



"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38



Online Arabic Bible Study

Online Arabic Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, May 6th, at 7:30 PM. The Patriarchs of the Old Testament will be the topic for the forthcoming series. To participate, please speak with Safwat Fehmy.

Wednesday Night Spiritual Discussions

Beginning May 6th, and continuing on May 13, 27 & June 3rd, Fr. Peter will lead the Wednesday Night Spiritual Discussion from 7:15 to 8:00 PM. The focus will be "The Orthodox Christian Teaching on Contemporary Moral and Ethical Issues."



Saint Mary's Calendar

Sunday, April 19th

Thomas Sunday

- Confessions - 8:30 AM
- Matins & Divine Liturgy - 8:50 AM
- Sunday School Classes following Communion.

Wednesday, April 22nd

Feast of the Great Martyr George

- Great Vespers and Artoklasia - 7:00 PM at Saint George Cathedral in Coral Gables, FL.
- **No Services at Saint Mary****

Saturday, April 25th

Confessions - 6:00 PM
Great Vespers - 6:30 PM

Sunday, April 26th

Sunday of the Myrrhbearers

- Confessions - 8:30 AM
- Matins & Divine Liturgy - 8:50 AM
- Sunday School Classes following Communion.
- Future Development Meeting at 12:00 PM.

Wednesday, April 29th

Confessions - 6:30 PM
Great Vespers - 7:00 PM



Saint Mary Orthodox Church of West Palm Beach, FL

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America and the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast

"The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch." Acts 11:26

Metropolitan SABA, Primate, Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese

Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast

Parish Priest
The Very Reverend
Father Peter Shportun
561.632-7066 (Cellular)

Church Office:
561.965-5007

Office Hours:
Tuesday—Friday
10:30 AM—2:30 PM
(by Appointment)

Website:
stmaryschurchwpb.org

Weekly Liturgical Service Schedule:

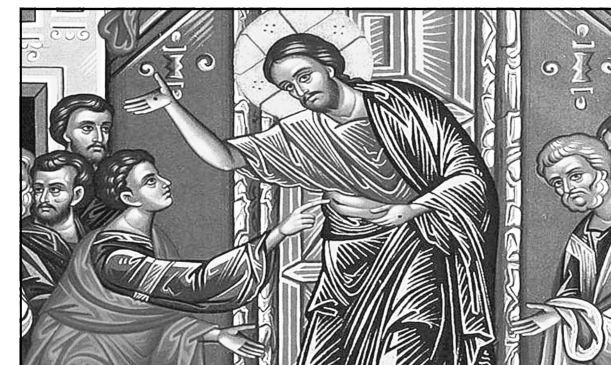
*Sunday Services: Matins 8:50 AM; Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Wednesday Vespers 7:00PM; Saturday Vespers 6:30 PM
Feast Day Services as announced in The Weekly Bulletin*

Sacrament of Confession:

*Saturday 6:00 - 6:30 PM; Sunday 8:30 - 8:50 AM;
Wednesday 6:30 - 7:00 PM; By appointment with Fr. Peter.*

The Weekly Bulletin

April 19, 2026



Sunday of Thomas the Apostle, called "The Twin"

Sunday School Classes for all children between the ages of 3 and 12 years, each Sunday (September - May) immediately following Communion.

Catechism Classes and Bible Studies as announced in The Weekly Bulletin.

We are glad you have chosen to pray with us at Saint Mary Orthodox Church. Today, the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is celebrated. The service text begins on page 91 in the Red Service Book in the pews.

Please know that Holy Communion is offered to Orthodox Christians after preparing themselves through prayer, fasting and recent confession. All visitors are welcome to receive the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy, and join us for fellowship during Coffee Hour.

New Sunday or Anti-Pascha The Sunday of the Holy Apostle Thomas

Today, ***THE DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM*** is celebrated. The service text begins on page 91 in the Red Service Book in the pews. The Divine Liturgy variables are as follows:

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee. (*Refrain*)

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

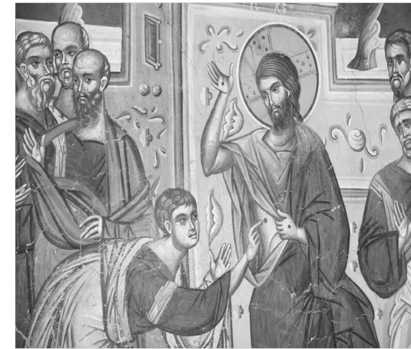
THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.

Refrain: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (*Refrain*)

Anti-Pascha and Thomas Sunday



On this Sunday, the second Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the Anti-Pascha, that is to say the re-dedication of the Resurrection of Christ, and also commemorate the event of the Holy Apostle Thomas' touching the wounds of Christ.

This commemoration is due to the ancient custom of rededicating important events. As a year would pass and the date of such an event would arrive, a commemoration was made so that such great events would not be forgotten.

Since the Resurrection of the Lord is the greatest and most important event and beyond all thought, it is rededicated not only once a year, but also on every "eighth" day. The first rededication of the Resurrection is this present Sunday, for it is truly both the "eighth" day and the "first." It is the eighth day after Pascha, and the first day, because it is the beginning of the other days. Again, it is called the "eighth" day because it prefigures the unending day of the future age to come, which will be truly the "first" day and a day that is not divided by a single night. This is why this Sunday is called the Anti-Pascha, which interpreted means "in the place of Pascha." We should also know that due to the honor given Sunday by the Lord's Resurrection, the Holy Apostles transferred the weekly day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath (Saturday) to this most honored day.

It is also called Thomas Sunday, the reason being as follows: On the day of the Resurrection, when Christ showed himself to the Disciples in the evening, Thomas was not present, because he had not yet joined the other Disciples for fear of the Jews. When he rejoined the others, not only did he not believe what they told him about the Resurrection of Christ and the fact that they had seen Him, but he absolutely refused to believe that Christ had risen, even though he himself was one of the Twelve.

The Lord came to the Apostles again while Thomas was among them. Though the doors were shut as before, He entered and granted them peace according to the custom. He then turned toward Thomas and said, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing" (John 20:27).

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed for the Spring

Coffee Hour brings us together for fellowship, a cup of coffee and a small bite to eat. If you are looking for an opportunity to foster fellowship among our parishioners and guests by hosting Coffee Hour, please speak with Jane Pasley.

This Sunday's Coffee Hour is hosted by Larry & Pamela Wiedmann.

Welcome New Orthodox Christians!

On Holy Saturday (April 11th), Saint Mary's received the following 7 Catechumens into the Holy Orthodox Faith through Baptism and/or Chrismation.

Alexander Ferrel, Wyatt Hlewicki, Daniel Albert Joaquin-Mendez, Handy Laroche, Jason Ryder, Cameron Wells and Danielle Wells. May the Holy Spirit guide them in their life and growth in the Holy Orthodox Faith.

Fr. Peter Out-of-Town

Fr. Peter will be away from Friday, April 17th - Tuesday, April 21st. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. Elia Shalhoub at 305.812-4940.

Feast of the Great Martyr George

Our sister parish of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral in Coral Gables will celebrate their patronal feast of the Great Martyr George on Wednesday, April 22nd, with Great Vespers and Artoklasia at 7:00 PM. His Grace Bishop Nicholas will preside.

No Vespers Service at Saint Mary's on Wednesday, April 22nd

Making It Easier To Give



By using this QR Code, it is easier to make a donation or fulfill your annual pledge through Zelle to Saint Mary's. You may also access it through your online bank to:
stmarywpbfinance@gmail.com

Should you have any questions, or need further information about giving opportunities at Saint Mary's, please speak to our Parish Council Treasurer Sam Pasley.

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.
(*Refrain*)

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.
(*Refrain*)

• *After the verses of the Third Antiphon, the following hymns are sung:*

THE ENTRANCE HYMN OF PASCHA

In the gathering places bless God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE SEVEN

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

THE 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.

THE EPISTLE

Verse: Great is our Lord, and great is His strength. Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be to you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be to you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, you have believed because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

MEGALYNARION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE ONE

O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

COMMUNION HYMN OF THOMAS SUNDAY (Psalm 147:1)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia.

- *After receiving Communion, please quietly read the 'Prayers of Thanksgiving after Communion' on pages 128-131 in the Red Service Book.*
- *Please allow the Sunday School Children and Teachers to receive Communion first in order that they may proceed to their classes.*

Trisagion (Memorial) Service

Trisagion (Memorial) Service is offered today by Larry & Pamela Weidmann for the repose of Ghassan Faddoul (3 months), Jamileh Faddoul (1 year), Pamela's uncle and grandmother; Lawrence Weidmann, Larry's grandfather. +Memory Eternal!

Offerings for the Divine Liturgy Today

Holy Bread

- For the health and well-being of Valerica, Daniela, Andrei, Rachel, Fr. Gherman, Petru, Sarah, Xenia, Lucia, Basil, Maria, Ioana, Joachim.
- In memory of Roula, Fehmi, Olga, Samaan and Renee, by Alan & Carol Sara.
- In memory of Ghassan Faddoul, Jamileh Faddoul and Lawrence Wiedman, by Larry & Pamela Wiedmann.

If you would like to offer a Weekly Altar Vigil Candle, Holy Bread or Altar Wine for a Divine Liturgy, please speak with Fr. Peter.

Your Prayers Are Requested

For the Living

"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord."
James 5: 14

For the Good Health of the Servants of God: Matushka Annette Zaparyniuk, Leon & Judy Chalhub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhub, Sabah Shalhoub, Cheryl Lewis, Eric Waser.

For those serving in our armed forces here and abroad: Christopher Smith, Jonathan Shportun, Alexios Gavrilos, Dylan Himber.

For peace in the Middle East and throughout the world.

For the Departed

"With the spirits of the righteous made perfect, give rest O Lord to the souls of Thy servants..."
Ralph Haselmann (12/22/25).

**Names for the 'good health' will be kept on the Prayer List for 40 days unless otherwise requested. Please speak with Fr. Peter.*