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**

April 19, 2026

New Sunday or Anti-Pascha

Sunday of Thomas the Apostle, Called "The Twin"

Hieromartyr Paphnoutios of Jerusalem; Tryphon, patriarch of Constantinople

Today's Reader: Dan Lively

Next Sunday – April 26, 2026

Reader for April 26, 2026: **Matushka Loretta**

Commemorations and Bread Offering: ***The Zaferatos Family***
Luncheon for Next Sunday will be prepared by the ***Deighan and Shammaa Families***

Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered for the for the health & salvation of Dan & Maria, Archpriest Samuel & Matushka Loretta, Archimandrite Ioakeim, Akrivi, Anastasios, Alexandra, Anastasia, Porfyrios, Mary, John, George, Virginia, their Godchildren and all family members.

It is also offered in memory of Konstantinos, John, Elizabeth, Charalambos, Alexandra, Anastasios, Maria, Stamatis & Helen,

"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 . . .

Again, God Bless you!. . . to everyone for a most blessed Holy Week and Pascha. Truly, our parish family came together in unity and love for this extraordinary journey. May the Light that shines from the empty tomb fill your hearts with joy and hope during this Holy Season, and always.

Christ is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!

In the coming Sundays, we will collect your donations for the Food For Hungry People Program. If you would like to contribute, please make a check made out to St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, earmarked "Food for Hungry" and one check will be sent to the Archdiocese for the total amount collected.

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!
Christos Anesti! Alethos Anesti! (Greek)
Al-Maseeu qam! Haqqan qam! (Arabic)
Christos Vokrese! Voistinu Voskrese! (Slavonic)

"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!

New Sunday or Anti-Pascha

Sunday of Thomas the Apostle, Called "The Twin"

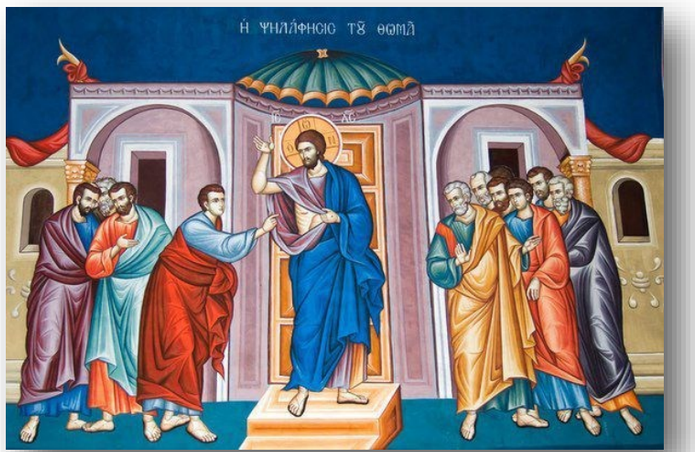
Hieromartyr Paphnoutios of Jerusalem; Tryphon, patriarch of Constantinople

Troparion of Thomas Sunday, *in the Seventh Tone*

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Light. 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 the Eighth Tone*

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.



Epistle

Acts 5:12-20

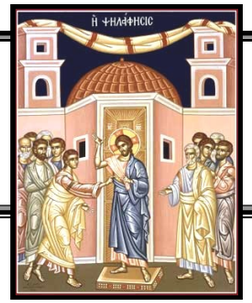
Prokeimenon: Great is our Lord, and great is His strength. Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.

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."

Gospel

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 with 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 with 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 with 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, "Have you 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.



Sunday of St. Thomas

This Sunday commemorates the appearance of the Lord to the Apostles after His resurrection and the touching of His wounds by the Apostle Thomas. The appearance of the risen Lord to the Apostle Thomas and all the eleven is selected for the first Sunday after the Paschal Sunday because the circumstances of this appearance serve as the indisputable proof of the resurrection of the Lord from the tomb, "as from the chamber, with His immaculate flesh". It assures not only believers and the amazed of the joy of all the followers of the Lord, but even the infidel pagans and the enemies of Christ the Savior – the Judeans. It assures that by the power of His Divinity Jesus Christ is risen again from the tomb, that after the resurrection He did not have an imaginary or illusory flesh in which form the bodiless spirits or inhabitants of heaven are vested when they sometimes appear to us or to the holy brethren, but the real immaculate flesh which He has assumed from the womb of the All-holy Theotokos, with which He was nailed to the cross and on which there remained wounds even after the Resurrection.

The eighth day after Pascha as the ending of the celebration of Bright Week was a special celebration since ancient times, as if it replaced the very same Day of Pascha and was called *Antipascha*, and means *instead of Pascha*. From this day the cycle of Sundays and weeks of the entire year begins. On this day the commemoration of the resurrection of Christ is updated for the first time. This Sunday of the Antipascha was called the New Sunday, i.e. the first *day of renewal* or simply *renewal*. The more proper name is the real day, the eighth day after Pascha, that on this eighth day the Lord Himself willed the renewal of the joy of His Resurrection with a new appearance to the Holy Apostles.

Calendar for the Week of April 19, 2026	Great & Holy Week
Sunday—April 5, 2026 Thomas Sunday **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**	Martyr among Priests Paphnutius
Monday— April 20, 2026	Theodore the Righteous of Trichinos
Tuesday—April 21, 2026	Martyr among Priests Januaius
Wednesday—April 22, 2026 **Note: We will not be serving the Midweek Vespers until further notice.**	Theodore the Righteous of Syceum
Thursday—April 23, 2026	Great Saint among Martyrs, the Victory Clad George
Friday—April 24, 2026	Elizabeth the Righteous Wonderworker
Saturday—April 25, 2026 **5:00 pm Great Vespers** **Confessions afterward**	Mark the Evangelical Apostle
Sunday—April 26, 2026 Sunday Holy Myrrhbearers **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**	Martyr Basil Bishop of Amasia

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) 254-0470, (304) 562-9129, or (304) 541-8550.