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 8 — **August 2, 2026** — Eothinon 9

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost & Ninth Sunday of Matthew
Relics Translation of Proto-martyr Stephen the Archdeacon

Venerable Photeini the wonderworker of Carpasia in Cyprus;
Blessed Basil the fool-for-Christ, wonderworker of Moscow

Today's Reader: Michael Cacic

Next Sunday – August 9, 2026

Reader for August 9, 2026: **Dan Lively**

Commemorations and Bread Offering for August 9: **The Lively Family**

Coffee Hour Luncheon next will be prepared by the Haddad and Lively Families

Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered for the health & salvation of the Deacon Matthew, Shaina, Isaiah, and the members of the Benefield and Durbin families.

It is also offered in loving memory of the departed members of the Benefield and Durbin 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:

The Meeting of the Men's Fellowship of St Seraphim of Sarov Originally scheduled for today will be postponed to a date TBA.

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 8 (Sat) 10:00pm—3:00pm WHMB Baby Quilt Workshop (Lunch Provided)
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
Aug 19 (Wed) 5:00pm – Daily Vespers (Return)

We pray that **Kylee Athey** who is departing for **Marshall University** for her first year of studies, and **Elias Keaton** who is departing for **Basic Training in the Navy** will blessed greatly by Our Lord, and granted Peace and Strength!

"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 8 **NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST &** Eothinon 9
NINTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
RELICS TRANSLATION OF PROTO-MARTYR STEPHEN THE ARCHDEACON
VENERABLE PHOTEINI THE WONDERWORKER OF CARPASIA IN CYPRUS;
BLESSED BASIL THE FOOL-FOR-CHRIST, WONDERWORKER OF MOSCOW

Troparion of the Resurrection, *in the Eighth Tone*

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion for Saint Stephen, *in the Fourth Tone*

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head * because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; * for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest * Christ thy Savior standing at the right hand of the Father. * O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

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 Transfiguration, *in the Fourth Tone*

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

Epistle

I Corinthians 3:9–17

Prokeimenon: Make vows to the Lord thy God and perform them.
Verse: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay or straw, each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

Gospel

Matthew 14:22-34

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

Gospel *con't on following insert*

Translation of the relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople

August 2

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Protomartyr Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople took place about the year 428.

After the holy Protomartyr Archdeacon Stephen was stoned by the Jews, they left his holy body unburied to be devoured by the beasts and birds. After a day and a night the renowned Jewish teacher of the Law, Gamaliel sent people to take up the body of the Protomartyr. Gamaliel buried him on his own property, in his own tomb, not far from Jerusalem.

When Lord's secret disciple Nikódēmos died, Gamaliel also buried him near the grave of Saint Stephen. Afterwards Gamaliel himself, who had been baptized with his son Abibas, was buried near the grave of the Protomartyr Stephen and Saint Nikódēmos.

In the year 415 the relics of the saint were uncovered in a miraculous manner and solemnly transferred to Jerusalem by Bishop John and the bishops Eutonius of Sebaste and Eleutherius of Jericho. From that time healings took place from the relics.

Afterwards, during the reign of holy Emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), the relics of the holy Protomartyr Stephen were transferred from Jerusalem to Constantinople and placed in the church of the holy deacon Laurence (August 10). When a church dedicated to the Protomartyr Stephen was built, the relics were transferred there on August 2. Saint Stephen's right hand is preserved in the Serapionov chamber of the Trinity-Sergius Lavra.

THE DORMITION FAST – AN OUTLINE

August 1-14

DAYS	THE HOLY CANONS SPECIFY THE FOLLOWING:	
	Abstinence of:	No Abstinence of:
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Meat & Meat products Dairy products Fish Wine Oil	Fruit Shellfish Vegetables & vegetable products
Saturdays and Sundays		Wine and oil are permitted.
August 6 Feast of the Transfiguration		Fish, wine and oil are permitted

Baby Quilt Workshop!

for Greenbrier County Family Support Center

Sponsored by
St. Nicholas Church
Women of the
Holy Myrrh-bearers

All are Welcome!

Saturday, August 8
10:00 am—3:00 pm

Lunch will be provided

Calendar: July-August 2026

Dormition Fast 8/1/2026 - 8/14/2026		
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)
8/8/2026 (Sat)	10am-3pm	WHMB Baby Quilt Workshop—Lunch provided
8/10/2026 (Mon)	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/Artoklasia
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 August 2, 2026	Saints of the Day
Sunday— August 2, 2026 Fast 9:20 am Orthros 10:30 am Divine Liturgy	Translation of the Bones of Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen
Monday— August 3, 2026 Fast 5:00 pm Paraklesis Service	The Martyrs Isaacisus, Dalmatius, & Faustus
Tuesday—August 4, 2026 Fast	Seven Holy Youths of Ephesus: St. Lugid
Wednesday—August 5, 2026 Fast 6:00 pm Evening Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Transfiguration	Forefeast of Transfiguration, Holy Martyr Evsignios, Holy Martyr Oswald
Thursday—August 6, 2026 Fast	**Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord**
Friday—August 7, 2026 Fast 5:00 pm Paraklesis Service	The Righteous Martyr Domitius
Saturday— August 8, 2026 Fast 10:00 am WHMB Baby Quilt Project 5:00 pm Great Vespers Confessions afterward	Aemilianus the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus
Sunday—August 9, 2026 Fast 9:20 am Orthros 10:30 am Divine Liturgy	The Apostle Matthias

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.