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 6 **July 19, 2026** Eothinon 7

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of Fourth Ecumenical Council

Venerable Macrina, sister of Basil the Great; Venerable Dios of Antioch; Translation of the Holy Relics of Righteous Seraphim of Sarov

Today's Reader: Rdr John Stroud

Next Sunday – July 26, 2026

Reader for July 26, 2026: **Varic Meiggs**

Commemorations and Bread Offering for July 26: **The Meiggs Family**

Luncheon for Next Sunday will be prepared by the Casic and Meiggs Families

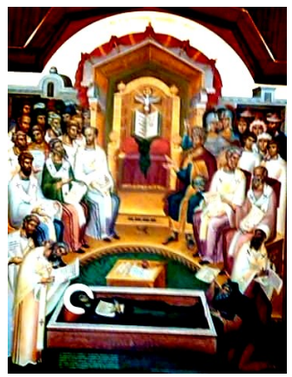
Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered for the health and salvation of Father Daniel, Deacon Cyril, Dan, Lisa, Justin, Krysta, Alex, Leo, Stephen, Opal, Natalia, Liza, Katya, Elizabeth, Michael, Annie, Emma, Rachel, Jim, Edie, Dominic, Desmond, Barbara, the members of the Hardway and Hancock families.

It is also offered in loving memory of Shirley, Jack, Judy, Walter, Marie, Laverne, Jonathan, Mabel, James, Brownie, Bud, Sharon, Carol, Pat and the departed members of the Hardway and Hancock 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.



Make Note of the Following Dates

July 26 (Sun)	1:15 pm (Next Sunday) Meeting of the Women of the Holy Myrrh Bearers in the Church
Aug 1 (Sat)	Beginning of the Dormition Fast (Aug 1 ~ Aug 14
Aug 2 (Sun)	1:30 pm ~ Meeting of the Men's Fellowship of St Seraphim of Sarov
Aug 3 (Mon)	5:00 pm Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
Aug 5 (Wed)	6:00pm ~ Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Transfiguration
Aug 7 (Fri)	5:00 pm ~ Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
Aug 10 (Mon)	5:00pm ~ Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
Aug 12 (Wed)	5:00pm ~ Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
Aug 14 (Fri)	5:00pm ~ Great Vespers for the Feast of the Dormition
Aug 15 (Sat)	10:00am ~ Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Dormition
Aug 16 (Sun)	1:30pm ~ Parish Council Meeting

"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 6 Eothinon 7

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of Fourth Ecumenical Council

Venerable Macrina, sister of Basil the Great; Venerable Dios of Antioch; Translation of the Holy Relics of Righteous Seraphim of Sarov

Troparion of the Resurrection, *in the Sixth Tone*

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion for the Holy Fathers, *in the Eighth Tone*

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise, Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

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 for Ordinary Sundays, *in the Fourth Tone*

O Undisputed intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix who is unrejected by the Creator, turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners. Come to us in time with aid, as we cry unto thee in faith; for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions O Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

Epistle

Titus 3:8-15

Prokeimenon: Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers .
Verse: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done.

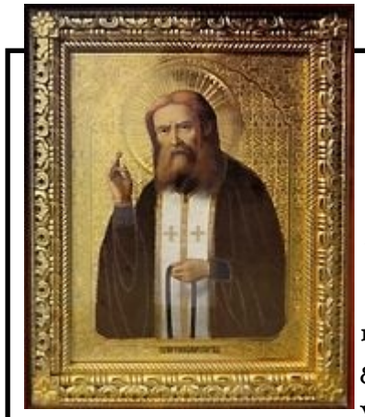
Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel

Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to His Disciples: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Gospel *con't on following insert*



Translation of the Holy Relics of Righteous Seraphim of Sarov

July 19

The uncovering of the holy relics of Saint Seraphim of Sarov on July 19, 1903 was attended by many thousands, among them the foremost of the clergy and royalty; the holy Tsar Nicholas II (see July 4) was one of the bearers of the relics in procession, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth (see July 5) wrote an eyewitness account of the many miracles that took place. Not only had the Saint foretold the coming of the Tsar to his glorification, and that from joy they would chant "Christ is Risen" in summer, but he had also left a letter "for the fourth sovereign, who will come to Sarov." This was Nicholas II, who was given the letter when he came in 1903; the contents of the letter are not known, but when he had read it, the Tsar and future Martyr, though not a man to show his emotions, was visibly shaken.

Apolytikion of Relics of Seraphim of Sarov
Fourth Tone

Thou didst love Christ from thy youth, O blessed one, and ardently desiring to work for Him alone, thou didst struggle in the wilderness with constant prayer and labour; and having acquired love for Christ with compunction of heart, thou didst prove to be the beloved favourite of the Mother of God. Wherefore, we cry to thee: Save us by thy prayers, O Seraphim, our holy Father.

Kontakion of Relics of Seraphim of Sarov
Second Tone

Having left the beauty of the world and what is corrupt therein, O Saint, thou didst settle in the Monastery of Sarov. And having lived there an angelic life, thou wast for many the way unto salvation. Wherefore, Christ hath glorified thee, O Father Seraphim, and hath enriched thee with the gift of healing and miracles. And so we cry to thee: Rejoice, O Seraphim, our holy Father.

THE UNCOVERING OF THE RELICS OF ST SERAPHIM OF SAROV

This is the "summer feast" for St Seraphim of Sarov. Here are some of his sayings.

Acquire the spirit of peace and a thousand souls around you will be saved.

"...the Lord has frequently demonstrated before many witnesses how the grace of the Holy Spirit acts on people whom He has sanctified and illumined by His great inspirations. Remember Moses after his talk with God on Mount Sinai. He so shone with an extraordinary light that people were unable to look at him. He was even forced to wear a veil when he appeared in public. Remember the Transfiguration of the Lord on Mount Tabor. A great light encircled Him, 'and His raiment became shining, exceedingly white like snow' (Mk.. 9:3), and His disciples fell on their faces from fear. But when Moses and Elias appeared to Him in that light, a cloud overshadowed them in order to hide the radiance of the light of the divine grace which blinded the eyes of the disciples. Thus the grace of the All-Holy Spirit of God appears in an ineffable light to all to whom God reveals its action." St. Seraphim of Sarov, Little Russian Philokalia V, St. Herman of Alaska Brotherhood pg 98

Let us go forward with the heart completely attentive and the soul fully conscious. For if attentiveness and prayer are daily joined together, they become like Elias' fire-bearing chariot, raising us to heaven. What do I mean? A spiritual heaven, with sun, moon and stars, is formed in the blessed heart of one who has reach a state of watchfulness, or who strives to attain it.

Thus should we weep for the forgiveness of our sins. The words of the bearer of the purple should convince us of this: 'Going they went and wept, casting their seed; but coming they shall come with joyfulness, carrying their sheaves (Ps. 125:6);' as well as the words of St. Isaac the Syrian: 'Moisten your cheeks with the tears of your eyes, that the Holy Spirit may abide in you, and cleanse the filth of your malice. Move your lord with your tears, that He may help you' (homily 68).
One should always endure any trial for the sake of God with gratitude. Our life is a single minute in comparison with eternity; and therefore, according to the Apostle, ` the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be comparted with the glory which shall be revealed in us' (Rom. 8:18). Spiritual Instruction of St. Seraphim of Sarov

From solitude and silence are born tender contrition, and meekness; the activity of this latter in the human heart may be compared to that quiet water of Siloe, which flows without noise or sound, as the Prophet Isaiah speaks of it: 'the waters of Siloe that go softly' (Is. 8:6). St. Seraphim of Sarov, Little Russian Philokalia, Vol. 1

Sin, to one who loves God, is nothing other than an arrow from the enemy in battle. The true Christian is a warrior fighting his way through the regiments of the unseen enemy to his heavenly homeland. According to the word of the Apostle, our homeland is in heaven; and about the warrior he says: 'our warfare is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers.' St. Seraphim of Sarov, Letters, Little Russian Philokalia, V.3

One must condescend to the soul in its infirmities and imperfections, and bear its defects as we bear those of others; one must not, however, become lazy, but should spur oneself to do better. Perhaps one has eaten too much, or done something similar to this which is natural to human weakness – do not be disturbed at this, and do not add injury to injury; but bestir yourself to correction and at the same time strive to preserve peace of soul, according to the word of the Apostle: 'Blessed is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth' (Rom. 14:22). St. Seraphim of Sarov, Little Russian Philokalia, Vol. 1

The body is a slave, the soul a sovereign, and therefore it is due to Divine mercy when the body is worn out by illness: for thereby the passions are weakened, and a man comes to himself; indeed, bodily illness itself is sometimes caused by the passions. St. Seraphim of Sarov, Spiritual Instructions

He who would be saved should ever have his heart disposed to repentance and broken, according to the Psalmist: "Sacrifice to God is a broken spirit: a broken and humbled heart God will not despise" (Ps. 50:17). St Seraphim of Sarov

Calendar: July-August 2026

7/20/2026		Elias the Prophet
7/25/2026		Dormition of the Righteous Anna
7/26/2026	1:15 pm	WHMB Meeting
Dormition Fast 8/1/2026 - 8/14/2026		
8/2/2026	1:30 pm	Men's Fellowship of St Seraphim of Sarov Meeting
8/3/2023 (Mon)	5:00 pm	Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
8/5/2026 (Wed)	6:30 pm	Eve Divine Liturgy—Transfiguration of Our Lord
8/6/2026 (Thu)		Transfiguration of Our Lord
8/7/2026 (Fri)	5:00 pm	Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
8/10/2026 (Fri)	5:00 pm	Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
8/12/2026 (Wed)	5:00 pm	Paraklesis Service (Supplication to the Theotokos)
8/14/2026 (Fri)	5:00 pm	Great Vespers for the Feast of the Dormition
8/15/2026 (Sat)	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy—Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos
8/16/2026 (Sun)	1:30 pm	Parish Council Meeting
8/20/2026		The Prophet Samuel
8/29/2026		The Beheading of John the Baptist

Please Note

Important Announcement about the Parish Library:

- Temporarily, we will be pausing the lending of books from the library as we add new books to our collection. It is my hope that we will complete our work and open it back for lending around September 1.
- If you have books that you have borrowed and are finished reading them, please bring them back and leave them on the Conference Room table so we can include them in our inventory accounting.

Calendar for the Week of July 19, 2026	Saints of the Day
Sunday— July 20, 2026 9:20 am Orthros 10:30 am Divine Liturgy	Macrina, Sister of Basil the Great & Dius the Righteous
Monday— July 21, 2026	Elias the Prophet
Tuesday—July 22, 2026	Simeon and John, his Companion
Wednesday—July 23, 2026 Fast No Daily Vespers Today	Mary Magdalene
Thursday—July 24, 2026	Phocas, Martyr among Priests, and Ezekial the
Friday—July 25, 2026 Fast	Christina the Great Martyr
Saturday—July 26, 2026 5:00 pm Great Vespers Confessions afterward	Dormition of the Righteous Anna
Sunday—July 27, 2026 9:20 am Orthros 10:30 am Divine Liturgy 1:15 pm Women of the Holy Myyrhbearers Meeting (In the Church)	Prisca the Righteous Martyr & Hermolaus, Martyr among Priests

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.