

## WE ALL HAVE DREAMS

**M**any thoughts and emotions rush over us as we walk through a cemetery. People are buried there that have come before us, all with unique life experiences. Some even leave behind testimonials to remember them by. Recently seen on a monument for a young person was this lovely phrase: **“PLEASE WATCH WHERE YOU STEP -- A DREAM LIES BURIED HERE.”**

What a beautiful sentiment! Did you ever think of yourself as someone's dream? You are, you know. Before this world ever saw you, your parents dreamed of you. When you were a child, they had visions of your happiness and laughter; then as you grew, they dreamed of your future. They saw a vision of the life they hoped you would live.

Dreams are gifts from God. The Holy Bible mentions them countless times. St. Joseph saw an angel in his dream and Christ was born! St. Stephen saw a vision of Christ just before his death. Even the Church has dreams for you! She has a vision of you and your soul devoted to God. She places all Her trust and future in you. Our Lord expressed this in His prayer in Gethsemane that we would all love each other and that we would all be one.

So, when you are flush with anger . . . hold your tongue and don't speak harsh words. Remember, you may be stepping on someone's dream. Be loving and gentle with your OWN dreams while allowing the OTHER person the privilege of their dreams. The world would be a bleak place if men and women had not dared to dream. Imagine what would have been lost if we were not able to invent, discover, conquer and cure. After all, they all started as dreams! May we strive to exceed the dreams our Lord and our loved ones have envisioned for us.

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin* . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.

## ABOUT COMMUNION

*We are happy that you have joined us today. Indeed, we pray for the “unity of the Faith” for the day when all of Christianity are united as ONE and can share a common Chalice. However, this is not the case as yet. Please note that Holy Communion, the actual Body & Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, is only for Members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, and confession, & arrived before the Gospel reading. However, everyone is welcome to partake of the blessed bread and receive a blessing from the pastor at the dismissal. If you are interested, you may inquire with the pastor how you can become a member.*

*If you are a guest or otherwise not a regular communicant, please give your baptismal name when receiving.*



# MAY YOU DARE TO DREAM



# 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

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Pastor's address: 2295 Oklahoma St.. W. Palm Beach, FL 33406

## 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 His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X 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 05, 2023

### TONE 1 / EOTHINON 1

### SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN & AFTER-FEAST OF PRESENTATION (MEETING) OF CHRIST

#### 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...

#### 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 ONE

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou

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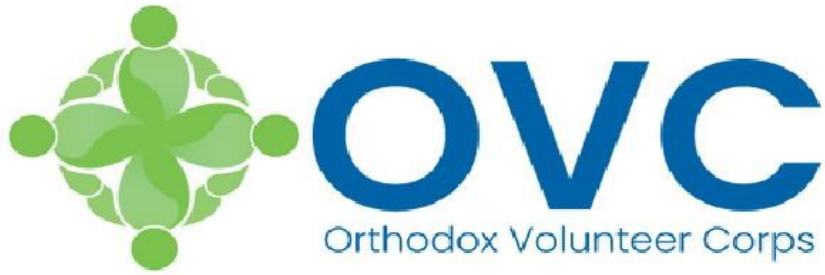
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ADRIANE & TED



**OVC is recruiting now for the Fall 2023 Cohort!**

**Application deadline is February 6.**



## Serve for a year. Prepare for a lifetime.

Are you 21-29 years old and ready to live your faith with your whole life? Orthodox Volunteer Corps (OVC) is a new ministry, and an official agency of the Assembly of Bishops, that develops and equips Orthodox young adults to lead lives of faithful service for the Church and the world. We offer a 10-month immersive experience to young adults that integrates service placements with vulnerable communities, weekly formation in Orthodoxy and community-based leadership development, living in community, and immersion in the life of the Church.

For more info email OVC staff Michael Sider-Rose and Kyra Limberakis at:

[info@orthodoxvolunteercorps.org](mailto:info@orthodoxvolunteercorps.org)

[www.orthodoxvolunteercorps.org](http://www.orthodoxvolunteercorps.org)

Who alone art the lover of mankind.

### 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 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 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 Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

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

### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)**

My son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, patience, persecutions, sufferings, what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Indeed all who would live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But people who are wicked and deceivers will proceed from worse to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and how from infancy you have known the sacred temple writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

### THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

*~ 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

#### Epistle Readers

Jenny Riter

Dr. Alex Skaff

Louis Abraham



February 5th

February 12th

February 19th

### HOUSE BLESSINGS ARE IN PROGRESS (see form in the inserts)



#### FOOD FOR THE NEEDY (Basket in the Foyer)

Please remember to bring non-perishable food items.  
You can donate double by shopping Buy One get One Free! ;)

#### Teen SOYO Nerf Battle

Saturday, March 4th at 3:30pm



Today's Holy Communion and Coffee Hour  
is Sponsored by Greg and Yuliya Warner in Memory of Greg's mother  
**Georgia Warner 06/09/1928-02/01/2023**  
May her Memory be Eternal.

### FIRST TEEN SOYO FAMILY GARAGE SALE (see pictures in back)

Was a huge success! We have raised \$984.21  
towards our trip to PLC/summer camp funds.

Thank you so much for your help  
with preparations, running the sale and donations!

### "WELCOMING GIFTS" BOOK DISCUSSION

Next book reading meeting is tentatively scheduled  
for Saturday, March 11 at 4pm.



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



Jim Kando

## Holy Land Pilgrimage

FROM Miami Airport (MIA)

September 12 - 21, 2023

Package Price: \$3990



Amal Kando

#### 10 Days Pilgrimage Tour to The Holy Land

Day 1 Departure from USA

Day 2 Arrive to Tel Aviv airport & transfer to the hotel for Dinner and overnight

Day 3

Breakfast, Drive to Cana, where Jesus performed first Miracle, go to Nazareth to visit the Church of Annunciation

Day 4

Breakfast, Visit Sea of Galilee & Tabaha site of the Multiplication of the Loaves and the Fish

Day 5

Breakfast, Drive to Jordan River Baptismal site, Drive to Hometown of Peter, Andrew and Philip

Day 6

Breakfast, Walking tour of the old city of Jerusalem visiting The Church of St. Ann, & follow the via Delarosa to Calvary Church & the Church of the Holy Sepulcher & the Dome of the Rock

Day 7

Breakfast, Visit to Bethlehem & the Church of the Nativity & Holy Manger, continue to EIN-KAREM birthplace of John the Baptist

Day 8

Breakfast, visit to the place of The Ascension & walk down The Palm Sunday Road

Day 9

Breakfast, Drive to Bethany, visit the Church of Martha & Mary & Lazarus Tomb, continue to Dead Sea where it is impossible to sink. We ascend by cable car, review Mount of Temptation

Day 10

Return to the USA / or optional tour to Egypt to enjoy more fun. ASK FOR MORE DETAILS.

#### Package Price Includes:

Round Trip Airline Ticket

Double Occupancy Accommodations  
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Breakfast and Dinner daily

Ten Days Sightseeing in Modern,  
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English Speaking Christian Tour Guide

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For more information about this tour please provide your contact information below.  
Ask for Amal or Jim Kando, your personal guides who travel with you.

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Are you interested in Egypt (optional tour) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

# The Pharisee & Tax Collector

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked \_\_\_\_\_ on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to \_\_\_\_\_, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The \_\_\_\_\_ stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men robbers, evildoers, adulterers or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

"But the \_\_\_\_\_ stood at a distance. He would not even look up to \_\_\_\_\_, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have \_\_\_\_\_ on me, a \_\_\_\_\_.'

"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be \_\_\_\_\_, and he who humbles himself will be \_\_\_\_\_."

Luke 18:9-14 (NIV)

collector down	exalted heaven	humbled mercy	Pharisee pray	sinner tax
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C	J	U	S	T	I	F	I	E	D	E	L	D	W	F
F	A	F	I	N	L	E	X	A	L	T	K	O	R	Z
T	J	I	R	I	G	H	T	E	O	U	S	X	O	R
C	C	W	C	A	D	U	L	T	E	R	E	R	S	K
S	A	O	A	Z	H	B	C	U	D	S	K	P	V	P
E	V	I	L	D	O	E	R	S	T	E	M	P	L	E
C	W	H	O	L	I	V	M	E	C	U	T	M	P	Y
T	R	O	B	B	E	R	S	Z	A	N	V	M	R	F
H	E	A	V	E	N	C	I	P	E	S	K	E	A	L
S	U	B	T	H	T	H	T	D	A	I	T	R	Y	Y
I	E	M	P	T	T	H	I	O	J	R	F	C	K	P
N	W	D	B	W	X	F	A	G	R	F	A	Y	B	E
N	F	T	G	L	N	F	Z	N	C	F	D	B	K	O
E	Q	L	A	O	E	T	W	R	K	M	J	D	L	W
R	E	T	C	X	P	H	A	R	I	S	E	E	W	E

TEMPLE	EXALT	TAX	PARABLE	LOOK
JUSTIFIED	HEAVEN	PHARISEE	RIGHTEOUS	HUMBLE
BREAST	COLLECTOR	ROBBERS	THANK	EVILDOERS
MERCY	PRAY	ADULTERERS	CONFIDENT	SINNER



## PREPARATION FOR LENT

From Fr. Alexander Schemmen Book "Great Lent"

Beloved in Christ,  
God bless you.

This Sunday, we will enter into our preparation for Great Lent. You should follow carefully the Lenten rules.

In any event, I am providing for you an introduction to this discipline by Metr. Kallistos Ware. Remember that the purpose of all this is to put love in your heart and to bring yourself and your neighbor closer to God.

### THE RULES OF FASTING

From The Lenten Triodion by Archim. Kallistos Ware and Mother Mary, pp. 35-37

Within this developed pattern of Lent, what precisely do the rules of fasting demand? Neither in ancient nor in modern times has there ever been exact uniformity, but most Orthodox authorities agree on the following rules:

- (1) During the week between the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee and that of the Prodigal Son, there is a general dispensation from all fasting. Meat and animal products may be eaten even on Wednesday and Friday.
- (2) In the following week, often termed the 'Week of Carnival', the usual fast is kept on Wednesday and Friday. Otherwise there is no special fasting.
- (3) In the Week before Lent, meat is forbidden, but eggs, cheese and other dairy products may be eaten on all days, including Wednesday and Friday.
- (4) On weekdays (Monday to Friday inclusive) during the seven weeks of Lent, there are restrictions both on the number of meals taken daily and on the types of food permitted; but when a meal is allowed, there is no fixed limitation on the quantity of food to be eaten.
  - (a) On weekdays in the first week, fasting is particularly severe. According to the strict observance, in the course of the five initial days of Lent, only two meals are eaten, one on Wednesday and the other on Friday, in both cases after the Liturgy of the Presanctified. On the other three days, those who have the strength are encouraged to keep an absolute fast; those for whom this proves impracticable may eat on Tuesday and Thursday (but not, if possible, on Monday), in the evening after Vespers, when they may take bread and water, or perhaps tea or fruit-juice, but not a cooked meal. It should be added at once that in practice today these rules are commonly relaxed. At the meals on Wednesday and Friday xerophagy is prescribed. Literally this means 'dry eating'. Strictly interpreted, it signifies that we may eat only vegetables cooked with water and salt, and also such things as fruit, nuts, bread and honey. In practice, octopus and shell-fish are also allowed on days of xerophagy; likewise vegetable margarine and corn or other vegetable oil, not made from olives. But the following categories of food are definitely excluded:
    - (i) meat;
    - (ii) animal products (cheese, milk, butter, eggs, lard, dripping);
    - (iii) fish (i.e. fish with backbones);
    - (iv) oil (i.e. olive oil) and wine (i.e. all alcoholic drinks).

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

**TODAY'S FEAST SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2023**  
**SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE:**  
**TRIODION BEGINS TODAY**



The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness. Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.  
~ All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.

**AGATHA THE MARTYR**

This Martyr, who was from Panormus (that is, Palermo) or perhaps Catania of Sicily, was a most comely and chaste virgin. After many exceedingly harsh torments, she gave up her spirit in prison at Catania in 251, because she did not consent to the seductions of Quintian, the Governor of Sicily. At her burial, an Angel placed a stone tablet on her grave inscribed with the words, "A righteous mind, self-determining, honor from God, the deliverance of her father-land." The following year this was fulfilled when Mount Etna erupted, spewing forth violent fire from which Catania was manifestly saved by Saint Agatha's prayers. The holy Martyr Agatha, the protectress and chief patroness of Sicily, is, with perhaps the exception of Saint Agnes of Rome, the most highly venerated Virgin Martyr of the West. Saint Damasus, Pope of Rome, and Saint Ambrose of Milan both wrote in praise of her.



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

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Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub

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**2023 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**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Grace**

**The True Christian Life is One of Grace**

*by Abbot Tryphon*

Many people sail through their life thinking happiness is something they have created for themselves. Good fortune, and success in work and play, is something they've brought about, either through struggle, or by pure luck. Yet when they experience difficult times, or loss of the things that brought them comfort, they despair. Sometimes it takes the loss of this established order, to enlighten our darkened hearts to the reality that only happiness that is of an eternal nature will never be lost. For such a man, there is nothing that can take away from the comfort and security he experiences that are of a faith based nature. This is because God's grace fills his very essence with such peace, nothing, even loss of worldly comforts, can bring about despair. How can we possibly despair when we know that the God we worship in Trinity, and Who has created us and our world, loves us? How can we despair when Christ has become our Co-suffering Saviour? And how can despair when we have been showered with such an abundance of grace that no hardship that comes our way can detract from the peace and joy that we have experienced in our life in Christ? Compared to this grace filled life, all else is but folly. Grace has liberated us from all the temporal nature of earthly happiness, and has taken up residence in our heart, from which springs forth the healing that transforms us. This grace makes us whole, and our sickness disappears as though it never was.

*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](http://abbottryphon.com)*

**UPCOMING SUNDAY CALENDAR**

Below lists the upcoming Sundays from February 5th until Holy Pascha, which falls on April 16th 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.

February 5	Pharisee & Publican
February 12	Prodigal Son
February 19	Meatfare Sunday (Last Judgement)
February 26	Cheesefare Sunday (Forgiveness Sunday)
February 27	Beginning of Great Lent
March 5	1st Sunday of Lent (Sunday of Orthodoxy)
March 12	2nd Sunday of Lent
March 19	3rd Sunday of Lent
March 26	4th Sunday of Lent
April 2	5th Sunday of Lent
April 9	PALM SUNDAY
April 14	GOOD FRIDAY
April 16	HOLY PASCHA
April 23	THOMAS SUNDAY

## **2023 PLEDGE DRIVE**

Thank you to all who already have signed the form.

Total from 32 pledges is 93,230.00

Fr. Elia and Kh. Odette Shalhoub

Deborah Abdo D'Ambrosio

Lou Abraham

Gabriella Baika

Michealle Carey

Jeff and Holly Dick

Ionica and Marcel Dragu

Stephanie Enstice

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Yuliya Gabbasova

Michael and Janet Gorczynski

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Michael Mooney

Carlos and Olga Munoz

Jean Najjar

Ethan Packey

William Snell and Susan Perers

Tristan and Jenny Riter

Alex and Bobbi Skaff

Patricia Smith

Mark and Lori Sorenson

Priscilla Spinola

Deborah Thieme

Isaac Vaughn

**(Our Goal for 2023 is \$90,000.00)**

All Pledge & Tithing members Names will be listed in the Bulletin

**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!**

## **EPIPHANY 2023 – 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:

- a. To reveal the home as what God created it to be, a way to heaven.
- b. To rid the home of every evil.
- c. To know that the family is a small church unit in Christ, to consecrate the home and all activity in it to God.
- d. 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:**

1. *Have as many family members there as possible.*
2. *Setup a place for prayer, in the dining room or kitchen, with an icon and a candle.*
3. *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.*
4. *Take this time to get to know Father Elia better, asking any questions you may have.*
5. *If a child needs some time to talk to Father, respect his/her privacy and make the opportunity.*
6. *Make Father Elia aware of any special needs you may have.*
7. *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.*