
St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

(508) 420-1113, www.stmichaelcapecod.org,

e-mail: stmichael@stmichaelcapecod.org



Sunday, May 25, 2025

Tone 5 / Eothinon 8

**Sixth Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Blind Man &
Third Discovery of the Forerunner's Honorable Head**

**Martyr Celestine of Rome;
Hieromartyr Therapon, bishop of Cyprus**

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 FIVE: Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF THE FORERUNNER'S HEAD DISCOVERY IN TONE FOUR: Christ God hath revealed to us thy truly ven'erable head as a divine treasure that had been concealed in the earth, O Prophet and Forerunner. Wherefore, as we gather on the feast of its finding, with our hymns inspired of God, we praise Christ the Savior, Who by thy mighty prayers saveth us from every kind of harm.

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.

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 24**

- 5:00 pm Vespers

- **Sunday, May 25**

- 8:30 AM Orthros / 8:45 Bible Study for kids 10+
- 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
- Church School for kids 4-9 years old
- Choir Rehearsal

- **Thursday, May 29**

- 5:00 PM Divine Liturgy for the Ascension

- **Sunday, June 1**

- 8:30 AM Orthros / 8:45 Bible Study for kids 10+
- 9:30 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!

THE EPISTLE (For St. John the Baptist)

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. O God, hear my voice.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

(4:6-15)

Brethren, it is the God Who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. While we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So, death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that He Who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

THE GOSPEL (For Blind Man Sunday)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (9:1-38)

At that time, when Jesus was passing, he saw a man blind from his birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam," which means "Sent." So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he;" others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the

clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

MEMORIAL DAY BAKE SALE Our Sisterhood is hosting a bake sale this Sunday - Memorial Day (May 25th) - after Liturgy. Please purchase something at the sale. Proceeds will be used towards their annual pledge to our parish.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN www.fmssc.org will be holding their first-ever food-packing event on

Cape Cod May 29-31 at Trinity Christian Academy 979 Mary Dunn Rd., Barnstable. Their goal is to pack 100,000 dehydrated meals for needy communities worldwide over 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.fmssc.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.

QUILT RAFFLE DATE ANNOUNCED The quilt raffle will be held after liturgy on Pentecost (Sunday June 8th). 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.

PARISH YARD SALE A large parish wide yard sale is being planned for July 19th (rain or shine). Please save the date and put aside any household items you can donate for the sale. More information will follow - and direct any questions to the co-chairs Elaine B. and Pauline.

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.

FIELD DAY AT LOWELL PARK: Our final SOYO fellowship activity of the year will be Field Day at Lowell Park in Cotuit on **June 8th at 1:00 PM**. The youth from St. George will also be joining us. Please see Ned if you are able to bring games or sports equipment. We hope to see you there!



THE SYNAXARION

On May 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyr Celestine of Rome; and the Hieromartyr Therapon, Bishop of Cyprus.

On this day, we commemorate the third discovery of the honorable head of the Forerunner and Baptist John.

Verses

*Though hidden deep in the earth, the voice of one crying
Sounded forth strangely to all when earth was rent open.*

On the twenty-fifth, they found the Forerunner's head.

In the year 820, the honorable head was once again found in the city of Emesa during a time of unrest at Constantinople. It was transferred to Komana during the Saracen raids and hidden in the ground during a period of iconoclastic persecution. When the veneration of icons was restored, Patriarch Ignatius (847-857) saw in a vision the place where the head of St. John was hidden. The patriarch communicated this to the emperor, who sent a delegation to Komana to recover the head. Afterwards the head was again transferred to Constantinople, and on May 25, 850 it was placed in a church at the court. On this day, the sixth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the miracle wrought by our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ upon the man who was blind from his birth.

Verses

*O Light of Light most perfect, and Light-provider,
On the blind from birth, O Word, eyes Thou bestowest.*

The Savior met this man, born blind and incurable after every human effort, while leaving the Temple on the Sabbath. Saints John Chrysostom, Basil the Great and Irenaeus teach that the man was born without eyeballs. Jesus spat into the dirt, made clay, rubbed it in his eye sockets and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam, a famous water spring in Jerusalem. The Savior did not send him there because his eye sockets were filled with clay, nor did the pool have healing power, but instead to test his faith and obedience. Jesus fashioned the eyes of the blind man from the dirt as God fashioned man from the dirt. The blind man proclaimed that Jesus healed him, but this confession caused him to be cast out by the enemies of the truth. Even his own parents would not defend him. However, the blind man followed Jesus from that moment forward. By Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, Giver of light, have mercy on us. Amen.

If you 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 djamesirving@gmail.com. Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.
