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
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Tone 5 **May 17, 2026** Eothinon 7

Sixth Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Blind Man

Apostles Andronikos and Junia of the Seventy;
Athanasios the New, bishop of Christianopolis

Today's Reader: Evelyn Clay

Next Sunday – May 24, 2026

Reader for May 17, 2026: **Corey Sparks**

Commemorations and Bread Offering: **Michael & Christine Cacic Family**

Luncheon for Next Sunday will be prepared by the Lowen, Sparks, & Tomaino Families

Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered for Roger, Krystal, Sophia and the members of the Cantley and Chapmen Families.

It is offered in loving memory of the departed members of the Cantley and Chapman Families.

"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 . . .

During the coming week, we will observe the conclusion of this year's Paschal Feast with the leave-taking on Wednesday, May 20th. That evening, the eve of the Great Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the Feast at 6:00 pm. Please make plans to attend this very important Festal Celebration!

The Parish Council will meet today at 1:30 pm in the Conference Room.

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 5

Sixth Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Blind Man

Eothinon 7

Apostles Andronikos and Junia of the Seventy;
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Troparion of the Resurrection, *in the Fifth Tone*

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

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 16:16-34

Prokeimenon: Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and preserve us.
Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath failed.

In those days, as we Apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I charge you in the Name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, “These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice.” The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened and every one’s fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, “Men, what must I do to be saved?” And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Gospel

John 9:1-38

At that time, when Jesus was passing, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His Disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him Who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” As He said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man’s eyes with the clay, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” [which means Sent]. So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, “Is not this the man who used to sit

Gospel *con’t on following insert*

Gospel *Cont.*

and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped Him.

Sunday of the Blind Man

The Lord Jesus was coming from the Temple on the Sabbath when, while walking in the way, He saw the blind man mentioned in today's Gospel This man had been born thus from his mother's womb that is he had been born without eyes. When the disciples saw this they asked their Teacher "Who sinned this man or his parents that he was born blind?" They asked this because when the Lord had healed the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool :e had told him "Sin no more lest a worse thing happen to thee" (Hn 5 14) so they wondered if sickness was caused by sin what sin could have been the cause of his being born without eyes. But the Lord answered that this was for the glory of God. Then the God-man spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle. He anointed the eyes of the blind man and said to him "Go wash in the pool of Siloam " Siloam (which means "sent") was a well-known spring in Jerusalem used by the inhabitants for its waters, which flowed to the eastern side of the city and collected in a large pool called "the Pool of Siloam "

Therefore, the Savior sent the blind man to this pool that he might wash his eyes, which had been anointed with clay—not that pool's water had such power but that the faith and obedience of the one sent might be made manifest, and that the miracle might become more remarkable and known to all and leave no room for doubt Thus the blind man believed in Jesus' words, obeyed His command, went and washed himself, and returned, no longer blind, but having eyes and seeing. This was the greatest miracle that our Lord had yet worked; as the man healed of his blindness himself testified "Since time began never was it heard that any man opened the eyes of one that had been born blind " although the Lord had already healed the blind eyes of many. Because he now had eyes, some even doubted that he was the same person (John 9:8-9); and it was still lively in their remembrance when Christ came to the tomb of Lazarus, for they said "Could not this man who opened the eyes of the blind man have caused that even this man should not have died?"

Calendar: May-June 2026

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 May 17, 2026

Saints of the Day

Sunday—May 17, 2026 — Sunday of the Blind Man
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
1:30 pm - Parish Council Meeting

The Apostles Andronicus and Junia of the Seventy

Monday— May 18, 2026

Martyrs Peter, Dionysius, Christina, Andrew, and Paul

Tuesday—May 19, 2026

Epiphanius Bishop of Cyprus
Germanus of Constantinople

Wednesday—May 20, 2026
6:00 pm Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord

Leave-taking of Holy Pascha
Thalelius the Martyr

Thursday—May 21, 2026

Feast of the Ascension

Friday—May 22, 2026

Basil the Martyr

Saturday—May 23, 2026
5:00 pm Great Vespers
Confessions afterward

Michael the Confessor

Sunday—May 24, 2026 — Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council
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

Simeon the Righteous

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.