

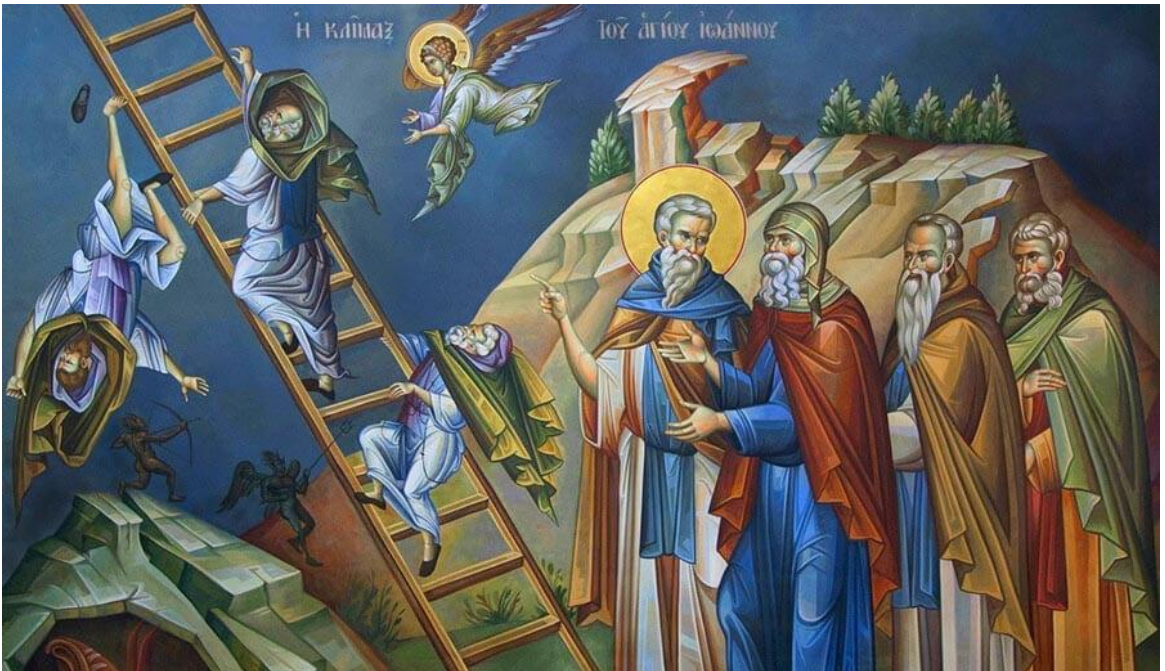
ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America
4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641
773-231-6177 • www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Sunday, March 30, 2025

St. John of the Ladder • Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday Vespers, 7pm • Sunday Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am



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Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 7): Thou didst shatter death by Thy cross; Thou didst open paradise to the thief. Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy, and didst bid Thine apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy.

Apolytikion for St. John of the Ladder (Tone 8): The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears, and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

Kontakion to the Theotokos for the Sundays of Lent (Tone 8): O Champion Leader, to thee I offer thanks of victory! O Theotokos, thou hast delivered me from terror. As thou hast invincible power, O Theotokos, thou truly can set me free from all danger. Set me free and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O bride without bridegroom!

Apolytikion of All Saints (Tone 4): Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people! Grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.



THE EPISTLE

For the Fourth Sunday of Lent

Prokeimenon – Psalm 28:11, 1

May the Lord give strength to His people!

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God; ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

The reading is from the Epistle to the Hebrews (6:13-20)

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to

lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Alleluia – Psalm 91:1, 2

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High.
To declare Thy steadfast love in the morning, and Thy faithfulness by night.

THE GOSPEL

For the Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (9:17-31)

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.”

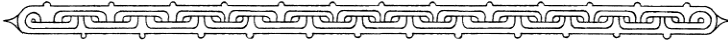
Jesus answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth.

Jesus asked his father, “How long has he had this?” And he said, “From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou canst do anything, have pity on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”

When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!” And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

When Jesus had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And Jesus said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer

and fasting.” They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His disciples, saying to them, “The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day.”



Hymn to the Theotokos for the Liturgy of St. Basil (Tone 6): All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: the assembly of angels and the race of man! O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child, our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne and thy womb he made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace; Glory to Thee!

“The lessening of evil breeds abstinence from evil; and abstinence from evil is the beginning of repentance; and the beginning of repentance is the beginning of salvation; and the beginning of salvation is a good resolve; and a good resolve is the mother of labors. And the beginning of labors is the virtues; and the beginning of the virtues is a flowering, and the flowering of virtue is the beginning of activity. And the offspring of virtue is perseverance; and the fruit and offspring of persevering practice is habit, and the child of habit is character. And good character is the mother of fear; and fear gives birth to the keeping of commandments in which I include both Heavenly and earthly. And the keeping of the commandments is a sign of love; and the beginning of love is an abundance of humility; and an abundance of humility is the daughter of dispassion; and the acquisition of the latter is the fullness of love, that is to say, the perfect indwelling of God in those who through dispassion are pure in heart, for they shall see God.

And to Him the glory for all eternity. Amen.”

*(From *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, step 26)*

Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Today: St. John of the Ladder – Fourth Sunday of Lent

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am.
- Coffee hour provided by last names R-Z, followed by church school. Joseph Letendre will teach the adult class upstairs in the church.

Tuesday, April 1: Lenten Orthros, 9am

Wednesday, April 2:

- Lenten Orthros, 9am
- Homeschool classes, 10am-4pm
- Presanctified Liturgy, 7pm, followed by Lenten potluck dinner.

Thursday, April 3: Lenten Orthros with the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 9am

Friday, April 4:

- Lenten Orthros, 9am
- Akathist to the Theotokos, 7pm at St George Church in Cicero, followed by Lenten potluck dinner

Saturday, April 5:

- All Saints Icon Academy, 9am-5pm
- Vespers, 7pm

Next Sunday, April 6: St. Mary of Egypt – Fifth Sunday of Lent

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am
- Coffee hour provided by last names A-F, followed by church school
- Choir practice, 1-3pm

CHURCH GIVING: As we enter the season of Lent, our thoughts often turn to fasting and charitable giving. We are fortunate to have many opportunities for Lenten almsgiving presented to us at All Saints. Please see Alice our treasurer if you have any questions.

- Tithes and gifts for the general fund. *It is the responsibility to all church members to support the work and upkeep of the church on a regular basis.*
- Pastoral Discretionary Fund. *These donations are given to the church to allocate as Fr. Andrew sees fit to best serve the needs of our community. Suggested recipients are always welcomed, but the final decision is at the pastor's discretion.*

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE: We are collecting this Lent for the needs of Northside Housing, for their drop-in center and new men's shelter. Bring your donations of non-perishable foods and clothing items (underwear & white t-shirts sizes M-XL, shoes sizes 9-12). They are in need of items that don't need to be cooked, especially heat-and-serve containers, or cans with pop-tops. A list of suggested items is on the greeter table. Please place your donations in the back of the church on or near the table. **The deadline is Sunday, April 13.** Monetary donations are also accepted, please write **"Food Drive"** on the memo line. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Abraham. God blesses those who remember the poor!

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE: Coin boxes, as supplied by our Archdiocese, are once again available for Lent at our greeters' table. Use these boxes during Lent and turn them in at Pascha to be blessed. Please replace the coins with a check marked Food for Hungry People in the memo line, or submit paper money. If you have any questions, contact Pat K.

*"God is love. Do as much kindness as you can to save yourself by this kindness. Love each other, as loveless man cannot inherit the Kingdom of Heaven."
(St. Gabriel the Confessor of Georgia)*

ARCHDIOCESE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS. Registration is open for our Antiochian Archdiocese camps, for children and teens ages 9-18. We have some scholarship funds designated to our parish from the Order of St. Ignatius; please see Fr. Andrew before the end of March if your child is interested in attending camp at Antiochian Village or Camp St. George in Iowa.

Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prospora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
Sun, March 30 <i>St John Climacus</i>	Joseph L	Debbie K	Azizeh C	Lydia A	R-Z
<u>Wed, April 2</u> <i>Presanctified</i>	n/a	Pat K	Richard B	Volunteer	<i>Potluck</i>
Sun, April 6 <i>Mary of Egypt</i>	Rich C	Domitille	Tobey L	Zach C	A-F
<u>Wed, April 9</u> <i>Presanctified</i>	n/a	Pat K	Nancy L	Volunteer	<i>Potluck</i>
<u>Sat, April 12</u> <i>St Lazarus</i>	Michelle C	Dn Walid	JoAnne T	n/a	n/a
Sun, April 13 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Sdn Joseph	Cristina P	John O	Alina S	G-K
<u>Thurs., April 17</u> <i>Holy Thursday</i>	Christy K	Domitille	Domitille	Volunteer	<i>Potluck</i>
<u>Sat., April 19</u> <i>Holy Saturday</i>	Jim K	Sandy A	Azizeh C	Zach C	<i>Catered</i>
Sun, April 20 <i>Holy Pascha</i>	Joseph L	Debbie K	Nancy L	n/a	<i>Baskets</i>
Sun April 27 <i>St. Thomas</i>	Paul K	Pat K	Richard B	Domitille	L-P

For Sunday coffee hour, the last names of our church members have been divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). On your assigned week, please bring something simple to share with everyone for coffee hour.

If you have children, monitor them as they go through the coffee hour line, and make sure they don't take more than they can eat. Please also help your children clean up after themselves.

Weekly clean-up will be the responsibility of those providing coffee hour, but of course, things go faster when we all pitch in and help!



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MARCH 30–APRIL 5, 2025

ADAPTED FROM THE
LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

Sunday, March 30: St. John of the Ladder

John 20:1-10 / Hebrews 6:13-20 / Mark 9:17-31

Monday, March 31: Innocent, Enlightener of Siberia & Alaska

Isaiah 37:33-38:6 / Hebrews 10:11-25 / Mark 8:11-21

Genesis 13:12-18 / Proverbs 14:27-15:4

Tuesday, April 1: Holy Mother Mary of Egypt

Isaiah 40:18-31 / Hebrews 10:26-31 / Mark 8:22-30

Genesis 15:1-15 / Proverbs 15:7-19

Wednesday, April 2: Theodora the Virgin-martyr of Palestine

Isaiah 41:4-14 / Hebrews 10:32-39 / Mark 8:31-38

Genesis 17:1-9 / Proverbs 15:20-16:9

Thursday, April 3: St. Andrew of Crete (Canon of Repentance)

Isaiah 42:5-16 / Hebrews 11:1-7 / Mark 9:1-13

Genesis 18:20-33 / Proverbs 16:17-17:17

Friday, April 4: George the Righteous of Maleon

Isaiah 45:11-17 / Hebrews 11:8-22 / Mark 9:14-29

Genesis 22:1-18 / Proverbs 17:17-18:5

Saturday, April 5: Most Holy Theotokos (Akathist Hymn)

Hebrews 9:1-7 / Luke 1:39-56

ALL SAINTS IS A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
WWW.ANTIOCHIAN.ORG

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA, ARCHBISHOP OF NORTH AMERICA
ARCHIMANDRITE JEREMY DAVIS, VICAR FOR THE DIOCESE OF TOLEDO & THE MIDWEST