

MARTYRDOM KNOWS NO AGE LIMIT

Throughout the pages of Church History, we often hear stirring tales of men and women who willingly submitted to torture and martyrdom at the prime of their lives. The saint depicted on the cover of today's Church Bulletin falls into a different category: he gave his life for Christ at the advanced age of 113!

ST. HARALAMBOS was born in the town of Magnesia in Asia Minor in the 2nd century. He served his home town as a priest and later as a bishop. He was much loved by his flock as he worked tirelessly to bring Christ's message to them. In doing so, Haralambos incurred the wrath of the provincial governor, who launched an aggressive campaign of persecution against the Christians of Magnesia. Haralambos did not hide from the attackers. Instead, he defiantly continued to preach the Gospel openly, bringing about his arrest and imprisonment.

Haralambos certainly faced great physical torment. First, he was tied to a post in a public square and slashed repeatedly with knives. When he refused to renounce Christ, Haralambos was dragged through the streets by his beard. He was systematically tortured for several months. Still, the faith of Haralambos remained strong. Ultimately, the Emperor Septimus Severus ordered him to be brought to Antioch, where he was to be beheaded. Just as the executioners were about to carry out this sentence, the saintly bishop died, thus depriving his enemies the satisfaction of taking his life.

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 Christian 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
<http://www.stanthonyvorthodoxchurch.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 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 11, 2024 TONE 3 / EOTHINON 3; SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

HIEROMARTYR BLAISE, BISHOP OF SEBASTIA, AND COMPANIONS
THEODORA THE EMPRESS; NEW-MARTYR GEORGE OF SERBIA

~ 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 hymns 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 ST. BLAISE IN TONE FOUR

By choosing the Apostles' way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Holy Martyr among bishops Blaise. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

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.

Please support our sponsors




PERI KIROS
321-432-1993
perikiros@gmail.com
WWW.MYGREEKAGENT.COM



Address: 144 Fifth Ave Indialantic FL 32903
Phone #: 321-727-8944
Website: Skewersgrille.com



Mario J. Mandese D.C.
Address
1300 Pine Tree Dr #7
IHB, FL 32937
Phone: (321) 257-7593
Fax: (321) 420-1762

JPN Handyman
Cell: 954-547-4433
Pressure washing
Lawn Mowing
Minor Landscaping
Electronics Repair
3D printing Repair
Ask for other services




FERGUSON PEST MANAGEMENT
321-258-8311
140 Tomahawk Dr. #M57
Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937
Georges Ferguson
Certified Operator



FLAMES
Modern Mediterranean Grill
Live Entertainment Tuesday thru Saturday
Flames kitchen reignites the Mediterranean flare in today's culinary world of inventions. We honor our traditional recipes with a new take on old favorites. Our scratch kitchen adds culmination to our passion for good food.
1270 N Wickham Rd - Ste 40 - Melbourne, FL 32935
(321) 777-6677 ♦ www.flamesgrille.com



3RD GENERATION JEWELERS SINCE 1928
321-777-0093
1270 Highway A1A
Satellite Beach, FL 32937
f t i p e
FlorentineJewelry.com




OLYMPIA
Cafe
1512 SOUTH HARBOR CITY BLVD.
MELBOURNE, FLORIDA 32901
P: 321-676-8910 · F: 321-676-8911
WWW.OLYMPIACAFEMELBOURNE.COM
ADRIANE & TED

ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

4031 Aurora Rd., Melbourne, FL. 32934

www.StAnthonyOrthodoxchurch.com

Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub

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

Elia_shalhoub@yahoo.com

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

2024 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

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.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Clap your hands, all ye peoples.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:1-10)

Brethren, working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:14-30, + Luke 8:8)

The Lord spoke this parable: A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying: "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying: "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying: "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master answered him, "You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As Jesus said these things He cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

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



Announcements



February 11th
February 18th
February 25th

Epistle Readers
Adrian Magelitz
Jeff Dick
Sam Jacobs

Our February Birthdays



February 10th Yuliya Warner; February 11th Adrian Matos
February 15th Susan Perers; February 17th Lilly Munoz
February 24th Clay (Richard) Gardenhire

May God grant you many years!

Our February Anniversaries



February 14th Jeffrey and Holly Dick ; February 23rd Mike and Janet Gorczynski (50th)

May God grant you many more Happy and Healthy years together!

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR IS SPONSORED KIEV AND SPENCER



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 at the information table, and hand it to Yuliya.

HOUSE BLESSINGS ARE IN PROGRESS



2023 Parish Calendars

*They are here with beautiful iconography inside.
Special thanks to this year's sponsors:*

Skewers and Flames Mediterranean Grills, who helped to cover the cost. You can leave a Donation to Sunday School, when you get yours. Give one to the friend or family so they know about our Church. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Please pray for the healing of Adriana Theodoropoulos, Lori Sorensen, Ethan Packey, Michealle and Tyrone Carey, Beverly Delida, Alix Hall, Nina and Diogo Penas, Beth Manzini, John Archambeau, Alex & Soula.

EPIPHANY 2024 – 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:

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.

2024 PLEDGE DRIVE

The Pledge Form for 2024 is available for you, please sign one and turn it in ASAP
Thank you to the following Parishioners
who already signed their pledge card

Fr. Elia and Kh. Odette Shalhoub

Susan Perers

Adrian & Carrie Matos

Priscilla Spinola

Debbie Thieme

Isaac Vaughn

Ionica Dragu

Alix Hall

John & Joanne Karas

Stella White

Tristan & Jennifer Riter

Bill Jackson

Dr. Paul Alex & Bobbi Skaff

Yuliya Warner

Patricia Smith

Michealle Carey

Subdeacon Michael and Alyssa Lieberman

Olga and Carlos Munoz

Zach Ferrel

Ethan Packey

Sam and Ceara Jacobs

Jeffrey & Holly Dick

Kevin Michael Brown

Stephanie Enstice

Subdeacon Michael & Janet Gorczynski

John & Vicky Abodeeli

Alexander Alvarez

**Total Pledges for 2024 from 27 pledges so far is \$97,470
(Our Goal for 2024 is \$100,000.00)**



FEBRUARY 11TH

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

Beloved In Christ

How many of us would like to meet God? To meet God face to face. Think about it; Would we be excited for the greatest encounter of our lives, coming face to face with our Creator? Or, would we be afraid to encounter Him because of our own fears and sinfulness? For Christians, our constant desire should be to be in the presence of God. In Last Sunday's Gospel lesson (Luke 19:1-10), we read of the desire of Zacchaeus (a chief tax collector) to see Jesus Christ. His desire would become a personal encounter with Christ that would transform his life. *"Today salvation has come to this house (...) for the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."* (Luke 19:10)

God desires for us each day to be in His presence no matter where we are in life, no matter our past sins and transgressions. For Zacchaeus, it became the greatest encounter of his life. If we truly desire to meet God, all we have to do is seek Him and invite Him into our hearts.

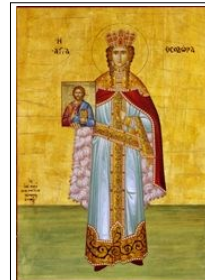
Zacchaeus Confessed His Sin. . . . "It is of more importance to the Lord that a man acknowledge and confess his sickness and cry for help in his heart than with this tongue, for the tongue is capable of deception, but the heart is not."

+Saint Nikolai Velimirovich.

In Christ,

Fr. Elia Shalhoub

Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor



TODAY'S FEAST SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH 2024 16TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW (SUNDAY OF TALENTS) THEODORA THE EMPRESS

As for the renowned Empress Theodora, she was from Paphlagonia and was the daughter of a certain Marinus, the commander of a military regiment. While being the wife of the Emperor Theophilus, the last of the Iconoclasts, she adorned the royal diadem with her virtue and piety; as long as her husband Theophilus lived, she privately venerated icons, despite his displeasure. After his death, she restored the holy icons to public veneration; this is commemorated on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, the First Sunday of the Great Fast. She governed the Empire wisely for fifteen years, since her son Michael was not yet of age. But in 857 she forsook her royal power and entered a certain convent in Constantinople called Gastria, where she finished the course of her life in holiness and reposed in the Lord. Her sacred incorrupt remains are found in Corfu, in the Church of the Most Holy Theotokos of the Cave, in the capital city of the island (see also Dec. 12).



BLAISE THE HERO MARTYR OF SEBASTIA

Saint Blaise was Bishop of Sebastia. Divine grace, through which he healed the diseases of men and beasts, and especially of infants, made his name famous. He contested for the Faith under Licinius in the year 316. Saint Blaise is invoked for the healing of throat ailments.

FINDING OF THE RELICS OF ZACHARIAH THE PROPHET, FATHER OF THE HOLY FORERUNNER



PREPARATION FOR LENT THE DESIRE

Zacchaeus and the Temptation of Comparison.

Father Steven Kostoff

When we read the Scriptures and encounter a character such as Zacchaeus and other “great sinners;” we may well console ourselves with this consciously or unconsciously formulated train of thought:

“Well, I am not quite so bad as these sinners. I am basically a good person who has not fallen to the depths of sin that these figures found in the Gospels have. I am basically a good person who has not fallen to the depths of sin that these Figures found in the Gospels have. They are there precisely to show us that even great sinners can be forgiven by God in His mercy. I certainly need to improve myself; and I certainly need to work on my relationship with God. But I have not defrauded others as Zacchaeus did. Most people like and respect me. Of course I, too, am sinful, but in comparison to the sinners mentioned in the Gospels, it would be false on my part to admit to an equally sinful life. In other words, I may be a sinner, but I am not such a great sinner.”

Such self-righteousness is considered to be a great sin in the Gospels. If, in comparison to Zacchaeus we are not as bad of sinners, does that mean that we are not as equally in need of the mercy, forgiveness, compassion, and love of God? We seem to be drawn to such comparisons because we always come out looking good, or at least better than the other, when making these comparisons. We are very much preoccupied with how others perceive us; our self-image as projected outwardly is of great concern to us. We would be mortified and then either angered or depressed if we thought that others thought poorly of us. We have a deeply-felt need to be able “to hold our head high” when compared to our neighbor. If only we were as concerned about how God may see us!

There may be another revealing side to the “temptation of comparison:” How does our repentance “compare” with that of Zacchaeus? When the Lord came to his home, Zacchaeus was moved to give one-half of his possessions to the poor, and he agreed to restore fourfold what we had stolen from others. Do our fruits of repentance even begin to match that of Zacchaeus? Have any of us been so overwhelmed by the saving presence of Christ and the sheer graciousness of the Gospel to react in such a manner? Perhaps it is this comparison that can teach us some humility.

Why Attend Church?

by Abbot Tryphon

Over the years I have met people who have chosen not to join a church, choosing, rather, to “worship” at home. Some have convinced themselves church is a waste of time, and feel they can be close to God while staying home on a Sunday morning. Others believe none of the churches teach the bible according to their own interpretation, and choosing to worship in the privacy of their own home, assure themselves they won’t have to hear any false teachings. Some people have chosen to stay away from church because of past conflict with a clergyman, or perhaps got tired of hearing pleas for money, and have convinced themselves that giving to a charity is money better spent (in reality, church goes tend to outspend non-church goes in charitable giving). In truth, God has given us the Church as the very place wherein we can grow spiritually, while enjoying the protection, and the blessings, of being in weekly contact with other believers. Just like an earthly family, we don’t always enjoy the presence of other members, but it is often those difficult and uncomfortable moments that help us grow the most. As well, there are blessings that would never be experienced, should we remain apart from fellow Christians. In Luke 4:16, we read that Our Lord Jesus Christ was regularly in the temple, for “He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom.” If Our Lord Jesus made it a priority to meet together with other believers, how can we excuse ourselves from doing the same. Perhaps the most important reason for weekly church attendance lies in the fact that it is only in the Church where we can receive Holy Communion, for Our Lord went so far as to say that unless we eat of His flesh, and drink of His blood, we will have no life in us (John 6:53). It is in the reception of Holy Communion where we receive the grace needed to grow spiritually. The neglect of corporate worship grieves the Holy Spirit who lives within the individual believer and the Church as a whole, “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption (Ephesians 4:30)”.

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.