# "TRULY THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD"

saint Mark's account of Christ's Crucifixion introduces us to the saint we examine today: MARTYR LONGINUS. Longinus was NOT a follower of Jesus. On the contrary, he was the Roman centurion assigned to keep order at the cruel execution of our Lord.

Undoubtedly, Longinus had been given similar assignments before. But this particular task would change his life forever. It is recorded in Mark's Gospel that this soldier was so moved by the final moments of Christ's life that he uttered the phrase that will keep his memory alive throughout eternity: "Truly this was the Son of God."

The tradition of our Church is that Longinus immediately followed the Apostles, renouncing the Emperor and all that Rome stood for. He remained in the city of Jerusalem, where he was able to win many converts to Christianity. It was powerful testimony indeed for others to hear how a pagan servant of Caesar had come to accept and believe in the one true God at the cross.

It did not take long for Pontius Pilate to learn of the "treason" of Longinus. Trained assassins were sent out with orders to bring the head of the former centurion back to the governor! Longinus did not even attempt to flee from his pursuers, for he knew if they failed to carry out their mission, their lives would be taken. So it came to pass that this brave warrior of Christ gave his life for his new-found Master in 36 A.D.

When the head of Longinus was brought back to Pilate, he ordered it to be discarded with the trash as one last act of humiliation. This relic was recovered by the Christian community and given proper burial. Many miraculous healings have been experienced by those who prayed at his tomb.

The Orthodox Weeklp 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.



2



# 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

### 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 13, 2024 **TONE 7 / EOTHINON 5** SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL & FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE HIEROMARTYR JACOB OF HAMATOURA

MARTYRS KARPOS, PAPYLOS, AGATHODOROS & AGATHONIKA AT PERGAMOS

~ 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 SEVEN

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

### 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. JACOB OF HAMATOURA IN TONE THREE

(\*\*Thy confession\*\*)

Thou didst flourish like Lebanon's cedar, \* with no fear thou didst suffer martyrdom, \* thou becamest, O saint Jacob, a true victor. \* For thou didst conquer death with thy mortal flesh, \* when thou didst tame all the passions by humility. \* And while burning like incense as a true sacrifice, \* thou

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# ST. ANTHONY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

4031 Aurora Rd., Melbourne, FL 32934





Saturday, October 26

at 3:30pm-5:00pm

Cookie Decorating











intercedest with Christ to grant us all the Great Mercy.

### 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.

### 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.

10

This Week Today

- \* Matins Service—8:45am
- \* Divine Liturgy—10:00am
- \* Coffee Hour—guests always welcome

Wednesday

- \* Vespers—5:30pm
- \* Choir Rehearsal—6:00pm

Saturday

\* Great Vespers—5:30pm

October 27

This Quarter October

13th: Special Olympics Teen SOYO Luncheon after the Liturgy

20th: Parish Special General Meeting

26th: Trunk or Treat at 3:30pm-5pm (Trunks needed, sign up on the bulletin board)

Holly

Samuel

Epistle Readers Sermon **Adrian Magelitz** October 6 October 13 Corbin October 20 **Evelvn** 

# Oct 6 -Oct 20 Fasting Calendar

Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs, fish, olive oil & wine: Wed 10/9, Fri 10/11, Wed 10/16

meat, dairy, eggs & fish: Fri 10/18

View calendar at https://tinyurl.com/AOCfast

# **October Birthdays**

02: Mary Baika B-day

06: Tyrone Carey B-day

08: Peri Kiros B-day

11: Edward Beeny B-day

12: John Thieme B-day

16: DeWayne and Kathy Hopper Wed. Anniversary

24: Michael Clevenger B-day, Bobbi Skaff B-day

28: Fr. Elia Shalhoub B-day (70th)

May God Grant You Many Years!



### THANK YOU TO OUR TEEN SOYO FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS LUNCHEON TODAY

PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE CALENDAR IN THE NARTHEX TO CONTRIBUTE FOOD TO A FUTURE COFFEE HOUR



Please pray for the healing of Father Elia and Kh. Odette, Debbie Thieme, Adriana Theodoropoulos, Michealle and Tyrone Carey, Beverly Delida, Alix Hall, Nina and Diogo Penas, Beth Manzini, John Archambeau, Alex & Soula, Nicholas Elliott, William Snell, Vasilika Yardines, Gregory Warner



Trunk Or Treat Sign Up List (please arrive at 3:00pm if possible)

- 1. Alex (need help decorating)
- 2. Kiev
- 3. William
- 4. Jenny
- 5. Yuliya
- 6. Carrie
- 7. Holly
- 8. Priscilla

See Yuliya if you have any questions. We need more candy please.

# Christmas Play Talent Show Sunday, December 15

(it will be here before you know it)

Corbin - trombone

Evelyn - ballet

Brooklyn and Austin - song

Adriana - song

Alina - help

Maria - song

William - guitar (?)

Matthew - Wise man

Sam - Wise men lead (?)

Skylla - Mary

Mikey - Joseph

Esther - Baby Jesus

Tito - undecided

Everyone has talents, find Yuliya if you need ideas;)

Rehearsal dates: November 9 at 11am, Run through December 7 after the Camp (time will be announced later 2-3pm ish), Dress rehearsal (need all participants please) December

14 at noon.

people, and circumstance, even in the face of war.

What does this mean in practice? Let us take some examples. Eastern Christianity does not permit violence and killing under any circumstances. In other words, it does not justify killing in special cases and does not excuse the sin. At the same time, it does not prevent its children from following their spiritual conscience when it calls them to resist evil in all its forms. If a believer is forced to kill, he must seek healing from the violence to which he was forced to resort. This is so that he does not become accustomed to using violence to solve any problem he encounters. This is what is known in Christianity as repentance, and in contemporary psychology as healing.

Christianity does not open the doors for you to exercise power while you have a clear conscience, but rather attributes the exercise of power to the state of fallenness in which you live, which may force you, in certain situations, to choose between the lesser of two evils Eastern Christianity, in particular, rather addresses the interior of man. It believes that the great battle is spiritual and its arena is the inner man. When the believer knows good from evil on his inner, subjective level, he can choose how to fight against evil on the external level.

In the case of abortion, for example, the Eastern Church does not permit the killing of the fetus, nor does it issue a ruling on it, justifying the act based on medical pretexts or the best interest. It does not say, in absolute principle, that the mother is better than the child, even when medical practice finds that the death of one of the parties, mother or child, could be inevitable. Rather, it leaves the determination to the parents to consult with their spiritual father, and then make the necessary decision. Then, they enter the stage of spiritual healing.

Their healing and repentance aim, among other things, to ensure that a person does not, under any circumstances, permit killing with a clear conscience.

I know a young priest from Damascus whose doctors confirmed that the fetus his wife was carrying would be deformed, and the doctors advised the pair to abort it. It was their first child. But after prayer and spiritual counsel, they refused to abort it and decided to keep the fetus and care for it, even if it led to very severe suffering which they would use to sanctify their lives. And so, they had a beautiful baby girl born to them, healthy in spirit, mind and body.

The Eastern Church deals with the problems of the faithful personally, not with a general religious generalization written in a legalistic and canonistic spirit. Guided by its spirituality, which understands the place of man in the divine plan, and which aspires to the salvation of man and the world, it feels, with mercy, the evangelical wisdom that says: "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27).

If you must resort to the use of force to stop evil, or free others from it, then you, as a believer, realize that you have resorted to it under duress. Then, you accept it as a sacrifice of yourself for the sake of others, and you are compelled, if you live after the evil disappears, to enter the stage of spiritual healing. Then you will be a witness to your faith and a martyr to love.



# Parish Council Meeting today after the Luncheon

Join us for Special Olympics Luncheon after the Liturgy, served by Teen SOYO
It will be a Burger Cookout. Suggested donations are \$10 per adult
and \$5 per child to raise money for the Special Olympics.
Thank you for your support!





# 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE SUNDAY OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

### **BELOVED IN CHRIST**

October is Youth Month. We are very blessed to have many of our teens already helping in our Parish--serving during Divine Liturgy and reading the epistles. However, this month we will highlight their participation more. Teens will read the epistle each Sunday, the Teen Soyo president will read a message today, we will have a fundraiser for the Special Olympics and try to give out bookmarks as a thank you for the parishioners helping them in this ministry.

In the month of October, our entire archdiocese raises money to donate to the Special Olympics. We have chosen to have a lunch meal after Divine Liturgy as our fundraiser.

We are very proud of our TEENS, this past June, they participated in the Diocesan Bible Bowl at the PLC for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time and they did very well, we also sent Five campers to St. Thekla Camp. We have established "The Metropolitan Philip Saliba Scholarship Fund" to be able to encourage our children to do all the work they have to do and to be able to participate in the Diocese activities.

We ask our parishioners to keep supporting this Scholarship Fund by donating and soliciting donations from outside the parish, don't be afraid to ask, the Lord said "Ask and you should be given".

Our Goal at the beginning was to raise a minimum of \$10,000.00 for last year, we have raised close to \$11,000.00. "God Loves A Cheerful Giver".

For this year we raised our Goal to \$20,000; We need to make sure that our children are taking care of to be able to keep them in the church.

In Christ, 7r. Elia Shalhoub Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor

### Beloved in Christ

The Gospel lesson for Last Sunday (Luke 7: 11-16), we heard about Jesus Christ encountering a group of mourners as he entered the town of Nain. A funeral procession was proceeding out of the town carrying the body of the son of a widowed woman. During the time of Christ, a widow was seen as a defenseless and desperate person in society. There were no insurance policies with survivor benefits, social security, or pensions. A widow was totally dependent upon family for survival. As she buried her son, her only son, she was now left alone. Defenseless. Vulnerable. Marginalized. Desperate. Brokenhearted. "When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."" This is yet another example in the Gospels of Christ's compassion upon those who were vulnerable, lost and in despair.

The etymology of the word "compassion" from its Latin roots means "co-suffering." Compassion involves not only "feeling for another" but "feeling with another." Henri Nouwen, a Dutch Catholic priest and writer, explained that "...compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion, and anguish." This is the compassion Jesus showed to the world, to each one of us. When God became man, He entered into our broken and suffering world, journeyed with us, and had compassion upon us. If we are to bear the name 'Christian' - to be followers of Christ, we must be imitators of Him. We must be co-sufferers with one another. It is not enough to understand one's suffering, desperation and brokenness, but we - as Christ did for the Widow of Nain - must enter into the suffering of others and have compassion.

Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor

# SAINTS AND FEASTS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13TH 2024 SUNDAY OF THE 7TH 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 assult of Iconoclasm in the ninth century, especially during the reigns of Leo the Armenian and Theophilus.



# 4™ SUNDAY OF LUKE CARPOS. PAPYLOS

Saint Carpus was Bishop of the Church of Thyatira in Asia Minor and Papylus was his deacon, whom he had ordained. Seized as Christians and tormented in Thyatira, they were taken to Sardis, whither Agathodorus, their servant, followed them, and also confessed Christ, and was tormented with them. Together with Agathonica, the sister of Saint Papylus. they were all beheaded during the reign of Decius, in the year 250.

## CHRYSSA THE NEW MARTYR OF BULGARIA, THE TEENAGER

The Holy Virgin Martyr Zlata (Chryse), that "golden vessel of virginity, and undefiled bride of Christ," was born in the village of Slatena, in the Meglena diocese, on the border of Bulgaria and Serbia, when Bulgaria was under the Turkish Yoke. Her father was poor and he had four daughters. Saint Zlata was beautiful in appearance, and her soul was beautiful as well. From childhood she displayed an unusually strong character, and an unshakeable faith in Christ.

A certain Turk became obsessed with her, and kidnapped her one day as she was gathering wood with some other women. He brought her to his house, and repeatedly tried to seduce the maiden, and persuade her to convert to his religion, saying that he would make her his wife. Zlata, however, resisted and asserted: "I know only Christ as my Bridegroom, Whom I shall not deny, even if you tear me to shreds."

Since persuasion and flattery proved unsuccessful, the Turk began to threaten her with grievous torments. The glorious martyr was not frightened by these threats, however. For six months the impious Hagarenes tried to make Zlata accept their religion, but she remained steadfast. Then they ordered the saint's parents and sisters to convince her to convert. Otherwise, they would kill Zlata and torture them.

The Saint's parents and sisters wept and urged her to deny Christ "just for the sake of appearances," so that they might be spared torture and death. Saint Zlata was unmoved by their pleas, and replied, "You who now urge me to deny Christ are no longer my parents and sisters. Instead, I have the Lord Jesus Christ as my father, the Lady Theotokos as my mother, and the Saints of our Church as my brothers and sisters!"

She was brutally tortured to death.

Standing nearby was her Spiritual Father, Hieromonk Timothy of Stavronikéta Monastery on Mount Athos, She sent word to him to pray that she would persevere until the end. It was he who recorded her martyrdom.

Her pure soul was received by Christ, Who bestowed on her the double crowns of virginity and martyrdom. Certain Christians gathered her relics secretly and buried them with great reverence. Saint Zlata suffered for Christ on October 13, 1795.

# Eastern Remnants, Part Two By Metropolitan Saba (Isper)

The advantage of Eastern Christianity lies in the fact that -- as much as it is sensitive to the integrity of faith and meticulous in formulating and preserving its teachings -- it does not codify Christian life, but rather, for its implementation on a personal level, opens up a wide scope of general education emanating from the doctrine. It calls for the application of the divine commandments, in accordance with what leads to the salvation of the believer, under the guidance of his spiritual father, according to his situation, ability, circumstance, and the spiritual level he has reached

On the political level, the Eastern Church, and the Orthodox Church in particular, does not determine the political orientation, in the precise and direct sense, for its children. It is satisfied only with providing them with Christian education, and enriching them with authentic spirituality, which finds a Christian embodiment in a manner that suits each society,