

## HE BECAME A FRIEND OF CHRIST

**I**n the early days of the Christian Church, professing one's belief in Jesus Christ often meant persecution, torture and death. My, how we take our religious freedom for granted today.

On the cover today, we see the MARTYR ARTEMIOS. He was a man who fearlessly fought in the army of Constantine the Great in the struggle for religious freedom. He was born in the city of Alexandria in Egypt, and would later return to rule his native land. Artemios, a devout Christian, felt compelled to promote the growth of Christianity throughout Egypt. It was largely through his efforts that the Church attracted many converts.

After the death of Constantine the Great, his son Constantius succeeded his father upon the throne. He, too, was a personal friend of Artemios, and it was common for the new Emperor to call on Artemios to carry out tasks that would require diplomatic skills.

The days of suffering for the Church, however, were not quite over. Constantius soon was forced to deal with the evil Julian the Apostate, who wished to overthrow the Emperor. He was a great enemy of the Church, and soon Christian blood began to be shed again throughout the land because of Julian's bitter hatred for followers of Jesus.

Julian had a brother who had been put to death in Egypt. Thirsty for revenge, he attacked the city of Alexandria and immediately arrested Artemios. After severely torturing him, Julian ordered Artemios to be put to death by beheading. Instead of begging for mercy, Artemios had these final words for Julian: "In exchange for this trivial pain that you have brought upon me, I hope to receive eternal rest in the heavenly abode of my Lord, for whom I suffer."

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.*





# St. Anthony The Great Antiochian Orthodox Church

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## 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, OCTOBER 15, 2023 TONE 2 / EOTHINON 8 - SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL & FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

HIEROMARTYR LUCIAN OF ANTIOCH; VENERABLE EUTHYMOS THE YOUNGER OF ATHOS;  
SAVVINOS, BISHOP OF CATANIA

~ 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 these hymns in the following order:

### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

### APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE EIGHT

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

### 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.

### ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

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# THE PARABLE OF THE FARMER

Jesus told this story, “A farmer went out to his field to plant some seeds. First, some of the seeds fell by the side of the road. They were eaten by birds.

Second, some of the seeds fell on rocky dirt. They died because they had no water.

Third, some seeds fell among weeds. They died because they were crowded by the weeds.

Finally, some of the seeds fell on good soil and grew and grew until the whole field was filled with an big crop of healthy plants.”

The people asked Jesus what this story meant. He answered them.

“The seeds are like God’s lessons. The birds, rocks, and weeds are like some people’s hearts. Some people do not really listen to what God is teaching. They do not do what God wants them to. But when the seeds fell on good soil, it grew. The good soil is like the heart of a person who listens carefully to God’s lessons, and does what God wants.”

## ·THE SOWER OF GOOD SEEDS·



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Have you ever planted a seed? What did you need to do after your planted it? What helped it grow?
2. In this parable, a farmer plants seeds four times. Each time something different happens because of the ground. What happened to the seeds that fell by the side of the road? On the rocky dirt? Among the weeds?
3. The last time the farmer sowed seeds, what kind of ground was it?
4. In this parable, the seeds are God’s teachings.
5. The good soil is the heart of a person who wants to follow Jesus.
5. Jesus told this parable because He wants us to learn something. What does Jesus want us to know?

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Fathers)

*Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done to us.*

### The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Luke)

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)

The Lord spoke this parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold.” And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience.” As Jesus said this, He called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

~ *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



October 15th  
October 22nd  
October 29th

*Epistle Readers*  
Adrian Magelitz  
Leonidas Beeny

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR IS SPONSORED BY AMEN

IT'S HAPPENING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

The Antiochian Women Organization (AWO)

Annual Holiday Food & Bake Sale

Don't forget to mark your calendar!

Check out our  
bookstore in the  
fellowship hall.  
Now you can  
pay with  
**ZELLE**  
Just scan the QR  
code and follow the  
directions.

**FOOD FOR THE NEEDY (Basket in the Foyer)**  
Please remember to bring non-perishable  
food items for the basket.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

Halloween is almost here. Our Trunk or Treat is open to public. We would really appreciate if you can donate some treats, candy. We also are looking for trunks.

If you need help decorating, contact Yuliya (321) 960-9564

We ask you to stay the whole length of the event from 1pm-3pm.

So far we have 6 people volunteer for candy and 6 trunks

Thank you all so much.

*Please pray for the healing of* Michealle and Tyrone Carey, Beverly Delida, Alix Hall, Nina and Diogo Penas, Beth Manzini, John Archambeau, Alex & Soula.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS Awareness Day

AS NAC TEEN SOYO PREPARES TO SPONSOR THE 43RD ANNUAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS CAMP, WE ASK FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND HELP IN MAKING THIS MINISTRY POSSIBLE. APPROXIMATELY 300 ATHLETES AND COACHES PARTICIPATE IN OUR CAMP EACH YEAR. TEEN SOYO MEMBERS TRAVEL FROM ACROSS OUR ARCHDIOCESE TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME, TO LIVE IN SERVICE TO OTHERS AND TO FULFILL THE CALL TO DO ALL THINGS.

**"AS WORKING FOR THE LORD, NOT FOR MEN." (COL. 3:23)**

Next Sunday, October 22nd, our teens will request your financial donations to enable them to sponsor the 43rd Annual Special Olympics Sports Camp, which will be held at the Antiochian Village, in August of 2024. Your donations make it possible for every athlete to attend this event free of charge and also help Teen SOYO members travel to serve as Coaches at the camp.

As an expression of gratitude for your donation to this effort, teens will be handing out bookmarks with the icon of the Communion of the Apostles. Thank you for considering the support of this wonderful ministry that allows our children to be a witness and blessing to others!

Please make checks payable to your local Teen SOYO group with "SOAD 2023" in the memo. Donations can also be made online at [www.teensoyo.org/special-olympics](http://www.teensoyo.org/special-olympics).



## DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, NAC Teen SOYO covers the cost of the camp, approximately \$75,000, through the generosity of our fellow parishioners. Through the years, we have hosted more than 8,500 athletes and coaches. Around 1,200 of our teens have had the unique experience of being a coach or volunteer at the camp.

ST. ANTHONY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
4031 Aurora Rd., Melbourne, FL 32934



Sunday, October 29  
at 1:00pm-3:00pm

Cookie  
Decorating



Games,  
Hayrides



Mummy Contest  
at 2pm



Beloved in Christ,  
November is Stewardship Month

The 2024 Pledge Form will be available soon as the Stewardship Committee is preparing for another fruitful year. Please fill one when it becomes available. We need your continuous support

### Brothers and Sisters in Christ, October is Youth Month

All of us from time to time need to recharge our physical and mental batteries. We also need to recharge our spiritual batteries as well. Our Lord Jesus Christ gave us numerous examples (Matthew 14, Mark 6 & 7, Luke 4) of Himself withdrawing to rest and pray.

Each day we need to spend some time recharging our spiritual batteries. Take a few minutes and pray; read the Holy Scripture; give to those in need (yes, we can recharge ourselves by helping others); coming to church and pray and receive the Sacraments. When we are spiritually recharged, we are more equipped to take on the tasks of the day.

Remember October is 'Youth Month.' The following are some words from Saint John Chrysostom on raising our youth.

*"We are so concerned with our children's schooling [and worldly success]; if only we were equally zealous in bringing them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord...This, then, is our task: to educate both ourselves and our children in godliness; otherwise what answer will we have before Christ's judgment-seat?"*

Saint John Chrysostom

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

## Metropolitan Phillip Scholarship Fund

Our Goal is to raise a minimum of \$10,000.00 for this year.

Thank you for the Following Parishioners and Friends who already contributed.

Baika, Gabriella  
Thieme, Deborah  
Hebeka, Elias  
Perers, Susan  
The Totenberg Group  
Sayfie, Suzanne  
Kanen, David & Vivian  
EMJAC/ David Dorta

Debaldo, Joni  
Early Bird Landscaping  
Kanen, David & Vivian  
Spinola, Priscilla  
Sayfie, Justin  
Industrial Plastic Recycling  
Smith, Patricia

TOTAL DONATIONS \$7,261.00

### TODAY'S FEAST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 2023 SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL



On the Sunday that falls on or immediately after the eleventh of this month, we chant the Service to the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, which gathered in Nicaea in 787 under the holy Patriarch Tarasius and during the reign of the Empress Irene and her son, Constantine Porphyrogenitus, to refute the Iconoclast heresy, which had received imperial support beginning with the Edict issued in 726 by Emperor Leo the Isaurian. Many of the holy Fathers who condemned Iconoclasm at this holy Council later died as Confessors and Martyrs for the holy Icons during the second assault of Iconoclasm in the ninth century, especially during the reigns of Leo the Armenian and Theophilus.

#### LOUKIANOS THE MARTYR OF ANTIOCH

This Saint was from Samosata, the son of pious parents. He established a catechetical school in Antioch, and taught the correct doctrines of the Faith and made clear the parts of the divine Scriptures that were difficult to understand. He edited the Old Testament translation from the Hebrew tongue, and published it in an excellent edition, free from every heretical corruption and interpolation. He travelled to Nicomedia to strengthen the faithful there in their contests for Christ, and was accused before Maximinus, with whom he conversed openly. When he had made a defence of the Christian Faith, he was condemned to imprisonment where, in 311, he died of hunger and thirst.

#### LUKE THE EVANGELIST, OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

This Apostle was an Antiochean, a physician by trade, and a disciple and companion of Paul. He wrote his Gospel in Greek after Matthew and Mark, after which he wrote the Acts of the Apostles, and dedicated both works to Theophilus, who, according to some, was Governor of Achaia. He lived some eighty-six years and died in Achaia, perhaps in Patras, the capital of this district. His emblem is the calf, the third symbolical beast mentioned by Ezekiel (1:10), which is a symbol of Christ's sacrificial and priestly office, as Saint Irenaeus says.



## Holy Things

By Abbot Tryphon

What should be our attitude toward icons and other holy things? One of the attributes of God is holiness, and is reflected in His people, and in physical objects that have been blessed by the Church for the use of His people in their journey towards Him. Therefore, reverence for these sacred objects and images is the manifestation of the relationship between ourselves and God. "And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the Lord am holy... (Leviticus 20: 26)." Icons of Christ, His Holy Mother, the saints, or depictions of biblical events, are not just art objects, popular today, but disposable tomorrow, but are vehicles for God's sustaining grace. As Orthodox Christians, we should make it a rule to never have arguments, or engage in improper behavior before the images of the saints, and instill in children, from the earliest of age, reverence for the holy icons. Not only do we call upon the saints for their heavenly intercession, but their icons serve as reminders that Christ has called us to repentance, and the deification of each human soul. Under no circumstance can such an icon, even one that has not been blessed, be simply thrown away. A holy item, even if it has lost its original appearance, should always be treated with reverence. This is one of the reasons it is never a good idea to send a greeting card with an icon on it, especially if it is to be sent to someone who might not understand the importance of treating an icon with great reverence and respect. If an icon's condition has rendered it unfit for use and it cannot be restored, it should be taken to the church, where it can be burned in a furnace or special place set aside for the disposal of holy things. If this is not possible, you should burn the icon yourself, and bury the ashes in a place that will not be sullied or disturbed, such as in a cemetery or under a tree in the garden. Our patronal icon should be held in particular reverence, for following baptism, we each have a special bond with our personal saint. Parents should make it a tradition to bless their children with the child's personal icon, as they set off for a new year at school, an extended journey, or when they leave home, to start their own family. Family members should be sure to bring at least a few icons into the hospital room or the nursing home, of their loved one, so a person's own departure from this life can take place in the presence of their personal icons. Holy oils, and any other blessed articles used in the home, should always be treated with the uttermost reverence, and, like the icons, never be improperly disposed of. Those things, like bottles of holy oil, that can not be burned, should be placed in the ground, always in a place that will not be used for something else.

(The Very Reverend Abbot Tryphon is Igumen of All-Merciful Saviour Orthodox Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington.)