

SAINT JAMES ORTHODOX CHURCH, MODESTO, CALIFORNIA
VARIABLE READINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 3, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Today, 1:00 to 2:00 PM—**“Our Faith” class for inquirers and catechumens.**
- Tuesday, May 5, 7:00 AM—**First hour prayers and fellowship breakfast.**
- Saturday, May 9, 6:00 PM—**Great Vespers.**
- Saturday, May 9, 7:00 PM—**SOYO activity.**

BIRTHDAYS, FEAST DAYS, AND ANNIVERSARIES

- May 5—Samuel Quilici’s birthday
- May 5—Ivy Baptist feast day (St. Irene)
- May 7—Marina Lua and Victoria Oksana’s birthdays
- May 7—Ean & Nadia Alvarez’s anniversary
- May 8—Juan Barragan, Ean Alvaraz, and Russell Hicks, and John Bakett’s feast day (St. John the Theologian)
- May 8—Amelia Estrella’s feast day (St. Emelia)
- May 8—Ryan Swehla’s birthday
- May 9—Nicholas Pino and Josh Wharton’s feast day (St. Christopher)
- May 9—Moises Lua Jr.’s birthday

PROSPHORA & FELLOWSHIP LUNCH SPONSORSHIP

Please be in touch with Stephanie Collins if you would like to change scheduled dates, or have questions about the schedule. Note: Fellowship lunch sponsors are responsible for clean-up unless otherwise noted.

Date	Prospora	Fellowship lunch sponsor
Sunday, May 3	Lauren Forquer	Larissa ad Friends
Sunday, May 10	Sh. Salwa	Luis team

ST. JAMES PROJECT MEXICO TRIP

This summer, we will be organizing our third annual St James Project Mexico trip! And we will be hosted by one of our own (Andrew Swehla) as a summer intern there. We will be going during Week 2, **June 2 to 8**. Project Mexico is a deeply impactful and rewarding experience. We are hosted by St. Innocent Orphanage which houses and educates orphans from the greater Tijuana area. During the time we are there, we will build (from the ground up) a home for a family in need of a home! To find out more information and to register, go to: <https://www.projectmexico.org/homebuilding>. To register, click on “Volunteer Registration” and select the St James group.

SOYO ALMSGIVING PROJECT: PANTRY PARTNERS!

We still need 20 boxes for donations for <https://www.projectmexico.org/pantry-partners>! Fill a box, any size, with foods or fill a box with hygienic supplies, and bring to Teen Sunday School room or Casa Cielo! Attached is the ongoing list of needs...a case of water counts as a box, as do commercial

PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE PSALMS:

Use the readings for week 7 on the master schedule (see pages 6 and 7)

HOW TO GIVE TO SAINT JAMES ONLINE

2) Download the “Church Center” app from your mobile app store or by scanning the QR code below with your mobile phone’s camera:



Once downloaded, choose the option to search manually, enter our zip code (95351), scroll down and select “St. James Antiochian Orthodox Church”, then follow the prompts to get signed in.

From both our website or the app you can setup either one-time or recurring donations with just a few clicks. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to Subdeacon David Quilici or Devin Peterson.

SYNAXARION FOR SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

MARTYRS TIMOTHY THE READER AND HIS WIFE MAURA OF EGYPT;
PETER, ARCHBISHOP OF ARGOLIS

On May 3 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyrs Timothy the reader and his wife Maura of Egypt; and Peter, archbishop of Argolis.

On this day, the fourth Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the Paralytic and, as is right, we celebrate the miracle wrought for him.

Verses

The word of Christ was strength for the paralytic;
So that this word alone was the man's full healing.

Jesus healed the Paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, located near the Sheep's Gate of Jerusalem, where people sacrificed their beasts and washed their insides. The pool had five sides, with a porch and arch on each. A number of people, afflicted with various diseases, passed through them, waiting at the water for an angel to come down and stir it. Once it moved, whoever stepped into the water first was instantly healed. One poor man, whose story is recounted in today's Gospel lection in the Divine Liturgy, waited 38 years for someone to lower him into the water, because he was unable to move into the water himself. However, the Savior merely commanded the man to get up and walk, and he was healed.

In Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

TODAY'S VARIABLE HYMNS:

The priest begins Divine Liturgy with "Blessed is the Kingdom" and the choir responds "Amen." Bearing the paschal candle, the priest then leads the singing of the Paschal Apolytikion and censes the west side of the altar.

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

The choir then sings this twice, and the liturgy continues with the great litaney.

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*) • *After the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the following:*

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.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

TROPARION OF SAINT JAMES (TONE 4)

As a disciple of the Lord, righteous James, thou didst receive the Gospel; and as a martyr thou art never turned away; as the brother of God thou hast boldness; and as a hierarch thou dost always intercede. Entreat Christ God, that He save our souls

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

PROKEIMENON

O chant unto our God, chant ye. Clap your hands, all ye nations.

THE READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE HOLY APOSTLES (9:32-42)

In those days, as Peter went throughout all regions, he came down also to the saints who dwelt at Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was bedridden for eight years and paralyzed. And Peter said to him: "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; arise and make your bed." And immediately he arose. And all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned back to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha (which means Gazelle). She was full of good works and of charitable deeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days that she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they placed her in an upper chamber. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him: "Come to us without delay!" So Peter arose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him into the upper chamber. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and other garments which Tabitha made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body, he said: "Tabitha, arise!" And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

And he gave her his hand, and raised her up. Then he called the saints and widows and presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

THE GOSPEL

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN.(5:115)

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda, which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first, after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for 38 years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me.” Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your pallet, and walk.” And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, “It is the Sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet.” But he answered them, “The man who healed me said to me, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk.’” They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk’?” Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befalls you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus Who had healed him.

MEGALYNARION FOR PASCHA (TONE)

The Angel cried unto her that is full of grace: O pure Virgin, rejoice, and again I say, rejoice; for thy Son hath arisen from the grave on the third day.

We believers in unison bless thee, O Virgin, crying: Rejoice, O gate of the Lord. Rejoice, O living city. Rejoice, O thou from whom didst rise upon us from the dead the Light of Resurrection, He Who was born of thee.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF PASCHA (TONE 8)

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

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

AFTER THE GREAT DISMISSAL:

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs...

People: ...bestowing life!

Notes about the **Pilgrimage through the Psalms Project**.

- Sunday, March 22 through Saturday, March 28 use the readings for Week One.
- Sunday, March 29 through Saturday, April 4, use the readings for Week Two. • Sunday, April 5 through Saturday, April 11, use the readings for Week Three.
- Sunday, April 12 through Saturday, April 18, use the readings for Week Four.
- Sunday, April 19 through Saturday, April 25 use the readings for Week Five.
- Sunday, April 26 through Saturday, May 2, use the readings for Week Six.

- Sunday, May 3 through Saturday, May 9 use the readings for Week Seven.
- Sunday, May 10 through Saturday, May 16, use the readings for Week Eight.
- Sunday, May 17 through Saturday, May 23, use the readings for Week Nine.

If you are reading from an Eastern Orthodox or Greek translation of the Psalms, such as *The Orthodox Study Bible*, *The Psalter According to the Seventy* (published by Holy Transfiguration Monastery) or *The Ancient Faith Psalter* (published by Ancient Faith Publishing), use the following Septuagint numbering.



Pilgrimage Through The Psalms

LXX/ Septuagint	Week 1* Stasis 1	Week 2* Stasis 2	Week 3* Stasis 3	Week 4* Stasis 1	Week 5* Stasis 2	Week 6* Stasis 3	Week 7** Stasis 1	Week 8** Stasis 2	Unit 9** Stasis 3
Sunday	9-10 Kathisma 2	11-13 Kathisma 2	14-16 Kathisma 2	17 Kathisma 3	18-20 Kathisma 3	21-23 Kathisma 3			
Monday	24-26 Kathisma 4	27-29 Kathisma 4	30-31 Kathisma 4	32-33 Kathisma 5	34-35 Kathisma 5	36 Kathisma 5	37-39 Kathisma 6	40-42 Kathisma 6	43-45 Kathisma 6
Tuesday	46-48 Kathisma 7	49-50 Kathisma 7	51-54 Kathisma 7	55-57 Kathisma 8	58-60 Kathisma 8	61-63 Kathisma 8	64-66 Kathisma 9	67 Kathisma 9	68-69 Kathisma 9
Wednesday	70-71 Kathisma 10	72-73 Kathisma 10	74-76 Kathisma 10	77 Kathisma 11	78-80 Kathisma 11	81-84 Kathisma 11	85-87 Kathisma 12	88 Kathisma 12	89-90 Kathisma 12
Thursday	91-93 Kathisma 13	94-96 Kathisma 13	97-100 Kathisma 13	101-102 Kathisma 14	103 Kathisma 14	104 Kathisma 14	105 Kathisma 15	106 Kathisma 15	107-108 Kathisma 15
Friday	134-136 Kathisma 19	137-139 Kathisma 19	140-142 Kathisma 19	143-144 Kathisma 20	145-147 Kathisma 20	148-150 Kathisma 20	119-123 Kathisma 18	125-128 Kathisma 18	129-133 Kathisma 18
Saturday	109-11 Kathisma 16	112-114 Kathisma 16	115-117 Kathisma 16	118:1-72 Kathisma 17	118:73-131 Kathisma 17	118:132- 176 Kathisma 17	1-3 Kathisma 1	4-6 Kathisma 1	7-8 Kathisma 1

*Liturgically at Matins/Orthros.

**Liturgically at Vespers.

Note: If you wish to pray the full cycle of the Psalms as done in monasteries then read all of the "weeks" (1-6 for Morning, 7-9 for evening) for the given day.

If you are reading from the Masoretic or Hebrew translation of the Psalms, such as the King James Version (KJV), the New International Version (NIV), or the Revised Standard Version (RSV), use the Masoretic / Western numbering.


Pilgrimage Through The Psalms

Hebrew/ MasoreGc	Week 1*	Week 2*	Week 3*	Week 4*	Week 5*	Week 6*	Week 7**	Week 8**	Unit 9**
	Stasis 1	Stasis 2	Stasis 3	Stasis 1	Stasis 2	Stasis 3	Stasis 1	Stasis 2	Stasis 3
Sunday	9-11	12-14	15-17	18	19-21	22-24			
Monday	25-27	28-30	31-32	33-34	35-36	37	38-40	41-43	44-46
Tuesday	47-49	50-51	52-55	56-58	59-61	62-64	65-67	68	69-70
Wednesday	71-72	73-74	75-77	78	79-81	82-85	86-88	89	90-91
Thursday	92-94	95-97	98-101	102-103	104	105	106	107	108-109
Friday	135-137	138-140	141-143	144-145	146-147	148-150	120-124	125-129	130-134
Saturday	110-112	113-116:9	116:10-118	119:1-72	119:73-131	119:132-176	1-3	4-6	7-8

*Liturgically at Matins/Orthros.

**Liturgically at Vespers.

Note: If you wish to pray the full cycle of the Psalms as done in monasteries then read all of the "weeks" (1-6 for Morning, 7-9 for evening) for the given day.