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.

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.

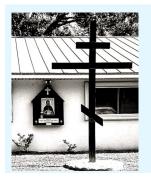
Please contact Fr. Elia either by E-Mail (elia_shalhoub@yahoo.com) or on his cell phone (305) 812-4940.



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.



Welcome to St. Anthony The Great Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE



4031 Aurora Rd., Melbourne, Florida 32934
Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor & Dean of South Florida Deanery
Phone: (305) 812-4940, E-Mail: elia shalhoub@yahoo.com

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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 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 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE

VENERABLE CHARITON THE CONFESSOR AND ABBOT OF PALESTINE PROPHET BARUCH; VENERABLE NEOPHYTOS AND AUXENTIOS OF CYPRUS

~ 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, sing 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 ST. CHARITON THE CONFESSOR IN TONE EIGHT

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundred-fold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father Chariton, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

~ Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.

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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their evangelical mission and pastoral responsibility are forced to spend their energy correcting distortions, rather than dedicating themselves fully to nurturing true righteousness in the hearts of Christ's beloved.

And so, you are called to remain steadfast in both truth and love. Speak the truth as you see it, but always with love (Eph. 4:15). The moment you sense within yourself the presence of anger, pride, or malice, remain silent and turn to the Lord in humble prayer. Ask Him to place His word on your lips, so that you may become a real witness to the Truth. As for false witnesses, leave them to the Lord and to the judgment of history.

Such "little churches," when they exist, become leaven, bringing the living presence of Christ ever more powerfully into our lives, our families, and our communities.

Diocese of Miami and the Southeast

Upcoming Events

November 5 - November 8 AMEN Conference & Retreat 2025 (In person) January 28, 2026 @ 8:00 am - January 31, 2026 @ 5:00 pm EST DOMSE Clergy & Winter Retreats 2026 (In person) February 14, 2026 @ 8:00 am - February 16, 2026 @ 5:00 pm EST Winter Camp 2026 (In person) 9:00 am - 12:00 pm EDT AMEN Lenten Retreat 2026 (Virtual) MAR 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT YAM Lenten Retreat 2026 (Virtual) 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm EDT Antiochian Women's Lenten Retreat 2026 (Virtual) 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm EDT MAR SOYO Lenten Retreat 2026 (Virtual) June 1, 2026 @ 8:00 am - July 1, 2026 @ 5:00 pm EDT 2026 DOMSE Scholarships! June 10, 2026 @ 8:00 am - June 13, 2026 @ 5:00 pm EDT

Visit https://
domse.org for
more information

THE SECOND ANNUAL

November 5-8, 2025 at the Woodland Christian

Camp & Retreat Center in Temple, GA

(1 hour west of Atlanta)

https://domse.org/event/amen-conference-retreat-2025/

THE EPISTLE

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord glory and honor.

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

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

~ 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.

Upcoming Events

This Week

Sunday, 9/28 8:45am: Matins Service, 10:00am: Divine Liturgy

Fellowship Hour

Wednesday, 10/1 5:30pm: Great Vespers 4:00pm: Catechism class

5:30pm Vespers

Sunday, 10/5 8:45 am: Matins Service,

10:00 am: Divine Liturgy

Fasting Calendar

Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs, fish, olive oil and wine 10/1, 10/3, 10/8, 10/10

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

THANK YOU FOR TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR

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

September 28th



October Birthdays & Anniversary

01: Mikey and Skylla Holland Anniversary

02: Mary Baika

05: Anthony Mametieff

08: Peri Kiros

12: John Thieme

23: Beatrix McCrea

24: Bobbi Skaff

25: Tami Richmond

28: Fr. Elia Shalhoub

May God Grant You Many Years!

Mark Your Calendars

October 5 Teen SOYO

Special Olympics Luncheon Fundraiser

October 10 AWO

Spiritual Growth Meeting

October 11, Saturday at Noon Pirogie Making Class

October 25, Saturday at 3pm Trunk or Treat

Announcements

Epistle Reader

Subdeacon Zac St. Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthians (6:1-10)

OCTOBER IS TEEN SOYO MONTH

October 5th

Epistle Corbin

Sermon Samuel cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you" (John 14:16–17). To stray from the truth, then, is to turn away from the Spirit of God dwelling within you.

People may disagree endlessly about what they call "truth." But too often they forget that truth cannot be separated from love. If in your pursuit of truth you lose love, you are no longer on the right path. At such moments, you must pause, examine yourself carefully in the light of the Gospel, and repent.

In your search for truth, you may sometimes confuse what is actually the truth with what only appears to be so. Your passions and lack of purity — whether as an individual, a group, a worldly institution, or even a church in this fallen world — play large roles in clouding your vision. Imagine, for example, the magnitude of the deception when you are under pressure from your friends or those around you! Reflect also on how dangerous it becomes when the truth to which you cling and defend is shaped by competing interests, politics, and the struggles for influence and power that dominate this world. To remain faithful, you must be willing to die to yourself in order to live in truth, integrity, and loyalty to God.

Your spiritual confusion will provide you with many justifications, sometimes disguised as logic, self-interest, craftiness, or wisdom. All of this pushes you to walk by the standards of this world, protecting yourself and your reputation, and supporting them with the spirit of the world — a spirit that is not yours if you are a disciple of Christ. For the world does not place its priority on bearing witness to the truth, but rather on cunning and compromise, which stand against the Gospel. The lure of power and influence, and the love of possession can lead you to build a seemingly logical structure for your ambitions, filling it with noble goals that justify your actions — while in reality you are only covering up the evil within and the harm of your behavior.

Do not forget the Gospel's warning about wolves in sheep's clothing (Matthew 7:15). You could be that wolf when you let evil lead you to seek your own desires disguised as virtue, or poison in honey. Be watchful, lest you become a tool of the evil one even while believing you are resisting him. Your distortion of truth is most painful when you direct it against those closest to you. Remember what Christ said: "Because I tell you the truth, you do not believe me" (John 8:45).

The Lord said: "A man's enemies will be those of his own household" (Matthew 10:36). And the Arab poet reminds us: "The injustice of kin is the hardest to bear." Your suffering is also made heavier when people label you as belonging to one camp or another, simply because the truth you spoke happened to align with their position. This, too, is part of your cross, if you remain faithful to the Gospel and the teachings of the Church. Expect your reward from the Lord alone. Many before you stood against the entire world and paid a heavy price, yet it was the truth they proclaimed that triumphed in the end.

What grieves the Lord is that some entrusted with His Church busy themselves with things. He never asked for, while His children hunger for the word of life and thirst for the living water that could relieve their suffering. While God's creation longs for salvation, attention is instead directed to pursuits that have nothing to do with salvation, and efforts are poured into superficial concerns that feed and heal no one. Even more painful is that those who clearly understand

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contributed to the downfall of families and societal stability, with careers, social and financial gain and self-fulfillment reigning supreme. Divine love does not tolerate this elevated status of self, for the ego is the enemy of our communion with God. In an age of financial collapse, mortgage foreclosures and high unemployment, worship of Self dooms us to a life of total loss. We were created for communion with God and the worship of the ego has led us into a state of spiritual bankruptcy. The total meltdown of the economy and the destruction of the environment is the direct result of the turning away from spiritual values. The foundation of economic and environmental collapse is to be found in our spiritual bankruptcy. We need to return to the worship of God, and reject the worship of self. The denial of guilt and sin is the ultimate example of our having accepted the lie perpetrated by the devil, the great deceiver. True happiness and true wealth come only through the fulfillment of our destiny and that for which we were created, communion with God. The destruction of the ego begins with repentance and the acquisition of a humble and a contrite Heart.

Speak the Truth with Love

By Metropolitan Saba (Isper)

Much is said these days about "truth." All people cling to their own truth, seeing it from their own perspective, whether for personal benefit or the interests of their group. Yet the Absolute Truth, God Himself, is often the most forgotten. Strangely, people still appeal to Him to justify their cause, and to strengthen their battle to obtain what they call their rights.

But in our faith, truth is not simply a law or custom—it is God Himself. The Lord said in the Holy Gospel: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6). He is both the Truth and the Way to the Truth. To follow Him, to walk according to His commandments, to love Him and to humble ourselves before Him – these allow His presence to fill us, protecting us and those around us from error and falsehood.

The Lord also says: "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32).

If you are a follower of Christ, you belong fully to the Truth – not partially, but wholly. The presence of Christ within you purifies you from every stain and falsehood. You cannot belong to Him and to someone else at the same time. Either you open yourself entirely to the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth (John 14:17 and 15:26), or you remain divided and unstable.

How, then, can you remain faithful to Him while sin still finds a place in you? Faithfulness lies in your sincere striving toward Him, in following His footsteps wherever they lead, and in remaining conscious always to live in loyalty to Him. Yes, you will face obstacles and temptations either from within yourself or from the outside. Do not be afraid, although the devil never sleeps. "Like a roaring lion, he prowls around looking for someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Do not despair if you fall once or many times. What matters most is that you rise quickly after each fall. Faithfulness to the Lord does not mean you will never sin. Rather, it means that when you do sin, you are ready to repent, to be corrected, and to continue walking toward Him in truth.

The Lord has not left you alone in this struggle. He promised: "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter to be with you forever, even the Spirit of Truth, whom the world



Today's Holy Bread is sponsored by Fadi and Sara for the good health of Norma Nakhle.

May God grant her healing and comfort.

Another Successful Workday

My biggest thanks to Patricia who weeded the flower beds,
Priscilla and her two nieces Michelle and Meena and nephew Scott.
The coffee hour area was returned to Fall colors and the baskets restocked. Bill J., Alex A.,
Tito M., Richard G. Mikey H. and Chris Y. and Scott did not let the heat stop them. What a great day!
Michealle

Teen SOYO



Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations

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AMEN/Teen Soyo Scholarship
Order and payment due October 12th
Order Form on the Bulletin Board
Questions? Ask Holly

Special Olympics Luncheon Fiesta



October 5th during Coffee hour
All proceeds go to the Special Olympics Teen Soyo's outreach
Suggested donation is \$10 per adult,
\$5 per child
Thank you for your support!!





St. Anthony and St. Katherine's Teen Night

Friday, October 10th 6-8 pm St. Katherine's Fellowship Hall All Teens and their parents are welcome! We will be playing teens vs parents games. RSVP to Holly by October 6th.

Making It Easier To Give



By using the QR Code, it is easier to make a donation or fulfill your annual pledge through Zelle to Saint Anthony. You may also access it through your online banking; Should you have any questions, or need further information about giving opportunities at Saint Anthony, please speak to our Parish Council Treasurer Ethan Packey.



SAINT ANTHONY THE GREAT ORTHODOX 321-428-4819 -->



Please pray for the healing of 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



16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST BELOVED IN CHRIST

This past week the Church commemorate the Protomartyr Thekla, Saint Silouan of Athos and the repose of the Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian. All three are commemorated and remembered for their particular gifts in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Protomartyr Thekla was the first woman martyr of the Church and holds particular veneration in the Church of Antioch. She was a companion of the Apostle Paul in that she would follow him to hear Paul preach the Gospel. Her devotion and steadfast love of Christ was evident for all to see. She would receive martyrdom as she escaped her persecutors.

Saint Silouan of Mount Athos was a Russian by birth, but would spend most of his life at Saint Panteleimon Monastery on Mount Athos. Though barely literate, pilgrims would come from all over the world to seek out his wise counsel. He was considered the most authentic monk of the 20th Century and was canonized in 1987.

Saint John the Apostle and Evangelist was one of the original 12 disciples and was responsible for the writings of the Gospel of John, the Three Epistles of John, and the Book of Revelation.

The common thread of all three was their love of Jesus Christ. We are called to imitate them in our love for Christ and His Holy Church.

In closing, some wisdom from Saint Silouan of Mount Athos:

"Whoever will not love his enemies cannot know the Lord and the sweetness of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit teaches us to love our enemies in such a way that we pity their souls as if they were our own children."

In Christ,

7t. Elia Shalhoub,
Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor

Taking Up Our Cross

The first duty of a Christian, of a disciple and follower of Jesus Christ, is to deny oneself. To deny oneself means: to give up one's bad habits, to root out of the heart all that ties us to the world...to be dead to sin and the world, but alive to God. A Christian's second duty is to take up one's cross. The word "cross" means sufferings, sorrows and adversities. To "take up one's cross" means to accept without complaint everything unpleasant, painful, sad, difficult and

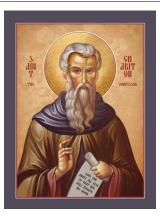
oppressive that may happen to us in life. In other words, to bear all laughter, scorn, weariness, sorrow and annoyance from others; to bear all poverty, misfortune, illness, without regarding yourself as offended. And if, when you are bearing your cross according to the will of God, a proud thought suggests to you that you are not weak like others, but that you are firm, pious and better, root out such thoughts as far as you can for they ruin all your virtues.

Certainly this way is rough, narrow and thorny, and seems especially so at the beginning. But on the other hand, it leads straight to Paradise, to the Heavenly Kingdom, to God Who is the Source of all true life. The sufferings in this way are not eternal, and one can say that they are even no more than momentary, whereas the rewards for them are unending and eternal, like God Himself. The suffering will become less and lighter from day to day, while grace will increase from hour to hour, throughout infinite eternity. The Apostle Paul instructs us that "being crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me." (Galatians 2:16 +Saint Innocent of Alaska

TODAY'S FEAST SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2025 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CHARITON THE CONFESSOR

Saint Chariton was born in the city of Iconium during the reign of Aurelian, about the year 274. He was arrested, tortured, and condemned to death because of his Christian Faith, but finally set free by imperial edict. He came to Palestine, where he took up the ascetic life. He also brought many Jews and pagans to the Faith. Having dwelt in the desert of Judea for many years, and established several monasteries throughout the region, he reposed in peace.



BARUCH THE PROPHET

Prophet Baruch was the son of Nerias, and the disciple of the Prophet Jeremias (Jer. 39:12; 43:4 LXX). The extant prophetical book that he wrote is divided into five chapters; it was composed in the fifth year of the Babylonian Captivity of the Jews during the years of Sedekias, 583 B.C. The prophetic lection that is read on the eve of the Feast of Christ's Nativity, which bears Jeremias' name, is taken from the prophecy of Baruch (Bar. 3:35-4:4). His name means "blessed."

The Ego, by Abbot Tryphon

"We must destroy the ego..." Modern psychology has told us we must feel good about ourselves and instructed us to reject the idea of guilt and sin. Sin is seen as religion's instrument for keeping people in line, making them dependent on an institution that should be relegated to the Dark Ages. In an age where man is elevated to being his own god, religion is seen as a sort of enslavement. Up with self! Down with guilt! Self as the new god is worshiped at the expense of community and enthroned in a position of the utmost importance. Worship of self has