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
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Tone 2 **April 26, 2026** Eothinon 4

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN,
PIOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA & RIGHTEOUS NICODEMUS

Today's Reader: Matushka Loretta

Next Sunday – May 3, 2026

Reader for May 3, 2026: **Ryan Jackson**

Commemorations and Bread Offering: **Sdn. James and Nancy Nemitz**

Luncheon for Next Sunday Will Be POT-LUCK (Bring a dish to share!)

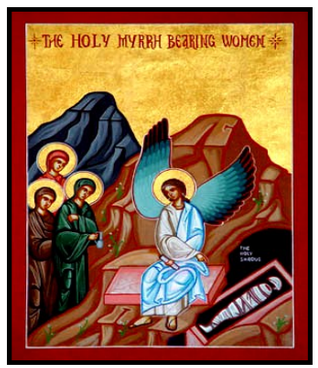
Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered by the Zaferatos Family for the health & salvation of Jerry, Kathy & Family; Dennis, Misty & Family, Teresa & Family, Sdn George & all the members of the Zaferatos Family.

It is also offered in loving memory of Billie, Konstantinos and all the departed members of the Zaferatos Family.

"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 . . .

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.

Next Sunday (May 3) there will be a Parish Council Meeting. If you cannot attend, please seen Sdn. James at the Coffee Hour today.

Luncheon for Next Sunday Will Be POT-LUCK (Bring a dish to share!)

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!

Tone 2 Eothinon 4

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women
Pious Joseph of Arimathaea & Righteous Nicodemus

Troparion of the Resurrection, *in the Second Tone*

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

Troparion of Joseph of Arimathea, *in the Second Tone*

The noble Joseph, taking Thine immaculate Body down from the Tree, and having wrapped It in pure linen and spices, laid It for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day Thou didst arise, O Lord, granting to the world Great Mercy.

Troparion of the Myrrh-Bearers, *in the Second Tone*

Unto the myrrh-bearing women did the Angel cry out as he stood by the grave: Myrrh-oils are meet for the dead, but Christ hath proved to be a stranger to corruption. But cry out: The Lord is risen, granting to the world Great Mercy.

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 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 6:1-7

Prokeimenon: The Lord is my strength and my song.
Verse: With chastisement has the Lord chastened me

In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: “It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Próchoros, and Nikánor, and Tímon, and Parmenás, and Nikólaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel

Mark 15:43-16:8

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was passed, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?” And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He has risen, He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His Disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Sunday of the Holy Myrrh Bearers

At the beginning of the year 32, Jesus frequently came to Galilee, preaching and performing miracles. Many women left their homes and followed Him, ministering unto Him out of their own means, even when He was on the Cross and in the sepulchre. Finally they went with ointment, which they had prepared to anoint His body. And from this they were called ointment-bearing women. We know the names of only seven of these. They are those named Mary the Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, the wife of Cleophas, Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod Antipas' steward, Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Susanna, and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. As for the rest, the Evangelists are silent concerning their names.

Along with these we celebrate also in honour of Joseph and Nicodemus, who were two Disciples of Christ, secretly at the beginning. It is probable that Nicodemus was a Jerusalemite, one of the leaders of the Jews, of the sect of the Pharisees, versed in the law and the Holy Scriptures. Early in the Preaching of salvation, Nicodemus believed in Christ, having come to Him at night. And at His Burial also he came carrying a mixture of myrrh and aloes, a hundred menas in weight, or a hundred pounds, for the purpose of scenting and embalming, and as a gesture of reverence and love to the Divine Master. Joseph, on the other hand, was a rich and noble man of the city of Ramah, or Arimathea, and one of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. At the death of Jesus, he ventured to approach Pilate and ask for the undefiled body of Christ, and he and Nicodemus accompanied it to the sepulchre and buried it there. It was said that the garden where Jesus was buried was one of the possessions of Joseph, and that he had prepared therin a tomb for himself, hewed in the rock. As time did not permit the digging out of another tomb and preparing it, he placed the body of Jesus in his own tomb. That seems to be the m eaning of Matthew the Evangelist when he says, "And laid it in his own tomb, which he had hewn out of the rock."

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Please keep in you prayers the following , as their loved ones have make Paschal offerings asking that they be remembered:

For The Living

Johnson's, Mararenko's. Vandell's,
Gattaullin's and Soyring's

For the Departed

Jamie and James Tomaino
Nelly Marinor
Gary Carter
Roman, Zinaida, Anastasia,
and other Friends and Family

Calendar: April-June 2026

4/26/2026 (Sun)		Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers
5/3/2026 (Sun)		Sunday of the Paralytic
5/6/2026 (Wed)		Feast of Mid-Pentecost
5/10/2026 (Sun)		Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
5/17/2026 (Sun)		Sunday of the Blindman
5/20/2026 (Wed)		Leave-taking of Pascha
5/20/2026 (W/ed)	6:00 pm	Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord
5/21/2025 (Thu)		Feast of the Ascension
5/24/2026 (Sun)		Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council
5/30/2026 (Sat)	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy for All Souls Saturday
5/31/2026 (Sun)		Holy Pentecost
6/1/2026 (Mon)		Holy Spirit Day
6/7/2026 (Sun)		All Saints Day
The Apostle's Fast 6/8/2026 - 6/28/2026		
6/24/2026		Feast of the Nativity of the Forerunner John the Baptist
6/29/2026 (Mon)	10:00 am	Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul
6/30/2026 (Tue)		Synaxis of the 12 Apostles

Calendar for the Week of April 26, 2026	Great & Holy Week
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
Monday— April 27, 2026	The Martyr among Priests Simeon, the kinsman of the Lord
Tuesday—April 28, 2026	Nine Martyrs of Cyzicus
Wednesday—April 29, 2026 **Note: We will not be serving the Midweek Vespers until further notice.**	The Two Apostles, Jason and Sosipater
Thursday—April 30, 2026	James, the Apostle, brother of John the Evangelist
Friday—May 1, 2026	Jeremiah the Prophet
Saturday—May 2, 2026 **5:00 pm Great Vespers** **Confessions afterward**	Translation of the Body of Athanasius the Great
Sunday—May 3, 2026 Sunday the Paralytic **9:25 am - Orthros** **10:30 am - Divine Liturgy** **1:30 pm - Parish Council Meeting** **1:30 pm - Youth Activity**	Timothy and Marura the Martyrs

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.