

The Voice of Saint Anthony

NOVEMBER 2020

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**Deadline for
December Newsletter is
Wednesday, 25 November**
Please send to:
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

At the beginning of the Orthodox Ecclesiastical Year, His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew blessed and greeted the faithful with his annual Encyclical. His message this year highlights again our calling to be good stewards of our environment, and to help preserve the natural world. **“The Ecumenical Patriarchate, which in recent decades has pioneered in the field of the protection of the creation, will continue its ecological initiatives, the organization of ecological conferences, the mobilization of its faithful and especially the youth...”**[Encyclical September 1, 2020]. For over twenty years, His All Holiness has been one of the greatest advocates for the preservation of our planet. His words are always inspiring. This year's message has particular resonance as he calls on us all, especially our young people, to join in this moral struggle for the preservation of life on our planet.

As a world, we are living in a particularly turbulent time. We have experienced months of record breaking fires up and down the west coast of our Metropolis of San Francisco. My family and I have watched, from our own backyard, colossal and horrific plumes of smoke from raging fires just 10 miles away. Each year the fire season becomes longer, fires become more prevalent and with greater intensity - all the result of climate change.

In the Book of Genesis, **God said, “Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of heaven, and over every creeping thing that moves on the earth. [Gen. 1:26].** We as humans are in charge. God has given us a responsibility to care for the creatures of the earth and the environment. In light of the increasing devastation by fire and drought, one can only wonder: Are we doing the work of protecting His Creation? Are we acting as God would have us act, in His image, with love, caring and respect for His Creation? Or do we thoughtlessly use and discard the gifts God has given us?

Beyond our fervent prayers, worship and acts of charity for our fellow human beings, what practical actions can we take to be worthy stewards of God's awesome creation? Which choices can we make to preserve the richness of life God created on our beautiful planet? Can we, as Christian individuals and parishes take some of these steps?

1. Actually eat all the food we buy. (Approximately 10% of US energy use is for the growing, processing and shipping of food- 40% of which end up in landfills.)
2. Reduce water waste (with drought tolerant planting, shorter showers, etc.)
3. At our Festivals and Fellowship hours: Replace plastic, Styrofoam and polystyrene packaging with eco-friendly alternatives. Current options include plant-based plastics, based on corn, bamboo, wood pulp, wheat, and others. These natural products are abundant, renewable, replace high quality plates, cups, bowls, containers, utensils, etc.
4. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (as much as possible). Power our homes and parishes with solar energy.

The consequences of climate change have affected us all profoundly this year. We have a moment in time to stop and consider how we treat and care for all creation. Our actions are a direct reflection of our gratitude to God for all the blessings He has given us.

As we continue to grow as good and faithful servants of Christ, my hope and prayer is that we will each be moved to act for the well being and preservation of all of God's creation.

“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?” St. James 2:14

Faithfully, Father Peter

PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE OF ANY KIND**

due to limitations caused by the CoViD pandemic or the state and local "Safer at Home" ordinances, your community is here to help.

If you need assistance with groceries (picking up or paying for them), getting a prescription from the pharmacy, or even taking out trash cans, please let us know how your community can help during a time of need.

We are available to assist or coordinate assistance if we cannot provide it ourselves (masks and social distancing will be practiced).

Please CALL or TEXT:

Sherese Akrotirianakis 310.308.1431

Sophia Syrengelas 626.641.0335

Mary Udria 626.390.1680

Everything will be held in confidence.



STEWARDSHIP

St. ANTHONY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

297 PLEDGES TOTALING \$469,370

COLLECTED AS OF 10/30/2020 \$422,744

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

CURRENT AVERAGE PLEDGE \$1580

Breakdown of Stewardship / Annual Giving to the Church			
Stewardship Levels	Amount Pledge	Number of Pledges / families	% of Pledges Breakdown
<i>Contributor</i>	0 - \$499	77	26%
<i>Friend</i>	\$500 - \$999	67	23%
<i>Supporter</i>	\$1,000 - \$1,999	76	26%
Faithful	\$2,000 - \$3,999	48	16%
Disciple	\$4,000 - \$6,999	21	07%
Guardian	\$7,000 - \$9,999	3	01%
Angel	\$10,000 - \$14,999	3	01%
Archangel	\$15,000 - >	2	0%
TOTAL ANNUAL PLEDGES		297	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, 75% OF OUR STEWARDS ARE UNDER THAT GOAL

STEWARDSHIP (CONTINUED)

Saint Anthony's 2020 Pledged Members *as of October 30, 2020*

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Stratos, Fr. Peter/Pres. Aida | 53. Caire, Terese† & John |
| 2. Retelas, Fr. Christopher & Pres. Kalli | 54. Chames, Anastasia. |
| 3. Mylonas, Presvytera Maria | 55. Christodoulelis, Helen |
| 4. Akrotirianakis, Joseph N. & Sherese | 56. Christodoulelis, Jimmy & Tanya. |
| 5. Albeck, Irene | 57. Christodoulides, Loucas & Andri |
| 6. Albeck, Mark Gregory | 58. Christodoulou, Christine & Christakis |
| 7. Alexopoulos, Niko | 59. Christopoulos, Judie & Gus |
| 8. Ananiades, Constantine & Sapho | 60. Christopoulos, Tom & Karen |
| 9. Andrianopoulos, Christyann & Alex | 61. Christopoulos, Tony and Lynnette |
| 10. Andricos, Constantine | 62. Christy, Angene |
| 11. Andros, Gus & Lorena | 63. Coccia, Tina & Ginseppe |
| 12. Angelos, James & Sophia | 64. Cokias, Jason & Karen |
| 13. Angiuli, Joseph & Elizabeth | 65. Compoginis, John & Staci |
| 14. Anonymous | 66. Courter, Jeremiah & Rebecca |
| 15. Antsos, Judith & Dimitrios | 67. Dallas, Saterios & Athena |
| 16. Apostolos, Margo K. | 68. Damilatis, Dimitrios & Eleni |
| 17. Argueta, Cris & Teresa V. | 69. Darlas, Paula |
| 18. Arviso, Ange | 70. Darlas, Tom |
| 19. Arviso, Ange | 71. Demopulos, Elizabeth & Andrew |
| 20. Aspiotes, Georgia | 72. Demopulos, Michael & Patricia |
| 21. Athanasoulis, Chris & Tina | 73. Demopulos, Nicholas |
| 22. Athans, Tesi & Craig Lareau | 74. Dewar, Mary & Andrew |
| 23. Athans, Tina & Dean P. | 75. Drulias, Nicolette |
| 24. Attalla, Philip "Ted" & Michelle Reagan | 76. Drulias, Rosann & Bill |
| 25. Avramis, Alethea & Glen Lund | 77. Drulias, Thomas |
| 26. Babbes, George S. | 78. Dupas, George |
| 27. Balas, Argiro Julie & Dino | 79. Dupas, Katherine |
| 28. Baliotis, Demetre & Tina | 80. Dupas, Theodore & Evangeline |
| 29. Balntas, Bill & Eleni | 81. Edwards, Nancy C. |
| 30. Becker, Connie & Brian L. | 82. Efstathiou, Teddi & Dean |
| 31. Becronis, Christina | 83. Eleftheriou, Nick and Julie |
| 32. Begakis, Nickolas & Bronwen | 84. Eugenio, Jesus |
| 33. Bichai, Anthony & Anna | 85. Floutsis, Penny & Ted |
| 34. Bicos, Dino & Kalli | 86. Fryer II, Norman & Kay |
| 35. Bicos, Marietta | 87. Fuerst, Nicolette & Jay |
| 36. Bissias, Peter | 88. Gallagher, Eleni & Matthew |
| 37. Bjorknert, Jan & Vicky | 89. Gallanis, Pete & Danica |
| 38. Blaszcak, Frank | 90. Ganis, Maria C. |
| 39. Bloziu, Julian O. & Catalina E. | 91. Garbis, Spiros & Antigoni Manousopoulou |
| 40. Boltinghouse, Helen | 92. Gavalas, Cleola & George |
| 41. Bonorris, Bill | 93. Gelt, Brian & Pana |
| 42. Bonorris, Donna & Pete | 94. Genkos, Mary |
| 43. Bouras, Tom Athanasios | 95. Georgakopoulos, Eleni & George |
| 44. Bowers, Connie & Terree | 96. Gerontides, John & Angelike |
| 45. Bozikis, Demetra | 97. Giannoulis, Chris & Mary |
| 46. Broussinos, Angeliki & Chris | 98. Giannoulis, Tony & Anna |
| 47. Brown, Niki | 99. Goettling, Mimika & Eckhard C. |
| 48. Bryant, Dan & Karen | 100. Grafos, Thean |
| 49. Buickians, Gagik & Jacqueline | 101. Grafos, Tom & Tania |
| 50. Burkard Jr., Frank J. & Penelope | 102. Grover, James & Maria |
| 51. Buzas, John & Pamela | 103. Halias, Joanne & John |
| 52. Buzas, Nicholas & Danielle | 104. Haralambos, Aiki, |

STEWARDSHIP (CONTINUED)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 105. Haralambos, Anthony & Kathleen | 157. Lambros, Helen L. |
| 106. Haralambos, Tom & Page | 158. Lappas, Andrea |
| 107. Harris, Matthan | 159. Lappas, Virginia |
| 108. Horaites, George & Olympia | 160. Leontas, Angela & Andrew Murrell |
| 109. Hronas, Maria & James W. | 161. Loutsos, Anna & Georgia & John
Grajeda |
| 110. Hunter, Nicole | 162. Lubian, Daniel & Stephanie |
| 111. Ioannides, Pericles | 163. Lucas, John S. & Anthia |
| 112. Ioannou, Christos & Elleni | 164. Lucas, Katherine |
| 113. Johnsen, Eleni | 165. Lynch, Patrick Thomas & Katerina |
| 114. Kades, Christine | 166. Macris, Catherine & George |
| 115. Kades, Vicki & Louis | 167. Magaziotis, Phophi & Panteli |
| 116. Kageorgis, Irena | 168. Makris, Ted & Maria |
| 117. Kalambakas, Vivian | 169. Malina, Dorothea |
| 118. Kalivas, Anastasia | 170. Malisos, Fontaine |
| 119. Kalivas, Elene & George | 171. Malisos, Samantha A |
| 120. Kalivas, Pota | 172. Marotta, Claire |
| 121. Kallas, Mark & Debra | 173. Martin, Sam & Debbie |
| 122. Kamar, April | 174. Maslen, Larissa & Mark Carpenter |
| 123. Kamp, Tina | 175. Masouris, Vlase & Nicoleta |
| 124. Kanganis, Charles & Monica | 176. Mathioulakis, Claudia & Stan |
| 125. Kaparos, Lily & Stefanos | 177. Mathioulakis, Claudia & Stan |
| 126. Kaplanis, Joan & Peter | 178. Mavredakis, Vivian |
| 127. Karabatos, Angeliki | 179. McCann, Liam |
| 128. Karaioannoglou, Phaedon &
Jeanne | 180. McClain, Anastasia |
| 129. Karamaras, Andriana | 181. McNulty, Jennie & Chris |
| 130. Karras, Maria | 182. Mechalas, Bess |
| 131. Karvelas, Kosta & Marina | 183. Meysenburg, John H. & Mary Ann |
| 132. Kasdagli, Demetra & Mark Nastri | 184. Mitis, Nick & Maria Prantzikou |
| 133. Katsas, Alexandra K. | 185. Mitsos, Nicholas & Irene |
| 134. Katsas, Asimina | 186. Mobayen, Chrissa & Syrus |
| 135. Kefalas, Evelyn & John | 187. Molinari, Yngrid |
| 136. Kefalas, Mike J. | 188. Moreno, Eva Elizabeth |
| 137. Kefalas, Modestos & Nina | 189. Moros, Konstandinos & Kalliopi
Kefalas |
| 138. Kefallinos, Vicki & Nick | 190. Moutzouridis, Vasiliki & Peter |
| 139. Kiotas, Stavroula | 191. Mowrey, Anthony & Tina Boykin |
| 140. Kirimis, Evangelia | 192. Nichols, James & Joyce |
| 141. Kirimis, Nitsa & John | 193. Nicolaidis, Nicolas |
| 142. Kitridou, Rodanthi C. | 194. Nunez, Alyssa & Angel |
| 143. Kokoris, George & Carolina | 195. Ochoa, Alexa |
| 144. Kokoris, Maria & Nicholas | 196. Panagiot, Harry & Anastasia |
| 145. Kolettis, Iliana | 197. Pantazis, Aleka & George |
| 146. Kolokotronis, Carolyn & James A. | 198. Papadopoulos, Elisabeth &
Michael Honeck |
| 147. Koudanis, George & Helen | 199. Pappas, Constantine & Hope |
| 148. Koulakis, John and Gisele | 200. Pappas, Dean C. & Jennifer |
| 149. Koulos, Joanna & Konstantinos | 201. Pappas, Dr. James P. & Maria |
| 150. Kousoulas, Gus & Johanna | 202. Pappas, Dr. Peter A. |
| 151. Koutsoukos, Lin & George | 203. Pappas, Peter & Cathy |
| 152. Kundanis, Christine | 204. Pappas, Steven & Christine |
| 153. Kypreos, George & Shana | 205. Pappas, Tony & Stergiani |
| 154. Kypreos, Maria & James | 206. Paras, Gus |
| 155. Lakon, Paul & Christa | |
| 156. Lakon, Valerie | |

STEWARDSHIP (CONTINUED)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 207. Pastis, Leah | 257. Tripodes, Georgia E. |
| 208. Pastis, Patricia | 258. Tripodes, Koula J. |
| 209. Patsavas, Bertha | 259. Tripodes, Marika |
| 210. Patzakis, John & Andrea | 260. Tripodes, Stella |
| 211. Paziouros, Konstantina & Nick | 261. Tripodes, Steven G. † |
| 212. Pegadiotes, George S. | 262. Tsaggouri, Eleni & Anastassios |
| 213. Pegadiotes, Stan S. | Petropoulos |
| 214. Perris, Georgia | 263. Tsianos, George & Andria |
| 215. Petrossian, Stacy & Rafic R. | 264. Tsigkounis, Charalambos & |
| 216. Petrov, Michelle & John | Catherine |
| 217. Plumtree, Martha & Wayne | 265. Tsouvalas, James & Charles |
| 218. Pollalis, Dino J. | 266. Tsouvalas, John & Jenny |
| 219. Pouloupoulos, Paris & Alexia | 267. Udria, Juan & Mary |
| 220. Poulos, Anastasia | 268. Vacalo, Eleni |
| 221. Poulos, Yiota | 269. Vagenas, George & Polly |
| 222. Reese, Helen | 270. Vagenas, Alex & Tashia |
| 223. Rellos, John, Theodora & Vasilios | 271. Vagenas, Dino & Krystina |
| 224. Riley, Thomas & Evangelia | 272. Vagenas, John & Georgia |
| 225. Russo, Rebecca A. | 273. Vagenas, Niko |
| 226. Sahpazis, Georgia | 274. Vagenas, Peter & Janet |
| 227. Saigh, Mark & Mara R. Suchy | 275. Vagenas, Peter & Mindy |
| 228. Samaan, Evette | 276. Vagenas, Sophia |
| 229. Schwindt, George E. & Meridith | 277. Vagenas, Spiros and Family |
| 230. Scolinos, Michael & Stephanie | 278. Vagenas, Vasilios & Nicolicha |
| 231. Scordelis, Alexander & Melissa | 279. Vallas, Seth & Yuri |
| 232. Serban, Athena & Mihai | 280. Vallas, Valerie |
| 233. Shankwiler James & Alexandria | 281. Varvitsiotis Varvas, Fotiny |
| Darras | 282. Vavoulis, Ted & Esther |
| 234. Sipsas, Pantelis & Nafsika | 283. Vidalakis, John & Diane |
| 235. Skandale, Elizabeth | 284. Vidalakis, Nick and Nancy |
| 236. Skandale, Helen | 285. Vidalakis, Perry & Zoe |
| 237. Skandale, Katherine † | 286. Vlahos, Tasia & Effie |
| 238. Smith, Herman & Helen | 287. Vorgias, Zacharias & Alma |
| 239. Soewers, Stephanie & Randy | 288. Voyagis, Eleftherios & Pauline |
| 240. Soris, Kiparisia (Sia) | 289. Webster, John & Jennifer |
| 241. Stamos, Andy & Mary | 290. Williams, Peter & Cleo |
| 242. Stamos, Nikos A. | 291. Wojcik, Radoslav M. & Pamela |
| 243. Stavropoulos, Peter T & Theodora | 292. Woodward, Scott & Katerina |
| 244. Stephens, Kenneth & Angelina | Ananiades |
| Maria | 293. Xanthos, Lisa |
| 245. Syrengelas, Christos & Sophia | 294. Zarian, Vincent & Maria |
| 246. Tarazi, Ellie | 295. Zarifes, Peter & Tina |
| 247. Tarazi, Ted & Panagiota Angelos | 296. Zoumas, Michael & Christina |
| 248. Tirado, Elizabeth | 297. Zoumberakis, Haralambos and |
| 249. Tobia, Gary | Nikole |
| 250. Treantafelles, George P. | |
| 251. Treantafelles, George T. & Helen | |
| 252. Treantafelles, Stan & Vivian | |
| 253. Triantafyllidi, Ioanna & Galino | |
| Barmparas | |
| 254. Trigonis, Constantine & Fotene | |
| 255. Tripodes Zacharias N. | |
| 256. Tripodes, Dena | |

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this stewardship list. Please forgive us if there are any errors or omissions. Contact Alma at 626-449-6943 for any questions or corrections.

CHURCH HISTORY

Early Greek Community of Pasadena & the San Gabriel Valley

Taken from the 50th Anniversary of St. Anthony. Written by: +Dr. Nikitas J. Tripodes

Part 4

Isolation and Assimilation

Although Los Angeles had an established Greek Orthodox parish since 1912, it served a congregation dispersed over a broad region. Getting to church services and other activities was a cumbersome, circuitous process especially for the Pasadena Greeks. At least two street cars, a bus and several hours were necessary to get to the Annunciation Church on San Julian Street from the Pasadena area. Travel by automobile was speedier but not available to everyone and certainly not as direct as today. The Arroyo Seco Parkway, now known as the Pasadena Freeway linking Pasadena with Los Angeles, did not open until 1940. When an intrepid traveler finally arrived for services, the tiny church would be so crowded that finding a seat was a challenge. According to Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis' book, **'Byzantium Comes to Southern California'**:

The pews were removed on holidays so that even more people could be crammed into the church. At Holy Week services, police blocked off San Julian Street to accommodate the hundreds that would not fit in the building.

Not surprisingly, church attendance was infrequent for the Greeks of the San Gabriel Valley and the ties to the larger Greek community were tenuous at best.

Virtually all the earliest Greek immigrants, who came to Pasadena were bachelors. Unless they specifically went to Greece to find a bride, they remained bachelors or married non-Greeks. Some could find a Greek wife in the states if they were introduced to a sister of another immigrant. For the isolated Pasadena Greeks, intermarriage with 'Xeni' (non-Greeks) was perhaps more common than in other areas with large Greek populations. Of the Pasadena Greeks listed in the 1930 U.S. Census, almost three fourths of the married men had non-Greek spouses, a very high percentage for the time.

Compounding the isolation of the Pasadena Greeks was the difficulty in getting Greek Orthodox priests to minister to the needs of the community especially in times of distress. In 1933, one of Pasadena's Greek families could not get a Greek Orthodox priest to perform a funeral service for their son.

Continued on next page...

CHURCH HISTORY

The Kalavryta – Pasadena Connection

Immigrants from the same villages or regions in Greece tended to settle in the same towns and neighborhoods when they arrived in the U.S. and often did the same type of work. They found an informal support system which assisted in finding employment, housing, and even wives. Los Angeles County was a focal point for many immigrants from the district of Kalavryta, in the Peloponnesian province of Achaia. Pasadena was the specific destination for immigrants from villages such as Karnezi, Turlada, Kani and particularly the village of Planitero. Undoubtedly, an early immigrant from Planitero found his way West, perhaps working as a laborer on the railroad. The large estates of Pasadena offered the unskilled hard working man, with little or no knowledge of English, a chance to earn a reasonable living as a gardener. If the estate needed more help, a job could be offered to a fellow villager.

When the Hellenic Line passenger ship *Patris* arrived in New York on June 17, 1912, among the over one thousand Greek male passengers aboard, were five men from the village of Planitero. Two of the men returned to their restaurants in the state of Georgia. One of the others, Panayiotis Nrarlas (Peter Darlas), described as a brick mason by occupation, came to Pasadena to stay with his uncle George on Fair Oaks Avenue. He eventually found work as a gardener. John Papademetropoulos would live with his brother Panayiotis in South Pasadena. The third traveler, John Rigogiannis went to Chicago, but according to the ship manifest he had been in Pasadena from 1903 to 1907. The Pasadena – Planitero connection may go back at least as early as 1889 when the name of Vasilios Papademetropoulos was, for an unknown reason, inscribed on a now destroyed concrete wall on Columbia and Grand avenue in Pasadena.



*Maria Pappas with her children
Peter and Catherine c. 1940*

The Pappas home on Parkwood Avenue was the site of Greek language lessons for Pasadena's first generation Greek-American children.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

No report this month

For those of you who are attending live-stream services,
and miss receiving Holy Communion because you are unable to
attend an outdoor liturgy..

Drink a sip of Holy Water, when the priest approaches with the
Chalice.. If you don't have any on hand, call the church office..

NEWS FROM THE LOFT



Staying Out of the Loft and Staying Safe..



*Happy Thanksgiving
From Our Choir Family to You*

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

ST. ANTHONY YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

STARTING VIRTUALLY IN OCTOBER!

**Grade groups will meet via Zoom one
Sunday a month starting at 11:30am**

1st Sundays

**PK-K-1 (Oct 4)
with Mrs. Albeck**

2nd Sundays

**2-3-4-5 (Oct 11)
with Mrs. Scolinos**

3rd Sundays

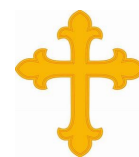
**6-7-8 (Oct 18)
with Ms. Russo**

4th Sundays

**9-10-11-12 (Oct 25)
with Pres. Aida**

SIGN UP AT:

SAINT-ANTHONY.S.ORG/FELLOWSHIP

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

The mission of the Operation Classroom Initiative is to assist and offer support to teachers and students in underserved or underfunded schools and provide resources that would not have been available through the local school district.

This is a National Philoptochos project. Operation Classroom it is a total parish commitment, meaning that we encourage each member of our community, young and old, to get involved.

We are in the process of adopting a local school near St. Anthony's, Willard Elementary School. We will share their needs with you as we work with them to develop a list.

We also have a project with another local school where Mary Udria identified another way for us to help students during this pandemic. We will bring the details to you soon.

Additionally we are planning to reach out to several students and their families as the holidays approach. Please look for emails regarding these projects and how you can help us achieve our goals.

Our earlier appeal for school supplies was well-supported. Many thanks to those who contributed.

Join us as we help disadvantaged children to succeed.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)

Philoptochos continues to support our local food bank at Friends In Deed (friendsindeedpas.org) with monthly food deliveries. We will continue our Thanksgiving tradition of providing turkeys and hams and Christmas gifts for children. Our chapter will also continue our annual support of Trinity Boys Home (trinityys.org) with a group gift card.

If you are interested in donating to any of these causes, please contact Connie Becker 818-219-5493 or Stephanie Soewers 818-209-5026.



International Christian Charities

Join us for the first ever **Virtual Fundraiser** of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Committee

Hear about the recent work of this Pan-Orthodox humanitarian ministry and get special IOCC updates, and more.

Please help support IOCC's continuing work at home and around the world.

We are united in faith wherever we are.

Saturday, November 21st, 2020, 4 p.m.

Visit www.iocc.org for registration information and opportunities to donate

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)

Saint Anthony Philoptochos Santa's Kitchen Prepaid Order Form

ALL PREPAID ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020

ORDERS AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP:

St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, Trinity Ballroom
778 South Rosemead Blvd., Pasadena

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11 from 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
and**








SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 from 1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

Place prepaid order by:

- **MAIL** – Fill out Order Form below (check payable to St. Anthony Philoptochos and mail to St. Anthony Philoptochos, 778 South Rosemead Blvd., Pasadena CA 91107)

Name: _____ Cell/Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ E-mail: _____

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>\$ TOTAL</u>
 Baklava (box of 12) Layers of phyllo dough brushed with butter and filled with chopped walnuts and almonds, cinnamon, sugar and soaked in honey syrup.	\$30	_____	\$ _____
 Finikia/Melomakarona (box of 12) Honey-dipped cookies topped with ground walnuts, sugar and cinnamon mixture.	\$25	_____	\$ _____
 Koulourakia (bag of 12) Butter-based cookies with sweet delicate flavor topped with egg glaze.	\$8	_____	\$ _____
 Koulourakia, Chocolate Dipped (box of 6) Butter cookies dipped in dark chocolate.	\$7	_____	\$ _____
 Kourabiethes (box of 12) Shortbread butter cookies without nuts covered in powdered sugar.	\$25	_____	\$ _____
 Marshmallow Chocolate Reindeer (1) Marshmallow dipped in milk chocolate with pretzel antlers.	\$3	_____	\$ _____
 Santa's Candy Cane Sleigh (1) Candy canes and mini chocolate bars.	\$6	_____	\$ _____
Variety Pastry Box	4 Baklava, 4 Melomakarona, 4 Kourabiethes		\$ _____
	\$25		\$ _____
Optional Local Delivery	Pastry orders of \$50 or more within a 15 mile radius of Pasadena - delivered the week after the event.		\$ _____
	\$5	Yes/No	\$ _____

ORDER TOTAL \$ _____

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)

UNION STATION HOMELESS SERVICES

Irene Albeck and **Noula Serban** have resumed preparing meals for **Union Station** the first Wednesday of the month. The meals have to be delivered in individual servings during CoViD; hence, the monthly cost has increased. Donations of heavy duty plates, napkins, paper towels or store bought cookies would be very much appreciated.

Please contact **Irene Albeck - 626.792.8122** to make arrangements for items to be picked up if you care to donate.

Philoptochos continues to support our local food bank, **Friends In Deed**, with a monthly donation.

PLEASE NOTE

Non-food donations can be delivered to our **Administrative Office**

825 E. Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91104

Monday-Friday between 9:00am-4:30pm.

All food donations (perishable and non-perishable) can be delivered to the **Adult Center**

412 S. Raymond Ave. Pasadena, CA 91105.

The Adult Center is open for donations from 8:00am-2:30pm.

IN-KIND DONATION NEEDS

Adult Diapers

Baby diapers and baby formula

Clorox or Lysol Wipes

Disinfectant Spray

Laundry basket and laundry soap

Laundry pods and quarters

New pillows and blankets

New and gently used books

Puzzles, activity books for adults and children

Personal and feminine products

KITCHEN NEEDS

BBQ sauce

Corn cooking oil

Flour tortillas to make burritos

Frozen burritos

Frozen has brown patties

Individual coffee packets

Individual creamer packets

Individual sugar packets

Microwaveable dinners

Sliced American cheese

Teriyaki glaze

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

We have dispensed with people volunteering to serve at the facility, however we continue our monthly commitment to prepare a hardy, nutritious dinner meal. We have generous donors to cover the meals. USHS has requested packaged dessert (cookies), single serve beverages (10 oz.) and single serve bottles of milk. You may continue to volunteer by donating toward purchasing individual packaged items. The following is an estimated cost: rolls-\$16.50, cookies, \$27.50, beverage, \$48.60, and milk, \$10.80.

Please make checks out to: *Philoptochos of Saint Anthony*

In memo box write: USHS

Thank you for being a part of the solution to homelessness.

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

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)**Union Station Dinner in the Park, 50th Anniversary**

This year dinner in the park will be celebrating according to COVID safety standards.

1. Thanksgiving “All the Fixings” meal boxes. November 18

For families who access to a kitchen, “All the Fixings” Meal supply Boxes.

Boxes will be filled with everything needed for a Thanksgiving dinner.

You may supply ingredients needed to prepare a holiday meal.

2. Thanksgiving Prepared dinners-Wednesday, November 25.

For families who do not have access to a kitchen, portioned and dinner will be available.

3. Thanksgiving Day November 26

There will be private community meals at the Adult Center, Family Center and Centennial Place.

4. Volunteer opportunities

Make Dinner in the Park possible: food sorting, preparation, cooking, packaging and serving. All options will follow all health and safety protocols.

If you wish to provide the food and supplies needed for these meals to help, visit:

Amazon Wish List

<https://a.co/bwEKxMN>

Adapted from: Union Station Homeless Services Fall Newsletter 2020



VIP NEWS***St. Anthony VIPs
Annual Outreach***

Foothill Unity Center is the primary provider of food, case management/crisis help, and access to health care resources to approximately 4,000 families across eleven San Gabriel Valley cities.

Each year St. Anthony VIPs begin collecting money after Church to donate to Foothill Unity Center so that they may purchase turkeys to be distributed to families in need. Last year through donations collected and supplemented by the VIPs, we were able to donate \$1,000.

Therefore, we are asking for your donations again this year.

***Please mail your check made payable to "St. Anthony VIPs" to:
St. Anthony VIPs
St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church
778 S. Rosemead Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91107***

***If you have any questions, please contact:
Helen Treantafelles
626-339-1338
or
Barbara Akrotirianakis
626-399-9275***

***Your contribution will be greatly appreciated!
PLEASE MAIL BY NOVEMBER 15th!!!***

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
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Tony Christopoulos	Treasurer

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 Christos Ioannou
 Anthia Drulias Lucas
 James Pappas
 Sophia Syrengelas
 Mary Udria
 Vincent Zarian

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Choir Director Jim Hronas

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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

Demetrios Baliotis
 Mike Abi-Farah

READERS

Dr Nicholas Kokoris
 Constantine Trigonis

YOUTH CHOIR



OFFICE STAFF

Alma Vorgias – Office Administrator
 Athena Serban – Events Coordinator (Trinity Ballroom)



CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Irene Albeck - Preschool, Kindergarten & 1st

Stephanie Scolinos - 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th

Rebecca Russo - 6th, 7th & 8th

Pres. Aida Stratos - 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th



MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

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1st Vice President

Maria Hronas, Elizabeth Skandale & Lisa Xanthos

2nd Vice President

Judith Din & Konstantina Paziouros

Corresponding Secretary

Tanya Christodoulelis & Maria Grover

Recording Secretary

Fontaine Achilles Malisos & Mary Dewar

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Maria Kokoris

Assistant Treasurer

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Mary Dewar, Stephanie Soewers & Presbytera Aida Stratos

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+Terese Caire

Scholarship

Irene Albeck & Judith Din

Sunshine and Visitation

Jeanne Karaianoglou

Union Station

Irene Albeck

Welfare

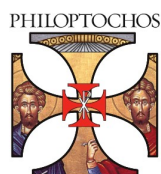
Presbytera Maria Mylonas

Advisor

Connie Becker

Spiritual Advisor

Father Peter Stratos



ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

Acolytes

Fr. Christopher Retelas

Bible Study

Fr. Peter Stratos

Bookstore

Noah Johnson

GOYA

Fr. Christopher Retelas

GOYA Basketball

Anthia Lucas

Pana Gelt

Greek Dance Groups

Phophi Magaziotis

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

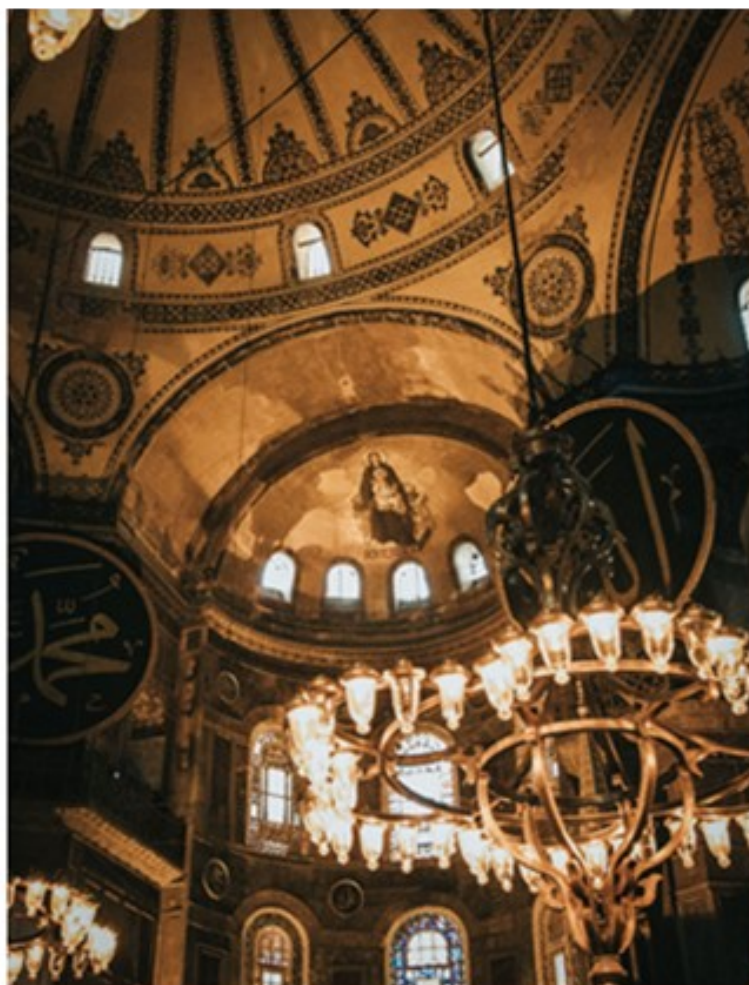
Helen Treantafelles

Young Adults

Mike Abi Farah



COMMUNITY NEWS



Studies in the Faith w/ Fr. Peter

offered via ZOOM
Wednesday nights
starting 4/29 at 7pm

Email
frpeter@saint-anthonys.org
for information on how
to join.

Weekly Bible Study w/ Fr. Chris

offered via ZOOM
Tuesday mornings
starting 4/28 at 11am

Email
frchris@saint-anthonys.org
for information on how
to join.



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

Share your Recipes to be included in the Saint Anthony 2020 Cookbook !!

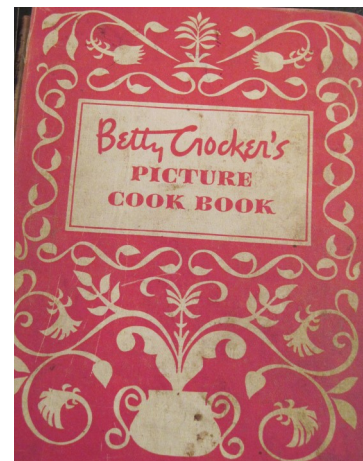
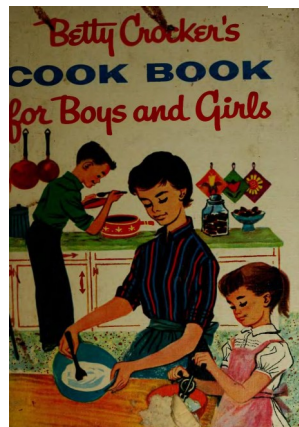
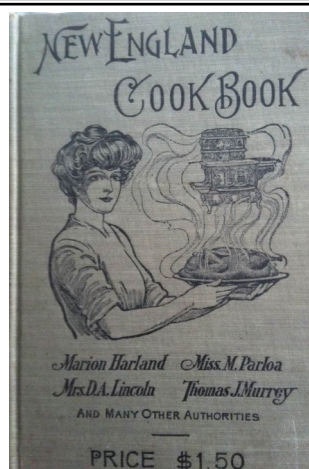
As so many of us have had to stay at home these past several months, it would be fun to share our favorite recipes (Greek or non-Greek) with our church community.

Please email your recipes to: Newsletter_church@aol.com

We will include one in each monthly newsletter, and when we have enough for a cookbook, we will publish them all together.

The cookbook will be available for purchase at a later date.

Please join in the fun to share recipes.



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)**Monthly Lesson from Father Stavros Akrotirianakis...**

Forgiveness is a necessary ingredient of any relationship. This is not only because forgiveness is a Christian concept. It is a practical one. I've been married now for over 25 years. If I do one thing wrong per week towards my wife (and believe me I do more than one thing wrong per week), that would amount to over 1,300 transgressions against my wife. Could you love someone if they had done over 1,300 things wrong. And that's being generous. If I do five things wrong per week, that's over 6,500 transgressions. I've been at my current parish for over 16 years. There are 1,200 people who call this parish home. If I do one thing wrong per year per each of them, that's nearly 20,000 sins committed in my parish, if I only do one wrong thing per person year.

My point is that, in any serious relationship we have, the number of transgressions will pile up quickly. And the only way to stay committed and loving long term towards a spouse, a child, a parent, a friend, or a co-worker is forgiveness. Our ability to forgive them. Their ability to forgive us.

Every time we sin, we are also sinning against God. Every private sin, meaning a sinful thought or action committed alone, is a sin against God. Every time we sin against someone else, we are also sinning against God, Who gave us a commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves. Sin is the failure to love. So every sin we commit against someone else, in the moment we commit it, we are failing to love that person, and we are sinning against God as well. Think about how many sins you commit each day, each week, each year. The number of sins we all commit is astronomical. There is no way we can hope for any relationship with God without His forgiveness.

If God marked our iniquities, there is no way anyone could stand before His awesome judgment seat and hope for salvation. The truth is that when we come to God with a repentant heart, asking for His forgiveness and pledging to do better, that God forgives us. If we expect God to forgive us, should we also forgive one another? Because our sins against God are the total of sins we have committed against others, in addition to the private sins we commit that no one knows about. Going back to my example of sinning once against each person in my parish once a year, that's 16 sins against each person, but nearly 20,000 sins in total against God. And that's being generous, the total is much higher than 20,000 I'm sure. Now let's say that a person in my parish has sinned against me 20 times. Shouldn't I be able to forgive that person, realizing that I need forgiveness for 20,000 sins from God?

I'm reminded of the parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18: 23-35. A man owed the king 10,000 talents. A talent back then was an amount of money, equal to what a person could earn in 10 years. Let's say, in modern dollars, a million dollars. So 10,000 talents would equal 10 billion dollars. That's more money than most of us can conceive of. The servant besought the king to forgive him that amount and the king did. The servant then went out and came upon a man who owed him 100 denarii. A denarius is equivalent to what a person might earn in a day. In contemporary dollars, let's say that 100 days of work equals \$35,000. The servant would not forgive the man \$35,000, after the king had forgiven him \$10 billion! When people saw this, they told the king, who brought the servant back, and took back his forgiveness and cast the servant into prison. The lesson Jesus tells us in Matthew 18:35 is "So my heavenly Father will do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

There is no way that we've sinned against any person to the degree we've sinned against God. Because our sins against God total the sins we have committed against all people, in addition to the private ones no one except God knows about. If we expect God to forgive us, we must learn to forgive one another. Forgiveness doesn't mean that we have to trust someone again, or that they have to be our best friend. It means that we loosen our anger towards someone else, and the byproduct of this is that we lighten our own hearts.

There is a difference between saying "I'm sorry" and "will you forgive me?" The difference is that asking for forgiveness requires a response from the person you are asking. Saying "I'm sorry" does not. Thus, we should learn to ask for forgiveness and to offer forgiveness when it is asked of us. In relationships that matter—marriage, children, long-term friends—forgiveness is essential in order for relationships to be genuine and healthy. It truly is a discipline and almost an "art" to be able to exchange forgiveness with others. I'm glad that before receiving Holy Communion, a priest has to ask forgiveness from the congregation. It is a reminder to me that not a week goes by that I don't wrong someone in the congregation. It is a reminder to work on my own sinfulness, as well as to ask forgiveness when I've wronged someone, and to forgive others who have wronged me.

One more note, which is a liturgical note—the words of Psalm 130 are intoned at every Vespers service, as verses in between the hymns of the day that are sung early in the Vespers service. Those who authored the services of the Church were wise to include this Psalm about forgiveness at the Vespers service, the service that begins the liturgical day, as a reminder that forgiveness should be part of every day, and that is a foundational part of every relationship, with one another, and most especially in our relationship with the Lord.

If we keep a scorebook of sins against others, or they keep one against us, no relationship will survive. If God keeps a record of our sins, there is no hope for salvation. Our hope for any relationship lies in our ability to forgive, as well as in the generosity of others, and of God, to forgive us.

Psalm 130

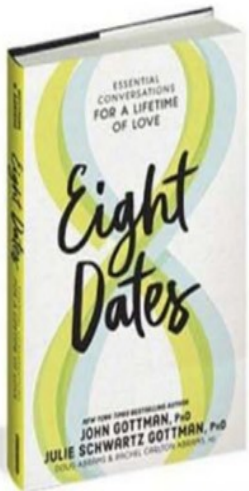
Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord! Lord, hear my voice! Let Thy ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee that Thou mayest be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plenteous redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all His iniquities.

Be easy to forgive others, just as God is easy to forgive us!

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES

"ESSENTIAL CONVERSATIONS
FOR A LIFETIME OF LOVE"



Join us and other couples in our Orthodox community for 1-hour virtual sessions twice a month, in a complimentary series featuring discussions from *Eight Dates* by John Gottman, Ph.D., designed to strengthen your commitment to one another and to God.

THURSDAYS AT 6:30PM PST

OCTOBER 15	NOVEMBER 12	DECEMBER 3	JANUARY 7	FEBRUARY 4
OCTOBER 29	NOVEMBER 19	DECEMBER 17	JANUARY 21	FEBRUARY 18

VISIT EITHER WEBSITE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.gosfyouth.org

www.familywellnessministry.org



YOUTH &
YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRIES



Family Wellness Ministry



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:****ORTHODOX
OBSERVER**

Three Auxiliary Bishops Elected at the Ecumenical Patriarchate



The Archdiocese received with much joy the news from the Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, that His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew together with the Holy and Sacred Synod accepted the proposal of the Synod of our Archdiocese for the election of three Auxiliary Bishops.

Based on the above, our Mother Church elected three distinguished clergymen of the Holy Archdiocese of America to the episcopacy:

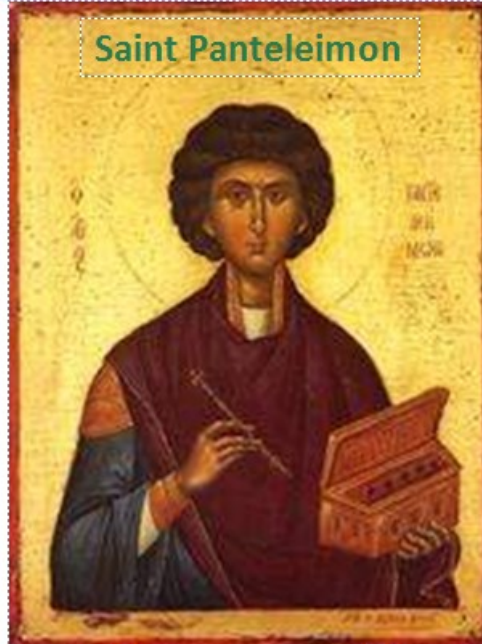
Spyridon (Kezios) as Bishop of Amastris,
Timothy (Bakakos) as Bishop of Hexamilion, and
Ioannis (Constantine) as Bishop of Phocaea.

The dates and locations of all three ordinations to the Holy Episcopacy will be announced in the coming days. All ordinations will be held with proper COVID-19 protocols in place.

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)**The Voice of Saint Anthony****JULY 2020****INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

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Deadline for
August Newsletter is
Saturday, 25 July
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

If you would like the monthly newsletter mailed to your home each month, please contact the Church office.

626.449.6943

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)**The Gospel according to Saint Matthew****Chapter 7****Do Not Judge**

“Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. ³ And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? ⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove the speck from your eye’; and look, a plank *is* in your own eye? ⁵ Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

⁶ “Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

Keep Asking, Seeking, Knocking

⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! ¹² Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

The Narrow Way

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH

Cosmas and Damianos

1 November

These Saints were from Asia Minor. After the death of their father, their Christ-loving mother Theodota reared them in piety and in all manner of virtue and had them instructed in every science, especially that of medicine. This became their vocation, and they went about healing every illness and malady, bestowing healing freely on both men and beasts alike. Because of this, they are called "Unmercenaries" and thus, having completed the course of their life, they reposed in peace.



Synaxis of Archangel Michael & other Bodiless Powers

8 November

All the Angels, according to the Apostle Paul, are ministering spirits, - sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation - (Hebrews 1:14). God sent them as overseers of every nation and people and guides to that which is profitable (Deuteronomy 32:8); and while one Angel is appointed to oversee each nation as a whole, one is also appointed to protect each Christian individually. He commands them to guard those who hope on Him, that nothing should harm them, neither should any evil draw nigh to their dwelling (Psalms 90:10-12). In the Heavens they always behold the face of God, sending up to Him the thrice-holy hymn and interceding with Him on our behalf, seeing they rejoice over one sinner that repents (Matthew 18:10; Luke 15:7).

In a word, they have served God in so many ways for our benefit, that the pages of Holy Scripture are filled with the histories thereof. It is for these reasons that the Orthodox Church, wisely honoring these divine ministers, our protectors and guardians, celebrates today the present Synaxis that is, our coming together in assembly for their common feast to chant their praises, especially for the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, who are mentioned in the Scriptures by name.

The name Michael means "Who is like God?" and name Gabriel means "God is mighty." The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures, where Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him (Daniel 7:10). But all of them are divided into nine orders which are called Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

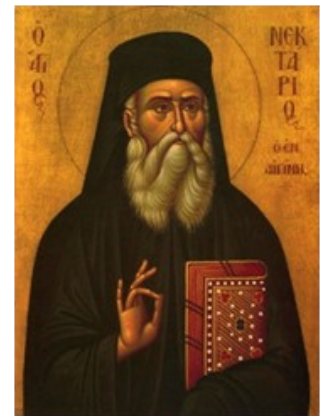


FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)**Saint Nektarios****9 November**

Saint Nektarios was born in Selyvria of Thrace on October 1, 1846. After putting himself through school in Constantinople he became a monk on Chios in 1876, receiving the monastic name of Lazarus. Because of his virtue, a year later he was ordained deacon, receiving the new name of Nektarios. Nektarios went to Athens to study in 1882. Completing his theological studies in 1885, he went to Alexandria, where he was ordained a priest in 1886 at the Cathedral of Saint Sabbas. In August of the same year, in the Church of Saint Nicholas in Cairo, he was ordained an Archimandrite. Archimandrite Nektarios showed much zeal both for preaching the word of God, and for the beauty of God's house. He greatly beautified the Church of Saint Nicholas in Cairo. Years later, when Nektarios was in Athens, Saint Nicholas appeared to him in a dream, embracing him and telling him he was going to exalt him very high.

In 1889, in the same Church of Saint Nicholas, Nektarios was consecrated Metropolitan of the Pentapolis in eastern Libya, which was under the jurisdiction of Alexandria. This office did not affect his modesty and childlike innocence, but it aroused the envy of lesser men, who slandered him. In 1890, Sophronius relieved Metropolitan Nektarios of his duties; in July of the same year, he commanded Nektarios to leave Egypt.

Without seeking to avenge or even to defend himself, the innocent Metropolitan left for Athens. Because his good name had been soiled, he was unable to find a position worthy of a bishop, and in February of 1891 accepted the position of provincial preacher in Euboea; then, in 1894, he was appointed Dean of the Rizarios Ecclesiastical School in Athens. Through his eloquent sermons, his generous alms deeds despite his own poverty, and the holiness, meekness and fatherly love that were manifest in him, he became a shining light and a spiritual guide to many. At the request of certain pious women, in 1904 he began the building of his convent of the Holy Trinity on the island of Aegina while still Dean of the Rizarios School. Finding later that his presence there was needed, he took up his residence on Aegina in 1908, where he spent the last years of his life, devoting himself to the direction of his convent and to very intense prayer; he was sometimes seen lifted above the ground while rapt in prayer. He became the protector of all Aegina, through his prayers, delivering the island from drought, healing the sick and casting out demons. Although he had already worked wonders in life, an innumerable multitude of miracles have been wrought after his repose in 1920 through his holy relics, which for many years remained incorrupt. There is hardly a malady that has not been cured through his prayers; but Saint Nektarios is especially renowned for his healings of cancer for sufferers in all parts of the world.

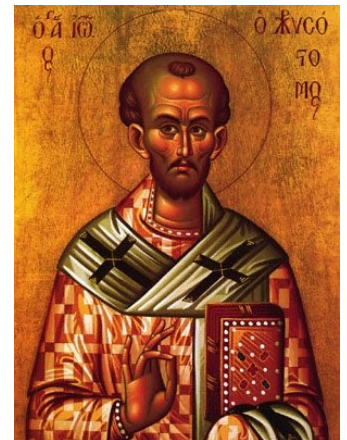


FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)

Saint John Chrysostom

13 November

This greatest and most beloved of all Christian orators was born in Antioch in the year 344; his pious parents were Secundus and Anthusa. After his mother was widowed at the age of twenty, she devoted herself to bringing up John and his elder sister in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. John received his literary training under Anthragathius the philosopher, and Libanius the sophist, who was the greatest Greek scholar and rhetorician of his day. Libanius was a pagan. With such a training, and with such gifts as he had by nature, John had before him a brilliant career as a rhetorician. But through the good example of his godly mother Anthusa and of the holy Bishop Meletius of Antioch, by whom he was ordained reader about the year 370, he chose instead to dedicate himself to God. From the years 374 to 381 he lived the monastic life in the hermitages that were near Antioch. His extreme asceticism undermined his health, compelling him to return to Antioch, where Saint Meletius ordained him deacon about the year 381. Saint Meletius was called to Constantinople later that year to preside over the Second Ecumenical Council, during which he fell asleep in the Lord. In 386 Bishop Flavian ordained John presbyter of the Church of Antioch. Upon his elevation to the priesthood his career as a public preacher began, and his exceptional oratorical gifts were made manifest through his many sermons and commentaries. They are distinguished by their eloquence and the remarkable ease with which rich imagery and scriptural allusions are multiplied; by their depth of insight into the meaning of Scripture and the workings of God's providence; and not least of all, by their earnestness and moral force, which issue from the heart of a blameless and guileless man who lived first what he preached to others. Because of his fame, he was chosen to succeed Saint Nectarios as Patriarch of Constantinople. He was taken away by stealth, to avoid the opposition of the people, and consecrated Patriarch of Constantinople in 398, by Theophilus, Patriarch of Alexandria, who was to prove to be his mortal enemy.



At that time the Emperor of the East was Arcadius, who had had Saint Arsenius the Great as his tutor. Arcadius was a man of weak character, and much under the influence of his wife Eudoxia. The zealous and upright Chrysostom's unsparing censures of the lax morals in the imperial city stung the vain Eudoxia; through Theophilus' plottings and her collaboration, Saint John was banished to Pontus in 403. The people were in an uproar, and the following night an earthquake shook the city; this so frightened the Empress Eudoxia that she begged Arcadius to call Chrysostom back. While his return was triumphant, his reconciliation with the Empress did not last long. When she had a silver statue of herself erected in the forum before the Church of the Holy Wisdom (Saint Sophia) in 403, Saint John thundered against her, and she could not forgive him. In June of 404 he was exiled to Cucusus, on the borders of Cilicia and Armenia. From here he exchanged letters with Pope Innocent of Rome, who sent bishops and priests to Constantinople requesting that a council be held. Saint John's enemies, dreading his return, prevailed upon the Emperor and had John taken to a more remote place of banishment called Pityus near the Caucasus. The journey was filled with bitter sufferings for the aged bishop, both because of the harshness of the elements and the cruelty of one of his 310 guards. He did not reach Pityus, but gave up his soul to the Lord near Comana in Pontus, at the chapel of the Martyr Basiliscus, who had appeared to him shortly before, foretelling the day of his death, which came to pass on September 14, 407. His last words were "Glory be to God for all things."

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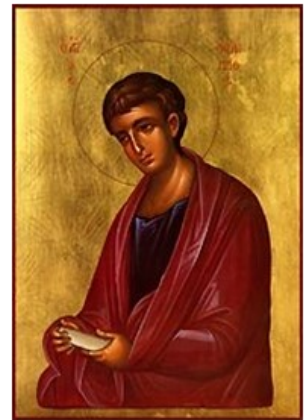
FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)

His holy relics were brought from Comana to Constantinople thirty-one years later by the Emperor Theodosius the Younger and Saint Pulcheria his sister, the children of Arcadius and Eudoxia, with fervent supplications that the sin of their parents against him be forgiven.

Saint John was surnamed Chrysostom ("Golden-mouth") because of his eloquence. He made exhaustive commentaries on the divine Scriptures and was the author of more works than any other Church Father, leaving us complete commentaries on the Book of Genesis, the Gospels of Saints Matthew and John, the Acts, and all the Epistles of Saint Paul. His extant works are 1,447 sermons and 240 epistles. Twenty-two teachers of the Church have written homilies of praise in his honor. Besides his feast day, he is celebrated as one of the Three Hierarchs on January 30, together with Saint Basil the Great and Saint Gregory the Theologian.

Saint Philip **14 November**

Saint Philip one of the Twelve, was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and was a compatriot of Andrew and Peter. He was instructed in the teachings of the Law and devoted himself to the study of the prophetic books. Therefore, when the Lord Jesus called him to the dignity of apostleship, he immediately sought out and found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and the Prophets did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph" (John 1.45). Having preached Jesus the God-man throughout many parts of Asia Minor and having suffered many things for His Name's sake, he was finally crucified upside down in Hierapolis of Phrygia.



Advent Fast for the Feast of the Nativity **15 November - 24 December**

In the Orthodox Church the Feast of Christmas is called "**The Nativity**". As with Pascha, the Feast of the Nativity begins with a period of preparation known as **Advent or the Nativity Fast**. It is preceded by a fast corresponding to Lent and lasting for forty days. The fast begins on **November 15**, 40 days prior to the Birth of Christ.

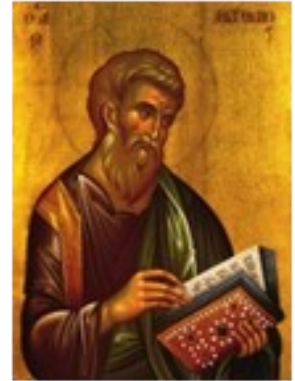
The Nativity Fast is one of four main fast periods throughout the ecclesiastical year. Beginning on November 15 and concluding on December 24, the Nativity Fast gives individuals the opportunity to prepare for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior in the Flesh on December 25. By abstaining from certain food and drink, particularly from meat, fish, dairy products, olive oil, and wine, as well as focusing more deeply on prayer and almsgiving, we can find that the primary aim of fasting is to make us conscious of our dependence upon God.

As we go thru the next 40 days, let us reflect on how we can make ourselves better Christians. Let us change our habits for the next 40 days and focus on the true meaning of Thanksgiving and Christmas. Beginning with Christmas Day, the Feast of the Nativity is celebrated for twelve days culminating in the Feast of Epiphany on January 6.



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)**Saint Matthew
16 November**

Saint Matthew who was also called Levi, was the son of Alphaeus and had Galilee as his homeland. A publican before being called by Christ, he became one of the Twelve Apostles, and an Evangelist. While still in Palestine, he wrote his Gospel first in Hebrew, being also the first of all to write the Gospel. When he is depicted in icons, there is portrayed next to him the likeness of a man, one of the symbolic living creatures mentioned by Ezekiel (1.10), which, as Saint Irenaeus writes, is a symbol of our Savior's Incarnation.

**Gregory the Wonderworker
17 November**

Saint Gregory was born in Neocaesarea of Pontus to parents who were not Christians. He studied in Athens, in Alexandria, in Beirut, and finally for five years in Caesarea of Palestine under Origen, by whom he was also instructed in the Faith of Christ. Then, in the year 240, he became bishop of his own city, wherein he found only seventeen Christians. By the time the Saint reposed about the year 265, there were only seventeen unbelievers left there. Virtually the whole duration of his episcopacy was a time of continual, marvellous wonders worked by him. Because of this, he received the surname "Wonderworker"; even the enemies of the truth called him a second Moses

**The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple
21 November**

According to the tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was brought to the Temple at three years of age, where she was consecrated to God and spent her days until she was fourteen or fifteen years old; and then, as a mature maiden, by the common counsel of the priests (since her parents had reposed some three years before), she was betrothed to Joseph.

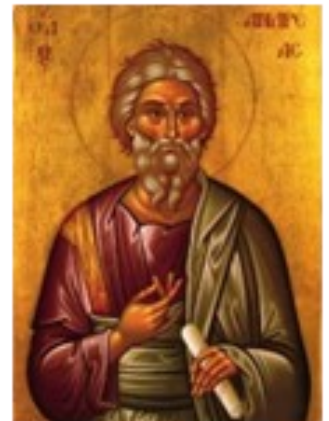


FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)**Saint Katherine****25 November**

Saint Katherine who was from Alexandria, was the daughter of Constatas. She was an exceedingly beautiful maiden, most chaste and illustrious in wealth, lineage, and learning. By her steadfast understanding, she utterly vanquished the passionate and unbridled soul of Maximinus, the tyrant of Alexandria; and by her eloquence, she stopped the mouths of the so-called philosophers who had been gathered to dispute with her. She was crowned with the crown of martyrdom in the year 305. Her holy relics were taken by Angels to the holy mountain of Sinai, where they were discovered many years later; the famous monastery of Saint Katherine was originally dedicated to the Holy Transfiguration of the Lord and the Burning Bush, but later was dedicated to Saint Katherine. According to the ancient usage, Saints Katherine and Mercurius were celebrated on the 24th of this month, whereas the holy Hieromartyrs Clement of Rome and Peter of Alexandria were celebrated on the 25th. The dates of the feasts of these Saints were interchanged at the request of the Church and Monastery of Mount Sinai, so that the festival of Saint Katherine, their patron, might be celebrated more festively together with the Apodosis of the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos.

**Saint Andrew****30 November**

Saint Andrew was from Bethsaida of Galilee; he was the son of Jonas and the brother of Peter, the chief of the Apostles. He had first been a disciple of John the Baptist; afterwards, on hearing the Baptist's witness concerning Jesus, when he pointed Him out with his finger and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1.29,36), he straightway followed Christ, and became His first disciple; wherefore he is called the First-called of the Apostles. After the Ascension of the Saviour, he preached in various lands; and having suffered many things for His Name's sake, he died in Patras of Achaia, where he was crucified on a cross in the shape of an "X," the first letter of "Christ" in Greek; this cross is also the symbol of Saint Andrew.



Orthodox Calendar

NOVEMBER 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Cosmas & Damianos 5th Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio and Live-stream	2	3	4 7pm Union Station Philoptochos Outreach 7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom with Father Peter	5	6	7
8 Synaxis of the Archangels 7th Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio and Live-stream	9 Saint Nektarios 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. Live-stream only	10 11am Bible Study via Zoom w/Father Chris 7pm Parish Council Meeting	11 7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom with Father Peter 7:15pm Philoptochos Board Meeting via Zoom	12	13 Saint John Chrysostom 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. Live-stream only	14 Saint Phillip the Apostle
15 Nativity Fast Begins 8th Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio and Live-stream Parish General Assem	16 Saint Matthew	17 Saint Gregory the Wonderworker 11am Bible Study via Zoom w/Father Chris	18 7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom with Father Peter	19	20	21 Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. Live-stream only
22 9th Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio and Live-stream	23	24 11am Bible Study via Zoom w/Father Chris	25 Saint Katherine 7pm Philoptochos Gen'l. Meeting via Zoom 7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom with Father Peter	26 Thanksgiving Day 	27	28
29 13th Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio and Live-stream	30 Saint Andrew 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. Live-stream only					
		Strict Fast 	Fish Allowed 	Wine and Oil Allowed 	Dairy, Eggs, and Fish Allowed 	Fast Free



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

Christians leading an un-Christian-like life are the dry branches on the shoots coming
from the root—Christ
and “every branch in me that beareth not fruit He taketh away. . .
and cast them into the fire.”

Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt

What is a Christian?

A person who reveals daily, the image and likeness of Christ given to them by God. The image is the human form created by God and taken by Christ at the incarnation. The likeness is His divinity. By saying we are Christians and then defiling our bodies and souls through sin, we become the hypocrites that Christ condemns in the Gospel of John. By surrendering our will to God's will, humbly acknowledging our shortcomings through repentance and confession, and immersing ourselves in the liturgical and spiritual life of the Church, we become sanctified and are given the grace to bear the fruits of the Spirit. We are no longer withering, dry, branches, but thriving branches of the tree of life, bearing fruit and living in a way pleasing to God.

*In Christ,
Deacon Euthym Kontaxis*

