

St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Church

1182 Ashland St., Greensburg, PA 15601

*Diocese of Charleston, Oakland and the Mid-Atlantic
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.*

- **His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH**, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America
- **His Grace Bishop THOMAS**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, Oakland and the Middle Atlantic
- **Archpriest John Nosal**, Pastor

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers, May 12, 2019

*To all who are present with us this morning,
Christ is risen! Thank you for being here.*





The mission of the members of St. Michael's Orthodox Church is to become completely loving people.

(see Lk 10:27) This will occur by the Grace of God as we strive to live holy lives, using the tools He has given us for this endeavor: prayer, fasting, charitable works, and the constant remembrance of death.

TONE 2

Arr: Basil Kazan.

When Thou didst sub - mit Thy - self - un - to death,
O Thou Death - less and Im - mor - - tal One, then Thou didst
de - stroy Hell with Thy God - ly pow'r; and when Thou didst
raise the dead from be - neath the earth, all the pow'rs of
Hea - ven did cry a - loud un - to Thee: O Christ
Thou Gi - ver of Life, glo - - - ry to Thee!

I.O.C.C. SYRIAN CHRISTIAN RELIEF

As the Syrian crisis continues, we continue to accept *donations* to do what we can to help ease the suffering there. Checks may be written to "St. Michael's" with the note "Syrian Relief." The following is a link to International Orthodox Christian Charities ((IOCC) "Response to the Crisis in Syria" page with more information on what you can do to help:

http://www.iocc.org/countries/countries_syria.aspx

Sunday, May 12, 2019

Tone: 2 Eothinon: 4

The Myrrh-Bearing Women, Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus.

Greeting: Christ is risen! **Response:** Indeed, He is risen!

THE EPISTLE READING

Acts of the Apostles (6:1-7)

I**N THOSE DAYS**, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, 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 greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

According to St. Mark (15:43-16:8)

A**T THAT TIME**, Joseph of Arimathaea, 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.

— **bishop THOMAS weekend** —

Friday, June 14 - 6:00 pm — ‘Working’ Dinner at church

Saturday, June 15 - 9 am — Bless the Animals; Brunch
6 pm — Vespers; children & families

Sunday, June 16 - 10 am — Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
Lunch with Bishop THOMAS

***Memorial Prayers will be prayed on Sunday, May 26th,
for the following people who have died during Mays past:***

CYNTHIA Abraham (5/3/1959), **JULIA** Slyman (5/3/1999),
ELSIE Asa (5/10/2003), **ROBERT** Kalp (5/12/2001),
LOUISE Hamwey (5/15/2017), **WALTER** Orange (5/19/1994),
MARY Black (5/22/2011), **AUDREY** Oross (5/24/1998),
LARRY Charley (5/25/2000), **MARY** Volchko (5/26/2008),
JOANNE Abdalah (5/27/2008), **MICHAEL** Asa (5/28/1996).

If you know of others who reposed during the month of May that you would like us to add to this list, call the church office with their names and the dates of their departure from this life.

We are trying to recover a woman’s tan trench/rain coat that seems to have been (mistakenly) removed from the coat rack last Sunday, May 5. So if your coat feels or looks ‘odd’ to you, please return it to the office. ***Thank you.***



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive
SATURDAY, MAY 18TH
9:00AM to 2:30PM

Sign up at entrance to the church.

First Annual
ST. MICHAEL’S CAR WASH

Saturday, May 18

12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM

at Advanced Auto Parts, Latrobe

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall



THE HOLY MYRRH-BEARERS

https://orthodoxwiki.org/Sunday_of_Myrrh-bearing_Women

There are eight women who are generally identified as the myrrh-bearers. Each of the four Gospels gives a different aspect of the roles of these eight women at the cross and at the tomb on Easter morning, perhaps since the eight women arrived in different groups and at different times. The eight are:

- 1) Mary Magdalene, 2) Mary, the Theotokos (the Virgin Mary),
- 3) Joanna, 4) Salome, 5) Mary the wife of Cleopas (or Alphaeus),
- 6) Susanna, 7) Mary of Bethany and 8) Martha of Bethany.

Of the eight, the first five are the more prominent and outspoken. The last three are included according to tradition. Five of these women were also very wealthy; the women of means were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and Mary and Martha of Bethany.

A confusing aspect in Gospel references to these women is that two of the Marys had a son named James. Mary, the wife of Alphaeus, was the mother of James, one of the Twelve Apostles; the Virgin Mary was the step-mother of James, the Lord's brother (Matthew 13:55, Galatians 1:19).

In Western tradition, James, the son of Alphaeus, and James, the Lord's brother, have sometimes been identified as the same person. In Eastern tradition, James, the Lord's brother was Bishop of Jerusalem from 30-62 AD and never left the vicinity of Jerusalem. He is the James who rendered the decision of the Council of Jerusalem in 48 AD (Acts 15:13-19). Eastern Tradition links James, the son of Alphaeus, with evangelism abroad, especially in Egypt where he was martyred.

One helpful tip that can clear up the confusion between these two Marys is the passage that refers to the Virgin Mary as the mother of James and Joseph (Matthew 13:55). This Joseph is also called *Barsabas*, *Justus*, and *Judas* (Acts 1:23 and 15:22). Therefore, in Matthew 27:56, the women looking on from afar at the cross were Mary Magdalene, the Virgin Mary (that is, Mary the mother of James and Joseph), and Salome (the wife of Zebedee and the Virgin Mary's step-daughter).

Matthew refers to Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary," who is probably the Virgin Mary also from the context (Matthew 27:61 and 28:1). Such Church Fathers as St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Gregory Palamas support this interpretation. Similarly, St. Gregory of Nyssa identifies "Mary, the mother of James" (Mark 16:1 and Luke 24:10) as the Virgin Mary also.

These eight women had been together a lot during Jesus' three-year public ministry. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and others (Luke 8:3) are described as providing for Jesus out of their possessions (that is, acting as deaconesses). These same women had faithfully followed him from Galilee and had come up with him to Jerusalem (Matthew 27:55, Mark 15:40-41, and Luke 23:55).

HIGHLIGHTS of UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, MAY 18 — 1) 12-6 pm - Church School Car Wash
at Advance Auto Parts in Latrobe
2) 9-2:30 pm - American Red Cross Blood Drive
3) Irwin Ethnic Food Festival, Penna Ave.

SUNDAY, MAY 19 — *Shop with Scrip* order due
— Antiochian Women's Meeting (*usually on 1st Sunday*)

FRI., MAY 24, TO MON, MAY 27 — Family Camp - Antiochian Village

SATURDAY, MAY 25 — Hike #2; Pete Papas for more info (724) ood on the Hill

TUESDAY, MAY 28 — Food on the Hill

TUESDAY, JUNE 4 — Braves vs. Pirates at PNC Park

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 TO PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUN 16 — Bp. THOMAS' Annual Visit

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 — Blessing of the Animals

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, TO SUNDAY, JUNE 30 — Parish Life Conference at Antiochian Village

SUNDAY, JULY 14 — Parish Picnic at Twin Lakes; Pavilion 1

MON, JULY 22 - SUN, JUL 28 — Archdiocese Convention, Grand Rapids

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 (*Great Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos*)
- St. Michael's Mediterranean Buffet -

*Debbie will be in the office
Monday thru Thursday, 9-3.*

May 12 thru May 18

Sun., May 12 — Myrrh Bearing Women

- 8:45 - ORTHROS
- 9:30 - Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
- Mothers' Day Brunch
- 2:00 PM - Grave Blessings
— *Schedule with Fr. John* —

Wednesday, May 15

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
Great Martyr Pachomios

Thursday, May 16

- 9:00 AM Ladies - grape leaves.

Saturday, May 18

- 9:00 to 2:30 PM - Blood Drive
(sign up at front door)
- 12 to 6:00 PM - Car Wash
- 9 to 3:00 PM - Irwin Ethnic Food
Festival & Craft Show
- 6:00 PM - GREAT VESPERS

May 19 thru May 25

Sun., May 19 — The Paralytic

- 8:45 - ORTHROS
- 9:30 - Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
- Antiochian Women's Meeting

Tuesday, May 21

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
Constantine & Helena
- 7:00 PM - Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 22

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
Mid-Pentecost

Saturday, May 25

- Hike #2; for necessary info contact
Pete Papas (412) 558-1246 or
Fr. Sam (724) 516-9390
- **NO** Great Vespers

Fr. John will be out of town

from Monday thru Friday —
May 27 through 31.

AN UN-NOTED NOTABLE

Let us give ourselves a little 'atta boy' pat on the back for having brought our mortgage into the 5-digit range. May God continue His material blessings through your generosity on St. Michael's.

***WESTERN PA DEANERY
CLERGY MEETING***

(Thursday, May 9)

Music and Christian Education are a challenge not only here at St. Michael's but throughout our Deanery and Archdiocese. Pray for us and our sister churches that we be inspired to discover ministry answers to these vital aspects of our church life.

***CHURCH SCHOOL
STAFF MEETING***

(Thursday, May 2)

Our Church School Staff is now under the direction of Mrs. Fotini Wetzel. Thank you to Mrs. Keira Sisley for her stalwart and passionate leadership during the past few years. Out-of-the-ordinary family matters (baby William health issues, etc.) have made her step-down a necessary decision.

Our preparation for School Year 2019-20 will include a thoughtful clarification of our curriculum and materials.

***Please consider teaching
in our church school (speak
with Fotini) and singing in
our choir (come on over on
Sunday morning).***
