



SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

REV. FATHER HERMAN ACKER, PASTOR

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October 1, 2020

Protection of the Most-Holy Theotokos

Greetings!

On behalf of Fr. Herman and the Parish Council of St. Andrew's, I would like to take a moment to let you know that **we are thinking about you** and to bring you up-to-date on **what's been happening at St. Andrew's** over these past several months:.

- ✦ **We resumed "in person" services** in early July. Following guidelines issued by the State of Delaware and by our Antiochian Archdiocese, seating is limited and has been blocked off to form individual and family 'units' to ensure social distancing. We ask that you **sign up in advance** if you choose to attend, as seating is limited.
- ✦ **Masks are required at all times** (available at the door if needed) and the Church is **sanitized** after each service. Coffee hours have been suspended and the Great Hall remains closed. Sanitizing stations have been added. This is all being done to **ensure the safety** of those of you who wish to attend.
- ✦ For those of you who, understandably, may not yet be ready to return to the Church, we are now **live streaming services** to assist you and your loved ones to continue your devotion to our Lord Jesus during this difficult time. Please go to www.orthodoxdelmar.org for date and time of services on Saturday, Sunday, and one weekday each week—or to sign up for attendance. The URL for live streaming is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC92kWjQSsteyEGIR8INnRsA/live>.

As our attendance slowly grows again and you have the opportunity to return to St. Andrew's, you will note **several other changes** that have taken place.

- ✦ Four 7' x 7' triangular **icons of the Four Evangelists** have been installed on the ceiling surrounding the Dome. **Six new icons of Saints** have been installed on the North and South walls of the Nave. Pews have been reorganized to provide us with more room at the front of the nave. Our ceiling icon initiative—Look to the Heavens—is now fully funded and we are looking forward to completing the center ceiling Iconography which will be a blessing to all who worship at St. Andrew's.
- ✦ **Construction on Mackenzie Way** has begun, and curbs and a sidewalk are now in. Paving of the road surface will soon occur.

✦ **Our sign on Plantation Road** has been replaced and a landscape bed under the sign will soon be installed. The prior sign will be installed in front of the Church along the sidewalk, facing the new road.

In addition to these changes, through your support of our **Mortgage Elimination Campaign**, we have reduced the size of our mortgage by \$49,000 in one short year!

I want to take this opportunity to **thank all of the Stewards, Benefactors, and Friends** of St. Andrew's for your prayers and continued generous support during these difficult months. Your support has enabled us to continue operations, as well as support those in need both within and outside our Church family. **We are thankful for YOU** and are **looking forward to welcoming you back!**

God bless you! I hope to see you in Church again soon!

Yours in Christ,

Marty Smith
Chairman, Parish Council