

- **Service Streaming:** To view livestreams of our services, please visit https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGp9uDgdYDw_sqUBWP_8zeQ.
- **Service Time Change:** Great Vespers on Saturday, June 12 will take place at 5:30 PM so that all diocesan churches may hold it simultaneously.
- **Lecture on the Sacraments:** All are invited to attend a lecture on the sacraments of the Orthodox Church on Saturday, June 5 at 3 PM.
- **Virtual PLC 2021:** Welcome to the all-virtual, all-new Parish Life Conference, hosted by Holy Cross, Linthicum! The PLC will feature one Saturday of retreat, business, and worship followed by three Wednesday evening discussions, all focused on renewing our relationships with each other and Christ. Please preregister at no charge to receive the Zoom link for each individual event. For more details and registration information, visit <https://www.holycrossonline.org/plc2021>.

Sat., June 12

“Be the Salt” – Opening Keynote by Fr. John Parker (9 AM)

Diocesan Synaxis (10:30 AM)

Antiochian Women of the East (AWE) and Young Adult Ministry (YAM) Meetings (1:30 PM)

Antiochian Men of the East (AMEN) and Teen SOYO Meetings (3:30 PM)

Diocesan-wide Vespers (5:30 PM)

“The Gift of Identity: Finding Ourselves in Christ” – Closing Keynote by Steven Christoforou and Christian Gonzalez (7:30 PM)

Wed., June 16

Talk with Q&A by Metropolitan Joseph and Bp. Thomas (7:30 PM)

Wed., June 23

“Exalting the Valley of Accessibility” – Workshop by Summer Kinard (7:30 PM)

Wed., June 30

“Restoring Our Relationships: The Impact of the Pandemic and Technology on the Church and Our Society” – Panel Discussion with Erik Hadden, Dn. Marek Simon, and Terry Mattingly (7:30 PM)



HOLY ASCENSION

Orthodox Christian Church

**Antiochian Orthodox Christian Diocese of
Charleston, Oakland, and the Mid-Atlantic**

**Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch
and All the East**

Primate

His Eminence, the Most Rev. Metropolitan Joseph
(Al-Zehlaoui)

Diocesan Hierarchy

His Grace, the Right Rev. Bishop Thomas (Joseph)

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Christopher Eid

Subdeacon

Vladimir Moses

Saturday Vespers - 5:00 PM

Sunday Orthros - 8:25 AM

Sunday Liturgy - 9:30 AM

**Confessions - Saturday evenings,
following most divine services,
and by appointment**

*For an updated service and event
schedule, visit our online calendar:*

HolyAscension.net/calendar

Words from the Saints

St. Athanasius the Great

The Lord did not come to make a display. He came to heal and to teach suffering men. For one who wanted to make a display the thing would have been just to appear and dazzle the beholders. But for Him Who came to heal and to teach the way was not merely to dwell here, but to put Himself at the disposal of those who needed Him.

Divine Liturgy Variables

Resurrectional Apolytikion in Tone Three

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.

Apolytikion of Holy Ascension in Tone Four

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit – and they were assured by the blessing that Thou art the Son of God and Redeemer of the world.

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.

Prayer Requests

LIVING:

Catechumen John R.; Catechumen Dan S.; Della (Basil S.'s wife); David K. (Vicki M.'s nephew); Carol (Vicki M.'s sister, recent hospitalization); Maggie (Fran H.'s sister-in-law, health); Thomas (Fran H.'s husband, health); Jean (Lisa K.'s friend, cancer); Sophia (infant granddaughter of Lisa K.'s coworker, leukemia); Marlan A.; Mitri, Tina, and family; Courtney M. (health); Maggie W. (health); Ariel (Barbara H.'s daughter-in-law) and baby; Barbara H. (shoulder); Bp. Alexander (health); Met. Hilarion (cancer); Jeanne K. (health); Dorothy (Fran's mother); Elizabeth G. (heart); Fiona (Jane S.'s family friend); Elias (Lisa K.'s cousin, tumor); Mary (Jeff K.'s cousin, cancer); Christina (Lisa K.'s mother); Suad and Nasri (ill); Jack (Coleen's dad, for continued healing); Daniel (Mark R.'s son); Orthodox suffering from persecution; those suffering from war, illness, and disasters

DEPARTED:

Basil (Bill) S. (Jeanne's friend)
Casandra K. (Vicki M.'s sister-in-law)
Dennis K. (Vicki M.'s brother)

Those lost to illness or natural disasters

Orthodox Christians and others recently murdered and killed during the fighting in the Middle East, Africa, and elsewhere in the world

Sunday of the Paralytic

Today's Scripture Readings

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (9:32-42)

In those days, as Peter went throughout all regions, he came down also to the saints who dwelt at Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was bedridden for eight years and paralyzed. And Peter said to him: "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; arise and make your bed." And immediately he arose. And all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned back to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha (which means Gazelle). She was full of good works and of charitable deeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days that she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they placed her in an upper chamber. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him: "Come to us without delay!" So Peter arose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him into the upper chamber. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and other garments which Tabitha made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body, he said: "Tabitha, arise!" And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand, and raised her up. Then he called the saints and widows and presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

THE GOSPEL

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 38 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.

