St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York &
Metropolitan of all North America
His Grace Bishop THOMAS, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland & MidAtlantic
The Very Reverend Father Samuel Haddad, Pastor
Deacon Matthew Benefield
211 South Heber Street ☙ POB 5026 ☙ Beckley, WV 25801
Parish (304) 252-5821 - Cell (304) 541-8550 (*use this to contact Fr. Samuel*)
fr.samuel@att.net **www.orthodoxbeckley.org**

Tone 1 **March 29, 2026** Eothinon 9

Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt

Martyr Mark, bishop of Arethusa, Martyr Cyril the deacon of Heliopolis and those with them; Martyrs Jonah and Barachisios of Persia and those with them

Today's Reader: Varik Meiggs

Next Sunday– April 5, 2026

Reader: **Christopher Clay**

Commemorations/Bread Offering for the Holy Oblation: **Yelena Johnson**

The Luncheon next Sunday will be POT-LUCK

Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered for the for the health & salvation of Joshua, Amara, Joseph, Elana, Markella, Timothy, Erin, Zachariah, Caleb, Allyssa, Mathew, Rebecca, Shawna, Gregory, Gabriel. Cassandra, Chase, Morganne, Nathaniel, Grace, George, and Christine.

It is also offered in memory of Markella, Ronald, Joseph, Constance, Rafael, Bonnie, Theodore, James, Kathy, Yevone, Jamie, James.

"the Disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)

Please note that **Holy Communion is reserved for members of the Holy Orthodox Church** who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession. However, all are welcome to partake of the blessed bread at the dismissal.

Please join us during our fellowship at the Coffee Hour immediately after the Divine Liturgy.

Important Announcements . . .

As we continue our journey in this blessed season of Great Lent, let us all remember to set aside time to pray, to fast, and to do works of mercy for those who need mercy. Enter into the Fast with joy in your heart, and humility in the face of God. This is a great time of preparation, and part of that preparation is a sincere self-evaluation and heartfelt confession. Fr. Samuel is available to hear your confession during Great Lent, and at the times listed in the coming week's schedule, or by appointment.

Please take a moment to make note of the Divine Services offered during Great Lent and Holy Week and put them on your personal calendar. Check the services in each week's Bulletin as changes can occur . During this Holy Season, we offer increased prayers to God, and I hope that you can come to many of the services that are offered. May God bless your Journey to Pascha!

Services in the Coming Week

3/29/26 (Sun)	**O,DL**	**Sunday of the St. Mary of Egypt**
4/1/26 (Wed)	**6:00 pm**	**Presanctified Divine Liturgy followed by presentation**
4/2/26 (Thu)	**6:00 pm**	**Great Compline**
4/3/26 (Fri)	**6:00 pm**	**Little Compline w/Canon of the Raising of Lazarus**
4/425 (Sat)	**10:00 am**	**Chrismation—Anthony Pompeii**
		Divine Liturgy (Chrysostom) for Lazarus Saturday
	12:00 pm	**Baptism—Eowyn Williams**
	5:00 pm	**Festal Great Vespers for Palm Sunday**
4/5/26 (Sun)	**9:20 am**	**Palm Sunday Orthros**
	10:30 am	**Divine Liturgy Followed by the Procession with Palms**
4/5/26 (Sun)	**6:00 pm**	**Bridegroom Service**

The Luncheon next Sunday will be POT-LUCK

"Blessings Box" Collection Update

Beloved in Christ,
This year, we are collecting non-perishable food for our new BLESSING BOX! PLEASE KEEP BRINGING FOOD so that we may continue to stock our shelves and have food to stock adequately. We need to continue our efforts in providing food for those who are truly Hungry. God bless everyone for your holy efforts!

Tone 1 **Fifth Sunday of Great Lent** Eothinon 9

Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt

Martyr Mark, bishop of Arethusa, Martyr Cyril the deacon of Heliopolis and those with them; Martyrs Jonah and Barachisios of Persia and those with them

Troparion of the Resurrection, *in the First Tone*

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.

Troparion of Saint Mary of Egypt *, in the Eighth Tone*

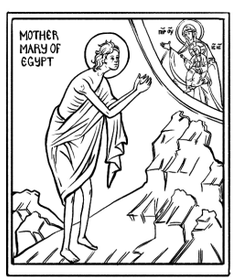
Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

Troparion of St. Nicholas, *in the Fourth Tone*

Thy righteous acts have manifested thee to thy flock as a model of faith, a reflection of humility, and a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nicholas. Therefore, through humility thou hast achieved exaltation, and through poverty riches. Intercede thou with Christ to save our souls.

Kontakion of the Sundays of Great Lent*, in the Eighth Tone*

O Victorious Leader, we thy servants ascribe to thee our victory trophy. And since thou hast saved us from adversity we offer thee our thanks, O Theotokos. So as thou hast that invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger. That we may cry out to thee: Hail O Bride without Bridegroom!



Epistle

Hebrews 9:11-14

Prokeimenon: Make your vows to the Lord our God, and perform them.
Verse: Our God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Gospel

Mark 10:32-45

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise.” And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, “Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire” And Jesus said to them, “What do you want Me to do for you?” And they said to Him, “Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” And they said to Him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, “You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Lenten Synaxarion

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

"On this day, the fifth Sunday of the Fast, we have been enjoined to make commemoration of our righteous Mother Mary of Egypt."

She, while yet twelve years of age, came to Alexandria unbeknownst to her parents, and there lived a profligate life for seventeen years. Afterwards, being moved by curiosity, she departed with many other worshippers for Jerusalem, in order to be present for the Exaltation of the Precious Cross. There, she gave herself over to every form of licentiousness and impropriety, and dragged many others down to the depths of destruction. On the day in which the Cross was exalted, she, when she desired to enter the church, felt some invisible power preventing her from passing through the entrance, though she tried a third and even a fourth time, and though the multitude that was with her passed through the same entrance unhindered. Because her heart was wounded by this, she decided to change her life, and to propitiate God through repentance. And thus when she returned to the church, she entered easily therein. After venerating the Precious Cross, that very day she withdrew from Jerusalem, passed over the Jordan, entered the inner regions of the desert, and there she lived the hardest life, a super-human life, for forty-seven years, praying to God alone.

Concerning the end of her life: After meeting a certain monastic, Zosimas by name, and fully recounting to him her life from the beginning, she begged him to bring to her the spotless mysteries for Communion. And he did this very thing the following year, on Holy Thursday. The year after that, Zosimas, coming once again, found her dead, stretched out upon the earth; and beside her was written the following: "Abba Zosimas, bury here the body of wretched Mary. I departed in death the very day in which I communed of the spotless mysteries. Pray for me." Her death took place in the year 378.

The memory of this righteous woman is celebrated on the first of every April; but the same is also appointed for today, since the end of the sacred forty-day fast now draws near, in order to rouse the slothful and the sinners unto repentance, since they have an example in her, the Saint who is being celebrated.

Through her intercessions, O God,
have mercy on us and save us.
Amen.

2026 Great Lent

3/29/26 (Sun)	O,DL	Sunday of the St. Mary of Egypt
4/1/26 (Wed)	6:00 pm	Presanctified Divine Liturgy followed by presentation
4/2/26 (Thu)	6:00 pm	Great Compline
4/3/26 (Fri)	6:00 pm	Little Compline w/Canon of the Raising of Lazarus

Great and Holy Week

4/425 (Sat)	10:00 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	Chrismation—Anthony Pompeii Divine Liturgy (Chrysostom) for Lazarus Saturday Baptism—Eowyn Williams Festal Great Vespers for Palm Sunday
4/5/26 (Sun)	9:20 am 10:30 pm	Palm Sunday Orthros and Divine Liturgy Followed by the Procession with Palms
4/5/26 (Sun)	6:00 pm	Bridegroom Service
4/6/26 (Mon)	9:00 am	Presanctified Divine Liturgy
4/6/26 (Mon)	6:00 pm	Bridegroom Service
4/7/26 (Tue)	9:00 am	Presanctified Divine Liturgy
4/7/26 (Tue)	6:00 pm	Bridegroom Service
4/8/26 (Wed)	9:00 am	Presanctified Divine Liturgy
4/8/26 (Wed)	6:00 pm	Holy Unction
4/9/26 (Thu)	9:00 am	Divine Liturgy of Holy Thursday
4/9/26 (Thu)	6:00 pm	12 Passion Gospels
4/10/26 (Fri)	9:00 am	Royal Hours – 1st and 3rd Hour (decorate the Tomb afterward)
4/10/26 (Fri)	12:00 pm	Royal Hours – 6th and 9th Hour (decorate the Tomb afterward)
4/10/26 (Fri)	3:00 pm	Taking Down from the Cross Vespers
4/10/26 (Fri)	6:00 pm	Lamentations
4/11/26 (Sat)	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy Great and Holy Saturday
4/11/26 (Sat)	10:00 pm	Rush Service Paschal Orthros Paschal Divine Liturgy Paschal Banquet in the Church Hall
4/12/25 (Sun)	11:00 am	Agape Vespers Service Followed by Open House, Lunch and Easter Egg

Calendar for the Week of March 29, 2026	Saints of the Day
Sunday—March 29, 2026 Sunday of St Mary of Egypt 9:25 am - Orthros 9:30 am - High School 10:00 am – Youth Ministry 10:30 am - Divine Liturgy After Liturgy- Junior &Youngsters Church School	Mark, the Righteous Bishop of Arethusa; Cyril the Deacon & Martyr, and His Companions
Monday— March 30, 2026 Strict Fast	St. John of the Ladder; Holy Martyr Euboula
Tuesday—March 31, 2026 Strict Fast	Holy Hieromartyr Hypatios, Bishop of Gangra
Wednesday—April 1, 2026 Strict Fast 6:00 pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy Pot-luck Lenten Dinner/Presentation	St. Mary of Egypt
Thursday—April 2, 2026 Strict Fast 6:00 pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy Pot-luck Lenten Dinner/Presentation	St. Titus the Wonderworker
Friday—April 3, 2026 Strict Fast 6:00 Canon of the Raising of Lazarus w/Little Compline	St. Nicetas the Confessor; St. Joseph the Hymnographer
Saturday—April 4, 2026 Strict Fast 10:00 am Chrismation of Antony Pompeii Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday 12:00 pm Baptism of Eowyn Williams 1:30 pm Brunch for Lazarus Saturday 5:00 pm Great Vespers-Confessions	**Lazarus Saturday**
Sunday—April 5, 2026 Palm Sunday 9:25 am - Festal Orthros 9:30 am - High School 10:00 am – Youth Ministry 10:30 am - Festal Divine Liturgy & Procession After Liturgy- Junior &Youngsters Church School 1:30 pm - Choir Practice 6:00 - Bridegroom Service	**Palm Sunday**

Please note that Confessions are heard at the time noted above in the coming week's schedule, or by appointment by calling Fr. Samuel at: ((304) 541-8550

We Congratulate the Servants of God

Joshua and Amara Tomaino

and their children

Joseph , Alayna, and Markella

Who Have been Received into the

Holy Orthodox Faith

By the Sacraments of Baptism & Chrismation

May God Grant them
Many, Many Years!

It is with Great Joy, we Announce
Reception into the Holy Orthodox Faith
the Servants of God

Anthony Pompeii

By the Sacrament of Chrismation

And the Child of God

Eowyn Williams

By the Sacraments of Baptism & Chrismation

Saturday, April 4, 2026 at 11:00 am

All the Faithful of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
are invited to witness this blessed event

A Reception will follow in the Church Hall