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

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**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

**Tone 4 / Eothinon 7; Fifth Sunday of Pascha:**

**Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

**& After-feast of Mid-Pentecost**

**Martyrs Peter, Dionysios, Andrew, Paul, Christina,**

**Heraklios, Paulinos and Benedimos;**

**Stephen the New, patriarch of Constantinople**

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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 didst sit upon the foal of an ass, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR: Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying, Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION FOR MID-PENTECOST IN TONE EIGHT: In the midst of this Feast, O Savior, give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of true worship; for Thou didst call out to all, saying: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Christ our God, Fountain 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.

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, 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.

### 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.**

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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.*

*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 17**

- 5:00 pm Vespers

- **Sunday, May 18**

- 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 Bible Study for kids 10+
- 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
- Church School for kids 4-9 years old
- St. Martha & St. Mary Sisterhood Meeting

- **Saturday, May 24**

- 5:00 pm Vespers

- **Sunday, May 25**

- 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 Bible Study for kids 10+
- 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\*\*\***

#### **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

### **The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (11:19-30)**

In those days, when the apostles were scattered because of the tribulation that arose over Stephen, they traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one, except to Jews only. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who upon coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. The report concerning them reached the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas, to go as far out as Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they should cleave to the Lord; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great multitude was added unto the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole

year, they were gathered together in the church, and they taught a great multitude of people, and the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabos stood up and signified by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over the whole world; and this took place in the days of Claudius Caesar. And the disciples, every one according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren who dwelt in Judaea; and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (4:5-42)**

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as He was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His Disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that Thou, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, Thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Art Thou greater than our father

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Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst forever; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered Him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and Thou sayest that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming [He Who is called Christ]; when He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I Who speak to you am He." Just then His Disciples came. They marveled that He was talking with a woman, but none said, "What dost Thou wish?" or, "Why art Thou talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, "Come, see a man Who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to Him. Meanwhile the Disciples besought Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the Disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He said to me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans

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came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His words. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

*Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. +(Proverbs 22:6)*

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-Loving Faithful, Beginning this year, our Archdiocese sets aside the third Sunday of May to remember, honor, and pray for our Sunday church school teachers and directors. With steadfastness and love, they faithfully serve God by caring for our most precious youth. With God's grace and mercy, our Sunday church school teachers help our children learn and grow in the faith. And we offer our heartfelt thanks and prayers in turn.

On the Sunday of Teacher Appreciation, we extend heartfelt thanks to our Christian Education Ministry, including its director, diocesan coordinators, and curriculum writers, who help to prepare resources and materials for this important ministry. The work they do is felt across our beloved Archdiocese.

We most especially extend thanks to the countless Sunday church school directors and teachers who labor and serve within their parishes. These men and women embrace the responsibility of educating our youth in the faith, often with little or no compensation. They tirelessly prepare programs, events, classrooms, and lessons. They cultivate communities of learning, joy, respect, and care. With warm smiles, they lovingly welcome our children into our parishes; with faithful teaching, they gently usher our children into the Life of the Church. Through both instruction and modelling, they impress upon our children's hearts the love of God and love of neighbor. Their impact in the lives of our children continues across generations and reminds us all that the "Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

It is a privilege to remember and honor all those who serve in our Sunday church school programs. We thank them for carrying this sacred responsibility of educating our youth, and we offer our continued prayers for them and their ministries.

Wishing you God's every blessing, I remain, Yours in the Service of Christ,

+SABA Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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## ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

the course of the weekend. The SOYO youth and others from St. Michael's have participated in the Worcester event over the years and had a great time.

You can sign up for a 2-hour timeslot

<https://give.fmsc.org/campaign/2505-156mi-barnstable-ma-cape-cod-community/c660713>



Kids as young as 5 years old can also participate, so bring the whole gang. Any questions, contact Ned Chatelain.

**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.

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## THE SYNAXARION

On May 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Peter, Dionysios, Andrew, Paul, Christina, Heraklios, Paulinos and Benedimos; and Stephen the New, patriarch of Constantinople.

On this day, the fifth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the Samaritan Woman.

### **Verses**

*Coming to obtain corruptible water, O woman,  
Thou drawest living water, wherewith thy soul's stains thou wastest.*

The Samaritan woman—the holy and glorious Great-martyr Phteini—met Jesus at midday at Jacob’s Well, which was located in the city of Sychar. And being tired from travel and the heat, Jesus sat at Jacob’s Well. A little after, the Samaritan woman came to draw water, and had a long conversation with Him (it is the longest recorded discourse between Christ and a single person in the entire Bible). Phteini did not want to talk to Jesus, because the Samaritans did not have any dealings with Jews; Jews considered her people heretics because Samaritans kept only the first five books of the Old Testament. However, the Lord talked with her anyway, read her heart, revealed her secrets and gave her to drink of the “Living Water”—the grace of the Holy Spirit that leads to eternal life and flows to all humanity. Phteini immediately ran throughout the city to proclaim Christ. Through her, many other Samaritans believed in Jesus.

By the intercessions of Thy Martyr, Phteini, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

### **Save the Date!**

- June 8: FEAST OF PENTECOST
- June 21: Saturday PLC at St. George in Norwood (see flyer below)
- July 20-27, 2025: Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Convention, Chicago
- August 11-16: Diocese Summer Camp

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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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