



St. Anthony The Great Antiochian Orthodox Church

4031 Aurora Rd.; Melbourne, Florida
 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
 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, JANUARY 02, 2022 TONE 3 / EOTHINON 6; FOREFEAST OF & SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

SYLVESTER, POPE OF ROME; COSMAS THE WONDERWORKER, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE; REPOSE OF VENERABLE SERAPHIM OF SAROV

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.

~ During the Little Entrance, chant the Resurrectional Apolytikion. The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is "O come, let us worship... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead..." After the Little Entrance, chant the apolytikia in the following order:

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY IN TONE FOUR

*(** Joseph was amazed**)*

Be thou ready, Zabulon; prepare thyself, O Nephthalim. * River Jordan, stay thy course and skip for gladness to receive * the Sovereign Master, Who cometh now to be baptized. * O Adam, be thou glad with our first mother, Eve; * hide not as ye did of old in Paradise. * Seeing you naked, He hath appeared now * to clothe you in the first robe again. * Christ hath appeared, for He truly willeth to renew all creation.


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

Remaining Vigilant!

Over the past months, our country, state and local communities have witnessed a decrease in Covid 19 cases after the 'Delta' 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 No mask mandate at Saint Anthony's. However, for those who desire to 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.

Please join us for coffee hour after the Liturgy.

May God bless us all and protect us and keep us safe.



TODAY'S FEAST SUNDAY, JANUARY 2ND 2022 SUNDAY BEFORE EPIPHANY

Apolytikion of Sun. before Epiphany Fourth Tone

Make ready O Zebulum; Prepare yourself O Naphthali; Cease to flow O River Jordan; Receive the Master who comes to be baptized, in joy. Adam, rejoice with the first mother. Do not hide in Paradise, as before, for He came to see us, even naked, that He might clothe us as we were before. Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

Kontakion of Sun. before Epiphany Fourth Tone

Today hath the Lord appeared in the courses of the Jordan, crying to John and saying, Be not dismayed at my baptism; for I have verily come to save Adam the first to be created.

Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

Apolytikion of Forefeast of Epiphany Begins Fourth Tone

Be thou ready, Zabulon; prepare thyself, O Nephthalim. River Jordan, stay thy course and skip for gladness to receive the Sovereign Master, Who cometh now to be baptized. O Adam, be thou glad with our first mother, Eve; hide not as ye did of old in Paradise. Seeing you naked, He hath appeared now to clothe you in the first robe again. Christ hath appeared, for He truly willeth to renew all creation.



Kontakion of Forefeast of Epiphany Begins Fourth Tone

In the running waters of the Jordan River, on this day the Lord of all crieth to John: Be not afraid and hesitate not to baptize Me, for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.

Sylvester, Bishop of Rome

Saint Sylvester was a native of Rome. Because of his exceeding virtue, he succeeded Saint Miltiades as Pope in 314. Since he himself was unable to be present at the First Ecumenical Council in 325, he sent delegates of his own Roman clergy to represent him in Nicaea. He reposed in the year 325.

Thought of the Day

"If you see your neighbor sinning, take care not to dwell exclusively on his faults. Try to think of the many good things he has done and continues to do. Many times when we do this, we come to the conclusion that our neighbor is a far better person than we are." -- St. Basil the Great

APOLYTIKION OF ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT

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 our God to save our souls.

KONTAKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY IN TONE FOUR

(**On this day Thou hast appeared**)

In the running waters of * the Jordan River, * on this day the Lord of all * crieth to John: Be not afraid * and hesitate not to baptize Me, * for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday before the Theophany of Christ)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Unto Thee will I cry, O Lord my God.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (4:5-8)

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill 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, and 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.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday before the Theophany of Christ)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (1:1-8)

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John the Baptizer appeared 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 strap 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."

~ *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues as usual.*

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



January 2nd
January 9th
January 16th
January 23rd
January 30th

EPISTLE READING

Patricia Smith
Isaac Vaughn
Ionica Dragu
Adrian Matos
Jennifer Riter

St. Paul to St. Timothy. (4:5-8)
St. Paul to the Ephesians. (4:7-13)
St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)
St. Paul to St. Timothy. (1:15-17)
St. Paul to the Hebrews. (13:7-16)



2022 Calendars

They are here with beautiful iconography inside. Perfect Holiday gift for only \$5. Your donations will be helping Sunday School.

Thank you to Eddie and Joyce Smeen at Skewers Restaurant for sponsoring our calendars!

November was Stewardship Month. The 2022 Pledge Form is available. Please remember to fill it out, so we can plan our budget.

HOUSE BLESSINGS BEGIN THIS WEEK:

Fr. Elia would like to bless each of the homes of all of the parishioners of St. Anthony. If you have not yet filled out a House Blessing form, please do so by January 20th. This form is available at the Display table for your convenience.

Please remember those who are in need and bring canned and nonperishable goods to Church. We collect all year round. Together, we CAN make a difference!



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 see Fr. Elia if you wish to offer Holy Bread.



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.



Nativity and Epiphany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Beloved in Christ,

The celebration of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the Orthodox Church is patterned after the celebration of the feast of the Lord's Resurrection. A fast of forty days precedes the feast, with special preparatory days announcing the approaching birth of the Saviour.

The Gospel reading is the familiar Christmas story from Matthew (2. 1 –12), and the liturgy continues in the normal fashion. A specific two -day celebration follows, dedicated to Mary the Theotokos and Saint Stephen, the First Martyr. The period of Christmas rejoicing extends to Epiphany during which time the Christmas songs are sung and fasting and kneeling in prayer are not called for by the Church. The feast of Christmas is formally entitled the Nativity in the Flesh of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ. At Christmas we celebrate the birth as a man of the Son of God, the one who together with the Father and the Holy Spirit is truly God from all eternity. The feast of Christmas was not a separate Church feast for the first four centuries of Christian history. It was celebrated with Epiphany in the one great feast of God's appearance on earth in the form of the human Messiah of Israel. The Nativity began to be celebrated as such on the twenty -fifth of December in order to offset the pagan festival of the Invincible Sun which occurred on that day. It was established by the Church quite consciously as an attempt to defeat the false religion of the heathens. Thus, we discover the troparion of the feast making a polemic against the worship of the sun and the stars and calling for the adoration of Christ, the True Sun of Righteousness (Malachi 4. 2), who is Himself worshiped by all of the elements of nature. Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshiped the stars were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness and to know Thee, the Orient from on high [Lk 1.78, translated as Dawn or Day spring]. O Lord, glory to Thee! (Troparion of the Nativity) Thus, the feast of Christmas is the celebration of the world's salvation through the Son of God who became man for our sake that, through him, we might ourselves become divine, sons of God the Father by the indwelling of his Holy Spirit in us.

In Christ,
Fr. Elia Shalhoub
Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor

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

(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!**

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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.*

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**ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

2021 Annual General Meeting Proxy

January 24, 2021

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS:

The undersigned voting member(s) of St. Anthony the Great Antiochian

Orthodox Church hereby constitute and appoint

_____ as PROXY with powers of

substitution for and in the name and place of the undersigned, to act on my

behalf to establish a quorum and vote on any issues that are presented for

a vote by the membership at this Special Meeting on Sunday, January 24th, 2021

at St. Anthony the Great Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church located at

4031 Aurora Rd, Melbourne, FL 32934.

Dated: _____

Member

Dated: _____

Member

St. Anthony Antiochian Orthodox Church
4031 Aurora Rd, Melbourne, FL. 32934
Notice of the 2022 General Assembly Meeting
December 22, 2021

Dear Parishioner:

In compliance with St. Anthony Antiochian Orthodox Church's Constitution, I, as the Parish Council Recording Secretary, am required to notify you of the Annual General Assembly meeting. This Annual General Assembly meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 23, 2022**, immediately following the 10:00am Divine Liturgy in the St. Anthony Church, located at 4031 Aurora Rd., Melbourne, FL 32934.

The **Agenda** is as follows:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Opening Prayer and Roll Call | 7. Treasurer's Report |
| 2. Reading the Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Assembly Meeting | 8. Organizations' Reports |
| 3. Pastor's Message (Appointment of 1 Member) | 9. Old Business |
| 4. Election of two (2) Members of the Parish Council (Nominations will be accepted through January 12, 2022) | 10. New Business |
| 5. Update on the Church Property | 11. Approving the 2022 Budget |
| 6. Chairman's Report | 12. Adjournment |

2/3 of the Total members in good standing shall constitute a quorum. As you enter the Church, the Treasurer and the Pastor will check your name. **Please fulfill your 2021 pledge before the end of the year (if you have not already done so.) According to our constitution, ONLY MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING (i.e. who have fulfilled their 2021 pledge and have turned in their 2022 pledge card) WILL BE ALLOWED TO VOTE/PARTICIPATE in the meeting.**

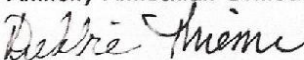
The following documents will be available one week before the annual meeting in the Narthex of the church: 1) The 2021 financial report. 2) The 2021 General Assembly meeting minutes. 3) The 2022 budget.

We encourage you to submit in writing any questions on the documents so that the Parish Council can prepare accurate and complete responses. **Anyone wishing to include any topic on the agenda MUST submit it in writing to the attention of Fr. Elia no later than January 12th so that it may be appropriately considered for inclusion and the proper preparations made.**

We look forward to your presence and participation.

Sincerely,

St. Anthony Antiochian Orthodox Church Parish Council

x 

Debbie Thieme, Parish Council Secretary

ST. ANTHONY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
2022 PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

It is time for us to begin developing our Parish Council for the year 2022. Please consider nominating someone from the parish who would serve the community well. You could also consider nominating yourself.

Remember that the qualifications for election to the Parish Council are:

- **That the candidate is 18 years of age or older.**
- **That the candidate has been a voting, pledging member of the parish for at least the last six months of 2021.**
- **That the candidate has fulfilled the canonical requirements of the Orthodox Faith.**
- **That the candidate has completed a pledge form for the year 2022.**

In addition, it is required that the nominees’ 2021 pledges, as well as Archdiocesan dues, be paid and up to date.

The Following Parish Council members’ term is up:

Subdeacon Jean Najjar, who has already served 2 terms. He can’t be elected for another Term but he can be appointed.

Olga Munoz who completed Alix Hall’s Term, is eligible. She can be elected for another Term.

Being a Parish Council member means more than just attending a monthly meeting. This responsibility also requires the member to chair or be on committees when called upon, throughout the years of Parish Council membership. In addition, participation at functions and work days is also required. The nominating committee will arrange a meeting with each candidate to ensure their qualifications and willingness to serve.

Please turn in or mail completed nomination forms to Susan Perers (Chairman of the Nominating Committee) or Fr. Elia.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nominating Committee are Susan Perers, Debbie Thieme & Fr. Elia.
St. Anthony Antiochian Orthodox Church

Affirmation of Potential Candidate for 2022 Election to the
Parish Council of
St. Anthony Antiochian Orthodox Church of Melbourne, FL

I understand and affirm that I am willing to have my name placed in nomination for election to the (St. Anthony) Parish Council for a regular term of three (3) years.

I understand and agree that it is vital for Parish Council members to be active in the liturgical life of the Church, including attendance and participation in the Sunday Divine Liturgies, Saturday Vesper Services, Feast Day Services, and other services, including the Sacrament of Holy Confession, and affirm that I will participate in these services frequently and regularly.

I understand that the Parish Council operates according to the theology and practices of the Holy Orthodox Church.

I also understand that Council members must set good examples of Orthodox Christian Stewardship, including the offering of time and talents to the church, as well as sacrificial monetary support.

I understand that the Parish Council holds regular meetings once a month and special meetings as needed, and I affirm that if nominated and elected, or appointed, I will do my utmost to attend every meeting.

Furthermore, if nominated and elected, or appointed, I am willing to assume responsibility of chairing a standing or special committee, and/or making myself available to be elected an officer of the council.

I understand that the typical time commitment of a Council member is approximately ten (10) hours every month.

I understand that my agreement to fulfill the above requirements is a prerequisite for nomination.

In signing this affirmation, I pledge to fulfill the above requirements to the best of my ability, with God’s help.

Signature of Potential Council Candidate	Print Your Name Here
--	----------------------

Date