



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*

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

December 2020

Wisdom of the Fathers

*Blessed be the Child Who today delights Bethlehem. * Blessed be the Newborn Who today made humanity young again. * Blessed be the Fruit Who bowed Himself down for our hunger. * Blessed be the Gracious One who suddenly enriched all of our poverty and filled our need. * Blessed be He Whose mercy inclined Him to heal our sickness.*

St. Ephrem the Syrian – from Hymn 3 On the Nativity

Angel Tree

St. Andrew's will sponsor an Angel Tree again this year for 25 needy residents of Harbor Health Nursing Home! Because of the covid restrictions, we will not have a tree with Angels to choose from, but rather, we will do all online, by email and Signup Genius. The list of names/gifts will be out sometime this week, along with instructions. Thank you all for your continued love, support and enthusiasm for this most worthy project!



Did you know?

- **Our mortgage will soon be fully paid off**, thanks to the generosity of Ray and Carol Wasilko. Upon her passing, Carol left a sizable bequest to St. Andrew's. The bulk of it will pay off our mortgage and the remainder will establish an unrestricted endowment fund in their names. May their memory be eternal!
- **Advent/Christmas Fast continues until we celebrate the Nativity of Christ.** Pick up a copy of the Fasting Guidelines in the foyer.
- **When making a contribution** to St. Andrew's, please remember to write the purpose of your donation on the check or offering envelope, so your generosity can be properly applied. Thank you!
- **Post-Communion Prayers** are being read immediately following every Divine Liturgy, while the faithful are being dismissed. Please remember to save your greetings until you exit the nave, proceeding quietly and respectfully. You are encouraged to return to your seat to pray with us in thanksgiving for the Holy Gifts.

Children's Liturgy

Unfortunately, because of covid, we cannot celebrate the Nativity of Christ with the children in the ways we have in the past. With that in mind, we WILL celebrate it in the ways that we can!! On **Saturday, December 19**, at 10 am, St. Andrew's will offer a special **Divine Liturgy for the children** and their families. (Of course, all are welcome). We also hope to have a visit from St. Nicholas and a surprise for each of the children attending!

Please save this date! We are looking forward to seeing you all on the 19th!! More information will be coming. Please contact Joy Smith at joy@niden.net with any questions.



*Christ is
Born!*



*Glorify
Him!*

**We miss you! Church services are on!
We look forward to seeing you soon!**

Time to think Stewardship!

Pledges for 2021 are now being received.

MANY THANKS for your pledges to support Christ and Orthodoxy through St. Andrew's. God bless you for your generosity!

If you have not received a stewardship packet, please pick one up in the foyer.

God bless all our Faithful Stewards!

Thank you for continuing to send in your generous offerings during this unusual time. Your support continues to be needed as we bear witness to Christ in our community and provide a place of worship for the Orthodox faithful.

Stewardship in Action

Many thanks to all who are ushering and disinfecting during and after our services, and to the Men's Fellowship for weekly cleaning!

On the Holy Scriptures

It were indeed meet for us not at all to require the aid of the written Word, but to exhibit a life so pure, that the grace of the Spirit should be instead of books to our souls, and that as these are inscribed with ink, even so should our hearts be with the Spirit. But, since we have utterly put away from us this grace, come, let us at any rate embrace the second best course.

For that the former was better, God hath made manifest, both by His words, and by His doings. Since unto Noah, and unto Abraham, and unto his offspring, and unto Job, and unto Moses too, He discoursed not by writings, but Himself by Himself, finding their mind pure. But after the whole people of the Hebrews had fallen into the very pit of wickedness, then and thereafter was a written word, and tables, and the admonition which is given by these.

And this one may perceive was the case, not of the saints in the Old Testament only, but also of those in the New. For neither to the apostles did God give anything in writing, but instead of written words He promised that He would give them the grace of the Spirit: for "He," saith our Lord, "shall bring all things to your remembrance." And that thou mayest learn that this was far better, hear what He saith by the Prophet: "I will make a new covenant with you, putting my laws into their mind, and in their heart I will write them," and, "they shall be all taught of God." And Paul too, pointing out the same superiority, said, that they had received a law "not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."

But since in process of time they made shipwreck, some with regard to doctrines, others as to life and manners, there was again need that they should be put in remembrance by the written word.



St. John Chrysostom, Homily I on Matthew

Check your Orthodox Vocabulary

Advent ("Coming"): The forty days before the Nativity, a time of preparation

Incarnation: God becomes flesh, born of the Virgin Mary

Epiphany: Showing forth, manifestation

Theophany: The showing forth, manifestation of God

Liturgy: The service (worship) we offer to God

Eucharist ("Thanksgiving"): Describes our Liturgy of Communion

Vespers: Evening prayer

Orthros/Matins: Morning Prayer

Epistle: A reading from a letter of one of the Apostles

Gospel ("Good News"): A reading from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John

Artoklasia: A service of "breaking of bread" when we remember how Christ multiplied the five loaves.

Vasilopita: "Saint Basil's bread" offered around January 1st, recalling the generosity of Saint Basil.

Prosfora/Kurban: Holy Bread offered for Holy Communion



Special prayer for deliverance from the coronavirus epidemic by the Romanian Patriarchate

Lord, our God, Who are rich in mercy, and with your wise providence govern our life, hear our prayer, receive our repentance for our sins, stop the new infectious disease, as You once ceased the punishment of Your people in the time of King David.

You, Who are the Physician of our souls and bodies, grant recovery to the sick, raising them hastily from the bed of suffering so that they may glorify You, our Merciful Saviour, and protect the healthy ones from any disease.

Bless, O Lord, strengthen, and protect with Your grace all those who with philanthropy and sacrifice take care of the sick at their homes or in hospitals.

Remove all disease and suffering from among the people and teach us to value life and health as Your gifts.

Give us, O God, Your peace and fill our hearts with steadfast faith in Your protection, with hope in Your support and with love for You and our neighbour.

For it is Yours to have mercy on us and save us, our God, and to You we give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord Have Mercy, Lord Have Mercy, Lord Have Mercy!

December 2020

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.

December 6 **Saint Nicholas the Wonder-worker**

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in Lycia (Asia Minor, 342)
Blessed Maximus, metropolitan of Kiev (1305)

Tone 1
Eothion 4 (St. Luke 24:1-12)

Epistle: Hebrews 13:17-21
Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 13:10-17

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!

TROPARION FOR SAINT NICHOLAS - Tone 4 - Thy works of justice did show thee to thy congregation a canon of faith, the likeness of humility, a teacher of abstinence, O Father, Bishop Nicholas. Wherefore, by humility thou didst achieve exaltation, and by meekness, riches. Intercede, therefore, with Christ to save our souls.

December 13 **Saint Herman of Alaska**

Eustratius & his companion martyrs (Sebastia in Armenia, 300)
Virgin & Martyr Lucia (Sicily, 304); Wonderworker Herman of Alaska (1837)

Tone 2
Eothion 5 (St. Luke 24:12-35)

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11
Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 14:16-24

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!

December 20 **Saint Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch**

Sunday of the Genealogy
Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch (107); John of Kronstadt (1908)

Tone 3
Eothion 6 (St. Luke 24:36-53)

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40
Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 1:1-25

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 depth of hades, granting the world the Great Mercy!

December 27 **Saint Stephen, Protomartyr**

Proto-Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen (34)
Theodore the Confessor (Palestine, 840)

Tone 4
Eothion 7 (St. John 20:1-10)

Epistle: Acts 6:8-7:5, 47-60
Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 2:3-23

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!



CHRISTMAS FAST ENDS DECEMBER 25

**Thereafter, there is NO FASTING
(except for Communion)
until JANUARY 5, which is a day of
STRICT FAST, in preparation for
Theophany (January 6).**

Regular Schedule

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

Be sure to **visit our website** at www.orthodoxdelmar.org/calendar for special services and the most up-to-date schedule.

Other December Services:

St. Barbara
Friday, December 4
Divine Liturgy 10 am



Advent Paraklesis
Wednesdays, December 9 & 16
3 pm

Children's Liturgy
Saturday, December 19
10 am

Nativity of Christ
(Christmas)
Thursday, December 24
Divine Liturgy & Artoklasia
6 pm



Christ is born: Glorify Him!
**Christ has come from heaven:
Receive Him!**
Christ is on earth: Be ye lifted up!

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude 20

Make note of our regular service times:

Saturday Confessions 5:00 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 the Saint Andrew Orthodox Church

Rev. Father Herman Acker, Pastor
33384 Mackenzie Way Lewes DE 19958
302-645-5791 © 215-527-8571

frherman1@gmail.com
orthodoxdelmar.org