



SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America

Christ is The Word LOGOS

*The mission of Saint Andrew the Apostle Orthodox Church
is to glorify our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ through our words and actions according to the Holy Traditions and Sacred Teachings of our
Holy Orthodox Christian Faith*

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

October 2023

Wisdom

No human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

James 3:13-18

BISHOP THOMAS VISIT

October 21-22
Come receive the
blessing!



Call to worship!

You are encouraged to show your respect for our bishop by being in attendance at all services the weekend of October 21-22. Vespers Saturday at 6 pm, Orthros and Liturgy Sunday beginning at 9 am.

CONSIDER JOINING THE ORDER

The Order of St. Ignatius helps to ensure the welfare of the Orthodox faith and provides funds for the many wonderful ministries and causes that need our financial help throughout our Archdiocese.

Please consider joining and being a part of this worthwhile ministry. There is still time to join The Order and have Bishop Thomas perform the induction ceremony when he is here with us on October 22. Please contact Pam Smith at Pamsmith8956@gmail.com for more information.

FALL FEST! We are counting on your help!

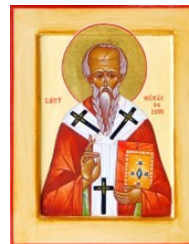
St. Andrew's annual Fall Fest, November 3 & 4, is our biggest community outreach of the year. We need your help to make it a success!

- ✦ **Sign up for a task or three** on the signup sheets in the church foyer. There are opportunities both in advance of the Fall Fest and during it.
- ✦ **Sign up to bring baked goods.**
- ✦ **Tell all your friends and neighbors** about the Fall Fest and invite them to come! A flyer is provided in this newsletter and is available in the church foyer for you to give out and post in community clubhouses and public spaces as permitted. An electronic copy will be emailed so you can share it on social media.

Your support helps St. Andrew's to fulfill our ministries to our church family and enables us to support local ministries to the community. We appreciate every effort and contribution!

We are counting on you to help. Please join us! "Many hands make light work!"

Fall Retreat - November 18. Saint Irenaeus of Lyons: On the Apostolic Preaching. See the flyer on page 5.



St. Andrew Fall Retreat

Saturday, November 18, 2023

Saint Irenaeus of Lyons: On the Apostolic Preaching

Presented by Brian Ephrem Fitzgerald, PhD

Sunday School Teachers Needed!

Experience and deep biblical knowledge are *not* necessary ... simply faith and a desire to learn! We are flexible, will work with your schedule and, ideally, would like to have a team of at least two teachers for each of the younger 2-3 classes. We hope you will join us please see Joy Smith in church, email (Joy@niden.net), or call/text her at 302-245-8302. Thank You!

The Staff of Levi

by Fr. Marc Boulos

excerpt from The Bible as Literature podcast (Episode 500, 9/24/23; Luke 4:36-37)

Pastor, St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church, St. Paul, MN

The biblical text is epic, expansive, and integrated in specific and articulate ways. After 500 episodes [of podcasts] (over 800, if you add in Tarazi Tuesdays), I am convinced that the biblical genre's complexity is far beyond the reach of contemporary literature and artistic expression. This is not intended as hyperbole. People get excited about modern literature because we always seek "new" ideas. But there are no new ideas. Just old ideas repackaged and half-baked. The well-written old ideas repackaged in some of the new books are useful, but they are still limited with respect to what matters most because, in the end, they all share the same premise as the tired opinions the average person posts online. So you read, hunt for useful knowledge, and test it against your reference, but you are selective with respect to where you place your trust.

It is one's reference that counts.

The Bible, too, is old. But it is more than that. It stands out from the crowd in how it has disagreed with all of us, our ideas, and the things we fashion from days of old.

In his essay "The False Promise of ChatGPT," Noam Chomsky explains that the inability of machine learning to go beyond description and prediction to provide an explanation of "what is not the case and what could and could not be" the case "exhibits something like the banality of evil: plagiarism and apathy and obviation. It summarizes the standard arguments in the literature by a kind of super-autocomplete, refuses to take a stand on anything, pleads not merely ignorance but lack of intelligence, and ultimately offers a 'just following orders' defense, shifting responsibility to its creators."

Chomsky is describing machine learning. From my perspective, his words describe a culture that has fashioned something digital in its own image. Impressive? Maybe. Useful, profitable? Sure. Entertaining? Yes. Intelligent? No. Wise? No comment. Hopeful? Definitely not.

What does Levi have to do with Luke?

(And please, don't ask ChatGPT until after it's had a chance to plagiarize my brief essay.)

In epic literature, it's a long journey from Genesis, where we first hear about Melchizedek, to Numbers, where we are told about the staff of Levi, from among twelve staffs, from all the leaders of the households of Israel to Deuteronomy, where we hear twice, "Levi does not have a portion or inheritance with his brothers; the Lord is his inheritance." (Deuteronomy 10:9; 18:1, Numbers 18:20, Joshua 13:33, Ezekiel 44:28)

The same statement pops up in Numbers, Joshua, and, of all places, Ezekiel. The word is "epic." It is epic literature. You have to hear the whole story.

Likewise, in Luke, Jesus does not have a portion or inheritance with his brothers in Nazareth. "You are my beloved Son, in you I am well-pleased." (Luke 3:22)

But as Paul explains in Hebrews, Jesus is beyond even Levi, for Levi "was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him." (Hebrews 7:10)

You had better believe Jesus speaks with authority.

<https://ephesusschool.org/the-staff-of-levi/>
and <https://tbal.transistor.fm/subscribe>



Charitable Works

Essential items for the homeless

We are continuing our collection of essential items for the homeless, to be distributed through the Shepherd's Office in Georgetown. **Any** new or gently-used clothing or shoes are welcome. **Always needed and welcome are personal hygiene items, new socks and undergarments, and gently used tents, tarps, and camping goods.**



Lunchbox Tuesday

Thanks to all who joined us to make 235 sandwiches on Tuesday, September 25! **Please join us next time, on Wednesday, October 25, at 12 noon (note special day),** when we do it again. Please see Lisa Wolak for details and to inquire about donations needed.

Ongoing collection of non-perishable foods

We continue to collect non-perishable food items and paper goods for the food pantry at the Christian Storehouse in Millsboro. Please do not donate anything beyond its expiration date.

October 2023

Every Saturday: 5:15 pm Confession 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
6 pm Vespers

TROPARION OF ST. ANDREW - Tone 4 – As the first-called Apostle and brother of their leader, O Andrew, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and to our souls great mercy.

Sunday, October 1 **17th Sunday after Pentecost**
Venerable Romanus the Melodist, "Sweet-Singer" (556)

Tone 8 Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16 - 7:1
Eothinon 6 (St. Luke 24:36-53) Liturgy Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 8 - From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord. Glory to Thee!

Sunday, October 8 **18th Sunday after Pentecost**
Venerable Pelagia the Penitent; Virgin Martyr Pelagia of Antioch (3rd cent.)

Tone 1 Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
Eothinon 7 (St. John 20:1-10) Liturgy Gospel: Luke 7:11-16

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 1 - While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding thy most pure Body, thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto thee, O Giver of life: Glory to thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to thy kingdom! Glory to thy providence, O thou who alone art the Lover of mankind!

Sunday, October 15 **Fathers of the 2nd Ecumenical Council**
Martyr Lucian the Presbyter of Antioch (4th cent.)

Tone 2 Epistle: Titus 3:8-15
Eothinon 8 (St. John 20:11-18) Liturgy Gospel: Luke 8:5-15

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 2 - 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 Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee!

Sunday, October 22 **20th Sunday after Pentecost**
Venerable Lot of Egypt (5th cent.); Saints Paul and Theodore of Rostov (15th cent.)

Tone 3 Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19
Eothinon 9 (St. John 20:19-31) Liturgy Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 3 - 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!

Sunday, October 29 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**
Synaxis of All Saints of Alaska; Protomartyr and Equal of the Apostles Thekla (1st cent.)

Tone 4 Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20
Eothinon 10 (St. John 21:1-14) Liturgy Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 4 - Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the disciples saying, Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!

Make note of our regular service times:

Saturday Confessions 5:15 pm Sunday Orthros/Matins 9:00 am
Saturday Vespers 6:00 pm Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Please contact Father Herman for information about becoming a member of St. Andrew Orthodox Church

Regular Schedule

Saturday 5:15 pm Confession
6 pm Vespers
Sunday 9 am Orthros
10 am Divine Liturgy

Check our online calendar at
www.orthodoxdelmar.org/calendar
for the most up-to-date schedule.

Stewardship**Operating revenue & expenses**

August 2023:
Rev. \$11,086 Exp. \$15,337
(\$4,251)

YTD 8/31:
Rev. \$96,590 Exp. \$111,589
(\$14,999)

Operating expenses are those that are necessary for the functioning of the church, such as utilities and maintenance. These do not include purchases/projects covered by donations to special funds, such as Charitable Ministries, Iconography, Camp, etc. Stewardship and undesignated offerings are routed to the General Fund for Operating Expenses. Offerings given specifically for Designated Funds are kept for those uses only.

Details can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway. You may contact the church treasurer (StAndrewTreasurer@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

2023 Pledges

We are nearing the end of the year - are you up to date on your pledge? Your regular and faithful giving is essential to St. Andrew's month-to-month financial health. If you are unsure where you stand on your 2023 pledge, please contact our treasurer at standrewtreasurer@gmail.com.

MANY THANKS to all for your faithful support!

Rev. Father Herman Acker, Pastor
33384 Mackenzie Way, Lewes, DE 19958
302-645-5791

frherman1@gmail.com
orthodoxdelmar.org

Baklava - Tsoureki - Tortenboden - Kourabiethes

Greek Salad - Halupki - Pastitsio - Gyro - Pierogies - Sausage

Moussaka - Falafel - Spanakopita - Crepes - Dolmades



St. Andrew Orthodox Church 2023

FALL FEST!

Friday, November 3 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday, November 4 9 am to 4 pm

Themed Baskets!



Int'l Bake Sale!



Int'l Foods!



Church Tours!

Plus: Mediterranean Market & Grandma's Attic!

St. Andrew Orthodox Church
33384 Mackenzie Way (off Plantation Rd.) - Lewes, DE 19958
302-645-5791 - StAndrewLewes@gmail.com
www.orthodoxdelmar.org

Galaktobouriko - Rice Pudding - Melomakarona

St. Andrew Fall Retreat

Saturday, November 18, 2023

Saint Irenaeus of Lyons: On the Apostolic Preaching

Presented by **Brian Ephrem Fitzgerald, PhD**

Saint Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons (c. 130-202), was born in Smyrna in Asia Minor and had childhood memories of the life and teachings of Saint Polycarp of Smyrna (c. 70-156). In his adulthood he migrated to the Roman West, probably spending some time in Rome where he very likely encountered Saint Justin the Martyr (c. 100-165), under whose influence he clearly fell. During the reign of Marcus Aurelius (r. 161-180), Saint Irenaeus became a presbyter in Lyons and would soon be made bishop of that see. As the author of *Against Heresies* and *On the Apostolic Preaching*, he is the first of the great Patristic Fathers of the Church. Having known Saint Polycarp, a living bridge to the Apostolic era, and having studied the works of Saint Justin Martyr, Saint Irenaeus opens the Patristic era with firm roots in both the Apostolic and sub-Apostolic eras. Yet he is more than a transitional figure. He is the first in the line of the great Patristic Fathers, proclaiming a mature message of the economy of God's plan of salvation as well as defending the true faith against the multi-headed threat of heresy. He is a great resource for and proclaimer of the Orthodox Christian faith.



Brian Fitzgerald is an independent scholar, adjunct professor at Eastern University, and long-term Orthodox Christian with publications at Liverpool University Press, the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, and the Annual of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan. He has special interests in Byzantine and Syriac Christian history and theology, as well as Roman, Late Antique, Byzantine, and Middle Eastern history in general. He also has a series of online Patristic-related lectures freely available at the URL: https://sites.google.com/site/brianephrem/adult_patristic_studies

Retreat Schedule:

- 09:30 am: Coffee and welcome
- 10:00 am: Third Hour and First Presentation: Saint Irenaeus of Lyons: His Life, Times, and Works
- 11:15 am: Break
- 11:30 am: Second Presentation: The Economy of God's Salvation
- 12:45 pm: Lunch
- 02:00 pm: Sixth Hour and Third Presentation: Saint Irenaeus' Biblical Hermeneutics
- 03:15 pm: Break
- 03:30 pm: Fourth Presentation: Wrapping up the Apostolic Kerygma Q & A

All are welcome to remain for coffee, fellowship, and Vespers at 6:00 pm.

Lunch will be provided. (Free-will offerings will be accepted)

Please register so we may plan accordingly:

♦ Email standrewlewes@gmail.com

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