

# The Voice of Saint Anthony

Monthly Newsletter of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

February 2008 Volume 3, Number 2

#### Father Peter's Message



the evening of January 13th, I atthe Southern tended California Ecumenical Service, which was celebrated the at United Church on the USC campus. Many of our parishioners were in attendance as our beloved Father Stathis was honored for his many years of dedica-

tion and service to Christian unity. The theme for the service was "Pray Without Ceasing," which is taken from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Thessalonians. St. Paul was imploring and urging the faithful to pray at all times, to call on the name of God. What does this mean, to pray without ceasing, or all the time?

St. Paul was not instructing that we should be walking down the street mumbling or talking out loud in constant prayer, but rather he was implying that we should continually be thinking of the Lord. In other words, in all the many situations we face throughout our day, Christ should always be the reference point. "What would Christ advise me to do?" During the Ecumenical service, I witnessed the different ways other Christians strive to increase their prayer life and grow closer to God. Almost immediately, one of the most valuable tools of our

Orthodox tradition came to mind; the short but beautiful prayer known as "The Jesus Prayer."

#### "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me the sinner."

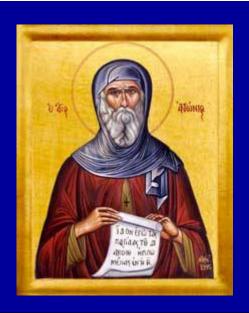
In the Orthodox classic, <u>The Way of the Pilgrim</u>, a Russian peasant searches for the true meaning of how to "pray without ceasing." On his journey through the Russian countryside he visits a spiritual elder who advise him to make the Jesus Prayer a part of his life. The pilgrim searches and searches for the practical meaning of this advise and how to accomplish it. As the pilgrim continues his travels he comes across a book which he opens to a random page and reads the following words:

"Ceaseless prayer is to call upon the Name of God always, whether a person is conversing, sitting down, walking, or eating. In other words, whatever a person is doing, in all places and at all times, he ought to call upon the name of the Lord."

At this moment, he understands and begins to incorporate the Jesus Prayer as a part of his daily life. He practices daily. He is eventually able to call on the name of Jesus at all times and in all places, thinking about Jesus throughout his day. Thus he achieves the goal of praying without ceasing.

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Sunday Services
Orthos 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Church office hours:** 

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

Closed on Saturday & Sunday

#### **Publication Reminder:**

The Voice of Saint Anthony deadline is the 10th of the preceding month. Please submit announcements electronically to Vicki Kades at VKades@gmail.com.

St. Anthony's reserves the right to edit, alter or reject any content.

Thank you to Stephanie Soewers for editing the monthly bulletin.

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(626) 449-6943 Fax (626) 449-6974
www.saint-anthonys.org

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Vicki Kades, Communications Vicki@saint-anthonys.org

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Steven Pappas - President Esther Vavoulis - Vice-President Irene Albeck - Secretary John Patzakis - Treasurer Sophia Angelos - Assistant Treasurer

Nicholas Angelos, Julie Kiotas-Balas, Kalli Bicos, John Buzas, Jim Christodoulelis, Nick Demopoulos, Syrus Mobayen, Tashia Vagenas, Ted Vavoulis, Peter Zarifes

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Andrew Demopulos, Chairman

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GOYA@saint-anthonys.org

#### **GREEK SCHOOL**

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#### MOMS N' TOTS

Nicolette Fuerst momsNtots@saint-anthonys.org

<u>VIP'S</u> Katherine Skandale

#### **Father Peter's Message Continued**

Another helpful book dealing with the subject of constant prayer is **Practicing the Presence of God.** It was written in the 17th century by Brother Lawrence, a humble cook in a French monastery. Brother Lawrence was able to turn even the most commonplace, daily tasks, such as preparing meals and washing dishes, into acts of praise and communion with God. The key to growing closer to God through prayer is not changing what you do, but changing your attitude toward what you do. Those things you normally do for yourself, you begin doing for God, whether it is eating, bathing, working, relaxing, playing, or even taking out the trash. All activities become an opportunity to praise and be close to God.

These two books are excellent resources for us as we, too work to be in daily communion

with God. We should all learn, recite, and pray the Jesus Prayer throughout the day and night. I would suggest that we attempt the following experiment: Let the last words you utter each night be the Jesus Prayer. Fall asleep with these words on your lips. Could there be any better way to go to sleep than with the thought of Christ? And when you awaken, let the first words you utter be the Jesus Prayer. Could there be any better way to start your day? During the day, whether you are walking, driving, making something, working, eating or occupied in some way, repeat the Jesus Prayer quietly in your mind. Invite Christ into all aspects of your life. In this small way you will improve your prayer life and immediately become closer to God.



St. Anthony's Feast Day Vespers Service January 16th, 2008





Fr. Mylonas Award Photos



#### **President's Message**

I want to first **thank** the Parish for reelecting me to the Parish Council for a third term and to the Parish Council itself for entrusting me with the important responsibility of serving another year as the President of St. Anthony. Though it consumes so much of my scarce time and energy, it is rewarding to give back to the community that my family and I, in turn, get so much out of. It is also an honor to work with so many exceptional individuals who show their love for St. Anthony and their families by selflessly giving of their time, talents, and treasures. I look forward to an exciting 2008, filled with much change and progress. Together, as a community, we can make St. Anthony even more vibrant and welcoming – a true beacon of Orthodoxy in the greater Pasadena area.

During our January Family Night, we kicked off our **St. Anthony Mentor Program**. cannot even begin to tell you what a special evening it was for not only our teenagers in attendance, but also all the adults who gained a much greater appreciation for the incredible talent we have in our community. An initial group of 25 parishioners volunteered to serve as Mentors to the youth of our community. Out of this group of 25, nearly all had post-graduate degrees. We were graced with 6 PhD's, 5 doctors, 4 lawyers, 3 MBAs, 2 teachers, 1 priest, and a number of other professions that provided our youth with a broad cross-section of career mentors that they can turn to as they begin to make important decisions about their future. We certainly know that we are blessed with many other individuals that we would like to include as mentors. So I invite you to contact the church office and provide your name, occupation, college degrees, schools attended, and contact number or email.

I want to especially thank Ted Vavoulis who spearheaded the creation of this marvelous program. Going forward, we are looking for another capable and energetic individual to lead this program, so that we can have Ted focus his efforts on his pivotal role as our Capital Campaign Chairman.

The Mentor Program is another fine example of our revitalized and growing Youth Programs. From our foundational Sunday School, Greek School, Moms N Tots, and Dance Program, we have launched our Sr. GOYA, Jr. GOYA, JOY, HOPE, and now Mentor Program. All of these groups require strong and committed adult leadership. If it is not already obvious to you, let me clearly bring to your attention that there is a relatively small group of dedicated adults leading these programs today. We need additional adults to step forward and volunteer their time and talents to lead these essential Youth programs. As I have done on multiple occasions in the past, I implore that you consider this important calling and volunteer to help nurture and guide our next generation.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to join us on February 23rd for our **41**<sup>st</sup> **Pentahiliariko**, which is affectionately being called "The Last Ball in the Hall" in anticipation of the start of the Construction Phase of our Building Program within the next year. Chairs John and Terese Caire have been working diligently with their committee to create a very special and memorable evening.

Respectfully yours, Steven Pappas Parish Council President



# 41st PENTAHILIARIKO!



# February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

"The Last Ball in the Hall!"

St. Anthony's Hellenic Cultural Center

Join us for the Pentahiliariko and celebrate Apokries (Mardi Gras)!

Dance to the music of **The Bob Gail Orchestra** And spend the evening in Old New Orleans

Greek Music by ~**Kefi**~

Tickets are:

\$350 per couple (including raffle ticket.) \$175 for a single ticket (sharing a raffle ticket.) \$100 for raffle tickets sold separately.



## St. Anthony Greek Folk Dance Groups



present their annual

# FDF Preview Night

featuring performances by

#### Bouboukakia, Filarakia, Terpsichoreans, and Ta Asterakia

Come enjoy a catered dinner and watch our award-winning dancers perform.

Afterwards there will be dancing for everyone! **Save the date!** 

### Saturday, February 9, 2008

St. Anthony's Church Hall 778 S. Rosemead Blvd. Pasadena

Doors open at 6:00pm; Dinner and Performances start at 7:00pm

#### Tickets:

Prepaid \$40 At the door \$45 Children 3 to 12 years old and Dancers \$25 Children under 3 Free

#### Seating is limited so reserve your table early!

\*Table reservations are made on a 'first come first served' basis by date paid.

For reservations, contact

Christine Pappas at <u>christinepappas@earthlink.net</u> or 818-415-5176 Eleni Vagenas at <u>peteeleni@yahoo.com</u> or 909-519-7788



St. Anthony Greek Folk Dance program is delighted to offer a treasured collection of recipes, Greek and non-Greek, from many outstanding cooks of the St. Anthony's community. This attractive cookbook with over 340 recipes makes an ideal gift or keepsake!

To purchase please contact Tanya Christodoulelis (626) 792-7294





Dear Parishioners,

St. Anthony's Greek Folk Dance Groups, with over 70 youths from our parish, are preparing and diligently practicing for the annual Folk Dance Festival (FDF). This year the festival will be February 14 through February 17, 2008, and will again be held in Ontario, California.

In anticipation of this exciting, competitive and inspirational weekend of Greek folk dancing with fellow parishes, we will have our annual FDF Preview Night on February 9, 2008. FDF Preview Night gives us the opportunity to celebrate with and support our dancers before they go present the 'fruits' of all their hard work at FDF.

Please consider attending this event and/or placing a personal ad in our FDF Preview Night Program Book. You can show your support for our dance groups by placing a personal ad from your family. Express your

love, friendship, best wishes or congratulations to a dancer, director, the dance program, or St. Anthony's church in general.

Attached is the program book ad form. Select your ad size and personalize the ad with your own message. Photos may be used on full page ads only and need to be emailed in jpeg format. Business cards may be used as quarter page ads.

For information about the FDF Preview Night Program book contact Dena Romios at 909-591-9102 or email her at <a href="mailto:DRomios1@aol.com">DRomios1@aol.com</a> before Feb. 2nd.

Thank you for your support.

Eleni K. Vagenas Fundraising Chairperson St. Anthony Greek Folk Dance Groupseteeleni@yahoo.com

#### **Greek School News - TA NEA TOY ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΥ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟΥ**







Ευχαριστούμε θερμά όλες τις οικογένειες που στήριξαν την πρωτοβουλία του Ελληνικού Σχολείου να συγκεντρώσει χρήματα για τους πυροπαθείς στην Ελλάδα στα πλαίσια των Χριστουγεννιάτικων εκδηλώσεών του (γιορτινή βραδιά, επισκέψεις σε σπίτια για κάλαντα). Χάρη στη γενναιοδωρία όλων συγκεντρώσαμε \$1000, τα οποία θα διατεθούν σε κάποιο από τα σχολεία της ελληνικής επαρχίας που επλήγησαν από τις καταστροφές του περασμένου καλοκαιριού. Σας είμαστε ευγνώμονες για όλη την υλική και ηθική συμπαράσταση στις δραστηριότητες του σχολείου μας!

Our warmest thanks to all the families who responded to the Greek School's initiative to raise money for the fire victims in Greece as part of its Christmas holiday program (celebratory evening, caroling tour). Thanks to everybody's generosity, we collected \$1000, which will be donated to one of the afflicted schools in the Greek countryside. Your material and moral support of our school's activities is greatly appreciated!





Φέτος υποδεχθήκαμε το Νέο Χρόνο με κοπή της καθιερωμένης βασιλόπιτας (φτιαγμένης από τις δασκάλες) την πρώτη Παρασκευή του Ιανουαρίου. Το νόμισμα έτυχε στην Όλγα Μαστροδήμου (Intermediate Class). Συγχαρητήρια, Όλγα, και Καλή Χρονιά!

Προσεχείς εκδηλώσεις Άνοιξη 2008 Κυριακή, 23 Μαρτίου, 12.15 μμ: εορτασμός 25ης Μαρτίου στη Αίθουσα της Εκκλησίας

Επίσκεψη και ξενάγηση στο Μουσείο Getty Villa για τις μεγαλύτερες τάξεις του σχολείου: προγραμματίζεται μετά το Πάσχα -λεπτομέρειες θα ανακοινωθούν προσεχώς.

We welcomed the New Year at school with the traditional βασιλόπιτα (baked by the teachers) on the first Friday of January. The lucky coin finder was Olga Mastrodemos (intermediate class). Congratulations, Olga, and good luck throughout the year!

Upcoming events Spring 2008
Sunday, 23 March, 12.15 p.m: Celebration of the Greek Independence Day at Church Hall -SAVE THE DATE!

Guided Visit to the Getty Villa Museum for the upper grades of our school: scheduled for a weekend after Easter –specifics will be announced soon.

#### **Religious Education (Sunday School)**

Following the holidays, Sunday school resumed with family worship and experiencing one of the twelve great feasts of our church, Theophany;

#### Please save these dates on your calendars.

March 16 Sunday of Orthodoxy-Procession of the icons

April 19 Saturday of Lazarus-Following Divine Liturgy, breakfast and making palm crosses.

April 25 Holy Friday Retreat May 4 Godparent Sunday

June 8 Last Day of Sunday School.

#### **Sunday School Schedule 2008**

Classes Meet	No Classes
February 3, 10 24	April 27 (Pascha/Easter)
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	May 25 (Memorial Day Weekend)
April 6, 13, 20	
May 4, 11, 18	
June 1, 8	

#### Joy - Junior Orthodox Youth

Following a lesson on being good stewards of the earth and taking care of God's creatures, bird feeders were made. The children had great fun playing a game, until the girls observed the floor sloped thus giving the boys a distinct advantage, we switched sides and the competition evened out, The most exciting activity was making snow, without going to the mountains.

#### **Moms N Tots**

Moms N Tots classes meet every Monday morning from 10-10:45 am. Ages 6 months to 4 1/2 years old are welcome to join in. Activities include crafts, singing, story time, playtime and much more!

Come join the fun. There is no preregistration necessary!

For more information about Moms N Tots please contact Nicolette Fuerst at 626-458-9816 or email nicolette8868@yahoo.com.



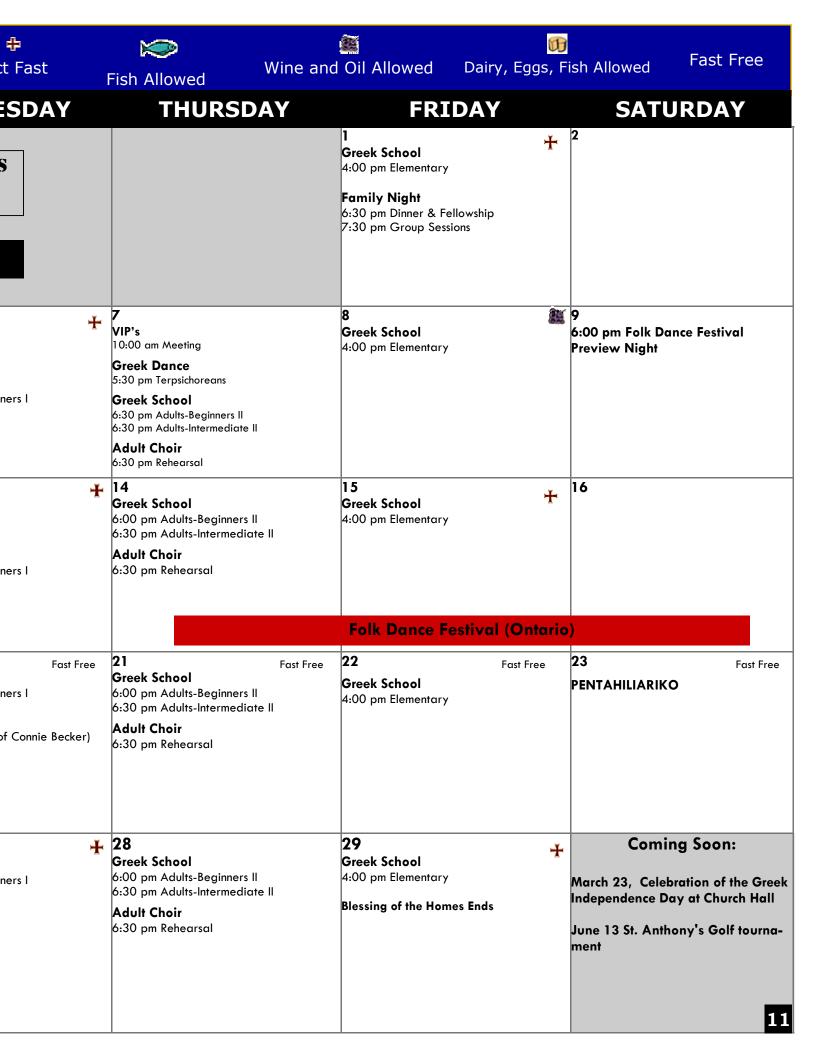
#### Kids whining at the Toy Store

- 1. Take them seriously- and make them think. Say "Okay, then let's take out your birthday list and add that to it." (Be sure to bring a pad along!)
- 2. Promise something that sounds big. "No more whines and we'll have fairy dust sandwiches for lunch." (Just add a sprinkle of cinnamon.)
- 3. Make up stories. About toys that come to life at night and love living at the toy store.

Parenting Tip from Parenting Magazine



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNE
EVERYONE		END THE BUILDING COMMIT NDAY OF EACH MONTH.	TEE MEETINGS
Blessing of th	ne Homes Jan. 8th -	- Feb. 29th	
3 +15th Sunday of Luke 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Sunday School in Church Greek Dance 12:30 pm Bouboukakia	4 Moms N' Tots 10:00 am Session Greek School 4:00 pm Preschool 4:00 pm Kindergarten 4:00 pm Conversational 6:30 pm Adults-Intermediate I Bible Study 7:00 pm Session	5 Bible Study 10:00 am Session Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Advanced	6 Greek Dance 4:45 pm Filarakia 6:00 pm T'Asterakia Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Begin
10 +Sunday of the Canaanite 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Sunday School in Church Greek Dance 12:30 pm Bouboukakia	11 Moms N' Tots 10:00 am Session Greek School 4:00 pm Preschool 4:00 pm Kindergarten 4:00 pm Conversational 6:30 pm Adults-Intermediate I Bible Study 7:00 pm Session Building Committee 7:00 pm Meeting	12 Bible Study 10:00 am Session Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Advanced Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm Meeting	13 Greek Dance 4:45 pm Filarakia 6:00 pm T'Asterakia Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Begin
17 +Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy  Folk Dance Festival (6	Presidents Day Office Closed	19 Fast Free Bible Study 10:00 am Session Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Advanced	20 Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Begin Philoptochos 7:30 Meeting (home of
24 +Sunday of Prodigal Son 8:30 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Sunday School in Church  Goya Basketball 2:00 pm vs. St. George @ John Muir - Pasadena	25  Moms N' Tots 10:00 am Session  Greek School 4:00 pm Preschool 4:00 pm Kindergarten 4:00 pm Conversational 6:30 pm Adults-Intermediate I  Bible Study 7:00 pm Session	26 Bible Study 10:00 am Session Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Advanced	27 Greek School 6:30 pm Adults-Begin



#### **Philoptochos**

St. Anthony Philoptochos would like to thank all the parishioners who became a "Holiday Hero" in December by providing Christmas gifts to underprivileged young people at Trinity Homes. As a result of our community's generosity many boys had a nice holiday. Thanks to Connie Becker, Lisa Xanthos, and Presbytera Maria Mylonas for organizing and making this project so successful.

January was a busy month for our chapter, beginning with the custom of cutting the Vasilopita. Thank you to Evelyn Kelfalas, Yiota Poulos and Helen Bonorris for preparing and baking the Vasilopita for Sunday, January 13. Thanks also go to Julie Balas and Stavroula Kiotas for hosting and serving the Vasilopita. This annual event, held throughout the country, is the primary fundraiser for the Academy of St. Basil's. This New York facility is open to troubled children from all over the United States and offers schooling and a home during the school year.

On Wednesday, January 16, Maria Kypreos, Helen Kundanis, Marietta Bicos, Elizabeth Demopulos, Sofia Malahatis and Mary Arapostathis, prepared and served a wonderful meal after St. Anthony's Vesper service in honor of the Patron Saint of our beloved St. Anthony Church. Many priests from surrounding Southern California parishes joined Fr. Peter and assisted at the Vesper Service. Thank you to all the ladies who helped with this evening.

Currently we are organizing the St. Anthony Philoptochos stewardship drive for 2008. Stewardship fees are suggested at \$40 per year. Larger donations are also welcome. Ten dollars of each stewardship donation is sent to National Philoptochos, while another \$10 goes to the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos to fund their respective ministries and programs. The remainder of the money collected is used for local philanthropic projects. Ladies, please complete the St. Anthony Philoptochos Membership and Stewardship Form in this month's

bulletin and send it to Vangie Dupas along with your check at the address listed on the form.

In February we are promoting awareness of the American Heart Association's "Go Red For Women Campaign" by asking ladies in our community to wear red to church on Sunday, February 3. Philoptochos sisters across the country will wear red on this day to church as a symbol of support for this program. Heart disease is the number one cause of death in women.

Our next general meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Litsa Stavropoulos in Arcadia.

#### **Community Outreach:**

We would like to thank and acknowledge the numerous members of St. Anthony who in the past have prepared and served meals at the Pasadena Union Station on the first Wednesday of each month. If you would like to participate in this very rewarding and worthwhile project, please call Irene Albeck at (626) 792-8122 for information.

#### **Coffee Hour:**

Please consider hosting a Church Coffee Hour. You can keep it simple as you like. For more information and to select a date when you can host a Church Coffee Hour, please contact Maria Kypreos at (626) 914-6269.

Submitted by Pamela Buzas



#### Philoptochos Society St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church Pasadena, California

## Membership and Stewardship Information (Suggested Annual Stewardship: \$40.00)

#### Complete this form and send it with your Stewardship Donation

First and Last name of member	
(William Internation and your would have been all one passes of the control of th	
First name of husband (If Married)	
Street Address	_
City/ State/ ZIP Code	
Email Address	
Home phone	
Cell phone	
Please make checks payable to St. Anthony Philoptochos and mail this form April 1, 2008:  Vangie Dupas  Attention: Philoptochos  3020 Welsh Way  Glendale, California 91206	
Philoptochos Volunteer Opportunities:	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins Events: chair, help plan/organize events	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins Events: chair, help plan/organize events Easter: baking and selling Mailings: assist with mailings Food: prepare for various events	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins Events: chair, help plan/organize events Easter: baking and selling Mailings: assist with mailings Food: prepare for various events Set up/clean up	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins Events: chair, help plan/organize events Easter: baking and selling Mailings: assist with mailings Food: prepare for various events Set up/clean up Fashion Show: auction, boutique, cashier, decorating	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins Events: chair, help plan/organize events Easter: baking and selling Mailings: assist with mailings Food: prepare for various events Set up/clean up Fashion Show: auction, boutique, cashier, decorating Invitation Design	
Social Service: visitations to hospitals, shut-ins Events: chair, help plan/organize events Easter: baking and selling Mailings: assist with mailings Food: prepare for various events Set up/clean up Fashion Show: auction, boutique, cashier, decorating	

#### **Vasilopita Cutting**





#### Saint Paul's Greek Orthodox is most honored to present His Eminence, Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

Emeritus Lecturer in Eastern Orthodox Studies at Oxford University Author of The Orthodox Way.

## Friday, February 29 Saturday, March 1

The Way and The Orthodox Church Drawing Closer to "The Sacramental Life"

A two-day seminar on Ware's presentations:

"The Mystery of Baptism: Rebirth" The Dying, Rising and Living in Christ.

"The Mystery of Repentance: Confession" Love, Forgiveness and Healing.

"The Mystery of the Eucharist: Communion" Eating and Drinking at the Marriage supper of the Lamb.

Registration: \$25.00. Reception following presentation. Lunch will be provided on Saturday Childcare available for \$10 per family. Please call 949.733.2366 for registration information or visit www.StPaulsIrvine.org

#### Sunday, February 17th (Folk Dance Festival) Special Liturgy

Everyone is invited to attend a special Divine Liturgy at this year's FDF with Archbishop Demetrios of America who will be presiding along with several Metropolitans from around the country.

In addition to the above-mentioned Divine Liturgy, FDF is open to the public for a fantastic weekend filled with Greek culture and fellowship. There will be over 100 dance & choral groups in attendance performing traditional folk songs and dances from all regions of Greece. In addition to competition, there are special showcases, exhibits, carnivals and Greek glendia all weekend! For ticket and event information you can call Vicki Kades 626-301-9316 or go to www.gofdf.org.

# Feb 14 - 17 Ontario Convention Center

Good luck to our St. Anthony's dancers at FDF!

Many thanks to their parents & directors with worked hard to make the program a success! Have fun at FDF 2008!

Please come to Ontario to support our community!

#### St. Anthony GOYA Basketball Schedule

Sunday, Feb. 24 vs. St. George @ John Muir - Pasadena

Sunday, Mar. 2 vs. St. John @ St. John - Anaheim

Sunday, Mar. 9 vs. Assumption @ John Muir - Pasadena

Sunday, Mar. 23 vs. St. Nicholas @ St. Nicholas - Northridge

Saturday, Mar. 29 vs. St. Sophia @ St. Sophia - Los Angeles

Sunday, Mar. 30 vs. St. Katherine @ John Muir - Pasadena

#### **PLAYOFFS**

Quarterfinals: Saturday, Apr. 5

@ John Muir - Pasadena

Semi Finals: Sunday, Apr. 6 @ John Muir - Pasadena

Finals: Sunday, Apr. 13

@ Bishop Conaty - Los Angeles

## PARISH DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS!

Watch for more information regarded this exciting new project! The St. Anthony community is planning to publish a directory of its parishioners. This directory will only be made available to those that are on our church mailing list.

The Church Directory serves as an important tool to help our parish priests, staff and ministry leaders connect with our parish members. This information is for the members of our community only. There will be an option to opt out. More information will be coming soon!

#### SAVE THE DATE...

Friday, June 13th

**Brookside Golf Course** 

Annual Pasadena Golf Classic



100% of proceeds go to the building fund. We will be looking for golfers, sponsors, volunteers and donors!

More information coming soon!

#### **Upcoming Youth Events**

Call St. Paul's at 949-733-2366 with any questions or to get additional information for either event.

#### **Youth Ministry Leader Training**

Feb. 9. 2008

Please join us at Saint Paul's Greek Orthodox Church for a Pan-Orthodox Youth Ministry Leader Training Seminar on Saturday, February 9, 2008. Father Mark Leondis, Director of Youth Ministries for the Greek Archdiocese, will be the featured speaker and lead us through this day-long training event. All youth workers, as well as junior high and high school Sunday, school teachers are welcome.

#### **Youth Rally**

March 1, 2008

Youth Rally For All Young People Ages 6th Grade and Up Sparking a Revolution Lovers of Truth PAN - Orthodox Introducing the Music & Ministry of Fr. Justin Mathews

## January Family Night Highlights!





St. Anthony Mentoring Program (SAM) was introduced and a great success! We will continue to gather names and contact information of people that would be interested in participating in the program.

We would like to counsel our youth in the areas of college selection, academic guidance and career advice. Your experience and training can help provide useful insight, knowledge and advice to our youth as they navigate college and career paths.

Please contact Ted Vavoulis via email at <a href="mailto:tvavoulis@vweconomics.com">tvavoulis@vweconomics.com</a> or call 626-862-5093 if you would like to volunteer.











## Next Family Night

February 1, 6:30 pm
Join us for dinner & fellowship
Bring the entire Family
Join in the FUN!



Everyone is encouraged to join in this great evening of fellowship with our parish family! Families, young adults, singles, empty nesters, and senior adults are all welcome to join in an evening of dinner, fellowship and activities for kids and adults.





# There Is Something For Everyone!

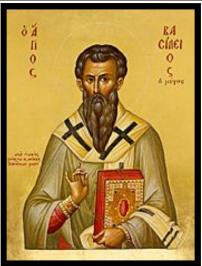








#### **Featured Saint**



Saint Basil the born Great was about the end of the year 329 in Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family renowned for their learning and holiness. His parents' names were Basil His and Emily. mother Emilv (commemorated July 19) and his

grandmother Macrina (Jan. 14) are Saints of the Church, together with all his brothers and sisters: Macrina, his elder sister (July 19), Gregory of Nyssa (Jan. 10), Peter of Sebastia (Jan. 9), and Naucratius. Basil studied in Constantnople under the sophist Libanius, then in Athens, where also he formed a friendship with the young Gregory, a fellow Cappadocian, later called "the Theologian." Through the good influence of his sister Macrina (see July 19), he chose to embrace the ascetical life, abandoning his worldly career. He visited the monks in Egypt, in Palestine, in Syria, and in Mesopotamia, and upon returning to Caesarea, he departed to a hermitage on the Iris River in Pontus, not far from Annesi, where his mother and his sister Macrina were already treading the path of the ascetical life; here he also wrote his ascetical homilies.

About the year 370, when the bishop of his country reposed, he was elected to succeed to his throne and was entrusted with the Church of Christ, which he tended for eight years, living in voluntary poverty and strict asceticism, having no other care than to defend holy Orthodoxy as a worthy successor of the Apostles. The Emperor Valens, and Modestus, the Eparch of the East, who were of one mind with the Arians, tried with threats of exile and of torments to bend the Saint to their own confession, because he was the bastion of Orthodoxy in all Cappadocia, and preserved it from heresy when

Arianism was at its strongest. But he set all their malice at nought, and in his willingness to give himself up to every suffering for the sake of the Faith, showed himself to be a martyr by volition. Modestus, amazed at Basil's fearlessness in his presence, said that no one had ever so spoken to him. "Perhaps," answered the Saint, "you have never met a bishop before." The Emperor Valens himself was almost won over by Basil's dignity and wisdom. When Valens' son fell gravely sick, he asked Saint Basil to pray for him. The Saint promised that his son would be restated if Valens agreed to have him baptized by the Orthodox; Valens agreed, Basil prayed. the son was restored. But afterwards the Emperor had him baptized by Arians, and the child died soon after. Later, Valens, persuaded by his counselors, decided to send the Saint into exile because he would not accept the Arians into communion; but his pen broke when he was signing the edict of banishment. He tried a second time and a third, but the same thing happened, so that the Emperor was filled with dread, and tore up the document, and Basil was not banished. The truly great Basil, spent with extreme ascetical practices and continual labours, at the helm of the church, departed to the Lord on the 1st of January, in 379. at the age of forty-nine.

His writings are replete with wisdom and erudition, and rich these gifts he set forth the doctrines concerning the mysteries both of the creation (see his Hexaemeron) and of the Holy Trinity (see On the Holy Spirit). Because of the majesty and keenness of his eloquence, he is honored as "the revealer of heavenly things" and "the Great."

Saint Basil is also celebrated on January 30th with Saint Gregory the Theologian and Saint John Chrysostom.



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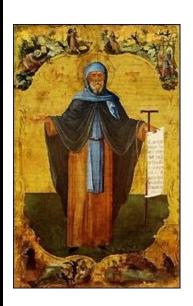
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