
St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

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Sunday, April 19, 2026

Sunday of Great and All-Holy Pascha

Sunday of Thomas the Apostle, Called "The Twin"

**Hieromartyr Paphnoutios of Jerusalem; Tryphon,
patriarch of Constantinople**

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.

APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE SEVEN: While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

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.

MEGALYNARION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE ONE: O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THOMAS SUNDAY (Psalm 147:1)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia.

Albanian: Krishti Ungjall! Vertete Ungjall!

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!

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, April 18**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, April 19**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 AM 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, April 25**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, April 26**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 AM 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!

THE EPISTLE

Great is our Lord, and great is His strength.

Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be to you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be to you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, you have believed because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

CHRIST IS RISEN

A very big thank you to all who helped make our celebration of Pascha at Saint Michael such a wonderful and joyous time. There are too many names to mention - from those who cleaned and prepared the church and grounds, those who decorated, colored eggs, arranged flowers, cooked, prepared and served food (and cleaned up), to David and Anastasia and the choir who provided enormously beautifying music, and Subdeacon Joseph leading the altar servers and helping coordinate services, to those who donated time and money, and to those who attended and worshipped with us through Holy Week and Pascha - we truly had a community coming together in Christ.

EASTER MEALS THANK YOU

Thank you to all for helping with Easter Meals donation to Independence House. There is still time to help defray the cost of 30 meals / Easter candy / grocery store gift cards.

We received the following note from the Director of Development of Independence House:

"Thank you so much for... the incredibly generous Easter items... wow! 30 gift cards, 50 candy bags, and 30 hams—this is truly amazing.

We are beyond grateful for your continued support and kindness. This generosity will bring magic to our families for the holiday."

Your gifts have impacted the lives of these families and made them seen. Independence House offers services for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. They provide free and confidential critical response programs to victims and prevention programs.

THANK YOU. If you want to help with this project financially, please see Emma or Soraya.

If you would like to join the Outreach team for future projects, we welcome the input, ideas and help. Please speak with Emma or Soraya.

CAMP ST. JOSEPH ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS

The official summer camp of the Diocese of Worcester & New England, Camp St. Joseph of Damascus offers a joyful, faith-centered experience for youth ages 9–17. Camp runs August 10–16, 2026. Learn more and register at <https://campstjoseph.org/>



A one-week Orthodox summer experience YOUR CHILD WILL REMEMBER

- ✓ Rooted in Faith – Daily prayer, worship, and Orthodox community
- ✓ Built on Fellowship – Friendships that form in a nurturing environment
- ✓ Full of Summer Fun – Water activities, games, and fun team competitions

Location

Hosted at a lakeside campground in the Berkshires of Massachusetts. Conveniently located—about two hours from most churches in the Diocese.



**CAMP ST. JOSEPH
OF DAMASCUS**

Registration is now open

Scan with your phone app to visit campstjoseph.org and learn more.

Staff applications welcome for adults ages 18 and older.



THE SYNAXARION

On April 19 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Hieromartyr Paphnoutios of Jerusalem; and Tryphon, patriarch of Constantinople.

On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side.

Verses

*If the seals of the Virgin's womb and of the grave did not hinder Thee,
How could the seals of the doors hinder Thy might, O Savior?*

This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha" because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. Starting with this day, the Church dedicates Sunday to the celebration of the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered on Pascha, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate with His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's wounds—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later, Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel His wounds. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ.

By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

SAVE THE DATE

- May 9: **DOWNE SOYO Spring Retreat** - Worcester
- June 20: **Parish Life Conference** - St. George W. Roxbury

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.
