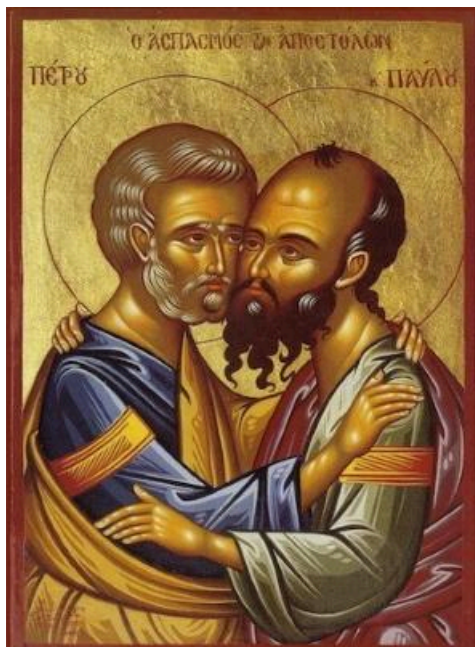

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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

e-mail: stmichael@stmichaelcapecod.org



Sunday, June 29, 2025

Tone 2 / Eothinon 3

The Holy, Glorious Apostles Peter and Paul

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 SS. PETER AND PAUL IN TONE FOUR: O foremost in the ranks of Apostles, and teachers of the world, Peter and Paul, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace unto the world, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO: O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

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 THE FEAST IN TONE SEVEN: O thou who without experience of corruption wast found to be with child, and didst lend flesh unto the Word Who devised all things, O thou Mother who hast not known wedlock, O Virgin Theotokos, vessel of the Uncontainable One, dwelling place of thy boundless Fashioner, thee do we magnify.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) FOR THE APOSTLES IN TONE EIGHT Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. Alleluia.

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, June 28**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, June 29**
 - 8:30 AM Orthros
 - 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
 - **Trisagion Prayers of Mercy** in memory our brothers and sisters killed in the attack at St. Elias Orthodox Church in the Dweila neighborhood of Damascus
- **Saturday, July 5**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, July 6**
 - 8:30 AM Orthros
 - 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

Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth.

The heavens show forth the glory of God.

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

(11:21-12:9)

Brethren, whatever anyone dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He Who is blessed forever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave

me; but He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (16:13-19)

At that time, when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His Disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father Who is in Heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven."

June 24, 2025

Beloved in Christ,

I greet you with a heavy heart as we continue what has otherwise been a joyous time for me, leading our seminarians, recent seminary graduates, and clergy on a pilgrimage through Jordan and Lebanon. This journey has allowed them to deepen their roots and gain a richer understanding of the Patriarchate of Antioch and Christianity in the Middle East.

Two days ago, for the first time, we celebrated the feast of the Sunday of All Saints of Antioch, recalling the many martyrs and other great saints of our ancient and Apostolic Church where "the Disciples were first called Christians" (Acts 11:26). Sadly, in addition to the martyrs of history like Ignatius, Barbara, Christina, Joseph of Damascus and the recently canonized father and son priests Nicholas and Habib, new faithful were added whose blood will nourish the soil of our Church, allowing it to grow and flourish in the days and years to come. During the sacred and

holy Divine Liturgy, there was a terrorist attack on our church of the Prophet Elias in the suburb of Dweilaa in Damascus, Syria. As of this letter, more than 25 people have been martyred, and dozens more have been injured. This is the first such deliberate bombing of a church in Syria since the start of the war in 2011.

Along with praying for the souls of the departed, the families of these new martyrs for the Faith need our prayers and encouragement. With that in mind, I ask that all our churches hold Paraklesis services in the coming days, asking the Most-Holy Theotokos to comfort those who are suffering. At the same time, I am directing all our parishes to hold Trisagion Prayers of Mercy this Sunday, June 29, for those who lost their lives in this cowardly act of violence directed at people who were simply trying to pray and participate in the Divine Liturgy.

Finally, this Sunday is especially significant, as it marks the feast of Saints Peter and Paul, the patrons and protectors of our Holy See of Antioch. The successor of these holy apostles is our Father in Christ, His Beatitude Patriarch John X. A notable layman, Mr. Carol Saba, wrote a piece after the bombing which began, "The Patriarch consoles everybody, but who consoles the Patriarch?" As the successor of our patron saints, let us also pray for him, that he may continue to lead the Church of Antioch through this difficult time.

Wishing you and your families peace, and asking for your continued prayers as we continue our pilgrimage, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

COTUIT 4TH OF JULY PARADE Fourth of July is just around the corner and this year we will be participating in the Cotuit 4th of July parade. This will be a great opportunity for Outreach into our local community. If you are interested in participating please let Michelle or Chris Moeck know.

Congratulations to our teens who took 1st place in Bible Bowl! Huge thanks for all their hard work and thanks to Ned Chatelain for his teaching and guidance.



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.

Drop off: At church to Elaine Burke or Pauline Rassias at fellowship after Liturgy beginning JUNE 1.

Needed: DONATIONS and VOLUNTEERS. Call your relatives, friends, neighbors for donations. Women, *Contact Elaine Burke (540 272 0433) or Pauline Rassias (781) 690 2891). Men, Contact Mike Simoneau. We need people to sort, price, display and sell, set up and break down, donate leftovers.

THE SYNAXARION

On June 29 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy, glorious, all-laudable and foremost of the Apostles, Peter and Paul.

Together, they are the patrons and protectors of the Patriarchate of Antioch. Peter was the son of Jonah and the brother of Andrew, the First-called. He was of the Tribe of Simeon from the town of Bethsaida. He was a fisherman and, at first, was called Simon but the Lord was pleased to call him Cephas or Peter: "And when Jesus beheld him, He said, 'Thou art Simon the son of Jonah; thou shalt be called Cephas,' which is by interpretation, a rock" (John 1:42). He was the first of the disciples to clearly express faith in the Lord Jesus saying: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). His love for the Lord was great and his faith in the Lord gradually strengthened. When the Lord was brought to trial, Peter denied Him three times but after only one glance into the face of the Lord, Peter's soul was filled with shame and repentance. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter became a fearless and powerful preacher of the Gospel. Peter worked many powerful miracles; he healed the sick, resurrected the dead; the sick were healed even from his shadow. By order of the evil Emperor Nero, Peter was condemned to death in 64 A.D. Installing Linus as Bishop of Rome, counseling and comforting the flock of Christ, Peter proceeded joyfully to his death. Seeing the cross before him, he begged his executioners to crucify him upside down for he considered himself unworthy to die as did his Lord. Thus the great servant of the Great Lord reposed and received the wreath of eternal glory. Paul was born in Tarsus of the tribe of Benjamin. At first, he was called Saul, studied under Gamaliel, was a Pharisee and a persecutor of Christianity. He was miraculously converted to the Christian Faith by the Lord Himself Who appeared to him on the road to Damascus. "Suddenly, a light from heaven flashed about him. And Saul fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?'" And he said, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:3-5). Saul was blinded, but regained his sight when he was baptized by the Apostle Ananias. Then he was called Paul and numbered in the service of the great apostles. With a fiery zeal, Paul preached the Gospel everywhere from the borders of Arabia to Spain, among the Jews and among the Gentiles. As horrible as his sufferings were, so much more was his superhuman patience. Throughout all the years of his preaching Paul, from day to day, hung as one on a weak thread between life and death. Since he fulfilled all days and nights with labor and suffering for Christ, since he organized the Church in many places and since he attained such a degree of perfection he was able to say: "It is now no longer I that live, but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20). Paul was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Emperor Nero at the same time as the Apostle Peter.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ our God, 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 dnjamesirving@gmail.com. Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.
