

ST. SIMEON ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY

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3RD

SUNDAY OF PASCHA – APRIL 26, 2026

TONE 2 / EOTHINON 4

**SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN,
PIOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA AND
RIGHTEOUS NICODEMUS**

VISITORS WELCOME!

St. Simeon Orthodox Church welcomes you to our community this Sunday- for truly, “***This is the Day that the Lord has made.***” We are honored to have you worship with us. Please join us at the coffee hour following Liturgy. We have set up a table with a **blue tablecloth** for visitors so that our clergy can meet and chat with you after Liturgy. May our Lord bless you and your families.

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*)

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*)

THE EISODIKON (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.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION: JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA (Tone 2)

The noble Joseph, taking Thine immaculate Body down from the Tree, and having wrapped It in pure linen and spices, laid It for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day Thou didst arise, O Lord, granting to the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION: THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN (Tone 2)

Unto the myrrh-bearing women did the Angel cry out as he stood by the grave: Myrrh-oils are meet for the dead, but Christ hath proved to be a stranger to corruption. But cry out: The Lord is risen, granting to the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION: ST. SIMEON (Tone 1)

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice, thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receivest in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection

The KONTAKION OF PASCHA (Tone 8)

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

The Lord is my strength and my song. With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (6:1-7)

In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: "It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Próchoros, and Nikánor, and Tímon, and Parmenás, and Nikólaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

THE GOSPEL

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

At that time, Joseph of Arimathaea, 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.

MEGALYNARION FOR PASCHA (Tone 1)

The Angel cried to the Lady Full of Grace: Rejoice, Rejoice O Pure Virgin! Again I say: Rejoice! Your Son is Risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead! Rejoice, Rejoice all ye people!

Shine! Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The Glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now Exult and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection, the Resurrection of your Son!

KOINONIKON OF PASCHA (Tone 8)

Receive ye the body of Christ; taste ye the Fountain of
immortality.

Instead of “We have seen the true light...”, we sing “Christ is Risen” (once).

Language	Priest	People
English	Christ is Risen!	Truly, He is Risen!
Arabic	Al Maseeh Qam!	Haqan Qam!
Greek	Kristos Anesti!	Alithos Anesti!
Russian	Kristos Voskressey!	Voyistino Voskresey!
Romanian	Kristos a Inviat!	Adeverat a Inviat!
Spanish	Christo ha Resucitado!	En Verdad ha Resucitado!

HOLY OBLATIONS

Prayers are offered for **Mark and Kouri Ajalat** as they celebrate their **wedding anniversary**. May God grant you many, many more joyous celebrations together! Love, Dad and Mom

In **loving memory** of **Frieda Maloof** (4-21-13) and **Mike Maloof** (4-25-12), Truly loved and deeply missed by all. Memory Eternal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tickets are still available for the Gala on May 16. Use this QR code to secure your spot. A generous donor has subsidized the ticket costs of St. Simeon Parishioners. To get the \$60 ticket price, use the special code 20SIMEON26. In addition, Fr. Andrew still has nine donated seats he can provide to any parishioner free of charge so that the cost of admission isn't a barrier to attending.



Fr Andrew will be out of town from April 22 – May 2. He will have limited access to cell phone and computer but will reply to anything that comes in within 24 hours. **For urgent needs during that time, please contact Fr. George.**

Our teens are invited to participate in “**Saints and Legends: A Celtic Soiree**” at St Andrew Orthodox Church in Riverside on Saturday, May 9, at 6:15PM. There will be live music, dinner, and dancing in old-world Celtic charm. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more details.

Join us on 1st - 4th Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. to learn more about the Orthodox Faith. Topics range from Church Dogma, Theology, Holy Tradition, Scripture, Worship, Prayer, and how to apply these concepts in our lives and conscript them to our hearts.

Coffee Hour Sponsors-Six Week Look Ahead

April 26- Narek & Paulina	May 17-Souad Alyousef
May 3- Farid Najjar	May 24-Glen Woshnak
May 10- Rusty and Ramona	May 31-Available

Sign-Up Page: <https://tinyurl.com/SCV-Coffee>.

Epistle Reading Schedule

April 26-Ramona Blanski	May 10-Alex Nassief
May 3-Mark Ajalat	May 17-Natalie LeMar

Greeter Schedule

April 26-David Cota (8:20-9:00); John and Laura (9:00-9:40)
May 3- Chris Stinnett (8:20-9:00); Konrad Gubran (9:00-9:40)

Please submit your announcements and oblations to:
bulletin@scvorthodox.com by 9 P.M. on WEDNESDAY!

REFLECTIONS ON THE GREAT MARTYR GEORGE

St. George was born in Cappadocia the son of wealthy and virtuous parents. His father suffered for Christ and his mother then moved with her son to Palestine where she had farmland. When George grew up, he entered the military, where in his twentieth year, he attained the rank of a tribune and was in the service of emperor Diocletian. The most famous of George's miracles are depicted in iconography. Near mount Lebanon was a large lake, inhabited by an enormous dragon-like serpent. Coming out of the lake, it devoured people, and the breath from its nostrils poisoned the air. George rode up on his horse with spear in hand and signed himself with the sign of the cross. He rushed at the serpent saying, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." George pierced the

throat of the serpent with his spear and trampled it with his horse. Twenty-five thousand men, not counting women and children, were then baptized. The empress Alexandra believed in Christ through George. Diocletian wanted Paganism to be the state religion to unify his empire. Since George and Alexandra refused to offer sacrifices to idols and renounce the one true faith, Diocletian had them both beheaded in 303. Though he was a talented officer who amazed the world by his military exploits, George is known as the victory-bearer, or trophy-bearer, not only for his military achievements, but for successfully enduring martyrdom.

The "trophy-bearer" is also patron saint of the republic of Georgia (naturally), England, Ethiopia, and other nations. The great-martyr is patron of Beirut, Lebanon and nearby St. George Bay. Hospitals in Beirut and Hosn, Syria bear his name. St. George is patron of soldiers (of which he was one), scouts and peacekeepers.

Hundreds, if not thousands of churches, chapels and monasteries bear his name around the world. Countless people bear his name, too. There is a tradition that during the Muslim attacks on Christian churches in the Middle East, out of their deep respect for the power of St. George, the invaders would not desecrate any church dedicated to the name of St. George. This may explain why so many churches in the Middle East – and likewise in the Antiochians Archdiocese of North America take St George as their patron.

