



+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH,

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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SUNDAY, MAY 08, 2022; TONE 2 / EOTHINON 4

**SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN, PIOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA &
RIGHTEOUS NICODEMUS**

APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN; VENERABLE ARSENIOS THE GREAT

Christ is Risen / Χριστός Ανέστη / المسيح قام



The Myrrh-Bearing Women, Pious Joseph of Arimathea & Righteous Nicodemus

On May 8 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Venerable Arsenios the Great, and we celebrate the Synaxis of the Holy Dust, that is, the Manna, that issued from the grave of the holy and glorious Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian, the Virgin and Beloved Bosom Friend of Christ.

When St. John was 105 years old, he took seven of his disciples, went outside the city of Ephesus and told the disciples to dig a grave in the form of a cross. Then the old man went down into the grave, from where his soul departed this life. When the faithful later opened St. John's grave, they did not find the body in it. And on

May 8 each year a dust arose from the grave, from which those suffering from many diseases were healed.

On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also make commemoration of Joseph of Arimathea, who was a secret disciple, and Nicodemus, who was a disciple by night.

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

THE EPISTLE

His voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. John. (1:1-7)

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of life—the Life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the Eternal Life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

إِلَى كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ خَرَجَ صَوْتُهُ.
السَّمَاوَاتُ تُذْبَعُ مَجْدَ اللَّهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى الْجَامِعَةِ.

الَّذِي كَانَ مِنَ الْبَدْءِ، الَّذِي سَمِعْنَاهُ، الَّذِي رَأَيْنَاهُ بَعْيُونَا، الَّذِي شَاهَدْنَا، وَلَمَسْتُهُ أَيْدِينَا، مِنْ جِهَةِ كَلِمَةِ الْحَيَاةِ. فَإِنَّ الْحَيَاةَ أَظْهَرَتْ، وَقَدْ رَأَيْنَا وَتَشْهَدُ وَنُخْبِرُكُمْ بِالْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ الَّتِي كَانَتْ عِنْدَ الْأَبِ وَأُظْهَرَتْ لَنَا. الَّذِي رَأَيْنَاهُ وَسَمِعْنَاهُ نُخْبِرُكُمْ بِهِ، لِكَيْ يَكُونَ لَكُمْ أَيْضًا شَرِكَةٌ مَعَنَا. وَأَمَّا شَرِكَتُنَا نَحْنُ فَهِيَ مَعَ الْأَبِ وَمَعَ ابْنِهِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ. وَنَكْتُبُ إِلَيْكُمْ هَذَا لِكَيْ يَكُونَ فَرْحُكُمْ كَامِلًا. وَهَذَا هُوَ الْخَبَرُ الَّذِي سَمِعْنَاهُ مِنْهُ وَنُخْبِرُكُمْ بِهِ: إِنَّ اللَّهَ نُورٌ وَلَيْسَ فِيهِ ظُلْمَةٌ الْبَتَّةَ. إِنْ قُلْنَا: إِنَّ لَنَا شَرِكَةً مَعَهُ وَسَلَكْنَا فِي الظُّلْمَةِ، نَكْذِبُ وَلَسْنَا نَعْمَلُ الْحَقَّ. وَلَكِنْ إِنْ سَلَكْنَا فِي النُّورِ كَمَا هُوَ فِي النُّورِ، فَلَنَا شَرِكَةٌ بَعْضِنَا مَعَ بَعْضٍ، وَدَمُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ ابْنِهِ يُطَهِّرُنَا مِنْ كُلِّ خَطِيئَةٍ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (15:43-16:8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb at the rising of the sun. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a long white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He is risen; He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ مرقسِ الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهرِ.

في ذلكَ الزمانِ، جاءَ يوسفُ الذي مِنَ الرّامةِ، مُشيرٌ تقيٌّ، وكانَ هوَ أيضاً مُنتظراً مَلَكوتَ اللهِ. فَاجْتَرَأَ ودَخَلَ على بيلاطسَ وطلبَ جسدَ يسوعَ. فاستغربَ بيلاطسُ أَنَّهُ قَدْ ماتَ هكذاَ سريعاً. واستدعى قائدَ المِنَّةِ وسألهُ هلَ لَهُ زَمانٌ قَدْ ماتَ. ولَمَّا عَرَفَ مِنَ القائِدِ، وَهَبَ الجِسدَ ليوسفَ. فَاشترى كَتَّاناً، وأنزلهُ، ولَقَّه في الكَتَّانِ، وَوَضَعَهُ في قَبْرِ كانَ مَنحوتاً في صَخْرَةٍ، ودَحَرَ جَ حَجراً على بابِ القَبْرِ. وكانتَ مَريمُ المَجْدَلِيَّةُ ومَريمُ أمُ يوسى تَنظُرانِ أينَ وُضِعَ. ولَمَّا انقضى السَّبْتُ، اشترتْ مَريمُ المَجْدَلِيَّةُ ومَريمُ أمُ يَعقوبَ وسالومةَ حنوطاً لِيأتينَ ويذهبنَهُ. وبَكَرْنَ جِداً في أوَّلِ الأُسبوعِ وَأَتَيْنَ القَبْرَ وَقَدْ طَلَعَتِ الشَّمْسُ. وَكُنَّ يَقُلْنَ فيما بَيْنَهُنَّ "مَنْ يُدحرجُ لنا الحَجَرَ عَن بابِ القَبْرِ؟" فَتَطَّلَعْنَ، فَراَيْنَ الحَجَرَ قَدْ دُحِرَ، لأنَّهُ كانَ عَظيماً جِداً. فَلَمَّا دَخَلْنَ القَبْرَ، رَأَيْنَ شاباً جالِساَ عَنِ اليَمينِ، لا بِسَ حُلَّةً بِيضاءَ، فاندَهَلْنَ. فَقَالَ لَهُنَّ: "لا تَنذَهَلْنَ. أنتنَّ تَطْلُبنَ يسوعَ الناصِريِّ المَصلوبَ. قَدْ قامَ، أليسَ هوَ هَهنا. هُوَ ذا المَوْضِعُ الذي وَضَعُوهُ فيه. فَادْهَبْنَ وَقُلْنَ لِتلاميذِهِ ولِبَطْرُسَ إِنَّهُ يَسْبِقُكُمْ إلى الجَليلِ، هُناكَ تَرَوْنَهُ كما قالَ لَكُمْ." فَخَرَجْنَ سَريعاً وَفَرَرْنَ مِنَ القَبْرِ وَقَدْ أَخَذَتْهُنَّ الرِّعْدَةُ وَالدَّهَشُ. وَلَمْ يَقُلْنَ لِأحدٍ شَيْئاً لأنَّهُنَّ كُنَّ خائِفاتٍ.

"Love your Neighbor"- A Ministry of St John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

During this year's Great Lent and for May, St John's will be collecting donations as we have done for many years, alongside all parishes in the Antiochian Archdiocese for the following two important programs of the Archdiocese.

May – Project Mexico/ St Innocent Orphanage – Project Mexico is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that performs works of mercy in the name of Jesus Christ, building homes for the poor in Mexico and by providing education and shelter for orphaned boys through St. Innocent Orphanage.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, June 26th	Belated Father's Day Barbecue after Divine Liturgy
September 24th – 25th	Festival

Coffee Hours

May 8th	Coffee hour by Nelly Nassif and family in loving memory of her mother Yvonne Edward Siag and her grandmother Sophie Edward Siag.
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Memorial Service

- † 40 days memorial service on Sunday, May 22nd for the handmaiden of God Kh. Patricia Romley. May her memory be eternal!

Holy Oblations

This week Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Noha Schulze, George Messih, and Nabil Wahbeh**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Helen Addes**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Stacy Simon**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Kh. Patricia Romley**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for all the mothers, grandmothers and godmothers of our parish. Many years!

Candles for the altar table and in front of the icons of Christ and the Theotokos offered by:

- † Ibrahim Fasheh in memory of Hanada Fasheh for one full year. May her memory be eternal!



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- † Altar Servers: Nathan Swiess, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin

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