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

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**Sunday, January 25, 2026**

**Tone 8 / Eothinon 11**

**Gregory the Theologian, archbishop of  
Constantinople**

**& Fifteenth Sunday of Luke (Zacchaeus)**

**Venerable Demetrios the sacristan;  
New-martyr Auxentios 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 art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT: From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN IN TONE ONE: The pastoral psalter of thy discourse in theology triumphed over the trumpets of orators and overcame it; for having sought the depth of the Spirit, there was also vouchsafed to thee excellence of speech, O Father Gregory. Wherefore, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

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 OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE: Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

### 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.

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.*

**SCHEDULE:**

- **Saturday, January 24**
  - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, January 25**
  - 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 AM Bible Study (kids 10+)
  - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
  - Church School
  - Choir Rehearsal
- **Saturday, January 31**
  - 5:00 PM Reader's Vespers
- **Sunday, February 1**
  - 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 AM Bible Study (kids 10+)
  - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
  - Church School
  - Outreach Meeting
  - Teen SOYO 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!***

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## THE EPISTLE

(For Gregory the Theologian)

*My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. Hear this, all ye people.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (7:26-8:2)**

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a High Priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; He did this once for all when He offered up Himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son Who has been made perfect forever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a High Priest, one Who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Fifteenth Sunday of Luke—"Zacchaeus Sunday")

### **The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (19:1-10)**

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see Who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for He was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

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## ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

### 2026 CALENDARS

Once again St Michael church has purchased calendars displaying beautiful icons. These calendars help us to know when to fast, the readings for services, Saints of the day and feast day information. Please pick up a calendar for your home or work. This year the calendar has been generously sponsored by **Khouri's Oriental Rug Company**.

### POLAR PLUNGE



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## THE SYNAXARION

On January 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our Father among the Saints Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople.

### **Verses**

*To acknowledge God's essence in Orthodox manner:*

*Such is this Gregory's legacy unto Christians.*

*On the twenty-fifth Gregory of divine speech died.*

He was born in Nazianzus and studied in Athens with Basil the Great and Julian the Apostate. Gregory correctly prophesied that Julian would become an apostate and a persecutor of the Church. When he completed his studies, Gregory was baptized. Basil consecrated him as bishop of Sasima, and Emperor Theodosius the Great summoned him to fill the vacant archepiscopal throne of Constantinople. Gregory wrote numerous works, of which his most famous are those concerning theology. Especially known because of its depth is his work Homilies on the Holy Trinity. Gregory wrote against the heretic Macedonius who erroneously taught that the Holy Spirit is a creation of God, and against Appolinarius who erroneously taught that Christ did not have a human soul but that His divinity was in lieu of His soul. Gregory died in 390 at age 80.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable Demetrios the Sacristan; and New-martyr Auxentios of Constantinople. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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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](mailto:dnjamesirving@gmail.com). Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.

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