

# ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America*  
4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641  
773-231-6177 • [www.allsaintsorthodox.org](http://www.allsaintsorthodox.org)

**Saturday & Sunday, April 19-20, 2025**

Midnight Office, Rush Procession, Orthros, & Divine Liturgy, Sat. 10pm  
Agape Vespers, Sunday 1pm



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*At the Paschal Divine Liturgy:*

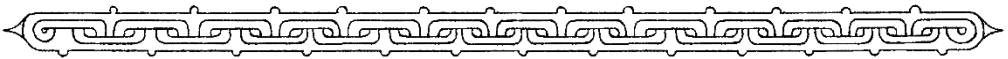
**Paschal Troparion:** Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

**Entrance Hymn:** In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Hypakoe for Pascha (Tone 8):** Before the dawn, Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: “Why do you seek among the dead as a man the one who is everlasting Light? Behold the clothes in the grave! Go and proclaim to the world: The Lord is risen! He has slain death, as He is the Son of God, saving the race of men.”

**Kontakion for Pascha (Tone 8):** Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal; Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming ‘Rejoice’ to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thine apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

**Trisagion Hymn (Tone 1):** As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.



## THE EPISTLE READING

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein!

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endureth forever.

### The reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-8)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the Apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for

the promise of the Father, which, He said, “You heard from me; for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

So when they had come together, they asked Him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.”

## THE GOSPEL READING

### The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (1:1-17)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world knew Him not. He came to His own home, and His own people received Him not. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to Him, and cried, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, for He was before me.’”) And from His fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.



**Paschal Hymn to the Theotokos (Tone 1):** The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: Rejoice, rejoice O pure Virgin! Again I say: Rejoice! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb. With Himself He has raised all the dead; rejoice, rejoice O ye people. Shine, shine, shine O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now, exalt, and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son.

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

*For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website [www.allsaintsorthodox.org](http://www.allsaintsorthodox.org)*

## **Today: Holy Pascha**

- Vigil begins Saturday at 10pm
- Blessing of the Pascha baskets & potluck meal will follow
- Agape Vespers, Sunday at 1pm. *It is customary at this service to read the Gospel in many different languages. If you would like to do a reading, please prepare John 20:19-25 in a language of your choice.*

**Tuesday, April 22:** Divine Liturgy for the feast of St. George and the anniversary of the miraculous icon “Our Lady of Cicero,” 6:30pm at St George Church in Cicero (1220 S. 60<sup>th</sup> Court).

## **Wednesday, April 23: St. George the Great-Martyr**

- Paschal morning prayers, 9am
- Bright Week Vespers, 7pm

**Thursday & Friday, April 24-25:** Paschal morning prayers, 9am

## **Saturday, April 26:**

- All Saints Icon Academy, 9am-5pm
- Bible Bowl study, 5pm (parish house)
- Vespers, 7pm

## **Next Sunday, April 27: St. Thomas the Apostle**

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am, followed by coffee hour (households L-P) and church school for all ages

**PASCHAL BREAKFAST.** We will once again celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord with a Paschal breakfast meal at the church after the 10pm vigil services.

- You may put your Pascha baskets downstairs before the service begins; Fr. Andrew will come down to bless them at the end of the service. (If you don’t know what a Pascha basket is or what to put in it, ask Fr. Andrew or someone who has been around for a while!)

- Let us keep this meal simple. We don't need people downstairs missing any of our beautiful Paschal service to prepare food. We will eat out of our baskets; any food you'd like to share may be placed in the baskets to be blessed.
- Please, as we used to do in the past, let us limit alcohol to wine only: no beer or hard liquor. The last thing we want to do is create a scandal for each other, or to be responsible for anyone driving home impaired.

## Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prospora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
<b>Sat., April 19</b> <i>Holy Saturday</i>	Jim K	Sandy A	Azizeh C	Zach C	<i>Catered</i>
<b>Sun, April 20</b> <i>Holy Pascha</i>	Joseph L	Debbie K	Nancy L	n/a	<i>Baskets</i>
<b>Sun April 27</b> <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!

## **:: PASCHAL MESSAGE FROM METROPOLITAN SABA ::**

Beloved in Christ: Most Reverend Hierarchs, Reverend Priests and Deacons, and the devout People of God in this blessed Archdiocese,

Christ is risen! I greet you with the most beautiful proclamation on this radiant and divine Pascha. I offer my heartfelt prayers for each of you daily, asking for God's abundant mercy and the joy of victory over death—every kind of death—for all of you.

I will not address the glorious event of the Resurrection from a doctrinal perspective today, but instead, I wish to offer a brief reflection.

In our Church, each feast is a moment where we relive the event itself. At Pascha, as you know, we walk with our Lord Jesus through every step of His salvific journey, culminating in His resurrection from the dead. The Cross precedes the Resurrection; death precedes life. This is why we begin our Paschal celebration on Great and Holy Friday evening. In the middle of the service, immediately after the chanting of the lamentations for the death of the Lord, we begin chanting the Resurrectional verses: "Blessed art thou, O Lord, teach me thy statutes."

There is a beautiful tradition in some churches where this funeral service begins with clergy wearing dark purple vestments, the color of the Lenten season. Then, following the lamentations, they change into white vestments. It is worth noting that white, the color of the Resurrection, becomes predominant in the church coverings and clergy vestments following the service.

All of this is an outward expression affirming that the Cross (death) and the Resurrection are one inseparable event. If we walk with Christ in His Passion, it is to prepare for the joy of His Resurrection.

Thus, it is only the repentant—those who recognize their sins and feel the need to be freed from them—who know how to crucify their sins with Christ, bury them in His tomb, and rise with Him in His Resurrection, striving toward the face of the Risen Lord. Then their eyes become fixed on Christ the Risen One, and through His Resurrection and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, they come to understand that they are called to live not on earth, but in heaven—and thus realize that their Christian calling is to make earth itself a piece of heaven.

After our Christ defeated death, we now understand—by the grace of the Risen Lord—that we are responsible for transforming the world and restoring it to the Kingdom of God,

beginning by purifying it from sin. But we have also begun to understand that this great work does not begin with others – it begins with us and within us.

What remains is for us to live a new life: a life free of sin, a life the world does not know, for it is according to God's will, not our own. I invite you to reflect with me on words written by Metropolitan Georges Khodr on Pascha 2014, when he had reached the age of ninety-one:

"I am a crossing, O Lord, until I meet You. Do not allow me to distract myself: 'Shine Your face upon Your servant,' that I may become of Your light. Take me to You, that I may know You. Do not leave me in the wilderness of this world. Do not leave me prey to the beasts. Come, for in Your coming I am formed. If You come to me, I will complete my journey toward Your face, O Lord. If I see You, Your face becomes my world. Nothing benefits me but Your face. That is Pascha. Let no other face distract me from You. Fix my eyes upon it. Each day, I desire Your face, O Master. Let it suffice for me as my life. Train me to see You as my all in this age and the one to come, so that I may understand You are existence itself. Discipline me to forsake all things to see You. If I attain You, You will take care of me. I will become Paschal in You. And if I reach You, my journey ends." (From "Who Am I at Pascha," Pascha 2014)

May the joy of our Risen Lord flood your hearts at all times.

Yours in the Risen Christ,

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America



# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

APRIL 20-26, 2025

ADAPTED FROM THE  
LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

## Sunday, April 20: Holy Pascha

Mark 16:1-8 / Acts 1:1-8 / John 1:1-17 / John 20:19-25

## Monday, April 21: Hieromartyr Januarius and Those With Him

Genesis 1:1-2:3<sup>1</sup> / Acts 1:9-14 / John 1:18-28

## Tuesday, April 22: Saints Raphael, Nicholas, Irene, the newly-revealed martyrs of Lesbos

Isaiah 60:1-16 / Acts 1:15-26 / John 1:29-51

## Wednesday, April 23: St. George the Great-Martyr

Exodus 12:1-11 / Acts 2:1-36 / John 2:1-12

*St. George:* Luke 12:2-12 / Acts 12:1-11 / John 15:17-16:2

## Thursday, April 24: Elizabeth the Wonderworker

Jonah 1 / Acts 2:37-47 / John 2:13-25

## Friday, April 25: Holy Apostle & Evangelist Mark

Jonah 2 / Acts 3:1-10 / John 3:1-21

## Saturday, April 26: Martyr Basil of Amasea

Acts 3:11-26 / John 3:22-36

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

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<sup>1</sup> Old Testament readings for Bright Week and the rest of the Paschal season, unless otherwise noted, are adapted from the baptismal readings of the Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday.