



Worcester County's Premier Middle Eastern Festival is BACK!



St. George Orthodox Cathedral
30 Anna St. Worcester, MA 01604



Friday, June 6: 3-11 PM | Saturday, June 7: Noon - 11 PM | Sunday, June 8: Noon - 6 PM

Festival Highlights

Authentic Middle Eastern food prepared on site!

All your favorites from kabobs to kibbe, shawarma sandwiches, stuffed grape leaves, tabouli, hummus, pastries and so much more!

Exciting live entertainment
(music, singing, dabke, dancing and more!)

Beer, wine, and cocktails

Hookah | Marketplace

Children's Zone: A Place to Play

Raffles, prizes, community, surprises and so much more fun!

Tour our beautiful Cathedral and learn about Eastern Orthodox Christianity.



Friday: Andre Keedy



Saturday: Chadi Nadat



Sunday: Mitch Kalktsunas

Scan the QR codes for festival updates!



WorcesterMiddleEasternFest.com



[@WORCESTERMIDDLEEASTERNFEST](https://www.instagram.com/WORCESTERMIDDLEEASTERNFEST)



Facebook Event Page

Join us rain or shine under the big tent!

THE SYNAXARION

On May 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Venerable-martyr Pelagia of Tarsus; Athanasios, bishop of Corinth; and Venerable Nikephoros the Solitary of Athos.

On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathaea, the secret disciple, and Nicodemus, the disciple by night.

Verses

Christ is brought myrrh by the wise women disciples;

And to them, I bring a hymn as myrrh in offering.

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

By the intercessions of the holy Myrrh-bearers, Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus, and all Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Save the Date!

- June 21: Diocese PLC at St. George, Norwood
- July 20-27: Archdiocese Convention, Chicago, 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.
