



## St. Anthony The Great Antiochian Orthodox Church

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 Mailing address : P.O.Box 267, Melbourne, FL 32902  
 Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor & Dean of South Florida Deanery  
 Phone: (305) 812-4940 , E-Mail: [elia\\_shalhoub@yahoo.com](mailto:elia_shalhoub@yahoo.com)  
 Pastor's address: 2295 Oklahoma St.. W. Palm Beach, FL 33406  
<http://www.stanthonyorthodoxchurch.com>

### WELCOME TO ST. ANTHONY'S

Where people from around the world come together to serve God and our community.  
 We are glad you are worshipping with us today! This Church is one community of many in the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. The Church of Antioch belongs to two thousand years of evangelization, teaching, history, and tradition which expresses the continued commitment of its members to the Orthodox Christian faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!  
 St. Anthony Church is a Pan-Orthodox community, under the omophorion of Metropolitan JOSEPH within the Self-ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.  
 If you are a first time visitor, please fill out the guest form located on the literature table.  
 We want you to feel at home in prayer and worship. Please submit your names to the ushers and introduce yourself to Fr. Elia at the end of the service so he may welcome you personally.  
 Following services, please join us for sharing of fellowship, coffee, and food.

## DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 06, 2022 TONE 8 / EOTHINON 11; SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTE- COST & SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW AFTER-FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION (MEETING) OF CHRIST; THE MARTYR AND HEALER JULIAN OF HOMS

BOUKOLOS, BISHOP OF SMYRNA; PHOTIOS THE GREAT, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

*NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.*

**Deacon:** For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

### THE FIRST ANTIPHON

My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king. My tongue is the pen of a swiftly writing scribe.

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Grace is poured into thy lips: therefore, God hath blessed thee forever. (**Refrain**) Glory... Both now... (**Refrain**)

### THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty One, in Thy comeliness and Thy beauty. Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who wast borne in the arms of righteous Simeon; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Thine arrows are sharp, O mighty One, in the heart of the king's enemies; whereby the peoples fall under Thee. (**Refrain**) A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Thy kingdom. (**Refrain**)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

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 To place your ad in our weekly bulletin call or email Yuliya: (321) 960-9564 or [yuliya.warner@yahoo.com](mailto:yuliya.warner@yahoo.com)

### Covid Precautions Update

Over the past few weeks, our country, state and local communities have witnessed a substantial increase in Covid 19 cases after the 'Omicron' variant. We ask that you please be mindful of the following:

If you are experiencing any Covid symptoms, please contact your medical provider and refrain from attending church services.

There is currently a mask mandate at Saint Anthony's. For those who does not have one, a box of masks have been placed on the table in the Church Narthex.

We ask that you please continue to maintain social distancing when possible, in particular while in line to receive Communion; and at the Dismissal while you are receiving the blessing at the end.

We are putting a hold on our Coffee Hour, until we see a decline in the Covid Cases.



## PREPARING FOR GREAT LENT

From Fr. Alexander Schemmen Book “Great Lent”

Little by little since the Sunday of Zaccheus we have been preparing ourselves for Great Lent, which in turn is the movement towards the Feast of Feasts, the Pascha, Easter. The first Sunday of this preparatory period, the Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican, has as its theme: Christianity as humility. The second Sunday, the Sunday of the Prodigal Son, has the theme: Christianity as return or conversion. The third Sunday has the theme: Christianity as judgment. The fourth Sunday has the theme: Christianity as forgiveness. These four themes are essential in our preparation for Great Lent.

Let us approach Lent with a proper understanding of this period. Let us not reduce this Lent to giving up something for Lent: for this idea fills man with such pride that he loses all the benefit he was supposed to achieve and even more. Let us not reduce Lent to our personal problem.

Lent is a time for slowing-down, for taking ourselves to account, in order that we may be spiritually prepared for the feast to come. Lent is the time when the Church withdraws from the New Testament into the Old Testament. Lent is the time when we become nostalgic for communion. In a larger sense, Lent is a permanent dimension of Christianity. It is not a spiritual bath. Lent expresses the church as pilgrimage, as movement, as exodus. Lent opens our eyes to the things that we do not see. Let us remember the idea of Church as fast and feast, as expectation and fulfillment, as humility and glory. The history of our salvation began when God told Abraham to go from Ur in Chaldaea to the land of Canaan. Later on the Exodus from Egypt was the first Great Passover or Pascha. This Exodus is the first image of the Church as the Sons of Israel, the People of God. This Exodus has given us the symbol for the 40 days fast. The idea of the 40 is that the goal of those who went into the desert was the Promised Land. And so for us Christians the first spiritual dimension of Lent is 40 days. The Christian goal is the new Promised Land, the Kingdom of Heaven. Yet in the very desire for the Kingdom of Heaven, we somehow already possess it.

Lent means not only externals as fasting and doing without, but a change in our lives, and a renewal of our baptismal vows, and a new dedication to serve God, a decision for Christ. Above all, let us not misunderstand Lent. Our hymns clearly indicate the true purpose of Lent: *Let us begin the Fast with joy! Let us prepare ourselves for spiritual efforts! Let us purify and cleanse our flesh! Let us abstain from passion, as we abstain from food!*

*Let us rejoice in the Spirit and persevere with love! and another hymn: Brethren, while fasting physically, Let us also fast spiritually! Let us loosen every bond of injustice!*

*Let us destroy the strong fetters of violence! Let us tear up every unjust writing!*

*Let us give bread to the hungry, and Let us welcome the homeless poor to our homes.*

*That from Christ God we may receive great mercy!*

In Christ,

*Fr. Elia Shalhoub*

Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor

## THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance. I shall commemorate thy name in every generation.

~ During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the Presentation of Christ. The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is “O come, let us worship... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead...” as on ordinary Sundays. After the Little Entrance, chant these hymns in the following order:

## RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

## APOLYTIKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

## APOLYTIKION FOR ST. JULIAN OF HOMS IN TONE THREE

O holy passion-bearer and healing physician Julian, intercede with the merciful God that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of sins.

## APOLYTIKION OF ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT IN TONE FOUR

Thou didst become like the zealous Elijah in his condition, and followed John the Baptist in his upright ways, becoming a dweller in the wilderness and an establisher of the universe by thy prayer, O Father Anthony. Wherefore, intercede thou with Christ God to save our souls.

## KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them. God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

## The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them,” says the Lord, “and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,” says the Lord Almighty. Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Seventeenth Sunday of Matthew)

## The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (15:21-28)

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon.” But He did not answer her one word. And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before Him, saying, “Lord, help me.” And He answered, “It is not fair to take the children's



bread and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.” Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.  
~ The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues as usual.

MEGALYNARION OF THE PRESENTATION IN TONE THREE

O Theotokos, \* thou hope of all Christians; \* keep and shelter and preserve \* them that set their hope in thee. In the shadow and letter of the Law, let us the faithful contemplate a prefiguring: Every male child that openeth the womb is holy unto God. Therefore, do we magnify the first-born Word, the Son of the Father Who is without beginning, the first-born Child of a Mother who hath not known wedlock.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.  
~ Post-Communion Hymn: “We have seen the true light.”

ABOUT THE DIVINE LITURGY

The Divine Liturgy expresses the entire Christian faith in a continuous song of praise and prayer addressed to God. It is focused on God, not on us. There is nothing just for amusement or entertainment. Since much of the service is the same every week, worshippers know it and can participate personally, either by singing along or just by prayerful attention. Worshippers are surrounded by icons (pictures of Christ and the saints), which remind us that we are participating, while on earth, in the worship of all the angels and saints in heaven. The entire service (except for the sermon) is sung. The words are all from Scripture or ancient Christian texts. Please follow the service in the books available in the pews. Weekly changes will appear below and marked with a corresponding letter in the service book.

COME BACK

We hope to see you next week. Each Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ with our morning Matins service at 8:45am followed by the main Sunday service, Divine Liturgy at 10am. Sunday School for the Children follows Communion. Fr. Elia would love to speak with you and answer any questions you may have. Please fill out our Guest Form (CONNECTION CARD). There’s also a place where you can let us know any specific needs or concerns and we will lift them up in prayer. We welcome everyone who would like to learn more about the Orthodox Christian Faith. Please contact Fr. Elia either by E-Mail (elia\_shalhoub@yahoo.com) or on his cell phone (305) 812-4940

Announcements



February 6th  
February 13th  
February 20th  
February 27th

EPISTLE READING

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Clint Wilkinson     | St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:16-7:1) |
| Carrie Matos        | St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)      |
| Kevin Michael Brown | St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)  |
| Ionica Dragu        | St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)  |

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** Saturday, February 19th, from 11am-3pm  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We need volunteers for 2-hour shifts for our monthly barbecues. Please contact Michealle at 301-787-1174 or 321-428-4819.  
**Sponsor a Barbecue.** We are already on our way to having February's BBQ sponsored. Our costs per BBQ is \$400.00. Every donation is very much appreciated - whether it's \$50 or \$400. Please mark your checks "BBQ Sponsorship" and leave it in the offering basket. If donating cash, please put it in an offering envelope and write "BBQ Sponsorship" on the envelope. (flyer inserted. please share)  
**Thank You !**



2022 Calendars

\$5 donation to Sunday School.  
Thank you to Eddie and Joyce Smeen at Skewers Restaurant for sponsoring our calendars!

Offering Holy Bread

It is the tradition of the Orthodox Church to offer Holy Bread for a Divine Liturgy for the health of a loved one; in memory of one who has fallen asleep in the Lord; a feast day, anniversary, birthday or other special occasion. The customary donation is \$25.00 per offering. Please fill out the form inserted, if you wish to offer Holy Bread.

\*\* Instructions for Receiving Communion \*\*

- a. When standing in line to receive Communion, please observe six feet of distancing.
- b. Cross your arms over your chest (right arm over left). Open your mouth and tilt your head back. DO NOT close your mouth on the Communion Spoon.
- c. Do not wipe your mouth on, or touch the Communion Cloth (Kalima).
- d. Holy Bread (Antidoron) will be given out only after The Dismissal.

January Food Donations 34LB

Please bring canned and non perishable food to Church to help out those in need. St. Anthony supports local food pantries. Thank you for participating in this important matter.



**Membership:** To become a member, please see Fr. Elia or call him at (305)812-4940.  
**Note:** Pledge Forms are in the back of the Church for those who wish to become members of St. Anthony Church.  
**Guests:** If you are with us for the first time and would like Father Elia to call or visit you, please sign the guest form located in the narthex of the Church and check the appropriate boxes, or call him.



**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**  
“Just as wheat cannot arrive at the granary before it is cleansed from the chaff, so my soul cannot enter into Paradise if my body is not humbled by tortures beforehand.”  
- Holy Martyr Agatha



**Please pray for the healing of** John Thieme, Debbie Thieme, Ann Shark, Jennifer Glass, Luke and Beverly Delida, Lisa Zolton, Tatiana Jones, Gabriella Baika, Ted Theodoropoulos, Susan Perers, Lou Abraham, Alix Hall, Shirley, Nina and Diogo Penas, Beth Manzini, John Archambeau, Holly Blank, Alex & Soula.

# UPCOMING SUNDAY CALENDAR

Below lists the upcoming Sundays from January 30th until Holy Pascha, which falls on April 24th this year. We invite you to join us each week for Sunday Liturgy to celebrate this special commemoration of Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection.

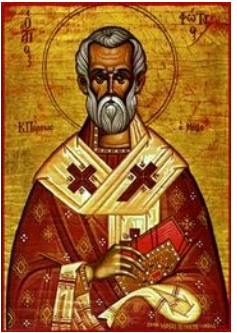
Please mark these special dates on your calendar.

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| January 30  | Sunday of Zacchaeus                      |
| February 6  | Sunday of the Canaanite Woman            |
| February 13 | Pharisee & Publican                      |
| February 20 | Prodigal Son                             |
| February 27 | Meatfare Sunday (Last Judgement)         |
| March 6     | Cheesefare Sunday (Forgiveness Sunday)   |
| March 7     | Beginning of Great Lent                  |
| March 13    | 1st Sunday of Lent (Sunday of Orthodoxy) |
| March 20    | 2nd Sunday of Lent                       |
| March 27    | 3rd Sunday of Lent                       |
| April 3     | 4th Sunday of Lent                       |
| April 10    | 5th Sunday of Lent                       |
| April 17    | PALM SUNDAY                              |
| April 22    | GOOD FRIDAY                              |
| April 24    | HOLY PASCHA                              |
| May 1       | THOMAS SUNDAY                            |



## TODAY'S FEAST SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH 2022 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF MATTHEW (SUNDAY OF THE CANAANITE WOMAN ) ST. PHOTIOS THE GREAT, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

As for the thrice-blessed Photius, the great and most resplendent Father and teacher of the Church, the Confessor of the Faith and Equal to the Apostles, he lived during the years of the emperors Michael (the son of Theophilus), Basil the Macedonian, and Leo his son. He was the son of pious parents, Sergius and Irene, who suffered for the Faith under the Iconoclast Emperor Theophilus; he was also a nephew of Saint Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople (see Feb. 25). He was born in Constantinople, where he excelled in the foremost imperial ministries, while ever practicing a virtuous and godly life. An upright and honorable man of singular learning and erudition, he was raised to the apostolic, ecumenical, and patriarchal throne of Constantinople in the year 857.



The many struggles that this thrice-blessed one undertook for the Orthodox Faith against the Manichaeans, the Iconoclasts, and other heretics, and the attacks and assaults that he endured from Nicholas I, the haughty and ambitious Pope of Rome, and the great persecutions and distresses he suffered, are beyond number. Contending against the Latin error of the filioque, that is, the doctrine that the Holy Spirit proceeds from both the Father and the Son, he demonstrated clearly with his *Mystagogy on the Holy Spirit* how the filioque destroys the unity and equality of the Trinity. He has left us many theological writings, panegyric homilies, and epistles, including one to Boris, the Sovereign of Bulgaria, in which he set forth for him the history and teachings of the Seven Ecumenical Councils. Having tended the Church of Christ in holiness and in an evangelical manner, and with fervent zeal having rooted out all the tares of every alien teaching, he departed to the Lord in the Monastery of the Armenians on February 6, 891.

### Hating Oneself by Abbot Tryphon

Humility does not require we think poorly of ourselves, nor be given over to selfloathing. Just as we must not be over-lauding ourselves, we must not sink to a state of self-loathing, for both states have their basis in the ego. I would be the last person to suggest anyone be trapped in a state of self-hatred, or wallow in the mire of low self-esteem. I am rather concerned for those who are drawn into the sin of pride, which is the result of a false attempt at self-esteem. Feeling good about yourself is not the same as being puffed up with pride. C.S. Lewis wrote that it is not wrong or sinful for a pretty woman to look in a mirror and notice she possesses beauty, but it is better that she should walk away and forget about it. In the same way, it is not pride that leads us to notice we have a special gift as a musician, a writer, an orator, or are good with children. What is important for the Christian is to give thanks to God for our gifts, while turning our face towards Christ with gratitude, thankful for the opportunity to use our gifts in service to God, and to our neighbor. When one possesses a healthy humility, he is neither filled with self-loathing, nor over-lauding, but immersing himself in service to the God Who created him as he is. We do not stand like the Pharisee, giving thanks that we are not like other men, but, like the Publican, we stand before God in all our nakedness, asking to be made whole. We confess before the Lord our unworthiness, yet give thanks for the status we have as His children. We are a royal people, delivered from our sin and death by a Saviour Who came down as a servant. I was a practicing therapist for many years before becoming a monk. It is sometimes good for people to see a psychologist, and I've recommended such, over the years. However, the problem with psychology is to be found in its humanistic base. Orthodoxy Psychotherapy, as expounded so beautifully by Metropolitan Hierotheos in his book by the same name, is far superior for bringing about healing. *THE VERY. REV. ABBOT TRYPHON IS IGUMEN OF ALL-MERCIFUL SAVIOUR MONASTERY ON VASHON ISLAND, WASHINGTON. THIS AND OTHER ARTICLES MAY BE FOUND ON HIS WEBSITE ABBOTTRYPHON.COM.*

## 2022 PLEDGE DRIVE

Thank you to the following Parishioners who already signed their pledge card.

**Very Rev. Fr. Elia & Kh. Odette Shalhoub**  
**Patricia Smith**  
**Debbie Thieme**  
**Dr. & Mrs. Alex Skaff**  
**Subdeacon Jean Najjar**  
**Alix Hall**  
**John and Joanne Karas**  
**Lou Abraham**  
**Gabriella Baika**  
**Mark and Lori Sorenson**  
**Susan Perers**  
**Ionica Dragu**  
**Michael and Janet Gorczynski**  
**Peri Kiros**  
**Adrian and Carrie Matos**  
**Deborah Abdo Dambrosio**  
**Michealle Carey**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jackson**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dodge**  
**Yuliya Gabbasova**  
**Subdeacon Michael And Alyssa Liberman**  
**Jeffrey Bellinger**  
**Carlos and Olga Munoz**  
**Isaac Vaughn**  
**Ann Shark**  
**Kevin Michael Brown**  
**Stephanie Enstice**

**(Our Goal for 2022 is \$75,000.00)**

THE ARCHDIOCESE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT (\$50.00) PER BAPTISED SOUL  
EVERY PARISHIONER IS RESPONSIBLE TO PAY THIS ASSESSMENT ONCE A  
YEAR BESIDE YOUR PLEDGE TO THE CHURCH.

IF YOU HAVEN'T SUBMITTED THE ASSESSMENT MONEY YET,  
PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS YOU CAN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



## HOLY BREAD

(COMMUNION OFFERING)

If you wish to offer \$25 to provide

Holy Bread for the Communion in memory of one who has  
fallen asleep in the Lord; for the health of a loved one; a feast  
day, anniversary, birthday or other special occasion,  
please fill out this form.

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

OCCASION \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF THE OCCASION \_\_\_\_\_

MESSAGE TEXT AND/OR NAMES TO BE MENTIONED IN  
THE BULLETIN \_\_\_\_\_

Please write your check to St. Anthony Church with a memo “Communion offering”  
or put \$25 cash in the “Communion offering” envelope.

Hand your form to Yuliya, no later then one week  
before the mentioned occasion for it to be in the bulletin.  
Call or text (321) 960-9564 if you wish to use a special image.



St. Mary's Orthodox Church Presents

## *An Evening of Enchantment*

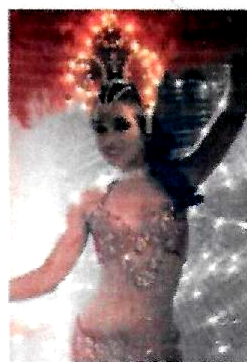
*Saturday February 26, 2022*



Carla Sleiman  
All the way from  
Lebanon!

Doors Open at 7:30pm  
Cash Bar Cocktail Hour  
Dinner at 9:00pm

Featuring  
Fadi Harden  
Musician



Bellydance by  
Cheeky Belly

St. Mary's Banquet Hall  
1317 Florida Mango Road  
West Palm Beach

Tickets: \$75 in Advance, \$85 at the Door

For Tickets and Information Contact  
Nabil Aboukhaled: 501-502-8588

Jane Pasley: 501-380-0340

7 years & under (free)

8 years to 12 \$25

# ST. ANTHONY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH **BBQ FUNDRAISER**

**SAT. FEBRUARY 19TH \* 11AM-3PM**

**4031 AURORA ROAD \*\*\* MELBOURNE 32934**

## **BBQ RIBS & CHICKEN**

### **RIBS**

HALF RACK W/2 SMALL SIDES \$14

WHOLE RACK W/2 LARGE SIDES \$27

### **CHICKEN**

2-PIECE W/2 SMALL SIDES \$10

4-PIECE W/2 LARGE SIDES \$20

### **COMBO**

2-PIECE CHICKEN & 3 RIBS  
W/2 SMALL SIDES \$12

4-PIECE CHICKEN & 6 RIBS  
W/2 LARGE SIDES \$25

### **SIDES**

POTATO SALAD \* COLESLAW \* BAKED BEANS

### **EXTRA SIDES**

SM. 1/\$3; 2/\$5; 3/\$7; LG. 1/\$4; 2/\$6; 3/\$8

**CASH OR CHECKS WITH VALID ID ACCEPTED**

**FOR MORE INFO OR TO PRE-ORDER, CALL OR TEXT 321-428-4819**

## ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

4031 Aurora Rd., Melbourne, FL. 32934

[www.StAnthonyOrthodoxchurch.com](http://www.StAnthonyOrthodoxchurch.com)

Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub

Cell: [\(305\) 812-4940](tel:3058124940)

[Elia\\_shalhoub@yahoo.com](mailto:Elia_shalhoub@yahoo.com)

Follow us on "FACEBOOK" <https://www.facebook.com/st.anthonyorthodox>

### 2022 HOUSE BLESSING FORM



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR HOUSE BLESSED,

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FORM ASAP.

CHOOSE THREE ALTERNATE DATES AND TIMES, AND GIVE DIRECTIONS TO YOUR HOME AS WELL.

When the priest comes to bless your home please make sure to have an Icon; a candle ready and your list of the names (Living & Deceased) to be prayed for.

Thank you, V. Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

(HOME)

(OFFICE)

(CELL)

DATES/TIMES REQUESTED (Please list three date/time options):

*(Please let me know if you are available or not during the day on Saturday & Sunday only from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m. or if you prefer an Evening Visit.)*

Option #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Option #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Option #3: \_\_\_\_\_

#### DIRECTIONS & EXACT ADDRESS

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO FATHER ELIA NO LATER THAN JANUARY 20, 2021.

## EPIPHANY 2022 – BLESSING OF HOMES

The central sign of our acceptance of God's sanctification of the creation is the blessing of the homes of faithful Orthodox Christians.

We bless homes:

- To reveal the home as what God created it to be, a way to heaven.
- To rid the home of every evil.
- To know that the family is a small church unit in Christ, to consecrate the home and all activity in it to God.
- To have the home and all who live in it with the fullness of God. Only the Church reveals what life is, and she alone is the Kingdom of God on earth. The Church lives within Christ, revealing Him to us. As the Church, we sprinkle blessed water throughout the home, as we chant, ***"When you, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. For the Fathers voice bore witness to you and called you His Beloved Son, while the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed these words. O Christ our God, who has appeared to us and has enlightened the world, Glory to you."***

The priest consecrates the home to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in this act, the Church blesses, reveals and sanctifies.

#### When the priest comes for the house blessing, please adhere to these guidelines:

- Have as many family members there as possible.
  - Setup a place for prayer, in the dining room or kitchen, with an icon and a candle.
  - Print the first names of those for whom specific prayers are to be offered, including all family members on a sheet of paper, making a clear distinction between living and departed.
  - Take this time to get to know Father Elia better, asking any questions you may have.
  - If a child needs some time to talk to Father, respect his/her privacy and make the opportunity.
  - Make Father Elia aware of any special needs you may have.
  - Tell Father Elia about any family members who are in nursing homes or in need of a visit
- Please remember that Father Elia will be making many visitations. A lengthy social visit may not be possible at this time. If you would prefer a visit outside the Epiphany season, please let Father know.*