



*Rev. Father Peter Stratos, Pastor*

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*Church office hours: Monday-Friday: 9:00am to 4:00pm (Closed Saturday & Sunday)*

*For pastoral emergencies only please call 626-855-3640*

**DECEMBER 27, 2020 – SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY**

*Saints: Stephen, Archdeacon and First Martyr; Theodore the Venerable Confessor*

**OUTDOOR DIVINE SERVICES (RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)**

**ORTHROS ~ 8:45 A.M.**

**[\(ORTHROS SERVICE TEXT CLICK HERE\)](#)**

**DIVINE LITURGY ~ 10:00 A.M.**

**[\(LITURGY SERVICE TEXT CLICK HERE\)](#)**

***SUNDAY SERVICES ARE ONLY OFFERED OUTDOORS TO A LIMITED CAPACITY.***

***JOIN US IN PRAYER VIA LIVE-STREAM (CLICK THE LINKS BELOW):***

**[SAINT-ANTHONY.S.ORG/LIVESTREAM](http://SAINT-ANTHONY.S.ORG/LIVESTREAM)**

**[FACEBOOK.COM/STANTHONYSPASADENA](https://FACEBOOK.COM/STANTHONYSPASADENA)**

**[YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCXSG4uJFWmElsOEIjx96pCA](https://YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCXSG4uJFWmElsOEIjx96pCA)**

**UPCOMING DIVINE SERVICES:** ([saint-anthonys.org/calendar](http://saint-anthonys.org/calendar)):

**Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>: Holy Theophany**

*(LIVE STREAM ONLY: Orthros 9:00am, Liturgy 10:00am)*

**Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>: Synaxis of St. John the Baptist**

*(LIVE STREAM ONLY: Orthros 9:00am, Liturgy 10:00am)*

***RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION. MODE 4 (BEFORE ENTRANCE)***

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρήψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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***APOLYTIKION OF CHRISTMAS. MODE 4***

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.

Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα σοι.

***APOLYTIKION OF THE ANCESTORS OF GOD. MODE 2***

Annunciate the miracles to David the ancestor of God, O Joseph. You saw the Virgin pregnant. You glorified with the shepherds. You worshipped with the Magi. And you were warned by an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Εὐαγγελίζου Ἰωσήφ, τῷ Δαυΐδ τὰ θαύματα τῷ Θεοπάτορι· Παρθένον εἶδες κυφορήσασαν, μετὰ Μάγων προσεκύνησας, μετὰ Ποιμένων ἐδοξολόγησας, δι' Ἀγγέλου χρηματισθείς. Ἰκέτευε Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

***APOLYTIKION OF ST. STEPHEN THE PROTO-MARTYR. MODE 4***

O Stephen, a crown of royalty was laid on your head for contests you courageously endured for Christ our God, as first among Martyr saints. You stood in accusation of the raging Judeans; and you saw your Savior at the right hand of the Father. We pray that you will ever entreat Him to save our souls.

Βασίλειον διάδημα, ἐστέφθη σὴ κορυφή, ἐξ ἄθλων ὧν ὑπέμεινας, ὑπὲρ Χριστοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ, μαρτύρων Πρωτόαθλε· σὺ γὰρ τὴν Ἰουδαίων ἀπελέγξας μανίαν, εἶδες σου τὸν Σωτῆρα, τοῦ Πατρὸς δεξιόθεν. Αὐτὸν οὖν ἐκδυσώπει ἀεὶ, ὑπὲρ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν.

***APOLYTIKION OF ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT. MODE 4***

Emulating the ways of Elijah the zealot, and following the straight paths of the Baptist, O Father Anthony, you made the wilderness a city, and did support the world by your prayers. Wherefore intercede with Christ our God, that our souls be saved.

Τὸν ζηλωτὴν Ἠλίαν τοῖς τρόποις μιμούμενος, τῷ Βαπτιστῇ εὐθείαις ταῖς τρίβοις ἐπόμενος, Πάτερ Ἀντώνιε, τῆς ἐρήμου γέγονας οἰκιστής, καὶ τὴν οἰκουμένην ἐστήριξας εὐχαῖς σου· διὸ πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

***KONTAKION OF CHRISTMAS. MODE 3***

On this day the Virgin gives birth to the Super-essential. To the Unapproachable, earth is providing the grotto. Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. He was born for our salvation, a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκτει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι· δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰῶνων Θεός.

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*EPISTLE READING*

Stephen, Archdeacon & First Martyr

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 4. Their voice has gone out into all the earth.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60

In those days, Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, arose and disputed with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated men, who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, and set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us." And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel. And the high priest said, "Is this so?" And Stephen said: "Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Depart from your land and from your kindred and go into the land which I will show you.' Then he departed from the land of the Chaldeans, and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living; yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him in possession and to his posterity after him, though he had no child. "But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands; as the prophet says, 'Heaven is my throne, and earth my footstool. What house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?' "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth against him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man

## *SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE DAY:*

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standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

### *GOSPEL READING*

Sunday after Nativity

The Gospel According to Matthew 2:13-23

When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaos reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

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***PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:***

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**Note: The Church Office will be closed for Christmas on December 24 & 25.**

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY TODAY for grades 9-10-11-12 at 11:30pm.**

**Studies in the Faith** will be on PAUSE until Wednesday evening January 20 at 7:00pm. Email [frpeter@saint-anthonys.org](mailto:frpeter@saint-anthonys.org) for information on how to join.

**Tuesday morning Bible Study** will be on PAUSE until Tuesday morning January 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. Email [frpeter@saint-anthonys.org](mailto:frpeter@saint-anthonys.org) for information on how to join.

**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 your volunteerism by donating toward purchasing individual packaged items. For more information contact Irene Albeck at [mcmg2a@aol.com](mailto:mcmg2a@aol.com).

**MAKE SURE YOU ARE A REGULAR SUPPORTER OF OUR CHURCH!**

The healthiest and most effective way of fulfilling and enhancing your stewardship is to do so on a recurring basis. This is made VERY EASY by setting up monthly or weekly recurring stewardship donations via our online giving platform. Just go to [saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com](http://saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com), or click the icon below and you can set up a no-hassle stewardship account in just minutes!



*Or you can call the church office to set up regular giving through credit cards or checks*

# ST. ANTHONY YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

**MEETING VIRTUALLY EVERY MONTH!**

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

1st Sundays      PK-K-1  
with Mrs. Albeck

2nd Sundays      2-3-4-5  
with Mrs. Scolinos

3rd Sundays      6-7-8  
with Ms. Russo

4th Sundays      9-10-11-12  
with Pres. Aida

**SIGN UP AT:**

**[SAINT-ANTHONY.S.ORG/FELLOWSHIP](http://SAINT-ANTHONY.S.ORG/FELLOWSHIP)**



## **Studies in the Faith**

offered via ZOOM  
Wednesday nights  
at 7pm starting  
January 20

Email  
[frpeter@saint-anthonys.org](mailto:frpeter@saint-anthonys.org)  
for information on how  
to join.

## **Tuesday Bible Study**

offered via ZOOM  
Tuesday mornings  
at 11am starting  
January 19

Email  
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for information on how  
to join.





# LIGHT A CANDLE SAY A PRAYER



While we cannot be in church together, we invite you to make a candle donation to the church. With this, our clergy will gladly light candles for you in the church and pray the names of your loved ones that you provide us, either living or those who have passed on.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE NOW](#)

***Melania the Younger, Nun of Rome.  
(December 31)***

*Saint Melania the Younger, who was born in 388, was the grand-daughter of Saint Melania the Elder (see June 8). Her father Publicola was an Eparch of Rome. She was joined in wedlock to a husband and became the mother of two children, both of which she lost shortly thereafter. Thus, having agreed with her husband to pass the rest of their lives in abstinence and chastity, and taking her mother Albina with her, she went off to Africa. They ransomed 8,000 captives; furthermore, they built two monasteries - one for men and one for women - in the city of Tagaste, which was in the district of Tunis. After seven years they moved to Jerusalem. Thereafter Melania shut herself up in a small and narrow hermitage by the Mount of Olives, and wearing away her body with fasting and vigil, she reposed in 434.*

***Please visit [saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com](http://saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com) to make your offering  
and schedule your regular stewardship giving***

