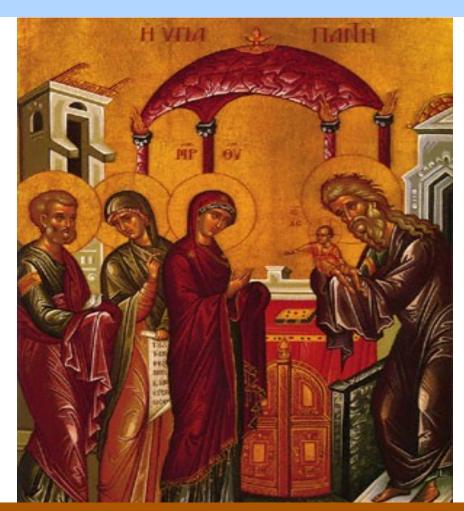
The Voice of Saint Anthony

FEBRUARY 2019

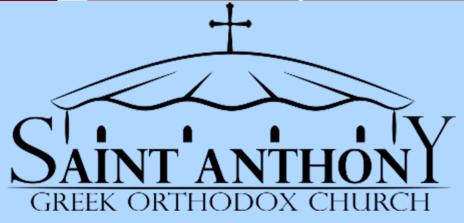
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Priest's Message	2
Parish Council News	4
Stewardship	5
Choir News	6
Church School	7
Youth/Young Adult News	8
Philoptohos News	10
VIPs	11
Ministries	12
Community News	14
Saints of the Month	19
Orthodox Calendar	21

Deadline for
March Newsletter is
Monday, 25 February
Please send to:
frchris@saint-anthonys.org
newsletter_church@aol.com



The Presentation of our Lord into the Temple



Reverend Father Peter Stratos, Pastor Reverend Father Christopher Retelas, Associate Pastor

778 S. Rosemead Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107

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

PRIEST'S MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Christ is in our midst!

Pack your bags, get ready, because we're about to go on an amazing, somewhat difficult, but spiritually and physically engaging journey all together. Don't worry, if you're not ready you still have some time to prepare. Of course, that journey I'm talking about is **Great Lent** and, believe it or not, it is now officially on our horizon. You might be thinking that I'm getting ahead of myself, because you can check the Church calendar and see that **Great Lent begins with Clean Monday, March 11th**. However, this coming month of February, the Church provides a pre-Lenten period to prepare us for this journey. As Great Lent itself is a time to get ready for the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord, this preparatory season in our Church is called **Triodion**. Technically, the term Triodion is in reference to a book of hymns for the Church that begins to be used 3 weeks before Lent commences. You can read more about that at **orthodoxwiki.org/Lenten_Triodion**. These weeks of preparation are always the same for us.

Beginning with the **Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee**, this marks the beginning of a time of preparation for the spiritual journey of Lent, a time for Orthodox Christians to draw closer to God through worship, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. The examples of these two men, one a tax-collector who is despised, the other a religious elite who is exalted by the public, show us the importance of repentance and humility in prayer. Our preparation for Lent begins with a prayer for humility - the beginning of true repentance. Through repentance, we can find and return to the true order of things, a restoration of our spiritual vision that will guide us in a very difficult and challenging world.

We then move to the **Sunday of the Prodigal Son.** A very well-known and beloved biblical parable that further illustrates for us the need for repentance and turning our lives back to our Heavenly Father Who loves us. No matter how far lost the son was, his father was always anticipating and desiring his return. This parable show us an icon of repentance at its different stages. Sin is exile from our homeland, enslavement to strangers and hunger. Repentance is the return to our true home; it is to receive back our inheritance and freedom in the Father's house. To repent is not just to feel dissatisfied, but to make a decision and to act upon it as the Prodigal did.

We always need to seek out our Father's house. I pray that this period in which we begin our journey towards Great and Holy Lent, ultimately leading towards the Victorious Resurrection of our Lord, be one of joy, rejuvenation, contemplation, prayer, and repentance.

To God be the glory!

Fr. Christopher Retelas



PRIEST'S MESSAGE - CONTINUED

Blessing of Homes - 2019

The Feast of the Holy Theophany of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, one of the 12 Great Feasts of our Church, is celebrated each year on January 6th, commemorating the Baptism of Christ and divine revelation of the Holy Trinity. The services for this great feast are accompanied and made even more joyful with the Blessing of the Waters, in which Holy Water is distributed to the faithful to use and partake in their homes throughout the coming year. With this same sanctified water, the priest also blesses the homes of the faithful, so that the blessings and protection of our Lord will be with us throughout the year and that our homes may be sanctified with our prayers.

With this tradition in mind, both Fr. Peter and Fr. Christopher will be offering the opportunity to have your homes blessed with the Holy Water of Theophany. This will be offered from January 8th through February 15th.

If you wish to have your home blessed, please complete and return this form or contact the church office at (626) 449-6943.

Name	
Address	
Telephone #	_ E-mail
We would like to have our home bles	ssed and will be available on the following week
days:	

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Saint Anthony 2019 Parish Council

Officers

Pete Gallanis President

John Vidalakis 1st Vice President

Joseph Akrotirianakis 2nd Vice President

Tashia Vagenas Secretary

Tony Christopoulos Treasurer

Members

Philip Ted Attalla James Pappas

John Buzas Sophia Syrengelas

Roberto Crespo Mary Udria

Tom Grafos Perry Vidalakis

Christos Ioannou Vincent Zarian





STEWARDSHIP

2018 STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

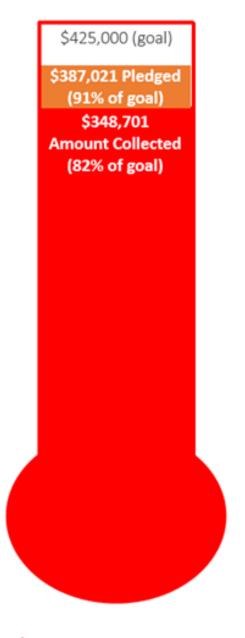
 OUR STEWARDSHIP GOAL:
 \$425,000

 308 PLEDGES TOTALING:
 \$387,021

 COLLECTED AS OF 12/20/18:
 \$348,701

AVERAGE PLEDGE GOAL: \$1,500
CURRENT AVERAGE PLEDGE: \$1,257

Breakdown Pledges				
Amount Pledge	# of Pledges	% of Pledges Breakdown		
\$ 20 - \$299	49	16%		
\$300 - \$499	41	13%		
\$500 - \$799	71	23%		
\$800 - \$999	10	3%		
\$1,000 - \$1,499	62	20%		
\$1,500 - \$1,999	22	7%		
\$2,000 - \$3,999	35	11%		
\$4,000 - \$5,999	10	3%		
\$6,000 - \$7,999	3	1%		
\$8,000 - \$9,999	0	0		
\$10,000 - \$14,999	4	1%		
\$15,000 - \$99,999	1	0.3%		
TOTAL PLEDGES	308	100%		



NEWS FROM THE LOFT



Chanters

Dr Nicholas Kokoris Constantine Trigonis Demetre Baliotis Mike Abi-Farah



Youth Choir Katerina Lynch Director

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Do you wish the children in your life knew more about their Orthodox faith?

Do you value their spiritual development?

Would you like them to build close relationships with other Orthodox Christians?

If so, then St. Anthony Church School is the place for them! The Church School staff enthusiastically encourages parents, grandparents, godparents, family, and friends to give the children they love the opportunity to be a part of the learning, growth and Christian fellowship that is offered each Sunday, by bringing them to the Divine Liturgy and Church School.

We can't wait to welcome the children into our classrooms!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who had Perfect Attendance in January:

John Ioannou Mary Nuñez

Kostadina Ioannou Isabella Pollalis

Evangelia Kleissas Theodora Trigonis

Athanasios Mitis Kostantinos Tsigkounis

Katerina Nastri Michael Vidalakis

Nicholas Nuñez Nicholas Voyagis

Noah Nuñez

MOMS, POPS 'N TOTS Ages 4 and under!



Moms, Pops 'n Tots is starting again!

When: Sundays after Communion

Where: Pre-school Room 14

All families with Children 4 years of age or younger are welcome to join us in this wonderful program of singing, dancing, and learning the faith.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

St. Anthony Bowling League

It's not too late to sign up for Winter/Spring bowling league.

Even if you've missed the start date we can still get you onto a team. If you can't commit to the entire league we are also looking for substitutes to fill in when needed.

League begins January 29th and ends April 16th - every Tuesday

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Where: Bowling Square in Arcadia.

Open to all levels beginner to experienced.

Questions and to sign up contact Pana Gelt: pgelt@socal.rr.com

626-278-2808



GOYA Basketball

It's time to register for the 2019 GOYA Basketball season!

Join the fun! Games begin Saturday, March 2nd

Sign up Sunday, February 3rd after church.*

Girls ages 12 – 21 Boys ages 12 – 19 Fee is \$80

Make check to St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church



Pana Gelt: pgelt@socal.rr.com 626-278-2808
Patricia Paziouros: ppaziouros@yahoo.com 626-497-2164
John Paziouros: john.paziouros@gmail.com 626-497-2167



*If you will not be at church on February 3rd, please let Pana, Patricia or John know if you will be participating!

GOYA Volleyball

SAVE THE DATE

G.O.Y.A. Volleyball Tournament Saturday, May 11, 2019



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS (CONTINUED)

ST. ANTHONY GOYA 2019 WINTER RETREAT @ LAKE ARROWHEAD

WHENP

FEBRUARY 22 – 24

WHOP

ALL GOYA GRADES 6-12

WHERE?

LAKE ARROWHEAD, CA

WHAT TO BRING?

WARM CLOTHES FOR THE SNOW, SPENDING MONEY, TOILETRIES

WHAT'S THE POINT?

FELLOWSHIP, DISCUSSIONS, WORSHIP. & FUN

RSVP BY FEB 13th, 2019

FRIDAY FEB <u>22ND</u>

dinner at St. Anthony 5:00 drive to Lake Arrowhead, evening activities, games and discussions

SATURDAY FEB 23RD

snow tubing & sledding, shopping in Lake Arrowhead village, evening Liturgy, dinner, and games

SUNDAY FEB 24th

breakfast all together depart for St. Anthony at 11am, arrive at 1pm

COST:

\$140 CHECKS TO 'SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH'

CONTACT: FR. CHRIS frchris@saint-anthony.org

TENTATIVE FDF SCHEDULE

Regular meetings will commence following the Folk Dance Festival. Meetings will take place the first Sunday of the month and will begin 10 minutes after Church School ends.

Meeting location — Rooms 1A and 1B.

March 4 May 6 July 1 September 2

April 1 June 3 August 5

Volunteer to help, serve and/or prepare a simple lunch, provide a snack or donate to help defray costs (not required). Contact: Irene Albeck, mcmg2a@aol.com

St. Anthony Parish Oratorical Festival - Saturday, March 16, 2019

We welcome all ages of our church youth to participate in this joyful learning experience as a way to enhance their understanding and appreciation of their identity as Orthodox Christians. Furthermore, we hope this opportunity to learn, write, and speak about their Orthodox Faith cultivates spiritual growth and self-confidence.

For further information, please contact Nicole Schulman at 626-497-5368 or nicoleschul@gmail.com

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

February 2019

Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale

Don't forget to order your tsoureki, kourabiedes, chocolate dipped koulourakia, plain koulourakia and dyed red eggs, as well as other Easter treats, before Easter. **Order forms will be available last week in March.**

All proceeds will benefit Kids n' Cancer and Camp Agape.

Attention High School Graduating Seniors

Applications for **Saint Anthony Philoptochos Scholarship** will soon be available.

The scholarship is reflective of the mission of Philoptochos, assisting and recognizing the youth of our church. They are our future sustaining our faith and promoting philanthropia.

For questions or to request an application, please contact:

Philoptochos President Maria Kypreos — makypreos@gmail.com

Scholarship Chair Irene Albeck — mcmg2a@aol.com

Scholarship Co-Chair Fontaine Malisos — fontainachilles@gmail.com

Community Outreach-Union Station Homeless Services- Adult Center 412 South Raymond Avenue-Pasadena, CA

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." Philippians 2:4"

Philoptochos oversees this outreach and seeks the participation of community members. Our commitment is the first Wednesday of each month, once a month, 6:45 PM to approximately 8:45 PM. There is no food preparation. You can bring dessert (ie: cookies, brownies etc.) for sixty clients.

Duties include plating food and minimal clean up. There is a commercial dishwasher or you may bring heavy duty paper plates.

Please consider signing up to serve at Union Station Adult Center. Three to four people generally will be sufficient to serve and clean up.

Dates available: April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4.

All dates are on a Wednesday from 6:45 PM to 8:45 PM.

For questions and further information please contact:

Stephanie Soewers - szanglis@aol.com

Sophia Angelos - sangelos2000@gmail.com

Irene Albeck - mcmg2a@aol.com

VIP NEWS

PLEASE JOIN THE VIPs

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Trinity Ballroom.

Coming up....

Tuesday, February 12 - 10:00 a.m.

VIP Meeting and refreshments

Thursday, February 21st

Tour of Hindu Temple in Chino Hills

If you are interested in joining us, please email or call me.

Helen Treantafelles

VIP President

htreantafelles@yahoo.com

626-339-1338 (home)

626-688-2196 (cell)



MINISTRIES

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos Reverend Father Christopher Retelas

2019 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Officers

Pete Gallanis President

1st Vice President John Vidalakis

2nd Vice President Joseph Akrotirianakis

Tashia Vagenas Secretary

Tony Christopoulos Treasurer

Members

Philip Ted Attalla James Pappas

Sophia Syrengelas John Buzas

Roberto Crespo Mary Udria

Perry Vidalakis **Tom Grafos**

Christos Ioannou Vincent Zarian

OFFICE STAFF

Alma Vorgias - Office Administrator

Athena Serban – Events Coordinator (Trinity Ballroom)



CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



CHOIR

Choir Director Jim Hronas

Maria Hronas Sherese Akrotirianakis Elias Kalivas Dean Athans Stavrula Kiotas Tina Athans Dr. Rodanthi Kitridou **George Babbes** Christina Becronis Kathy Lucas Liam McCann Tom Bouras **Bess Mechalas Judie Christopoulos** Elizabeth Moreno **Leah Cokias** Rebecca Courter Iliana Orozco Alexandra Patzakis Athena Dallas **Gena Pegadiotes** Maria Ganis Georgia Loutsos Grajeda Katerina Petrossian

CHANTERS

Aliki Haralambos

Mike Abi-Farah

Patrick Lynch **READERS**

Dr Nicholas Kokoris Katerina Lynch **Constantine Trigonis Demetrios Baliotis**



YOUTH CHOIR

Litsa Stavropoulos

Pres. Aida Stratos

Katerina Lynch

CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Fotene Trigonis - Director

Anastasia Kalivas - Director

Irene Albeck - Preschool

Nikolitsa Vagenas - Preschool

Kathy Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st

Kyriaki Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st

Michael Nunez - 2nd & 3rd

Anna Nunez - 2nd & 3rd

Maria Prantzikou - 2nd & 3rd

John Vagenas - 4th & 5th

Maria Pappas - Middle School

Fotene Trigonis - Middle School

Anastasia Kalivas - High School



MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Panagia Chapter Board 2017-2019

President

Maria Kypreos

1st Vice President

Elizabeth Skandale & Lisa Xanthos

2nd Vice President

Judith Din & Konstantina Paziouros

Corresponding Secretary

Tanya Christodoulelis & Maria Grover

Recording Secretary

Fontaine Achilles Malisos & Mary Dewar

Treasurer

Maria Kokoris

Assistant Treasurer

Katherine Skandale

Beautification

Presbytera Aida Stratos & Esther Vavoulis

Community Outreach

Mary Dewar, Stephanie Soewers & Presbytera Aida Stratos

Fellowship

Athena Dallas

Publicity / Webmaster

Terese Caire & Nicolette Fuerst

Scholarship

Irene Albeck & Judith Din

Sunshine and Visitation

Jeanne Karaiannoglou

Union Station

Irene Albeck

Welfare

Presbytera Maria Mylonas

Advisor

Connie Becker

Spiritual Advisor

Father Peter Stratos



ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

Acolytes Fr. Christopher Retelas

Bible Study Fr. Peter Stratos

Bookstore Jeremiah Courter

GOYA Fr. Christopher Retelas

GOYA Basketball Anthia Lucas

Pana Gelt

Greek Dance Groups Christine Pappas

Greek Festival John Vidalakis

Nick Demopulos

Julie Balas

Greek Language School Anastasia McClain

JOY/HOPE Irene Albeck

Moms & Tots Rebecca Courter

Myrrh Bearers Irene Albeck

Oratorical Festival Maria Grover

Pasadena Golf Classic Jimmy Christodoulelis

Roberto Crespo

Prayer Shawls Aliki Haralambos

Vacation Bible School Sophia Syrengelas

Mary Udria

VIPs Helen Treantafelles

Young Adults Mike Abi Farah



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LECTURE SERIES

Hosted by St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, Pasadena, CA

February 23, 2019

MARRIAGE & RELATIONSHIPS

Philip Mamalakis

Saturday 5 p.m.

How can we use scripture to strengthen our marriages, our friendships, and our family relationships?

March 23, 2019

PARTICIPATORY LITURGY

Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. *

Fr. Peter Stratos and Fr. Chris Retelas

What does church history teach us about participation during the Divine Liturgy? Learn the liturgy and then take part in what we hope will be an amazing service.

April 13, 2019

THE HABIT OF HAPPINESS

Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. *

George Papageorge

The United States is currently immersed in an epidemic of depression. How can we experience happiness when things often seem bleak?

Typical Daily Schedule *

9-10 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast

10-12:30 Morning session

12:30-1:30 Luncheon

1:30-4:00 Afternoon session

Medal of Saint Paul awarded to John Vidalakis 27 January 2019











Saint Anthony Past Presidents Dinner 27 January 2019





















Saint Anthony Past Presidents Dinner—continued 27 January 2019













Page 18 February 2019

COMMUNITY NEWS





SAINTS OF THE MONTH

Presentation of our Lord into the Temple 2 February

When the most pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary's forty days of purification had been fulfilled, she took her first-born Son to Jerusalem on this, the fortieth day after His birth, that she might present Him in the temple according to the Law of Moses, which teaches that every first-born male child be dedicated to God and also that she might offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons, as required by the Law (Luke 2:22-24; Exodus 13:2; Leviticus 12:6-8). On this same day, a just and devout man, the greatly aged Symeon, was also present in the temple, being guided by the Holy Spirit. For a long time, this man had been awaiting the salvation of God and he had been informed by divine revelation that he would not die until he beheld the Lord's Christ. Thus, when he beheld Him at that time and took Him up into his aged arms, he gave glory to God, singing: "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master. . . " And he confessed that he would close his eyes joyfully, since he had seen the Light of

Revelation for the nations and the Glory of Israel (Luke 2:25-32). From ancient times, the Holy Church has retained this tradition of the churching of the mother and new-born child on the fortieth day and of the reading of prayers of purification.

Sunday of The Publican And Pharisee 17 February

The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites, because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.

All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.



SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

24 February

Through this parable, our Saviour has set forth three things for us: the condition of the sinner, the rule of repentance, and the greatness of God's compassion. The divine Fathers have put this reading the week after the parable of the Publican and Pharisee so that, seeing in the person of the Prodigal Son our own wretched condition, inasmuch as we are sunken in sin, far from God and His Mysteries -- we might at last come to our senses and make haste to return to Him by repentance during these holy days of the Fast.

Furthermore, those who have wrought many great iniquities, and have persisted in them for a long time, oftentimes fall into despair, thinking that there can no longer be any forgiveness for them; and so being without hope, they fall every day into the same and even worse iniquities. Therefore, the divine Fathers, that they might root out the passion of despair from the hearts of such people, and rouse them to the deeds of virtue, have set the present parable at the forecourts of the Fast, to show them the surpassing goodness of God's compassion, and to teach them that there is no sin -- no matter how great it may be -- that can overcome at any time His love for man.



Photine, the Samaritan Woman

26 February

Saint Photine was the Samaritan Woman who encountered Christ our Saviour at Jacob's Well, as described in John chapter 4:1-42. Afterwards, she laboured in the spread of the Gospel in various places and finally received the crown of martyrdom in Rome with her two sons and five sisters, during the persecutions under the Emperor Nero.





FEBRUARY 2019

			CAILI			
SUN	Mon	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					4pm Greek School 7pm Greek Dance Practice	Presentation of our Lord into the Temple 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 1pm Greek Dance Practice
16th Sunday of Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 11am Church School 1pm Financial Peace Class 1pm Greek Dance	4 4pm Greek School 5pm Greek Dance	5 5pm Greek Dance 6:30pm Greek Dance 7:30 AHEPA Meeting	7pm Union Station Philoptochos	7 7pm Choir Rehearsal	4pm Greek School 5pm FDF Practice	9 10am FDF Practice
Sunday of the Canaanite 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 11am Church School 12:30pm FDF Practice 1pm Financial Peace	11 4pm Greek School 5pm FDF Practice	12 10am VIPs 5pm Greek Dance 6:30 Greek Dance 7pm Parish Council Meeting	7:15pm Philoptochos Board Meeting	14 Folk Dance Festival 7pm Choir Rehearsal	Folk Dance Festival NO Greek School	16 Folk Dance Festival
Triodion begins 17 Sunday of Publican & Pharisee 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Folk Dance Festival NO Church School 1pm Financial Peace	18 President's Day Folk Dance Festival 4pm Greek School	19	20	21 7pm Choir Rehearsal	GOYA Winter Retreat 4pm Greek School	23 GOYA Winter Retreat Lecture Series #2 —Marriage and Relationships
24 Sunday of Prodigal Son 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 11am Church School 12pm Church Sch Staff GOYA Winter Retreat 1pm Financial Peace	25 4pm Greek School	26	7pm Philoptochos General Meeting	28 7pm Choir Rehearsal		
		Strict Fast	Fish Allowed	Wine and Oil Allowed	Dairy, Eggs, and Fish Allowed	Fast Free

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Community 778 South Rosemead Blvd Pasadena, California 91107

ONI KA A WOTHER WORKS

Phone 626.449.6943 Fax 626.449.6974 E-mail alma@saint-anthonys.org

We're on the Web! www.saint-anthonys.org

TIME SENSITIVE

POSTAGE STAMP

Place address label here

