
St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

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Sunday, February 1, 2026

Tone 1 / Eothinon 1

**Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican &
Forefeast of the Presentation (Meeting) of Christ**

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 ONE: While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION IN TONE ONE: The Heavens' choir looked down from the vaults of the Heavens, and gazing on the earth, they beheld with amazement the First-born of all creation brought forth as a suckling babe to the Temple by a pure and virginal mother; and with us, they now do sing a hymn for the Forefeast, astonished and full of awe.

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 FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION IN TONE FOUR: On this day doth Simeon receive with gladness God, the giver of the Law; and he doth cry to Him in fear: Let me depart now, O Master Christ, for I have seen Thee, the glory of Israel.

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.

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 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
- **Saturday, February 7**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, February 8**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 AM Bible Study (kids 10+)
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - Church School
 - 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!

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

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

(3:10-15)

My son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, patience, persecutions, sufferings, what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Indeed all who would live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But people who are wicked and deceivers will proceed from worse to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and how from infancy you have known the sacred temple writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."



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**.

TIME FOR HOUSE BLESSINGS

It is a tradition within the Orthodox Church that the Priest visits the homes of his parishioners to bless their houses with holy water that is blessed in church on the Feast of Theophany (January 6). In this way, God's sanctification of all things through Christ's Baptism extends into our lives. The family home is considered a small representation of the church where we fill our lives daily with Christ through prayer and togetherness with our family members.

When the Priest arrives, he will offer a short prayer, then move through the house sprinkling the holy water and chanting the Theophany hymn. Everyone then gathers back together and the Priest will offer a prayer and blessing for all who are present. It usually takes less than fifteen minutes.

If you want him to pray for any members of your family or friends, also have a piece of paper with first names of the living on one side and those who have passed on the other.

Please call, 781-468-8709, or text or email Father James at, dnjamesirving@gmail.com, to schedule a time for him to come and bless your home.

THE SYNAXARION

On February 1 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Tryphon of Syria; and Martyr Perpetua of Carthage and her four companions.

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist.

Verses

If you resemble the Pharisee, run far away from the Temple; For inside is Christ before Whom only the humble are acceptable.

Verses for the Triodion

O Creator of everything heavenly and earthly, receive Thou from the Angels a Trinitarian song, And from us men a noble and reverent Triodion.

In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert and prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights.

Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save 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.
