

The Voice of Saint Anthony

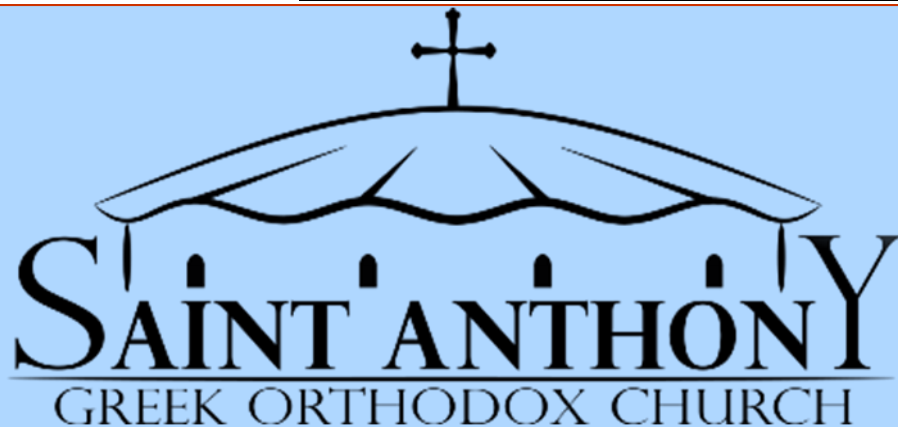
FEBRUARY 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Priest's Message	2
Stewardship	4
Parish Council News	8
Choir News	10
Church School	13
Youth/Young Adult News	15
Philoptohos News	16
VIPs	20
Bookstore	n/a
Ministries	21
Community News	23
Saints of the Month	27
Orthodox Calendar	31

***Deadline for
March Newsletter is
Tuesday, 25 February***

***Please send to:
frchris@saint-anthonys.org OR
newsletter_church@aol.com***



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

Beloved Parishioners,

What is sacrificial giving? As Christians we are called to give sacrificially, but what does this really mean. In order to clarify I will turn to scripture and C.S Lewis for answers.

First, in the Gospel of Luke 21: 1-4 we read:

And He (Jesus) looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."

This to me is sacrificial giving because the value of the gift derives from the spirit in which it is given. Thus, a gift that seeks recognition loses spiritual value; and a gift made from the heart gains immense value.

Second, C.S. Lewis wrote:

I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusement, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot because our commitment to giving excludes them.

This concept of sacrificial giving is something that many of us struggle with. When do we give? How often do we give? How much do we give? Some years ago, I read an article written by Fr. Anthony Scott who was instrumental in helping our community with our Capital Campaign Project for our Parish Center. Fr. Scott wrote about a fascinating area of philanthropy termed "donor motivation."

Donor motivation is defined as an inquiry into what stimulates people to give generously and sacrificially. He referenced a large capital campaign for St Vladimir's Seminary that raised more than \$22.5 million from some 3,000 donors. Interestingly, of all the givers, only 6 requested naming opportunities. This begs the question if not for recognition, then why did these people give? The answer is this; those who give sacrificially do so because they identify with the mission of the parish or church organization. And, those who identify with their church make the gifts much like they make their personal investments. They give to charities and other organizations that are well managed. The IOCC is a wonderful example of a charitable organization that is well run and receives many donations. Would we be so willing to give to a corporation that was continually running budget deficits? One that never communicated with its investors (donors)? One that did not have a good record of positive performance and success (changing and saving lives)? They become more connected to their church. They read the bulletin more closely. They attend services more. They deflect criticism of the church because it belongs to them. Therefore, it is imperative in a church that we effectively lead our people to understand our mission. Our mission is to bring people to a greater understanding of living a Christ centered life, and to offer experiences and programs that help to perpetuate that mission.

Continued next page...

PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Let me now ask this question to everyone in our community:
Why should we give sacrificially?

Because we are all being asked to do so. Christ was not afraid to ask people for meaningful personal sacrifice. Every teaching of the Lord dealt with repentance, change, and to give up one way of life for another. He even asked for the ultimate sacrificial gift, when he said to the rich man, *"Go and sell all that you have, distribute it to the poor and follow me and you will have joy in heaven."* (Matt 19:21) He called the apostles to leave family, homes security and jobs in order to follow him. We are now all being asked to give.

A research company once performed a project on why donors made large donations? There was one motivation that was universally present. That motivation was the desire to experience the joy in making the gift. This wonderful center which we all enjoy on a daily basis was built and is maintained by the sacrificial giving of our beloved parishioners. This was and continues to be very encouraging because people made their gifts not for personal accolades or to receive public acclaim. The gifts were made because of the experience of making the gift, of making the difference in the life of this cherished parish, of changing lives and saving lives. This is all about a deep spiritual joy.

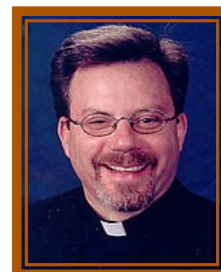
I would like to ask a final question:
Does our community perceive that as a church community we are operating well?

I pray that the answer is yes. We have all (and I include myself) enjoyed worshiping and being educated here in our church and current parish center. These two buildings were built through the tremendous sacrifices of others, indeed a job well done good and faithful servants.

At this very moment we stand at a critical time in our parish history. Having recently celebrated 65 years as a parish, we now look forward to our next great commission—to build on our property. Whatever we decide to build will continue to allow us the opportunity to grow and to serve our needs in a much greater way. As we make our future plans this year let us all experience the joy that comes from giving.

In Christ,

Fr Peter



STEWARDSHIP

ST. ANTHONY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

82 PLEDGES TOTALING: **\$171,794**

COLLECTED AS OF 1/14/2020: **\$96,349**

AVERAGE PLEDGE GOAL: **\$2,000**

CURRENT AVERAGE PLEDGE: **\$2,095**

Breakdown of Stewardship/Annual Giving to the Church			
Stewardship Levels	Total Annual Giving to the Church	Number of Pledges/families	% of Pledges Breakdown
<i>Contributor</i>	\$0 - \$499	16	20%
<i>Friend</i>	\$500 - \$999	14	17%
<i>Supporter</i>	\$1,000 - \$1,999	24	30%
Faithful	\$2,000 - \$3,999	12	15%
Disciple	\$4,000 - \$6,999	10	12%
Guardian	\$7,000 - \$9,999	1	1%
Angel	\$10,000 - \$14,999	3	4%
Archangel	\$15,000 and up	1	1%
TOTAL ANNUAL PLEDGES		81	100%

To fully cover our operating expenses, our goal is to have our average annual giving be \$2,000 per family or more

RIGHT NOW, 67% OF OUR STEWARDS ARE UNDER THAT GOAL

STEWARDSHIP (CONTINUED)



"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's grace." (1 Peter 4:10)

FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions about Stewardship:

Q: IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "DUES" & "STEWARDSHIP"?

A: Yes! Three or four generations ago, it was commonplace for families throughout our Archdiocese to pay their annual "dues" or required membership fee to be a member of their local parish. Over time it was clear that this was not the healthiest way of committing to a local church as giving remained stagnant and the authentic Christian commitment of sacrificial giving became an afterthought. (note: the annual "dues" of \$300-350 *back then* would equate to roughly \$2,500-\$3,000 *today*) Stewardship, however, offers us the chance to recognize our unique blessings from God, and to give back based on what we have received. Stewardship is management of another's property, and all our blessings and gifts we have been given ultimately belong to God. We are but his caretakers, his priests, his *stewards* on this earth.

Q: HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

A: The foundations of Christian stewardship is both from Scripture and the teachings of our Lord. You may have heard the term *tithing* (the word *tithe* literally means *tenth* in Hebrew), and this refers to the biblical giving goal of 10% of your household income to your local church (*Lev. 27:30; Num. 18:25-28; Deut. 14:22-24; 2 Chron. 31:5-6*). Yet, we also hear from our Lord Jesus Christ that true giving is when we offer sacrificially "all that we have" (*Luke 21:4*), "store up your treasures in heaven" (*Matt. 6:20*), "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (*Acts 20:35*), "for God loves a cheerful giver" (*2 Cor. 9:7*). With this in mind, you are invited to prayerfully reflect on your own household income, and make your sacrificial offering based on what you receive. Consider also what you offer to Christ's Church in comparison to your monthly utility/service payments. ("Am I giving my phone more than my Church?") Use the chart to the right as a guide.

Annual Income	2.5%	5%	10%	15%
\$20,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
\$50,000	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$7,500
\$75,000	\$1,875	\$3,750	\$7,500	\$11,250
\$100,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
\$250,000	\$6,250	\$12,500	\$25,000	\$37,500

Q: WHAT DOES MY STEWARDSHIP PAY FOR?

A: It costs approximately \$2,000/day to keep the church open. Most operating expenses are paid from stewardship. Some examples are mortgage, utilities, office staff and pastoral salaries, candles, permits, and facilities maintenance. Additional costs are directly related to church programs.

Q: WHAT IS THE EASIEST WAY TO FULFILL MY PLEDGE?

A: The easiest way is online! Pledging and paying online is fast and EASY and is the preferred method for many of our families. Simply go to our website saint-anthonys.org and click the DONATE button and this will take you to our online giving platform. Under "Regular" click the Make a Donation button, then click Create a Recurring Donation, enter your weekly/monthly/semi-annually amount and fill in the necessary information. You can always call the church office for assistance in setting up easy recurring giving payments. Paying your pledge can also be done by check, envelopes, or credit card payments, though these are not as convenient for you.

Q: WHEN SHOULD I MAKE MY ANNUAL PLEDGE?

A: We would ask you to turn in your pledge card by January 31st. Our church budget is based on our expected annual income and expenses. Forecasting stewardship in January helps meet our parish goals.

STEWARDSHIP (CONTINUED)**Q: I DON'T LIKE TO PAY MY PLEDGE UNTIL DECEMBER. SHOULD I STILL PLEDGE IN JANUARY?**

A: Yes. January pledging allows for effective fiscal budgeting. Pledge your annual amount, then pay weekly, monthly, semi-annually or annually.

Q: WHY DO I HAVE TO UPDATE MY INFORMATION EVERY YEAR?

A: We ask for updated information to provide you the opportunity to review your pledge for the upcoming year. As cost of living increases every year, so do our own parish expenses, and our giving to the church needs to adjust accordingly. We anticipate automatic online giving to become the standard in order to simplify the process.

Q: DOESN'T THE GREEK FESTIVAL BRING IN MOST OF THE FUNDING FOR THE CHURCH?

A: No. While the annual Pasadena Greek Fest is an important source of funding and support, it actually accounts for less than 15% of the total revenue brought in each year. Stewardship raises four times as much and is our primary source of funding for operating expenses. Ultimately, the goal is to have zero reliance on outside sources of funding, which would then make the Festival an outreach and community building opportunity, thus greatly alleviating the stress and dependency of this event.

Q: I ALREADY PAY FOR GREEK DANCE, GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL, BASKETBALL, ETC. WHY DO I HAVE TO PAY STEWARDSHIP TOO?

A: These programs operate independently from the church operating budget. The church provides the facility in addition to expenses enabling their operation and receives no money from these organizations. *It is also important to know that families participating in our children's ministries must be currently pledged stewards.*

Q: IF I DONATE TO A MEMORIAL FUND, BUILDING FUND, FESTIVAL, OR EVENT, DOES THAT COUNT AS PART OF MY STEWARDSHIP?

A: No. Your stewardship is represented entirely by your stated pledge.

Q: IF I MAKE A NON-MONETARY DONATION TO THE CHURCH, CAN THIS REPRESENT MY STEWARDSHIP?

A: No. Your stewardship pledge cannot be substituted for non-monetary donations. However, your various donations to the festival and the church are always greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible.

Q: WHEN SHOULD MY CHILDREN BECOME STEWARDS?

A: As the principles of stewardship is that of sacrificial giving from what we have received, everyone is encouraged to become a "cheerful giver" as soon as one begins to generate his/her own income.

Q: WHAT IF I OR MY FAMILY EXPERIENCE A FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SEVERE CHANGE IN INCOME?

A: Parishioners who are experiencing financial hardships and are unable to fulfill their stewardship obligation, but still want to be considered in "good standing", can always contact the church office, and you may always speak with one of our priests.

Fact: With our congregation at roughly 300 families, to fully cover our operating expenses our goal is to have average stewardship be \$2,000 per family or above. Right now, 83% of our stewards are under that goal.

STEWARDSHIP (CONTINUED)**2020 Stewardship Financial Commitment**

*"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's grace." (1 Peter 4:10)*

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME(S), PLEASE INCLUDE CHILDREN UNDER 18.

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PREFERRED PHONE

OTHER/SECOND PHONE

E-MAIL

[For office use only]

SIGNATURE

DATE

ST. ANTHONY GIVING LEVELS:**CONTRIBUTOR: \$499 & below**

\$9.60/week OR \$42/month & below

FRIEND: \$500 - \$999

\$9.60-\$19/week OR \$42-\$83/month

SUPPORTER: \$1,000 - \$1,999

\$19-\$38/week OR \$83-\$167/month

*** FAITHFUL: \$2,000 - \$3,999**

\$38-\$77/week OR \$167-\$333/month

*** DISCIPLE: \$4,000 - \$6,999**

\$77-\$135/week OR \$333-\$583/month

*** GUARDIAN: \$7,000 - \$9,999**

\$135-\$192/week OR \$583-\$833/month

*** ANGEL: \$10,000 - \$14,999**

\$192-\$288/week OR \$833-\$1,249/month

*** ARCHANGEL: \$15,000 and up**

\$288/week OR \$1,250/month & up

*Review your stewardship commitment prayerfully, consider what you offer to Christ's Church
in comparison to your monthly utility/service payments.*

Please return your completed commitment card to church by January 31, 2020

Your card must be on file for you to be considered in 'Good Standing'

In response to God's blessings, I/we pledge a 2020 offering of:

My Total Commitment for 2020: \$ _____

I will fulfill and pay my pledge: (CHECK ONE)

☐ Weekly at \$ _____/week

☐ Monthly at \$ _____/month

☐ Annually

Contact the Church office to set up easy recurring electronic payments
-OR- set up your own recurring giving at saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com

****To fully cover our operating expenses, our goal is to
have our average stewardship be \$2,000 per family or above***

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

2020 Parish Council Swearing-in



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS (CONTINUED)



2020 Parish Council Members

Ted Attalla Perry Vidalakis John Vidalakis Jeremiah Courtier Anthia Drulias Lucas Pete Gallanis

Father Peter Stratos

Joe Akrotirianakis James Pappas Christos Ioannou Tom Grafos Tashia Vagenas Mary Udria Sophia Syrengelas

Not in photo: Tony Christopoulos and Vincent Zarian

NEWS FROM THE LOFT

The Church Music Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of
San Francisco Presents:

THEOTOKOS, THE HOPE OF CHRISTIANS

A weekend-long Church Music Institute for Youth and Adults focusing
on the hymnography of the Presentation of the Lord into the Temple.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, LAS VEGAS
JANUARY 24-26, 2020

Featuring

Masterclass by John Michael Boyer
Workshops by Samuel Herron

Theological reflections

Fr. John Hondros and Fr. Seraphim Ramos

Registration: \$75/Adult

\$30/Under-18

Registration Form: <https://tinyurl.com/y54xzflm>

*Self-Accommodations. For More Information, visit sfchurchmusic.org.
This CMI has been funded in part by the generous support of the National Forum of
Greek Orthodox Church Musicians.*



NEWS FROM THE LOFT (CONTINUED)

Chanters **Patrick and Katerina Lynch** (along with Isaiah!) attended a Church Music Institute (CMI) hosted by St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Las Vegas.

The CMI, titled **"Theotokos, the Hope of all Christians"**, offered courses in Byzantine chant to all levels of learners. The topic of this year's CMI was the **Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord** in the Temple. The guest teachers were John Michael Boyer, Protopsaltis of the San Francisco Greek Orthodox Metropolis, and Samuel Herron, Protopsaltis of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Phoenix, AZ.

Over the course of the CMI, attendees chanted two Orthros and Divine Liturgy services as well as Great Vespers. Getting to learn from two chanters as experienced as Mr. Boyer and Mr. Herron was a rare and unique opportunity for the Lynch family.

Father John Hondros, Proistamenos of St. John the Baptist, sends his regards to Father Peter and his godson, Father Chris!



NEWS FROM THE LOFT (CONTINUED)

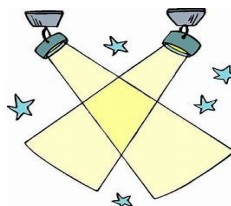


CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

CHURCH SCHOOL—A PLACE YOUR CHILDREN WANT TO BE!



The featured class this month is Grades PK/TK. They are studying **Parables, Miracles, and Feasts**.



PARENTS

Main spotlight is shining on parents who have consistently brought their child to church school and participate in the life of the church.



Alex A.—Shares eagerly his love for the parables. He knows: A is for ask, Seek and you will find and Knock and it will be opened for you.



Matthew K.—Participates during class and knows a lady had ten coins but one day she only had nine. When she found the lost coin, she had a party to celebrate finding the coin.



Venetia—Waves her hands enthusiastically to give her perspective on the parable of the house on the sand and rock.



Lazaros—Knows the entire Trisagion prayer from memory. Knows always to be ready for the coming of Jesus and not to be foolish like the five in the Parable of the Ten Virgins. Always has a twinkle in his eyes.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS (CONTINUED)

Mihai S.—Reads all the words from the word wall. He is able to match words to the correct parable, such as the parable of the Great Banquet invitation, feast etc.



Nicholas K.—Knows that the Good Shepherd is Jesus and He is our leader and we should follow him.



Michael V.—Eager to be a part of the class and knows Jesus loves us.



Alex C.—Listens carefully and hears what Jesus has to say about the Foolish Man and how he stored up all his food but never got to use it.



Nikolitsa Vagenas—Co-teacher for five years in the pre-school class.

Nikolitsa has grown up at Saint Anthony's. She has been involved in Church School, Moms and Tots, Greek School, Greek Folk Dance, GOYA, and YAL.

She attended Arcadia schools, received a degree from Azusa Pacific University and is currently working on a master's degree in multiple disciplines. She works in the family business, is a teacher's assistant in a Title 1 school in Eagle Rock and is the teacher for Boubakakia dance group. She has emulated her parents' example by living a Greek Orthodox spirit filled life. She is someone who is a role model, pacesetter and who influences others in positive ways according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS



HOPE ages 4 ½ to 6

JOY ages 7 to 9 (10 year olds may be Junior Volunteers)

We will resume meeting the **first Sunday** of the month. Junior Choir now meets the **Second Sunday** of the month. This will give this age group a well rounded Orthodox Christian fellowship.

Meeting dates:

March 1

April 5

May 3

May 17 -This will be an offsite outing.

Possible ideas: Rock and Jump in Glendora, Bowling, etc.

HOPE & JOY is faith based, interacting with friends on a social level emphasizing church and community outreach. We will continue to collect socks until we have 100 pairs.

There will be crafts, games, and an outreach lesson. Meetings will last approximately 45 minutes.

Meetings begin 10 minutes after Church School dismissal. Lenten lunch will be served March and April.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION – 2020

APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Name	
Date of birth	Phone
Current Address	
Email	
High School Attended	
School Address	
Dates Attended	GPA
Please list extracurricular activities you have participated in while In school:	
Please list activities you have participated in while attending Saint Anthony:	
FAMILY INFORMATION	
Parents' Names	
Names of Siblings	
SIGNATURE	
I VERIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND CORRECT.	
Applicant's Signature	Date

ATTACH A RECENT PHOTO OF YOURSELF TO THIS APPLICATION

Completed applications must be submitted to the church office by 4:00 PM, **April 1, 2020**

Attention: Philoptochos Scholarship Committee

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)**PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD – 2020 RULES & REGULATIONS**

1. The parents of the applicant (or the applicant) must be members in good standing with Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church for at least one year preceding the date of the scholarship application.
2. A parent of the applicant must be a member of Saint Anthony Philoptochos, Panagia Chapter.
3. The applicant must be planning to continue his or her education for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year.
4. The applicant must have a minimum 3.0 GPA.
5. Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:
 - a. Academic achievement
 - b. Church and Church School participation
 - c. Community service
 - d. Citizenship
6. Application must be completed and submitted with all required documents by April 1, 2020.
7. The applicant's current academic transcript must be mailed from the academic institution to the church office (Attention: Philoptochos Scholarship Committee).
8. An autobiographical essay (approximately 300 words) describing influences that have had an effect on the applicant's life, must be submitted to include how the church experience has helped shape your belief system and future goals.
9. Two (2) letters of recommendation, must be submitted. One must be from a high school counselor, teacher or someone who has worked directly with the student.
10. Must be available for a personal interview at the request of the Scholarship Committee and the application form must include a recent photo of the applicant.
11. The Philoptochos Society of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church is not obligated to grant any scholarships in a given year. The Scholarship Committee and Father Peter will carefully review all applications. The Committee's decision shall be final.
12. Scholarship recipients will be notified by mail. The scholarship award will be presented at a date to be determined.

APPLICATIONS (INCLUDING REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION)**RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED**

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)

***“You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.”
Deuteronomy 15:11***

“Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you? The King will answer and say to you, inasmuch as did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.” Matthew 25:40, 41.

Union Station Homeless Services

In 1973 a group of community volunteers opened Union Station as a simple hospitality center to serve poor and homeless men in downtown Pasadena. Since then, Union Station has grown..

Under the guidance of Philoptochos for over 25 years our community has participated once a month (rain or shine, holiday or no holiday) providing and serving hot meals for about 50-60 individuals

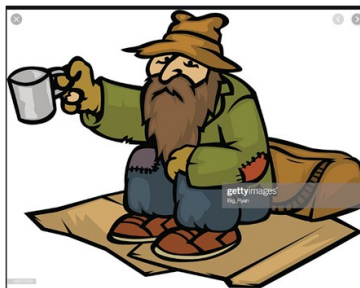
***“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”
Hebrews 13:16***

Food is prepared in our kitchen, and then delivered to the center. Other necessities will be purchased and taken to the facility.

Make a New Year’s resolution to book a month to serve at least one time during 2020. The 2020 calendar is open so choose a month to sign up to serve the homeless. This is a small way all of us can contribute to help those less fortunate. We must be examples for our children and our church. It only takes an hour and a half to participate. No cooking involved. Servers are asked to bring dessert (i.e. cookies) to serve sixty people and sturdy paper plates (optional)..

Contact:

Sophia Angelos	sangelos2000@gmail.com	626-795-0848 (home)
Stephanie Soewers	szanglis@gmail.com	818-209-5026 (cell)
Irene Albeck	mcmg2a@aol.com	626-792-8122



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)

Sign Up to Serve at Union Station Homeless Services

Date	 Name	Contact Information
	2020 2020 2020 2020 2020	
January 1		
February 5		
March 4		
April 1		
May 6		
June 3		
July 1		
August 5		
September 2		
October 7		
November 4		
December 2		

VIP NEWS

VIPs meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

10:00 a.m.

Trinity Ballroom

Next meeting - Tuesday, February 11th

Lunch will be served.

Dues only \$15.00

Please join us.

Helen Treantafelles

VIP President

htreantafelles@yahoo.com



MINISTRIES

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos

Reverend Father Christopher Retelas

2020 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joseph Akrotirianakis	President
John Vidalakis	Co-Vice President
Pete Gallanis	Co-Vice President
Tashia Vagenas	Secretary
Tony Christopoulos	Treasurer

Philip Ted Attalla

Jeremiah Courter

Tom Grafos

Christos Ioannou

Anthia Drulias Lucas

James Pappas

Sophia Syrengelas

Mary Udria

Perry Vidalakis

Vincent Zarian

CHOIR

Choir Director Jim Hronas

Sherese Akrotirianakis	Elias Kalivas
Dean Athans	Stavrula Kiotas
Tina Athans	Dr. Rodanthi Kitridou
George Babbes	Kathy Lucas
Christina Becronis	Claire Marotta
Tom Bouras	Liam McCann
Judie Christopoulos	Bess Mechalas
Leah Cokias	Elizabeth Moreno
Rebecca Courter	Iliana Orozco
Athena Dallas	Alexandra Patzakis
Jennifer Dobrinen	Gena Pegadiotes
Maria Ganis	Katerina Petrossian
Georgia Loutsos Grajeda	Nicole Schulman
Aliki Haralambos	+Litsa Stavropoulos
Maria Hronas	Pres. Aida Stratos

CHANTERS

Patrick Lynch
Katerina Lynch
Demetrios Baliotis
Mike Abi-Farah

READERS

Dr Nicholas Kokoris
Constantine Trigonis

YOUTH CHOIR

Katerina Lynch



OFFICE STAFF

Alma Vorgias – Office Administrator

Athena Serban – Events Coordinator (Trinity Ballroom)



CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Irene Albeck - Preschool
Nikolitsa Vagenas - Preschool
Kathy Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st
Kyriaki Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st
Fotene Trigonis - 2nd & 3rd
John Vagenas - 4th & 5th
Rebecca Russo/Stephanie Scolinos - Middle School/6th—8th
Pres. Aida Stratos - High School/9th—12th

Fotene Trigonis - Director



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 Karaianoglou

Union Station

Irene Albeck

Welfare

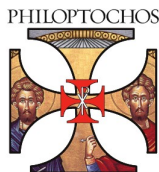
Presbytera Maria Mylonas

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

Presbytera Kalli Retelas

Myrrh Bearers

Irene Albeck

Oratorical Festival

Nicole Schulman

Pasadena Golf Classic

Jimmy Christodoulelis
Roberto Crespo

Prayer Shawls

Aliki Haralambos

Vacation Bible School

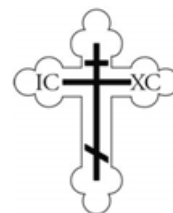
Sophia Syrengelas
Mary Udria

VIPs

Helen Treantafelles

Young Adults

Mike Abi Farah



COMMUNITY NEWS

St. Anthony Bowling League

Bowling was so fun this fall that we are starting again! JOIN US!!!
Meet new people and see old friends! The more the merrier!

The League began January 14 and will run thru March 31.
We meet every **Tuesday 7:00-9:00pm** at Bowlmor Lanes on Foothill Boulevard in Pasadena.

Open to all levels! To sign up contact Pana Gelt pgelt@socal.rr.com or 626-293-7588.

Pasadena Greek Fest !



Attention all 2019 booth captains !

A planning meeting will be held to discuss our 2020 Saint Anthony Greek Fest.

Wednesday, February 5th

7:00pm at Saint Anthony

Please consider how you can take a more active role in this ministry of our community.

Feel free to contact Anthia Drulias-Lucas for further information: ADLJSL02@YAHOO.COM

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

**Feast day of Saint Anthony
17 January**



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

Feast day of Saint Anthony 17 January



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

**Feast day of Saint Anthony
17 January**



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH**The Presentation of the Lord****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; Exod. 13:2; Lev. 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.

Saint Theodore Commander and Great Martyr**8 February**

The holy Martyr Theodore was from Euchaita of Galatia and dwelt in Heraclea of Pontus. He was a renowned commander in the military. Emperor Licinius was told that he was a Christian and abominated the idols. Licinius therefore sent certain men to him from Nicomedia, to honor him and ask him to appear before him. Through them, however, Saint Theodore sent back a message that it was necessary for various reasons, that Licinius come to Heraclea. Licinius, seeing in this a hope of turning Saint Theodore away from Christ did as was asked of him.

When the Emperor came to Heraclea, Saint Theodore met him with honor and the Emperor in turn gave Theodore his hand, believing that through him he would be able to draw the Christians to the worship of his idols. Seated upon his throne in the midst of the people, he publicly bade Theodore offer sacrifice to the gods. But Theodore asked that the emperor entrust him with the most venerable of his gods, those of gold and silver, that he might take them home and himself attend upon them that evening, promising that the following day he would honor them in public. The Emperor, filled with joy at these tidings, gave command that Theodore's request be fulfilled.

When the Saint had taken the idols home, he broke them in pieces and distributed the gold and silver to the poor by night. The next day a centurion named Maxentius told Licinius that he had seen a pauper pass by carrying the head of Artemis. Saint Theodore, far from repenting of this, confessed Christ boldly. Licinius, in an uncontrollable fury, had the Saint put to many torments, then crucified. While upon the cross, the holy Martyr was further tormented -- his privy parts were cut off, he was shot with arrows, his eyes were put out and he was left on the cross to die. The next day Licinius sent men to take his corpse and cast it into the sea; but they found the Saint alive and perfectly whole. Through this, many believed in Christ. Seeing his own men turning to Christ and the city in an uproar, Licinius had Theodore beheaded, about the year 320. The Saint's holy relics were returned to his ancestral home on June 8, which is also a feast of the Great Martyr Theodore.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)

Triodion Begins—Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee

9 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 (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.). 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 on this day, 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's forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.

All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.

Heiromartyr Haralambos

10 February

This Saint was a priest of the Christians in Magnesia, the foremost city of Thessaly, in the diocese having the same name. He contested during the reign of Alexander Severus (222-235), when Lucian was Proconsul of Magnesia. At the time of his martyrdom the Saint was 103 years of age.

Triodion—Sunday of the Prodigal Son

16 February

Through the parable of today's Gospel, 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; 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.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)**Theodore the Tyro & Martyr****17 February**

Saint Theodore who was from Amasia of Pontus, contested during the reign of Maximian (286-305). He was called Tyro, from the Latin *Tiro*, because he was a newly enlisted recruit. When it was reported that he was a Christian, he boldly confessed Christ. The ruler, hoping that he would repent, gave him time to consider the matter more completely and then give his answer. Theodore gave his answer by setting fire to the temple of Cybele, the "mother of the gods," and for this he suffered a martyr's death by fire.

Tridion—Judgment Sunday - Meatfare Sunday**23 February**

The foregoing two parables -- especially that of the Prodigal Son -- have presented to us God's extreme goodness and love for man. But lest certain persons, putting their confidence in this alone, live carelessly, squandering upon sin the time given them to work out their salvation and death suddenly snatch them away, the most divine Fathers have appointed this day's feast commemorating Christ's impartial Second Coming, through which we bring to mind that God is not only the Friend of man, but also the most righteous Judge, Who recompenses to each according to his deeds.

It is the aim of the holy Fathers, through bringing to mind that fearful day, to rouse us from the slumber of carelessness unto the work of virtue and to move us to love and compassion for our brethren. Besides this, even as on the coming Sunday of Cheese-fare we commemorate Adam's exile from the Paradise of delight -- which exile is the beginning of life as we know it now -- it is clear that today's is reckoned the last of all feasts, because on the last day of judgment, truly, everything of this world will come to an end.

All foods, except meat and meat products, are allowed during the week that follows this Sunday.



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)



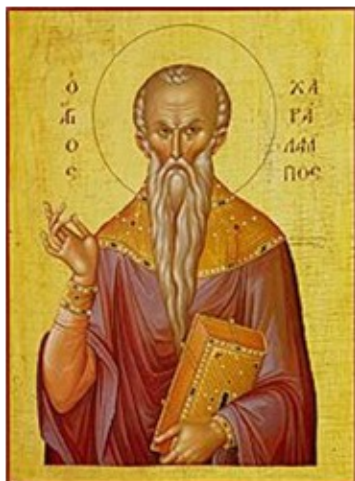
The Presentation of the Lord



Saint Theodore Commander



Triodion - Publican & the Pharisee



Hieromartyr Haralambos



Triodion - Prodigal Son

















Saint Theodore the Tyro



Triodion - Judgment

Orthodox Calendar

FEBRUARY 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 9am, 11am, 3pm Greek Dance Practice
2 Presentation of our Lord 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 11am Church School 12:30pm Greek Dance Practice 6:30 Financial Peace	3 4pm, 6pm Greek Dance 4pm Monday Greek School 7pm Fashion Show Meeting	4 6:30pm Greek Dance 7:30pm AHEPA Meeting	5  5pm Greek Dance Practice 7pm Philoptochos Union Station	6 4pm, 7pm Greek Dance Practice 7pm Choir rehearsal	7  4pm Friday Greek School 4pm, 5pm, 7:30pm Greek Dance	8 9:30am, 11am Greek Dance Practice
9 Triodion Publican & Pharisee 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 11am Church School 12:30pm Greek Dance 6:30 Financial Peace	10 4pm Monday Greek School 7pm Greek Dance Practice	11 10am VIPs 5pm Greek Dance Practice 7pm Parish Council	12 7:15 Philoptochos Board Meeting	13 FDF - Anaheim 7pm Choir rehearsal	14 FDF - Anaheim	15 FDF - Anaheim
16 Triodion Sun. of Prodigal Son 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy FDF - Anaheim 6:30 Financial Peace	17 Office Closed for President's Day	18	19 	20 7pm Choir rehearsal	21  4pm Friday Greek School	22 Saturday of the Souls 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy
23 Triodion Judgment Sunday Meat-fare Sunday 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 11am Church School 6:30 Financial Peace	24  Clergy-Laity at Saint Nicholas Ranch 4pm Monday Greek School	25  Clergy-Laity at Saint Nicholas Ranch	26  Clergy-Laity at Saint Nicholas Ranch 7pm Philoptochos General Meeting	27  7pm Choir rehearsal	28  4pm Friday Greek School 7pm Greek Dance Practice	29  Saturday of the Souls 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy
		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

February 2020

POSTAGE
STAMP



TIME SENSITIVE

Place address label here

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

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

THERE IS NO PERFECT LIFE, NO
PERFECT JOB, NO PERFECT
CHILDHOOD, NO PERFECT
MARRIAGE AND NO PERFECT SET
OF PEOPLE WHO WILL ALWAYS DO
WHAT WE EXPECT THEM TO DO.

WHAT WE HAVE IS A PERFECT GOD
WHO IS ABLE TO LEAD US
THROUGH THIS IMPERFECT LIFE
WITH UNFAILING STRENGTH,
INCOMPARABLE WISDOM AND
INFINITE LOVE.

