

## TRUST THE LORD



**B**ack in the early days of television - when game shows were the rage - a program called "Who Do You Trust?" was popular. Teams of contestants - usually a man and woman - would compete for prizes in various categories. Before a question was asked, one of the team members would have to decide to either trust his partner or to trust himself to give the correct answer.

In life, exactly who do we trust? Without hesitation, an Orthodox Christian should know the answer to that question: we place our trust solely in God. Psalm 146 tells us plainly: "Put NOT your trust in princes or in sons of men, for in them there is no salvation." Sadly, however, what we describe as "trusting in God" is often nothing more than EXPECTING and DEMANDING that He fulfill our every wish like some celestial genie! Although our Lord did say "Ask and it shall be given to you," (Matthew 7:7) it's not quite as simple as putting in a call for room service at a hotel!

God knows our needs and hears all of our prayers. As our Heavenly Father, His answer to our supplications may be "no," or it may be "not now" at various times. Do parents always give their children what they want exactly when they want it? It is precisely at these times when we prove that we really do understand what it means to place our TOTAL trust and confidence in Him. It is not necessary for us to understand the workings of the Lord - only to accept them.

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.*

Exercise patience & openness  
to God's Wisdom







## St. Anthony The Great Antiochian Orthodox Church

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Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor & Dean of South Florida Deanery  
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<http://www.stanthonyorthodoxchurch.com>

### WELCOME TO ST. ANTHONY'S

Where people from around the world come together to serve God and our community. We are glad you are worshiping 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 Eminence Metropolitan SABA within 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, JUNE 29, 2025

#### THE HOLY, GLORIOUS APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

~ 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 hades 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 SS. PETER AND PAUL IN TONE FOUR

O foremost in the ranks of Apostles, and teachers of the world, Peter and Paul, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace unto the world, and to our souls 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.

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## Holy Apostles Peter and Paul

Beloved in Christ,

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth" (Matthew 5.5). Meekness is an essential possession of the spiritual person. Jesus Himself was meek. "All things have been delivered to me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son, and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him. Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (Matthew 11.27–30).

The Apostles of Christ taught meekness. The Apostle Paul mentions it in all his writings and the Apostle James insists upon it. "Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good life let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This wisdom is not such as it comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits . . ." (James 3.13–17).

To be meek means to be gentle and kind, to be empty of all selfishness and earthly ambition. It means, in a word, never to return evil for evil, but always in everything to overcome evil by good (cf. Rom 12.14–21). Meekness means to distrust and reject every thought and action of external coercion and violence, which in any case can never produce fruitful, genuine and lasting results. Meekness is to have the firm and calm conviction that the good is more powerful than evil, and that the good ultimately is always victorious.

Saint John Climacus writes in 'The Ladder of Divine Ascent; 'Meekness is an unchangeable state of mind which remains the same in honor and dishonor. Meekness is the rock overlooking the sea of irritability which breaks all the waves that dash against it, remaining itself unmoved. Meekness is the buttress of patience, the mother of love and the foundation of wisdom, for it is said, "The Lord will teach the meek His way" (Psalm 24.9). It prepares the forgiveness of sins; it is boldness in prayer, an abode of the Holy Spirit. "But to whom shall I look," says the Lord, "to him who is meek and quiet and trembles at my word" (Isaiah 66.2). In meek hearts the Lord finds rest, but a turbulent soul is the seat of the devil." (The Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 24).

- Fr. Thomas Hopko (The Orthodox Faith, 'The Beatitudes')

**In Christ,**

*Fr. Elia Shalhoub*

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



**57TH BIENNIAL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN**

**Archdiocese Convention**

July 20 – 27, 2025



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## THE EPISTLE

*Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth. The heavens show forth the glory of God.*

### **The Reading from Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (11:21-12:9)**

Brethren, whatever anyone dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman— with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He Who is blessed forever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (16:13-19)**

At that time, when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His Disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father Who is in Heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven."

### **KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) FOR THE APOSTLES IN TONE EIGHT**

Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. Alleluia.

register at: <https://www.antiochianevents.org/events/archdiocese-convention-1/>



### 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.

## Upcoming Events

### This Week

Sunday, 6/29

#### Apostles Feast

8:45 am: Matins Service  
10:00 am: Divine Liturgy

*Followed by coffee hour, all are welcome*

Wednesday, 7/2

5:30pm: Vespers

Saturday, 7/5

4:00 pm: Catechism class  
5:30 pm: Great Vespers ,  
*followed by confessions*

Sunday, 7/6

8:45 am: Matins Service  
10:00 am: Divine Liturgy

*Followed by coffee hour, all are welcome.*

Sunday, 7/20

#### The Feast of St. Elias

Saturday, 7/26

*Great Vespers for the Feast of  
St. Panteleimon at 5:30 pm. Parishioners from St.  
Katherine, our sister parish, are invited.*

### June Birthdays & Anniversaries

09: Stephanie Enstice  
10: DeWayne Hopper  
12: Alina Matos  
13: Fr. Stephen and Kh. Amani Adili Anniversary  
14: Max Jacobs, Emmalyn Ziemis  
17: Alexander Bollig  
23: John and Debbie Thieme Wed. Anniversary  
25: Mikey Holland  
27: Michael and Alyssa Lieberman Anniversary  
29: Callie Karas



*May God Grant You Many Years!*

### Fasting Calendar

Apostles Fast:

Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs, June 16-28, with  
strict fast on Wednesdays and Fridays

View calendar at <https://tinyurl.com/AOCfast2025>

## Announcements



### Epistle Reader

June 29

Corbin Dick

St. Paul to the Corinthians. (11:21-12:9)

July 6

Eric Ziemis

St. Paul to the Romans. (6:18-23)

July 13

Lando Ringel

St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

July 20

Kh. Odette Shalhoub

St. James. (5:10-20)



### THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS

PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE CALENDAR IN THE NARTHEX TO PREPARE  
AND SERVE FOOD FOR OUR COFFEE HOUR .

St. Anthony T-Shirts  
Cotton/Poly Dry Blend  
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\$35--proceeds benefit  
AMEN/Teen Soyo Scholarship  
Order and payment due June 29th  
See Holly or bulletin board  
for details/ordering



### 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 by the candles.

**DONATIONS NEEDED: NANA'S HOUSE CHARITY IS IN  
SPECIAL NEED OF BACKPACKS AND LUGGAGE IN  
ADDITION TO THEIR TYPICAL NEEDS.**

**ALL DRY FOOD, CLOTHING, AND HYGIENE ITEMS ARE  
COLLECTED WEEKLY. PLEASE SEE PRISCILLA WITH YOUR DONATIONS.**



### AMEN DID IT AGAIN!

WE HAD A COUPLE OF MINOR GLITCHES,  
THEY STAYED ON TOP OF THE CHECKLIST  
UNTIL IT WAS TIME TO GO. THANKS SO  
MUCH TO SUBDEACON MICHAEL, MIKE, AN-  
DREW, MICAH, TITO, TRISTAN, AND CHRIS.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR TIME AND TALENTS  
TO HELP KEEP ST. ANTHONY BEAUTIFUL.



*Please pray for the healing of* Marcia Fuentes, Laney Ricketts, Michealle Carey, Debbie Thieme, Adriana Theodoropoulos, Beverly Delida, Alix Hall, Nina and Diogo Penas, Beth Manzini, John Archambeau, Alex & Soula, Susan Moran, Susan Perers, William Snell, Vasilika Yardines, Faouzi Najjar, Marie Williams, and His Grace Bishop Nicholas