



**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*

March 2021

Wisdom

One must not demand too much of oneself. It is best to humble oneself before God. Open yourself to Him in all your filthiness and say, like the leper: Lord, if Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean (Luke 5:12). Do not put time limits on God for this. Do all that is needed according to your strength, and the Lord will do everything necessary for your salvation. Just do not forsake God.

Abbot Nikon Vorobiev, *Letters to Spiritual Children* p.117

A Message from Fr. Herman

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is at our doorstep. We are about ready to embark on our Lenten journey. Last year, our Lenten journey was inconvenienced by COVID-19. This concern is still with us during this Lent. The difference this year is that we have more knowledge and have in place reasonable safety precautions. We are wearing masks (or two masks!), we are social distancing while in the church, and we are encouraging attendance at our services. We will not be deterred in offering our praise and thanksgiving to God for all he has done for us, whether in our homes or in the congregation of the church. (We will continue to have signup for each service.)

With this commitment to move forward this Lent, I offer the following thoughts.

Let us avail ourselves of the opportunities offered for growth in the faith and worship of God. Let us spend less of our time watching TV, checking Facebook, etc. and other unnecessary things with which we in this modern world occupy ourselves, and more time doing what is necessary in preparation for greeting Jesus at the Paschal celebration, indeed, at the very end of time.

Consider these ideas as we go through Lent: What we do today and consistently in our lives is what we become. Jesus said you will know people "by their fruits." We are what we do. Of course, we must prioritize, and we always do what we consider most important. Another truth is that what we are becoming today as individuals will determine our future. If we want St. Andrew's to thrive and continue into the future for our children and loved ones, we must commit ourselves in the present as individuals and as a body to do whatever it takes to build ourselves up in our most Holy Faith. If we do not take responsibility to follow our Tradition, who will?

May each of us commit himself and herself to strive for God through participation in our liturgical services, for growth in the knowledge of the One who created us and sent his son to perfect our fallen humanity. We are called as the Church to offer not entertainment or "happiness," but the blessedness which comes from God's Truth as revealed through the Sacred Scriptures and the Divine Services.

With our masks in place, let us enter boldly into St. Andrew's liturgical life, with our brothers and sisters, as often as we can during this Great Lent, with faith and hope in God.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Herman

Home Blessings

If you have not yet had your home blessed and would like to do so, please schedule it with Father before the beginning of Lent (March 15). You may also schedule your blessing after Pascha.

The Word Magazine

The Word magazine is available at no cost to members of St. Andrew's - contact Kh. Vera for a link to sign up. If you are not a member of St. Andrew's and would like to subscribe, also contact Kh. Vera for a link. The Word is also available online for all: <http://ww1.antiochian.org/theword>.

MISSION MOMENT - THE HOME OF HOPE

by Mary Ann Bulko

'Hope' as a verb means to have an expectation, a fulfillment of a desire. When I first heard of The **Children's Home of Hope in Albania**, I was both excited and intrigued. My very first mission team experience in the Summer of 2000 was to the Hogar Rafael in Guatemala. It was an orphanage filled with children—from babes in cribs to pre-teens. There were four monastics that oversaw the facility, a visiting priest, one married couple (caretakers), a small crew of workers, and two guards with guns posted outside the huge doors protecting the seven-foot walled compound. What I remember most from that experience was the LOVE for and from the children!

What would I find in a "Home of Hope?" First, I read a book about Bp. ANASTASIOS in order to understand the history of Albania and his role in the church there. Second, I knew a bit about Anastasia Pamela Barksdale, a long-term, devoted missionary who leads the teams in Albania. And, of course, once again **there are children who need love and attention**—that's all I needed to know! One more thing, I prayed about it for direction – and both God and my husband said, "GO!"

Eight of us, having never met before, formed a team in June 2017—seven Americans and one Canadian – all Orthodox Christians. We were in touch with each other before meeting face to face at OCMC headquarters in St. Augustine, FL. **Our mission—to teach, live, and interact with boys and girls**, ages seven to fourteen for two weeks. (Fifteen is the maximum age allowed by law to remain in a children's home.)

Our days began and ended with morning/evening prayers in the chapel. Liturgy was served in the Church on the hill. Three meals, snacks, and outdoor/indoor play were interspersed with class time—Music, English, and Religious Education (my class). Our theme for the two-week period was titled, "Gifts of the Holy Spirit." And our team was given the name – "Team Duram" or "Team Patience."



Due to the global pandemic, summer teams are prohibited from traveling overseas. Many of the activities the children look forward to are postponed. There is a need for outdoor activity and one such project is to **build a playground for the children.** Donations can fulfill that hope!

How to give:

✦ **Mail a check to:** Orthodox Christian Mission Center, 220 Mason Manatee Way, St. Augustine, FL 32086-9907. Write "Albania Home of Hope Playground" as the memo on your check.

Did you know?

- **This Lent**, St. Andrew's will be following more closely the prescribed services, which means a **fuller schedule**. See March services on page 3 and check our online calendar (www.orthodoxdelmar.org/calendar) in the coming weeks for April's services.
- Great Lent is a time of Prayer, Fasting, and Giving. One of the ways we give is through the **Food For Hungry People** program. Look for the giving boxes in the foyer of the church in the next few weeks and keep it in a place where you'll remember to fill it this Lent. Or, if you prefer, you can simply place your offering in an envelope marked Food For Hungry People and put it in the offering box.
- **March 25 is the Feast of the Annunciation to the Theotokos.** See the service schedule on page 3. You can read this story in the Gospel of Luke (1:24-38).
- **A transformation** will soon take place in the church's second foyer, at the handicapped entrance, creating a suitable context for our planned **Wall of Eternal Memory**. Soon you'll be receiving information about this project and your opportunity to make a permanent remembrance of your departed loved ones.

God bless all our Faithful Stewards!

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

Pledges for 2021 are now being received. As of February 23, we have **received 36 pledges for a total of \$88,890** committed for support of St. Andrew's in 2021.

It's not too late to turn in your pledge of support for 2021! You may pick up a stewardship packet in the foyer or visit the Stewardship page on our website: www.orthodoxdelmar.org/stewardship. (From the home page, click or hover over the Ministries tab, then click Stewardship. There you can also submit your pledge online.)

Thank you for continuing to send in your generous offerings during this unusual time. To facilitate your giving, **check with your bank** about setting up a recurring payment to St. Andrew's via **online bill-pay**. Set it up once, and **they mail the checks**, according to your schedule! Your support continues to be needed as we bear witness to Christ in our community and provide a place of worship for the faithful.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. - Psalm 19:14

March 2021

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.

March 7 **Last Judgment (Meat Fare)**

Ephraim, Bishop of Cherson (Crimea, 4th cent.)
Paul the Simple-minded (Egypt, 340)

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

Epistle: 1 Cor. 8:8 - 9:2
Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 25:31-46

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 6 - When Mary stood at thy grave, looking for thy sacred Body, angelic powers shone above thy revered tomb, and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led'st hades captive and wast not tempted thereby; thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world. O thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to thee!

March 14 **Forgiveness (Cheese Fare)**

St. John of the Ladder (Climacus) (Sinai, 649)
Benedict of Nursia (Italy, 543)

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

Epistle: Rom. 13:11 - 14:4
Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 6:14-21

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 7 - 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!

March 21 **1st of Lent: Orthodoxy**

James, bishop & confessor (Asia Minor, 8th cent.)
Thomas, Patriarch of Constantinople (610)

Tone 8
Eothion 8 (St. John 20: 11-18)

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40
Liturgy Gospel: St. John 1:43-51

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!

March 28 **2nd of Lent: Gregory Palamas**

Ilarion, abbot & new confessor (Asia Minor, 754)
Stephen the wonder-worker (Constantinople, 815)

Tone 1
Eothion 9 (St. John 20:19-31)

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10 - 2:3
Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 2:1-12 (

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!

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 March Services:

Soul Saturday, March 6
Divine Liturgy 10 am

Great Compline
Monday, March 15, 3 pm

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Wednesdays, March 17 & 31, 3 pm
(Fast from mid-morning.)

Annunciation to the Theotokos
Wednesday, March 24
Vespers & Artoklasia, 3 pm
Thursday, March 25
Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am

Akathist to the Theotokos
Friday, March 26, 3 pm

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



Reverence in God's House

*O Lord, I love the habitation of your house
and the place where your glory dwells.
- Psalm 26:8*

Entering the Church (Late)

The time to arrive at church is before the service starts. If you arrive after the Divine Liturgy begins, try to enter the church quietly, and observe what is happening. If the Epistle or Gospel is being read or the Little or Great Entrance is taking place, wait until it is finished to quickly find a seat. If Father is giving the sermon, stay in the back until he has concluded. Try not to interrupt the Liturgy with your entrance; the best way to avoid this problem is to arrive on time.

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

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