

# Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!

## THE HOLY APOSTLE THOMAS

St. Thomas, whose memory we celebrate today on Thomas Sunday (the Sunday after Pascha) is also commemorated on October 6, the date of his martyrdom. He is usually remembered for his doubts about Christ's resurrection. However, once he overcame his doubts, as we hear about in today's gospel lesson, he went on to spread the Christian gospel farther than other apostle. He preached in many lands, but his most famous missionary work was in southern India. After many years of missionary work there, he was executed by a local chief near the Indian mountain later renamed Mt. St. Thomas.

## THE HOLY GREAT MARTYR GEORGE

St. George, whose memory we celebrate today, was born in what is now Turkey but mostly grew up in Palestine. He became a soldier in the Roman army. Rather than deny Christ and worship the pagan gods, he declared himself a Christian. He was arrested and tortured but still stayed loyal to Christ. Finally, he was martyred by beheading. His courage gave many other Christians to also die for Christ in the large persecutions by the Roman government in the early 300's A.D. He, due to his great courage, ended up becoming one of the most beloved Saints of all time. His death for Christ took place on April 23, shortly after 300 A.D.

## ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH

**April 23, 2023**

*Thomas Sunday, Great-Martyr George*

**His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X**  
Patriarch of Antioch and All the East

**His Grace Bishop ANTHONY**  
Auxiliary Bishop of the Antiochian Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest

**V. Rev. Father Andrew Harmon**  
**Rev. Deacon Macarius Tolbert • Rev. Deacon Basil Vazquez**  
Sub-Deacon Fred N. Bourjaily • Sub-Deacon Samuel Harmon  
Sub-Deacon Mark Katzbach • Sub-Deacon Richard Sahley  
Sub-Deacon George Simon • Sub-Deacon Samuel Snyder  
Reader Anthony Harmon

Phone: Fr. Andrew (h) (440) 826-0662; (c) (440) 539-1116

Email: [fatherharmon@outlook.com](mailto:fatherharmon@outlook.com)

Website: [stmatroyalton.org](http://stmatroyalton.org)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 33183, North Royalton, OH 44133-3183

Saturday Vespers 5:00 PM  
Saturday Confessions 5:30 PM  
Sunday Confessions during Matins

Sunday Matins 8:50 AM  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM  
Sunday School 11:15 AM

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!** We are glad to have you praying with us. *The reception of the Sacrament of Holy Communion* is limited to members of the Orthodox Church who are in good sacramental standing & have made proper preparation to receive. All are welcome to receive the blessed antidoron bread at the end of the service.

**THE HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION** is offered by Cindy George for the health & salvation of her husband, Craig, on his birthday; and is offered by Deacon Macarius & Sandy for the health & salvation of the members of the Tolbert and Rahall families.

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**During today's liturgy we will pray for the health & safety of:**

Josephine Katzbach	Nancy Yanik	Dolores Kaleal
Justin Mosier	Jerry Morrison	Danielle
Tony Burhen	Iliana Radivoj	Victoria Thorp
Lucy Kinkaid	Lena Batina	Constantine & Maria Kornea
Marc Balke	James Padzerski	Deacon Macarius
Christopher Samuel	Norman Fadil	Val & Al
Peter George	Mary Malaniak	Roza
Pauline Hanna	Bob & Adrienne Andrews	Amy & Mario
Frank Popovich	Charles & Judy Burhen	Angela
Issa Zaboura	Ed Haddad	Chris Solomon
Argie Katsaros	Michael Francu	Irene Vasilakis
Joseph Watson	Virginia Sippola	Georgette Dye
Jean Caldaroni	Jean Fadil	Erin Musarra & child
Paraschiva Blaz	Marwan Kash	Joplin Whorley
Jemma Whorley		

**And for the newly departed servants of God:** Phyllis Simmons (Christina Nassif's mother), Joseph & Alice, Michael Perk, Archdeacon Joseph Harb

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**EPISTLE LESSON:** Acts 12: 1-11      **EPISTLE READER:** Reader Anthony Harmon

**GOSPEL LESSON:** John 20: 19-31

**HOMILY:** "We Will All Die---But Christ is Risen!"

**USHERS:** Kosta Bokjanc, Louise Bouhasin

**NEW CATECHUMEN BLESSING---**Kyle McGregor will receive the blessing to become a Catechumen at the end of today's liturgy in preparation to entering the Orthodox Faith at a later date.

**PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEETIME RIGHT AFTER LITURGY----**Thank you, Jon & Sara Scordos who are hosting it today.

***ANNUAL CHILDREN'S EGG HUNT TODAY AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL***

*Thank you to the Teen Club for putting this on!*

***BAPTISM TODAY AFTER COFFEETIME AT ABOUT 12:45***

**Steven Morgan's son, Bryson, will be baptized today-----you are welcome to attend!**

**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023**  
**NEW SUNDAY OR ANTI-PASCHA; SUNDAY OF THOMAS THE APOSTLE, CALLED**  
**“THE TWIN”; GREAT-MARTYR GEORGE THE TROPHY-BEARER**

VERSES OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

- Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.
- Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High.
- Glory... Both now...

VERSES OF THE SECOND ANTIPHON

- May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.
- That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee.
- May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him.
- Glory... Both now... O only begotten Son and Word of God...

VERSES OF THE THIRD ANTIPHON (Refrain: “Christ is risen from the dead...”)

- Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.
- As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire.
- So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.
- This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE FEAST

In the congregations bless God, the Lord from the wellsprings of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE SEVEN

Whilst the tomb was sealed, Thou, O Life, didst shine forth from the grave, O Christ God; and whilst the doors were shut, Thou didst come unto Thy disciples, O Resurrection of all, renewing through them an upright Spirit in us according to Thy great mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. GEORGE IN TONE FOUR

As deliv’rer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God for our souls’ salvation.

KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

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.

THE EPISTLE (For St. George)

*The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. Hear my voice, O God.*

**The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (12:1-11)**

In those days, Herod the king laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church. The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

THE GOSPEL (For Thomas Sunday)

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31)**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

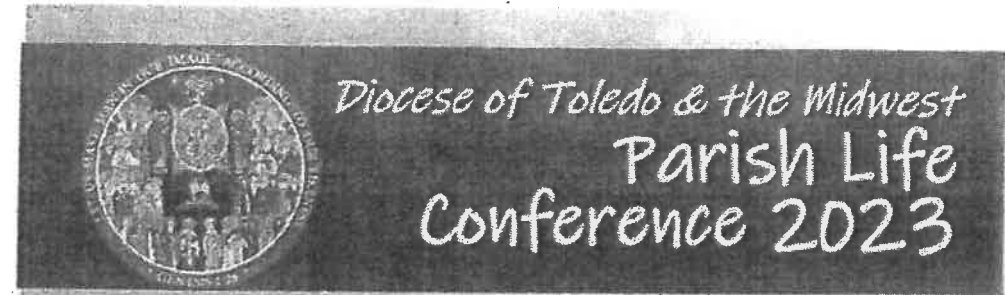
MEGALYNARION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE ONE

O thou lamp of shining splendor, and pure Mother of our God, thou most manifest glory, thou who art more exalted than all creation, with hymns thee do we magnify.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THOMAS SUNDAY (Psalm 147)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia.

- Instead of "We have seen the true light," sing "Christ is Risen" ONCE.



June 28th - July 2nd  
Hosted by St Mary Orthodox Church  
Palos Heights, IL

Double Tree - Oak Brook, IL  
Book your \$99 room today!  
(+ Free parking!)

Scan here  
to book your room!



Join us for a conference  
filled with fellowship and  
spiritual growth for the entire family!



Keynote  
Speaker:

Fr. Jeremy Davis



Teen  
Speaker:

Mother Gabriella



Young Adult  
Speaker:

Fr. Joseph  
Haneyscott



Women's  
Speakers:

Cynthia Damaskos  
Molly Sabourin

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29---Vespers 5pm**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 30---Matins, 8:50 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m.** The holy bread of oblation will be offered by Al & Susan Blazek on their 22<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary; and will be offered by the Amer family for Joanne Vazquez on her birthday; and will be offered in memory of Michael Vovos by his family. Also, the one year memorial service will be held for Michael Vovos; and Catechumen Victoria Rodgers will enter the Orthodox Faith by Holy Chrismation.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP:**

Today- Regular classes

April 30- Choir during Sunday School time

Note: Last day of classes will be May 14.

May 21- First confession and celebration for the following students: John Harmon, Brooke Musarra, Phillip Roach, Christos Simmons.



## MEETINGS

**PATHWAYS TO PEACE**— Mondays at 7:15pm, at church & by Zoom. "A gathering place for those who are broken from hurts, hangups, or habits. Join us as we renew our minds and encourage each other through the love of Christ." Call Dcn Basil, 440-665-3591, for zoom info. See flier in this bulletin.

**WEST BIBLE STUDY**---Sat, Apr 29, 6pm (meets at church after Vespers) Studying I Corinthians

**SOUTH BIBLE STUDY**---Tues, May 2, at 6:30pm at Craig & Cindy George's, 9451 Sherwood Trl, Brecksville. Regularly meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues of the month. Studying Creation and the Fall in Genesis.

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY**—May date to be announced. Meets one Sat a month at 6pm.

Studying the book of Daniel----Bible, fellowship, food...For more info, contact: Sbdcn Samuel Harmon, 216-598-9230, [samuelharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:samuelharmon15@gmail.com) or Colton Bose, 440-567-6101

**WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP**— Fri, April 28, 1pm at Tara Reidy's 274 Elmwood, Berea; For more info, call Sandy Tolbert, 440-773-9162.

**HOMESCHOOL ENRICHMENT GROUP**---Fri, Apr 28 at 9am; regularly meets in the morning on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month at the church. Contact Olivia Harmon for more information.

**TEEN CLUB**---Monthly meeting after church Sunday, April 30.

**LANDSCAPING**---Have ideas for ways to maintain or improve the landscaping at church? The Landscaping Committee meets next Sun, Apr 30 and they would love to have your ideas for discussion. Please send ideas before the meeting to Sondra Palivoda ([palivodasondra@gmail.com](mailto:palivodasondra@gmail.com) 216-973-7537)

## MINISTRY NEWS

**MARTHA MINISTRIES**---seeking parishioners to cook or deliver some freezer meals to families in time of need (new babies, recovering from illness/surgery, grieving a loss...). Can you help by cooking or delivering? Please see/email/call Erin Musarra at 440-799-0838 or [Erin.musarra@gmail.com](mailto:Erin.musarra@gmail.com).

**OCLife ST. MATTHEW CHURCH**--- officially affiliated with the national group OCLife, a "non-profit organization dedicated to equipping the Orthodox Christian community to strengthen its commitment to the sacredness of human life from conception to death, illuminating the Church's teaching on life issues through education and engagement." Please contact Lisa Palivoda at [LDPAL1703@outlook.com](mailto:LDPAL1703@outlook.com) or Cindy George at [cindyvgeorge127@gmail.com](mailto:cindyvgeorge127@gmail.com) with any questions.

# *Paschal Retreat*

**St. George  
Antiochian  
Orthodox Church  
Canton, Ohio**



**Friday, May 5  
Saturday, May 6**

## *Mother Gabriella*

*Abess of The Dormition of the Mother of God  
Orthodox Monastery-Rives Junction, Michigan*



### Retreat Topics:

Preserving the Temple of the Holy Spirit

Maintaining the Joy of the Resurrection

### Friday, May 5:

Akathist to St. George: 6:30pm

(Followed by Dinner and Teen/Youth Discussion with Mother Gabriella)

### Saturday, May 6:

Retreat (Session 1): 10:30am-12:30pm

Lunch: 12:30pm

Retreat (Session 2): 1:30pm-3:30pm

Great Vespers 4pm

Online Registration



*Please RSVP by May 1*

*1118 Cherry Ave. NE Canton, Ohio 44704 330-455-8482*

*stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net*

**NEW BOOK BY PARISHIONER NOW AVAILABLE IN PARISH BOOKSTORE:**

St. Theophan the Recluse says, "Of all holy works, the education of children is the most holy." As Orthodox Christians we should be very interested in raising and educating our children in the faith. Lisa Amer (under the pen name Lisa Rose) has co-authored a book on this topic which explores what it means to educate our children, who are made in God's image. Written from the perspective of Orthodox homeschoolers, it is not only for those who are Orthodox or those who homeschool, but is for every parent, god-parent, grandparent, teacher, and adult interested in thinking about how to pass our faith on to our children and raise them in the way they should go.

**MORE LAY VISITORS NEEDED**

St. Matthew's has a Lay Visitors Ministry, in which parishioners make occasional visits to shut-ins from our parishes. Most commonly, this is in nursing homes. Such visits are a great blessing to the shut-ins...and also to the lay visitors!

Are you interested? Please contact David Glaser the head of this ministry--- 440-728-7309 [daveglaser1@cox.net](mailto:daveglaser1@cox.net)

**SAVE THE DATE** 2<sup>nd</sup> annual St Matthew's Family Camp Sat May 27-28. Join us on our beautiful church grounds for games, fellowship, cook-out, Orthodox programming, and more! Camp out overnight or just come when you can. Young, old, and everywhere in between are welcome! Text RSVP to Susan Blazek , 440-799-2488

**REAL Cleveland Pan-Orthodox Young Adult Activities**

3) **St. Gregory Palamas Monastery Pilgrimage - Saturday, May 13th.** Fr. Joseph and the brotherhood will be welcoming us for a group visit. If you've never been there before: *"The Monastery [934 Cr. #2256 Perrysville, 44864] is located in the agricultural country of northeastern Ohio, about 15 miles east of Mansfield. The regular cycle of monastic worship services (conducted primarily in English) provides a traditional prayer experience which is only possible in a monastery."*

We will arrive there at 2pm and have an audience with Fr. Joseph (the abbot of the monastery). Afterwards, we will take a tour of the grounds, have quiet time, and a time to visit the bookstore. Then we will attend Vespers and have dinner together at the monastery! We should be departing around 7ish:) **Please respond if you haven't already and are interested in attending!**

**ARTS and SPORTS Summer Camp**

JUNE 5-9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 9am-noon

-choir for ages 8 and up

-music and movement for children under age 8

-drawing using the grid method -baking

-soccer -ballet

Tuition has been generously donated!

Please contact Olivia Harmon [oharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:oharmon15@gmail.com) to sign up

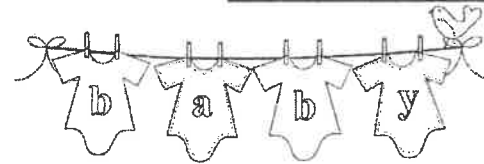


It requires \$750/day to operate our Church. Through your commitment and generosity, we *almost* meet that requirement. But we find ourselves with a budget shortfall of \$100/day. We ask that you consider adopting a day (or more) to help relieve this deficit.

Payments can be spread out over weeks or months.

If you are willing to do this, just cross through the day (or days) you wish to sponsor on the calendar in the hall, so we can begin to get an idea of our progress.

We have always been such a generous and giving Parish. Thank you for your continued generosity



All women of the parish are invited to join us for a baby shower to honor Sam & Anna Harmon and their baby girl. **Sat, May 6, 2023 11am** at St. Matthew's  
Please RSVP to Olivia Harmon [oharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:oharmon15@gmail.com) 440-220-2624  
Sam and Anna would love it if you could bring a picture book for their little girl! Feel free to sign the inside of the book instead of a card. Find their registry on Amazon.com

**THE IOCC CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN COMMITTEE**

invites you to the

**31st Annual Banquet**

Monday, May 8, 2023

Dinner 6:00 pm

**WOODSIDE EVENT CENTER**

**AT ST. MICHAEL'S**

5025 E. Mill Rd. | Broadview Heights, OH 44147

Learn how your support is helping families in places like Ukraine, Greece, Syria, Ethiopia, and right here in the US.

Questions? Contact Diane Hastings at [dianehastings3@gmail.com](mailto:dianehastings3@gmail.com) or 440.364.6045



## ENTHRONEMENT NEWS:

We are delighted to announce that the Enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan SABA as Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America is set for **Saturday, May 13, 2023** at 11:00 a.m. at St. Nicholas Cathedral, Brooklyn, New York. A banquet will immediately follow at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge (Hotel Address: 333 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY 11201).

Details for the schedule, the hotel (Group Rate, etc.), and banquet reservations will be available in the upcoming days. In the meantime, please **Save The Date** for this historic time in our God-protected Archdiocese so that we can honor our new father and chief shepherd.

## OUR NEXT GIANT MISSION TO THE HOMELESS---(usually about every 3 months)-----SATURDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>

Lunches and more will be distributed to the needy on streets of Cleveland and at homeless shelters. And cooked meals will be distributed at 2 shelter locations.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** on both April 28 and 29

**ITEMS NEEDED** -Hygiene items, sleeping bags, blankets, spring jackets, socks, new underwear, tampons, razors, clothes (only men and women, not children's), Bibles, Orthodox religious pamphlets. Bologna, cheese, bread, chips, lettuce, bananas, bottled water, empty boxes, lunch bags

**MONEY DONATIONS TO CHURCH for this mission are, of course, very helpful!**

**TO GET MORE INFO, TO DONATE, TO VOLUNTEER-----Call or text Jon Scordos, 216-618-8007 Volunteering as early as possible helps!**

### A NOTE FROM

#### THE HALL COMMITTEE

(Electra Floasiu, Gail Malaniak, Fred Bourjaily, Mike Lieberman)

If your organization or family is planning to use the hall or kitchen for any purpose, please contact a member of the hall committee to be sure it's available.

Thank you!

**STREET DELIVERY TO THE HOMELESS-----** TODAY ---parishioners delivering food, clothing, etc. to homeless in downtown Cleveland. The alms box to help fund the lunches is near main hall entry doors. **WHITE SOCKS NEEDED**—box is by main hall entry doors.

**MEAL SERVING AT ST. HERMAN ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER---** Our next monthly serving day is Sunday, May 21 Please contact Deacon Basil, 440-665-3591, if you can help in May **CURRENT NEEDS FOR ST. HERMAN ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER--**

*There is a large, marked box by coat rack in hall to leave donations. Help if you can!*

Bus passes Toilet paper, 2 ply One size fits all men's belts

Hand warmers Heavy duty forks and spoons

ITEMS BELOW may be put in the same box and will be donated to St Mary of Egypt Food Pantry

Tuna canned stew or meat canned beans dried milk small or medium coffee cans

small box of tea low-sugar canned fruit

jelly canned vegetables

oatmeal and other cereals mashed potatoes

crackers egg noodles

brown and white rice spices, baking soda,

cornstarch, etc. toilet paper paper towels

*St. John Chrysostom compares the church to a hospital, a place of healing.*

*Come and Experience*

*"Pathway to Peace"*

*A gathering place for those who are broken from hurt, hangups or habits*

*Pathway to Peace*

*is a group of Orthodox Christians that meets for support in seeking practical solutions for problems and healthy spiritual fellowship.*

*Join us, as we reach our needs and encourage each other through the love of Christ.*

**Mondays, 7:15 PM**

**10383 Albion Rd, N Royalton**

*For more information, Deacon Basil  
whenever you can call or 440-665-3591*

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### REMEMBERING THE POOR IN LENT----HOME ALMS BOXES

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR ALMS BOX BACK TO THE CHURCH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

SO ALL THE FUNDS RECEIVED CAN BE

FORWARDED ON TO THE ARCHDIOCESE TO

HELP THE NEEDY ALL OVER THE WORLD

**VACUUMING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--- SIGN-UP**

**SHEET FOR VACUUMING THE CHURCH (just the**

**temple) IN THE FIRST PART OF 2023 IS IN THE**

**NARTHEX. CAN YOU TAKE A SUNDAY?**

**COFFETIME HOSTING---**Coffetime after liturgy is

an important part of our parish life! We rely on parishioners to volunteer to take a turn to host. A new chart for 2023 is in hall on east side. Light refreshments is fine. Sign up by yourself, together with some one else, or as part of a coffetime host group. Questions? Speak to or call, coordinator, Electra Floasiu--216-671-0743

**HOLY BREAD OBLATIONS SIGN-UP** for 2023 is in the hall to the right of the sink area. Please sign up for what Sundays you wish to offer an oblation.

### SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 18 & 19—PARISH RETREAT

Father Sergius Bowyer, Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery in Pennsylvania, will be the speaker. Originally from California, Fr. Sergius was a convert to Orthodoxy. He graduated from St. Tikhon's Seminary, became a monk, and was ordained a priest in 2008. In 2010, he became the abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery which is the first Christian Orthodox monastery in North America, established in 1905.



# St. Luke the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church

Presents a free public lecture series:

## "I Believe..."

A series of four presentations that explore the foundational statement of the Christian faith as given in the Nicene Creed. All presentations by Fr. Matthew Thurman

Dates: Time: 7:00 p.m.

April 20, 2023: *"God the Father, God the Son"*

May 4, 2023: *"God the Son (cont.)"*

May 18, 2023: *"God the Son (cont.), God the Holy Spirit, the Church"*

June 1, 2023: *"Baptism, Resurrection, the Last Things"*

All sessions are in person at:

St. Luke the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church  
18046 Chillicothe Rd  
Bainbridge, OH 44023

For more information:

Email: [info@stluke.us](mailto:info@stluke.us) or call (440) 384-3285

THIS LETTER WAS IN THE  
PALM SUNDAY BULLETIN, BUT  
ACTUALLY TAKING THE  
OFFERING WAS FORGOTTEN!  
SO WE WILL TAKE IT TODAY.



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: PV118/2023

Palm Sunday, 2023

To be read from the pulpit and printed in the bulletin.

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful,

Joyous festal greetings to you in the Name of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ!


Today the Lord enters triumphantly into Jerusalem, striding forward as humanity's champion in order to do battle with our greatest enemies: sin, death, and the devil. By enduring the Cross, He will defeat them all and inaugurate a new and transcendent life of "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 14:17). Therefore, He is praised in churches throughout the world with the joyous words of this hymn: "We also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord!"

As is the custom in our archdiocese, we remember today our Father in Christ, Patriarch JOHN X, and all our brothers and sisters of the Patriarchate of Antioch in its historic homeland of the Middle East. As we wave our palm branches and shout, "Hosanna," they are doing the same. As we proclaim this ancient Faith in the New World, they are keeping it alive in the apostolic and historic places of its advent. We are one with them, and they are one with us—one Body stretching across an ocean yet beating with one heart.

Sadly, however, as we worship in peace and prosperity, our brothers and sisters overseas are suffering disaster after disaster. For this reason, we again ask you to give in support of the patriarchate and its humanitarian work. Through your donations you can provide some comfort to our brothers and sisters in need and also stand with them as they provide love and help to so many others. Please give generously.

Wishing you all a deeply meaningful Holy Week and a glorious Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,  
✠Metropolitan ANTONIOS

  
Metropolitan of Zahle, Baalbek, and Dependencies  
Patriarchal Vicar of New York and All North America

*"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)*

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238  
(201) 871-1555 T na.patrios@gmail.com (201) 871-7954 F