

Rev. Father Peter Stratos, Pastor

Rev. Father Christopher Retelas, Associate 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

JANUARY 5TH, 2020 – SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

Saints: Martyrs Theopemptos and Theonas; the Righteous Syncletike

ORTHROS ~ 8:45 A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY ~ 10:00 A.M.

BLESSING OF THE WATERS ~ 11:30 A.M.

TODAY'S SOCIAL HOUR is hosted by the St. Anthony Philoptochos.

UPCOMING DIVINE SERVICES: (saint-anthonys.org/calendar):

Monday, January 6th:

Holy Theophany (*Orthros 9:00am, Liturgy & Agiasmos 10:00am*)

Tuesday, January 7th:

Synaxis of St. John the Baptist (*Orthros 9:00am, Liturgy 10:00am*)

PARISH ST. ANTHONY FEAST DAY SERVICES:

Thursday, January 16th:

Great Vespers & Artoklasia of St. Anthony (*7:00pm*)

Dinner will follow, hosted by Philoptochos

Friday, January 17th:

Feast of St. Anthony the Great (*Orthros 9:00am, Liturgy 10:00am*)

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION. MODE 3 (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 Μαθήτριάι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχόμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION. MODE 3 (AFTER ENTRANCE)

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APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY. MODE 4

Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream with his mantle in the wake of Elias's ascent; and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, a symbol and truly a type of Baptism, by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. And Christ appeared at the Jordan River to sanctify the waters.

Ἀπεστρέφετό ποτε, ὁ Ἰορδάνης ποταμός, τῇ μηλωτῇ Ἐλισαιέ, ἀναληφθέντος Ἡλιοῦ, καὶ διηρεῖτο τὰ ὕδατα ἔνθεν καὶ ἔνθεν, καὶ γέγονεν αὐτῷ, ξηρὰ ὁδὸς ἢ ὑγρά, εἰς τύπον ἀληθῶς τοῦ Βαπτίσματος, δι' οὗ ἡμεῖς τὴν ρέουσιν, τοῦ βίου διαπερῶμεν διάβασιν, Χριστὸς ἐφάνη, ἐν Ἰορδάνῃ, ἀγιάσαι τὰ ὕδατα.

APOLYTIKION FOR 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 Ἡλίαν τοῖς τρόποις μιμούμενος, τῷ Βαπτιστῇ εὐθείαις ταῖς τρίβοις ἐπόμενος, Πάτερ Ἀντώνιε, τῆς ἐρήμου γέγονας οἰκιστῆς, καὶ τὴν οἰκουμένην ἐστήριξας εὐχαῖς σου· διὸ πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

SEASONAL KONTAKION. MODE 4.

To the flowing streams today of River Jordan comes the Lord and cries aloud to John the Baptist, and He says, "Be not afraid to baptize me now; for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Ἐν τοῖς ρεῖθροις σήμερον τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, γεγονῶς ὁ Κύριος, τῷ Ἰωάννῃ ἐκβοᾷ· Μὴ δειλιάσης βαπτίσει με· σῶσαι γὰρ ἤκω, Ἄδὰμ τὸν πρωτοπλαστον.

ORTHROS GOSPEL READING

Seventh Orthros Gospel

The Gospel According to John 20:1-10

On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

EPISTLE READING

Prokeimenon: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 4:5-8

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have

fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

GOSPEL READING

Sunday before Epiphany

The Gospel According to Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Blessing of the Waters service books are available in the Narthex for you to follow along. We ask that you only take one holy water bottle per household. We may be able to permit taking 2 bottles at the most if you are taking some for other people, but no more than that.

FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY! January 10th at 6:30pm: Come for the first Fellowship Friday of 2020 this coming Friday January 10th, starting in the church at 6:30pm. As always, there is no cost to attend. Dinner and fellowship is free for the whole family.

2020 Stewardship Financial Commitment. Please return your completed commitment card to church by January 31, 2020. To fully cover our operating expenses, our goal is to have our average stewardship be \$2,000 per family or above. Contact the Church office to set up easy recurring electronic payments -OR- set up your own recurring giving at **saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com**

SCAM Alert! Some of our parishioners have been getting scam phone calls, emails, and text messages from people pretending to be one of our priests asking for gift cards. Our clergy will never reach out to parishioners to request emergency financial assistance, or in this case, gift cards. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

Union Station Homeless Services - Make a New Year's resolution to book a month to serve in 2020. Our sign-up calendar for 2020 is open. Please contact Sophia Angelos at sangelos2000@gmail.com, Stephanie Sowers at szanglis@aol.com or Irene Albeck at mcmg2a@aol.com.

GOYA Winter Retreat at Lake Arrowhead! Be sure to make it to our annual GOYA winter retreat, Friday Jan. 17 – Sunday Jan. 19.

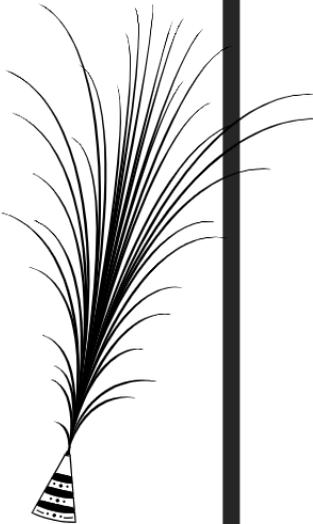
Hospital/Shut-in visitations: It is a priority for our priests to visit and minister to our loved ones in need, and we are not aware of parishioners in need unless we are directly notified. If you, or a loved one, are in the hospital, rehab center, assisted living, or hospice care, please contact the church office for a pastoral visit.

Order for Holy Communion (*only Baptized or Chrismated Orthodox Christians*): Please allow ushers to dismiss you row by row in an orderly fashion.

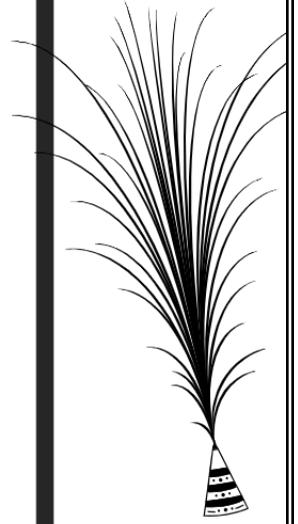
Make a donation or update your regular stewardship giving to St. Anthony's by visiting saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com.



*Happy
New Year!*



FELLOWSHIP
FRIDAY
JANUARY 10
6:30PM



RSVP to:

evite.me/PBPeSGeZGx

The Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (Jan. 6th)

About the beginning of our Lord's thirtieth year, John the Forerunner, who was some six months older than Our Saviour according to the flesh, and had lived in the wilderness since his childhood, received a command from God and came into the parts of the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins. Then our Saviour also came from Galilee to the Jordan, and sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant. Whereupon, there came to pass those marvellous deeds, great and beyond nature: the Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens hearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22). From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men. On this venerable day the sacred mystery of Christian baptism was inaugurated; henceforth also began the saving preaching of the Kingdom of the Heavens.

Please visit saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com to make your offering and schedule your regular stewardship giving



WELCOME!



We hope you enjoy your time with us today and that your worship experience is inspirational and uplifting.

If you are a visitor to our parish, please join us for our social hour in the community center and introduce yourself to the pastors and people. Please note that ***only baptized and/or Chrismated Orthodox Christians may partake of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*** At the end of the Divine Liturgy, you are welcome to come and receive the *Antidoron* (blessed bread) from the priest.

Contact our office at 626-449-6943 or office@saint-anthonys.org to receive more information about our parish or the Orthodox Christian faith.