



# St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

## Sunday, May 18, 2025

### Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA  
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America  
His Grace, Bishop ANTHONY – Diocese of LA & the West  
V. Rev. Fr. Dr. Christopher Salamy, Pastor  
Rev. Dn. Raphael Abrahams • Rev. Dn. Serafim Grove  
Rev. Dn. Basil Ritchie • Rev. Dn. Michael Haddad • Rev. Dn. Peter Samore  
Rev. Dn. Dr. Gregory Abdalah, Pastoral Assistant • Christian Farradj, Youth Pastor  
Hnadi Bandak, Parish Life Coordinator • Harpreet Kaur, Executive Assistant to the Pastor  
Jane Romley, Parish Administrator • Matthew Peters, Ministry Lead  
Valerie Haddad, Director of Ministry, Growth & Development

#### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE FOUR)

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying, Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

#### APOLYTIKION FOR MID-PENTECOST (TONE EIGHT)

In the midst of this Feast, O Savior, give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of true worship; for Thou didst call out to all, saying: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Christ our God, Fountain of life, glory to Thee.

#### APOLYTIKION OF ST. GEORGE (TONE FOUR)

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George intercede with Christ our God for our souls' salvation.

#### THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA (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.

#### THE EPISTLE

*How magnified are Thy works, O Lord. In wisdom hast Thou made them all. Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

#### The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (11:19-30)

In those days, when the apostles were scattered because of the tribulation that arose over Stephen, they traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one, except to Jews only. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who upon coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. The report concerning them reached the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas, to go as far out as Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they should cleave to the Lord; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great multitude was added unto the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year, they were gathered together in the church, and they taught a great multitude of people, and the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabos stood up and signified by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over the whole world; and this took place in the days of Claudius Caesar. And the disciples, every one according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren who dwelt in Judaea; and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

## THE GOSPEL

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (4:5-42)

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as He was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His Disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that Thou, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, Thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Art Thou greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst forever; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered Him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and Thou sayest that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming [He Who is called Christ]; when He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I Who speak to you am He." Just then His Disciples came. They marveled that He was talking with a woman, but none said, "What dost Thou wish?" or, "Why art Thou talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, "Come, see a man Who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to Him. Meanwhile the Disciples besought Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the Disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He said to me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His words. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

### *THOSE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER...*

**Living:** Romy, Chase, Paul, Mary, Joshua, Peter, Richard, Anthony, Moira, Mac, Laila, Michael, Ray, Pam, Amal, Nejwa, Randa, Regan, Theresa, Kristine, Sherry, Samira, Robert, Daniel, Jane, Jillian, Sandy, Iyad, Nicholas, Elizabeth, Mary, Alexandros, Aikaterina, David and Donald

Michael, Feirouz, Michael Jr., Juliana Ziton & the entire Ziton and West Families offer Holy Bread and a one-year trisagion for our beloved Father and Giddo, the V. Rev. Fr. Elias Ziton of blessed memory. The family also offers Holy Bread in loving memory of our dear departed Mother and Sitto, the Kh. Lorraine Ziton. May the memory of all our departed family members be eternal, and may they be granted rest with the Saints. Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Edie Nassief offers Holy Bread for a 40-day trisagion for her brother, Arch. Dn. George Shishim. May his memory be eternal. For the health and well-being of the Shishim and Nassief families.

Suhail & Dr. Suhaila Al Haddad offer Holy Bread for their beloved mother Noura Asali Al Haddad. May her memory be eternal. For the health and well-being of the Asali and Al Haddad families.

Audrey Vogel, Emily & Patrick Wu, and their sons Max, Charlie, offer Holy Bread and prayers for continued health and blessings for Dave and Debbie Vogel on their 50th anniversary - with love and adoration from their daughters, son-in-law, and grandsons.

The Youth of St. George Church offers Holy Bread for the health and well-being of May Sayegh and her children and in loving memory of Ghassan Sayegh. May his memory be eternal.

St. George Church offers Holy Bread today in thanksgiving and remembrance of our Sunday School Teachers and their families, who serve with love, faith, and humility in the spiritual formation of our parish's youth: Diana Fakhouri, Miriam Hasou, Sabreen Odeh, Suzie Odeh, Debbie Ziton-West, Rima Iacovelli, Faith Saigh, Oryana Hannoona, John Capobianco, Christian Farradj, and all their families. May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless them, strengthen them in their ministry, and grant them many years in peace, health, and spiritual joy.

### **Honoring Our Sunday School Teachers**

**"The soul of a child is like soft wax—what is impressed upon it, lasts a lifetime."**

– St. John Chrysostom

This Sunday, we joyfully recognize and thank our dedicated **Sunday School teachers** who lovingly serve the youth of our parish, helping to plant and nurture the seeds of our Orthodox faith. Through their guidance, our children grow in the love and knowledge of Christ and His Holy Church.

We kindly ask all parish family members to take a moment today to personally thank our teachers for their time, dedication, and faith-filled instruction. Their ministry is a true blessing to our community!

With deep appreciation, we honor:

- **Diana Fakhouri & Miriam Hasou** – Grades Pre-K & Kindergarten
- **Sabreen Odeh & Suzie Odeh** – Grades 1 & 2
- **Debbie Ziton-West & Rima Iacovelli**– Grades 3 & 4
- **Faith Saigh & Oryana Hannoona** – Grades 5 & 6
- **John Capobianco** – Grades 7 & 8
- **Christian Farradj** – Grades 9 - 12
- **Wendy Yacoub** – Sunday School Director

May God bless them abundantly and grant them many years in health and service!