



ST. ANTHONY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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May 13, 2018

PARISH

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Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop

**SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN**

The Confessor Sergios

Epistle: Acts 16:16-34

Gospel: John 9:1-38

Tone: Five

**THE EPISTLE**

Prokeimenon: You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.  
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

The reading is from The Acts of the Apostles.

IN THOSE DAYS, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

**THE EUCHARISTIC OFFERINGS**

The Holy Oblations are offered at the offertory of the Great Entrance for the health and welfare of those living members, and for those departed this life of the Kavountzis family.

At the time of this publication, there is no family sponsoring the Coffee Reception. We ask our parishioners NOT TO WAIT to sign up for offering the Coffee Reception; this is a vital part of our parish life! The Chart is posted in the "Coffee Room" and the items needed are both in that room and on our web site (see our web page address above). The Coffee Reception does not need to be "fancy," just "Coffee'n." See Barbara DiNovi or Sandy Eliopoulos for information, but please take your turn, perhaps with another family.

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Today we celebrate Mother's Day. We honor all mothers, grandmothers, Godmothers, Aunts, and sisters who play or have played the role of this very important caregiver. God Grant all of you Many Years!
2. From Holy Pascha until Ascension Thursday (May 17th), the Orthodox Tradition continues the Paschal music, prayers and greetings. This is the practice because the Church lives in the earthly, but "resurrected" Presence of the Risen Christ, who appeared to the disciples and apostles often during these forty days. Thus being a true "pan-Orthodox" community, we continue to greet each other in the various languages familiar to the Orthodox Christians around the world. Below are the exchanges.  
 Christ Is Risen.....Truly He Is Risen  
 Al-Maseeh Qahm.....Hak' An Qahm (Arabic)  
 Christos Anesti.....Alithos Anesti (Greek)  
 Christos Voskrese.....Va Istenu Voskrese (Slavonic)  
 Christos a Inviat.....A Devarat Ka Inviat (Romanian)  
 Cristye Agh-zda.....Chesh-Maritad (Georgian)
3. Regular Fasting (Abstaining) begins after this Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, the day of the **Holy Ascension**. We will celebrate this Feast Day with a Vespereal Liturgy this Wednesday Evening (the Eve of the Feast) beginning at 7:00 PM. Please come prepared to receive the Holy Eucharist.
4. The PARISH COUNCIL MEETING for the month of May will be held immediately after the Liturgy on Wednesday evening, that is, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Members should be at Liturgy.
5. **Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>** is Holy Pentecost. This will be the first time we will kneel in the Church for Liturgical services. **NO KNEELING UNTIL THAT SUNDAY!**
6. **SPRING YARD SALE - MAY 17,18, & 19.** It's just days away! Have you signed up to help? Please bring your donated items into the church hall during Coffee Hour today and neatly place them on the stage.
7. **PRE-SALE EVENT FOR PARISHIONERS ONLY-Wed. May 16 - 5:00 - 7:00 P.M.**
8. On **Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**, the Icon and Prayer Service for the **Myrrh-streaming Mother of God KARDIOTISSA Icon** will be brought to St Anthony's Please see Father Michael Ibrahim for information, but for now he is asking us to get that date on our calendar, and bring your friends and family to witness this miracle! Again that's May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, when the service and anointing will begin. See *The Desert News* for more information.
9. **The Second Annual Don DiNovi Memorial Golf Outing** at White Beeches Country Club in Haworth, NJ will be held on June 12<sup>th</sup>. You do not have to be a golfer; there are various other ways to participate. (See further opportunities in *The Desert News*.) All profits go toward Camp Scholarships in honor of Don's deep commitment to the camp and our children's experience there. Please see Ed Assile and Jim Watkins for further information.
10. **Looking ahead: Church School Recognition Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.** Please plan to be here to congratulate and thank our students and teachers.
11. Parish Council Meeting for June is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.**
12. Robert A Scarpa travel consultant thanks the parishioners of St. Anthony's who attended the presentation on the tour of The Holy Land on May 6,2018. If anyone is interested in booking this tour please contact him by May 25, 2018. Thank you.