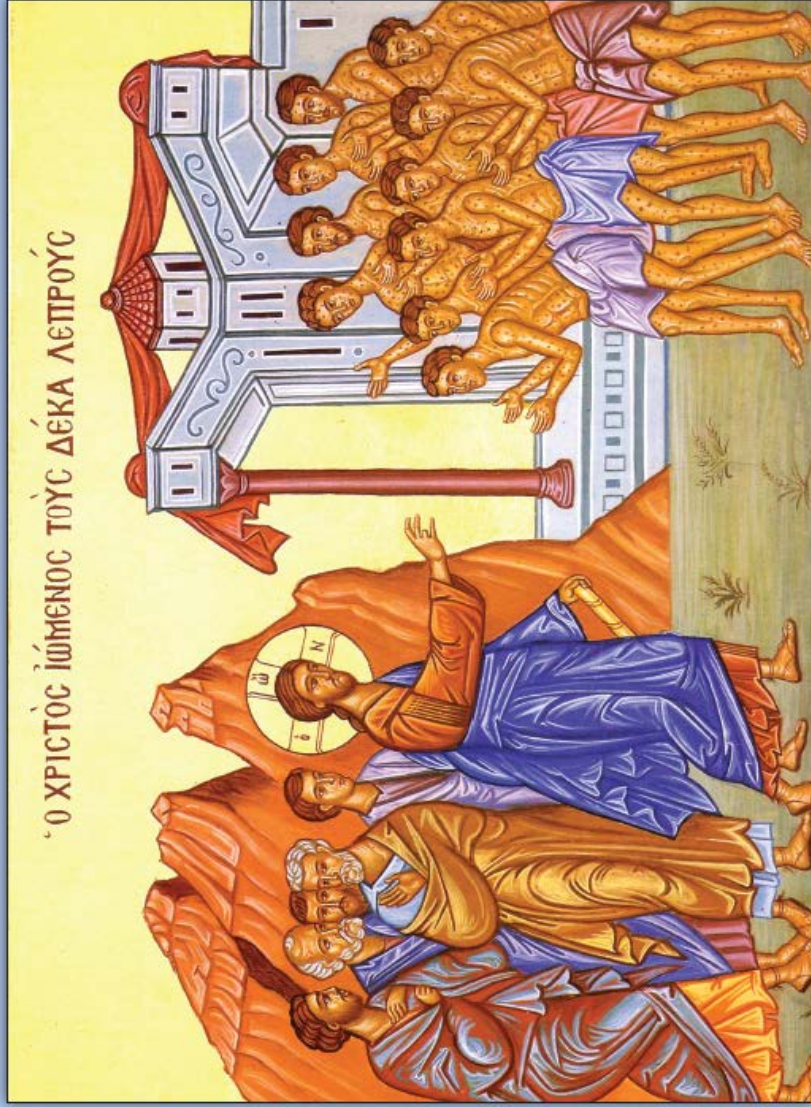


THIRTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



*Icon of the Cure of the Ten Lepers – Luke 17:12-19*

# St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

A Parish of the Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese ([antiochian.org](http://antiochian.org)) ... and ...  
The Diocese of Charleston, Oakland & The Mid-Atlantic ([antiochian.org/east](http://antiochian.org/east))  
("...the Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch!" [Acts 11:26](#))



111 Alberta Avenue // Johnstown, PA 15905-3002  
Website: [stmaryaocc.org](http://stmaryaocc.org) // E-Mail: [stmaryaocc@outlook.com](mailto:stmaryaocc@outlook.com)

Most Rev. Metropolitan SABA – Archbishop & Primate  
Right Rev. Bishop THOMAS – Auxiliary Bishop  
Very Rev. Fr. Donald E. Shadid, M.Div. & D.Min. – Archpriest & Pastor  
Sub-Deacon Timothy (Cade) Scott, MAT  
Edward Makdad, Jr. – Parish Council Chairperson

*“The World is Evil... Weep for your Sins... Have a Piece of Chocolate!”* (Advice from Staretz in Russia to Fr. T. Hopko+)

Fr. Don – Cell: 814-242-0084 – [abeenad1@gmail.com](mailto:abeenad1@gmail.com) – Office: 814-255-2148

## THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST and THE TWELFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE (“Ten Lepers”)

(Commemoration of The Venerable MAXIMOS The Confessor)

Sunday, January 21, 2024

*Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be to Him Forever!*

Martyr NEOPHYTOS of Nicaea / Venerable ZOSIMAS, Bishop of Syracuse in Sicily

**Happy New Year! God Grant Our St. Mary Parish Family “Many Years!”**

*We welcome all of you, our Faithful and our Visitors, to St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church! It is a pleasure to have you with us as we glorify and praise the Name of our God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Please sing along with our Choir during the Liturgy.*

*Please note, as has been the practice of the Church since the Feast of Pentecost, that the Sacrament of Holy Communion can only be given to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting, regular Confession (at least twice per year ... 7 Yrs. old & up), who attend Liturgy regularly & on time (at least 3 times a month) ... and ... are at peace with all people.*

*When receiving Holy Communion, please fold your arms over your chest, open your mouth wide, tip your head back slightly, and allow the priest to place the elements in your mouth.*

*For our non-Orthodox brethren, we welcome you to sing and pray with us, venerate the Cross, and receive the Blessed Holy Bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy. Please join us again soon. May God Bless You Always!*

**HOLY OBLATION:** Offered by *George & Andrea Hamaty* in beloved memory of mother, *Marjorie Hamaty* & dear friend, *Lottie Bertino*. ***May Their Memory Be Ever Eternal ... Christ is Risen!***

**PASCHAL CANDLES:** Offered in beloved memory of husband & grandfather, *Ray* & son, brother & uncle, *Eddie* (with a special remembrance of their Earthly Birthdays [Ray – Jan. 6 & Eddie – Jan. 4]), by *Huda Martin & Family*.

**PROSKAMEDIA CANDLE:** Offered for the health of *Marissa (Ghantous) Votruba*, as she celebrates her Birthday (Jan. 30), by parents, *Albert & Mary Jo*, and brother, *Elias* & his wife, *Rebecca*.

**SEVEN-BRANCHED CANDLE:** Offered for the health of themselves (*Jay*, as he celebrates his Birthday [Jan. 4] & Feast/Name Day [Jan. 7] and *Nitsa*, as she celebrates her Feast/Name Day [Jan. 8]) and friends (*Dn. Marek & all within the Simon Family* and *Bridget* as they celebrate their Birthdays) by *Jay & Nitsa McClatchey*.

**PRAYERS OF LITURGICAL REMEMBRANCE:** Offered in beloved memory of Aunt, *Lottie Bertino*, in remembrance of her Earthly Birthday (April 15) by *Pam (Salem) Katrancha*.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>For The Living – “God Grant Them Many Years!”...and... For The Departed – “May Their Memory Be Ever Eternal!”</i></b></p>
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## **- VARIATIONS & NOTES ON THE LITURGY -**

**THIRD ANTIPHON:** (*Troparion During The Little Entrance – Tone Eight*)  
See “Troparion of The Resurrection” Below.

### **AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE:**

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION:** (*Tone Eight*)  
From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our resurrection: O Lord, glory to Thee!

**TROPARION OF ST. MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR:** (*Tone Eight*)  
Thou hast shown thyself, O God-inspired Maximos, as a guide to the Orthodox Faith, a teacher of true worship and purity; O star of the universe and companion of the bishops, O wise one. Through thy light thou hast enlightened all, O harp of the spirit. Therefore, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

**TROPARION OF THE DORMITION:** *(Patron Feast Day - Tone One)*

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

**KONTAKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST:** *(Tone One)*

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

**EPISTLE:** Colossians 3:4-11 *(Twenty-Ninth Sunday After Pentecost)*

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Matthew 17:12-19 *(Twelfth Sunday of Luke - "Ten Lepers")*

Concerning the "Kiss of Peace," prior to the Nicene Creed, we encourage you to greet those around you with a bow of the head and your hands across your chest, saying: "**Christ is in Our Midst!**"...the response being: **He is and Always Shall Be!**" In this way, we express: (1) our Joy that God has acted to restore our Communion with Him ... **and ...** (2) our Hope in the Resurrection from the Dead that is offered to us by our Lord's own "trampling down death by death!" **God is With Us ("Emmanuel")!**

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**- THIS WEEK'S EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS -**

*(Church Office: Tuesday - Friday ... 9 AM - 2 PM)*

**+ Saturday, January 27 - GREAT VESPERS - 5 PM.**

**+ Sunday, January 28 - THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE (Commemoration of Our Righteous Father EPHRAIM The Syrian) ... MATINS (Morning Prayers) @ 8:30 AM & DIVINE LITURGY @ 9:30 AM ... Followed by Fellowship in the Social Hall.**

**May our Lord Bless all within our St. Mary Parish Family with a Healthy, Joyous & Peaceful (John 14:27) New Year!**

**... and ...**

**House Blessings Begin! ... NEW! NEW! NEW! ... If you would like your Home Blessed this year, please call the Church Office and ask to be put on the House Blessing List for 2024 ... Thank You! The Church Secretary, Anne, or Fr. Don will then contact you to schedule a time for the Blessing of your Home!**

**THOSE IN SPECIAL NEED OF OUR PRAYERS:** UPMC MERCY INPATIENT REHABILITATION FACILITY – Pittsburgh: *Anna Marie (Abraham) Rovanssek (#6024);* AMBER HILLS @ CAMBRIA CARE CENTER (Ebensburg, PA): *Mary Ann Unis-Asfar (#606);* LAURELVIEW VILLAGE: *George Zdravecky (Health Care #302) & Rhoda (Nasser) Zdravecky (Vista – 913);* HILLTOP HEIGHTS CARE CENTER (formerly “Laurelwood Care Ctr.): *Suzanne George (#37-W) & George Haidar (#30);* HERITAGE RIDGE SENIOR LIVING (formerly “Lutheran Home”): *Elaine Heider (#34);* QUALITY LIFE SERVICES – WESTMONT WOODS (formerly “Presbyterian Home”): *Emma (Nasser) Audey (#115-W) ... and ...* IN TREATMENT, RECOVERING AND / OR “SHUT-IN AT HOME”: *Becky Azar; Larry Bertino; Carolyn Clark; Renee D’Ettorre; Patty Devich; Joanne George; John & Dalal George; Olga Hodge; Denise Khorey-Harriman; Matthew Makdad; Huda Martin and Sara Shahade.* ***May God Be With All of Them & All of Those Who Are Ill and/or in Need!***

**MEMORY ETERNAL!** It is with a “bright sadness” that we announce that our Beloved ***Edward Jaber*** “Fell-Asleep in the Lord” on January 8. We pray that our Lord will grant him Rest in His Heavenly Kingdom where all of His Blessed Saints do Repose, and we ask Him to grant His Mercy & Peace (John 14:27) to the *Jaber & Sanderson* Families and us as we all mourn their Passing with the Hope of Christ in our Hearts (1 Thessalonians 4:13). ***May His Memory Be Ever Eternal ... Christ is Risen!***

Dear Members of St. Mary,

We want to start by expressing gratitude for your unwavering support and generosity towards our church. Your contributions have been essential to our ability to continue carrying out our mission and serving the needs of our community.

We also want to take this opportunity to introduce our new online giving platform, Vanco. **This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online**, and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation.

You can give now at this link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZKAC/home>

The link is available on our website as well as the weekly email.

Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission.

Thank you again for all that you do.

Blessings,

+ ***Fr. Don***

# Epistle

(For the Twenty-ninth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.  
God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

# Gospel

(For the Twelfth Sunday of Luke—"Ten Lepers")

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (17:12-19)

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

*May God Be With You!*

## + CONFESSION SCHEDULE +++

By Appointment ... Please Call or Text Fr. Don @ 814-242-0084.

Due to Fr.'s Commitment to Matins, Confession Will Not Be Offered On Sun. Mornings.

## 101 THINGS GOD CAN'T DO

*What You Must Know to Win . . . by Maisie Sparks (01/21)*

27. God can't be equaled.

*"I, even I, am the Lord; and beside Me, there is no saviour." (ISAIAH 43:11)*

## *Saint of the Day – January 21, 2024*

### THE VENERABLE MAXIMUS THE CONFESSOR

Maximus was a Constantinopolitan by birth. At first, he was a high-ranking courtier at the court of Emperor Heraclius, and after that, he was a monk and abbot of a monastery not too far from the capital. He was the greatest defender of Orthodoxy against the so-called Monothelite heresy, which proceeded from the heresy of Eutyches. As Eutyches claimed that there is only one nature in Christ [Monophysitism], so the Monothelites claimed that there is only one will in Christ [Monothelitism]. Maximus opposed that claim and found himself an opponent of the emperor and the patriarch. Maximus did not frighten easily but endured to the end in proving that there were two wills, as well as two natures, in Christ. Because of his efforts, a council was held in Carthage, and another in Rome. Both councils anathematized the teachings of the Monothelites. The suffering of Maximus for Orthodoxy can hardly be described: he was tortured by princes, deceived by prelates, spat upon by the masses of the people, beaten by soldiers, exiled and imprisoned--until finally, with his tongue and one hand severed by the torturers, he was condemned to exile for life in the land of Skhimaris [near Batumi on the Black Sea], where he spent three years in prison and gave up his soul to God in the year 662 A.D.

*To God be the Glory and Praise Always!*

### **WANTED: Your Help!**

**WHY: "Feast From The East"**

**WHEN: Saturday, February 10, 2024**

**NEEDED:** (a) Men, Women ... anyone who is willing to Help!  
(b) Monetary Donations!  
(c) Arabic or Greek Pastries (i.e. Kanafe, Baklava, Ma'Moul, etc.).

**DOING WHAT:** (a) Sun., Jan. 21 – Rolling Meat Grapeleaves – 11:15 am  
(b) Sun., Feb. 4 – Rolling Meatless Grapeleaves – 11:15 am  
(c) Thurs., Feb. 8 – 10 AM to 7 PM – setting up, making Potato Kibbee, Hoomus, packaging food, etc.  
(d) Sat., Feb. 10 – 8 AM to 2 PM – making Kibbee, filling Orders, distributing Orders, selling x-tras, etc

***!! Please see Janet Shadid if you can help and/or donate towards this Fundraiser for our Parish Family.***



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**+++ ST. MARY PARISH PRAYER CARD PROGRAM +++**

Did you know that we have a "Prayer Card Program" here at our St. Mary Parish? Your Prayer Intentions will be offered during the Saturday Vespers & Sunday Divine Liturgy "for the health of" or "in memory of" a Loved One and a beautiful Icon Card will be sent to the person or Family. All you need to do is call the Church Office or fill out an "Order Form" (on the Table below the Brochure Rack outside of Offices). Then we will take care of the rest! **IT IS THAT SIMPLE!**

The suggested donation is \$10/card. Larger donations are greatly appreciated.

This is an excellent way to show a loved one that you are: (1) thinking of them and remembering them in prayer on their birthday, during holidays, or any special occasion ... OR ... (2) remembering their departed loved one(s) in prayer. **Any questions, please call our Secretary, Anne ... 814-255-2148. Thank You & God Bless!**

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*Faith, Cleansing and Gratitude*

Once, as Jesus was passing through Samaria on His way to Jerusalem, ten lepers met Him. They stood afar off and cried: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" Jesus saw them and said: "Go, show yourselves to the priest." So in this case He did not touch them. Instead, He tested their faith to see whether they would obey and go to the priests to get a certificate of healing even before they had been healed. They obeyed and were healed.

And one of them returned and with a loud voice glorified God and fell at His feet, giving Him thanks. He was a Samaritan. And Jesus said: "Were there not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Were there not any found to give glory to God except this for-

eigner?" And Jesus said to him: "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well." The Samaritans accepted Christ as the Messiah and became Christians, while the Jews rejected Him.

The Fathers of the Church see a lesson in this for us. The ten lepers signify mankind. We are all leprous, but only one in ten give thanks to God for the salvation He has brought to us. In the same way, only some of the seed sown by God (in the Parable of the Sower) brings forth good fruit. We can all be cleansed by Him, but if we do not return to Him in gratitude and to glorify Him, we cannot be saved.