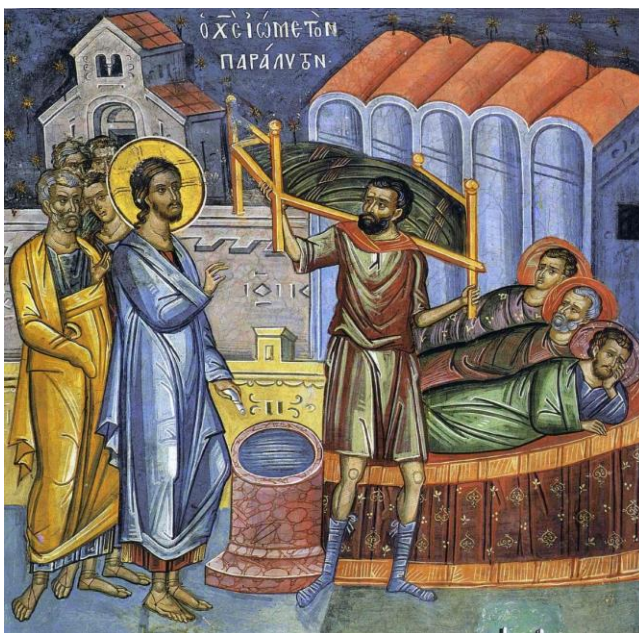


ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Pascha • The Healing of the Paralytic
Saturday Vespers, 7pm • Sunday Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am



Fr. Andrew Kishler, pastor
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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!

Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 3): Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the great mercy.

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.

Troparion 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 Pascha

Prokeimenon – Psalm 46:6, 1

Sing praises to God, sing praises. Sing praises to our King, sing praises. Clap your hands, all peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy!

The reading from the Acts of the Apostles (9:32-43)

Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all parts of the country, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed.” Then he arose immediately. So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha (which is translated Dorcas). This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise!" And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. So it was that he stayed many days in Joppa with Simon, a tanner.

THE GOSPEL

For the Fourth Sunday of Pascha

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (5:1-15)

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda, which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first, after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years.

When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the Sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man who healed me said to me: 'Take up your pallet, and walk.'" They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk?'" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.

Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befalls you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.



Paschal Megalynarion 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.

Communion Hymn: Receive ye the body of Christ. Taste ye of the immortal fountain of life. Alleluia.



Announcements and Upcoming Events

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

Today: Fourth Sunday of Pascha

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning at 8:30am
- Coffee hour provided by last names A-F
- Adult church school, taught upstairs in the church by Joseph Letendre

Tuesday, May 13:

- Morning prayers, 9am
- Miloshevski karate class, 5:30pm
- Parish council (online), 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 14:

- Morning prayers, 9am
- Homeschool classes, 10am-4pm
- Vespers, 7pm

Thursday & Friday, May 15-16: Morning prayers, 9am

Saturday, May 17:

- All Saints Icon Academy, 9am-5pm in the church hall

- Bible Bowl study of St. Luke's Gospel, 5pm in the parish house
- Vespers, 7pm

Next Sunday, May 18: The Samaritan Woman

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am, followed by coffee hour (last names G-K) and church school for all ages. Fr. Pat will teach the adult class.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

- This summer's Parish Life Conference will take place in Louisville, Kentucky, **June 18-22**. Come cheer on our Bible Bowl team if you are able! Registration is online at antiochianevents.com/Toledo.
- The Archdiocese national convention will be here in Chicago, **July 20-27** at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare. Register at ac2025chicago.org.



ON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE HOLY BIBLE, PART TWO

His Eminence Metropolitan Saba

There is a type of reading we call spiritual or personal, in which the believer reads the text of the Holy Scriptures in a meditative manner, reflecting the words upon his own life. Since *"all Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness"* (2 Timothy 3:16), we read the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God addressed to us personally. Believers do not approach the Bible as they would any other book. This is why the Church advises us to pray before reading, invoking the Holy Spirit to grant us the proper understanding that is beneficial for our souls.

St. Tikhon of Zadonsk wrote: *"If an earthly king, an emperor, were to write you a letter, would you not read it with joy? You have received a letter—not from an earthly emperor, but from the King of Heaven! Yet you often neglect this priceless gift, this treasure beyond measure."* He further explains that opening the Scriptures and reading them means entering into a personal, face-to-face conversation with the living God. He continues: *"When you read the Gospel, Christ Himself is speaking to you. And as you read, you are praying and conversing with Him."*

The late metropolitan of my home archdiocese, Youhanna of Latakia, used to say: *"We should read the Bible with the same passion as a lover reads a love letter sent by his beloved."*

St. Mark the Ascetic teaches that *"the one who is humble in his thoughts and engaged in spiritual work applies everything he reads in the Holy Scriptures to himself, not to his neighbor."* We are spiritually nourished when we read the Bible in this way, applying what we read to ourselves. Thus, the key question is not merely, "What does this passage mean?" but rather, "What does it mean for me?"

St. Tikhon reaffirms this by saying: *"Christ Himself is speaking to you."* The Holy Scriptures are a direct and intimate conversation between the Savior and the soul—Christ addresses me, and my heart responds to Him.

In this type of reading, every story in the Bible becomes a part of my personal life journey. The fall of Adam mirrors my own falls and my refusal to live according to God's will. Adam and Eve are me. When God asks Adam, "Where are you?" (Genesis 3:9), He is asking me, and I must answer!

Similarly, when reading the story of Christ calming the storm (Mark 4:35-41), we can see it as a representation of our soul or the Church, being tossed by the waves of trials and tribulations—and Christ as our Savior and Deliverer.

At the Nativity of Christ, we do not merely reflect on His birth in a cave, but we ask ourselves: "How is Christ born in me today?" Likewise, we meditate on how we are crucified with Him and how we are raised with Him. When I read Christ's words: "Give to him who asks of you" (Matthew 5:42), I ask myself: "Do I do this? How can I live out this command?"

Elder Aemilianos of Simonopetra Monastery on Mount Athos taught that the proper way to read the Bible is to allow God to speak to us through it. He distinguishes between:

- Reading for information or knowledge, which remains at a superficial level,
- And reading to acquire the true essence of Scripture—the Holy Spirit Himself.

He describes this spiritual knowledge as *"entering into the life of God and expanding within it; it is the descent of God to dwell among us."*

He advises: *"Read the Scriptures, but do not forget your sins. Do not reduce the Bible to mere intellectual study, for when you do so, it ceases to be the Word of God and becomes merely a human text. The measure of your reading should be this: that it brings peace to your heart, union with God, love for your neighbor, and awareness of your own sinfulness, making you feel unworthy to stand before God."*

When we read the Bible in this way, we are enriched by reflecting on those who came before us.

Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prospora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
Sunday, May 11	Michelle C	Dn Walid	John O	Zach C	A-F
Sunday, May 18	Sd Joseph	Sandy A	JoAnne T	Lydia A	G-K
Sunday, May 25	Christy K	David J	Azizeh C	Domitille	L-P
Wed., May 28 <i>Ascension</i>	Jim K	Debbie K	Richard B	n/a	Potluck
Sunday, June 1	Paul K	Pat K	Nancy L	Alina S	R-Z
Sunday, June 8 <i>Pentecost</i>	Joseph L	Domitille N	Tobey L	Zach C	A-F
Sunday, June 15 <i>All Saints</i>	Richard C	Cristina P	Domitille	Volunteer	TBD
Sunday June 22	Michelle C	Dn Walid	John O	Lydia A	G-K

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

MAY 11-17, 2025

**ADAPTED FROM THE
LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE**

Sunday, May 11: The Healing of the Paralytic

Luke 24:12-35 / Acts 9:32-43 / John 5:1-15

Monday, May 12: Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus

Genesis 22:1-18 / Acts 9:43-10:23 / John 7:37-53

Tuesday, May 13: Holy Martyr Glyceria

Isaiah 61:1-9 / Acts 10:24-48 / John 8:1-11

Wednesday, May 14: Mid-Pentecost

Micah 4:1-5, 6:1-8 / Acts 11:1-18 / John 8:12-20

Thursday, May 15: Pachomius the Great

Isaiah 55:1-13 / Acts 11:19-30 / John 8:21-30

Friday, May 16: Brendan the Navigator

Proverbs 9:1-11 / Acts 12:1-19 / John 8:31-36

Saturday, May 17: Holy Apostles Andronicus and Junia

Acts 12:20-13:12 / John 8:37-47

**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**