



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*

April 2021

Wisdom

The singing of Psalms is like honey. It is the preferred hymn before God; it wards off every sin, predisposes to love; it transcends all, fulfills all, teaches all, and reveals all. It exalts the soul, cleanses the lips, gladdens the heart, erects a tall pillar, enlightens a man, and calms the senses. It destroys every evil and points the way of perfection.

St. Augustine of Hippo

Our April Lenten Schedule

Akathist to the Theotokos
Fridays, April 2, 9, & 16, 6 pm

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Wednesdays, April 7, 14, & 21, 6 pm
(Fast from a light lunch.)

**Compline, Canon of St. Andrew,
Life of St. Mary of Egypt**
Thursday, April 15, 6 pm



Little Compline & Lazarus Canon
Friday, April 23, 6 pm

Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy
Saturday, April 24, 10 am
Followed by preparation of palms

Palm Sunday services:
Saturday, April 24, 6 pm - **Vespers & Artoklasia**
Sunday, April 25, 9 & 10 am - **Orthros & Liturgy**

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

Our Holy Week & Pascha Schedule

Sunday, Monday, & Tuesday, April 25, 26, & 27:
Bridegroom Orthros, 6 pm

Wednesday, April 28:
Holy Unction, 6 pm

Thursday, April 29:
Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil, 3 pm
Twelve Gospels Matins, 6 pm



Great Friday, April 30:
Royal Hours, 10 am
Vespers of Burial, 3 pm
Lamentations Matins, 6 pm

Great Saturday, May 1
Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil, 10 am

PASCHAL SERVICES, 11:30 pm
Christ is risen!
Followed by blessing of baskets

Sunday, May 2
Agape Vespers, 3 pm
Followed by Easter Egg Hunt



Confessions

If you have not come for confession recently, Great Lent is an appropriate time to do so. Fr. Herman is available for confessions at 5 pm on Saturday, and before and after most services (advance notice is appreciated).



Keeping you informed

St. Andrew's Parish Council meets monthly to review many aspects of parish life and make decisions on changes and projects. We are pleased to announce that the monthly minutes of the Parish Council meeting are now available to you via email. Please contact Kh. Vera at standrewlewes@gmail.com to be put on the distribution list. A copy of the minutes will also be posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

MISSION MOMENT - OCMC Update

by Mary Ann Bulko

First, a playground update: I am pleased to say the HOME OF HOPE in Albania now has a new playground for its youngsters thanks to donors from St. Andrew's Family and others! Your support is greatly appreciated! The plan now is to plant some trees and a garden around the playground.

In early March I participated in a Zoom meeting led by Daniel Kindell, Events Coordinator for the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC - St. Augustine, FL) along with two keynote speakers who are Ambassadors for mission projects, and two priests, Fr. George and Fr. Chris, who are members of the Board of OCMC.

The discussion focused on the need to develop a 'mission-minded' awareness in local parish communities with a particular emphasis on young children and their Christian education. In my opinion, some of the examples cited for use in Sunday Schools are already being practiced within St. Andrew's classes (prior to the pandemic), yet there's always potential to do more.

Most of the meeting time (one hour plus) was used in the presentation, which was being recorded, and the five remaining attendees, including myself, were muted until a Q & A at the session's end, which lasted about 15 minutes. I expressed concern and queried how an effort could be made to reach out to adolescents in their teen years, twenties and thirties to get involved with missions and missionary work. There was a rather long, silent pause. One attendee then suggested more teams include family units (parents and children). I find this an excellent idea where plausible!

A number of activities shared by presenters were interesting; however, the number of persons involved in the projects suggest parish communities that are far larger than St. Andrew's. I personally feel our parish is already 'mission-minded' and has been, and will continue to be, supportive of ventures we might be able to undertake. As for younger children, I would be pleased to share ideas with church school teachers at an appropriate time post-COVID.



Reverence in God's House

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

Honoring God in Our Dress

Modesty in dress, behavior, and thought is important in the Christian life, especially when we attend divine services. It also goes a long way in hedging us against assaults to purity that are prevalent in our society. Modest, however, does not mean "frumpy." If we are careless in our clothing selection, we may actually draw attention to ourselves rather than fitting in with 2000 years of Godly men, women, and children. As we come into the warmer months, remember to rise above the casual, immodest standards of our consumer-driven society. Don't let the spirit of indifference prevent you from looking your God-given, God-honoring best. Orthodox Christians are members of the Royal Priesthood and every moment, especially when come to the heavenly banquet, our clothing ought to reflect that reality.

Turn off your cell phone!



Please turn off your cell phone or put it into silent or vibrate mode BEFORE stepping into Church. If your cell phone does go off accidentally, do not answer it in church. Either immediately silence it or, if you must answer it, quietly and calmly step out to the foyer to speak. Usually one incident like this will make you remember to always switch off your phone before stepping into church!

Wall of Eternal Memory

We are now receiving orders for memorial nameplates for our planned **Wall of Eternal Memory**. This will be a small yet powerful way we can say to our departed, "I love you." We light a candle and appeal to God with the words, "May their memory be eternal!"

Information about this project and your opportunity to make a permanent remembrance of your departed loved ones has been mailed out to everyone on our mailing list. If you did not receive a mailing, you can download the information on our website (www.orthodoxdelmar.org/eternalmemory). From the home page, click or hover over the Ministries tab and click Wall of Eternal Memory.

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 still being received. As of March 21, we have **received 38 pledges for a total of \$89,990** 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.

Iconographer's Corner - IS IT FUNNY?

by Nicholas Papas

Originally published October 13, 2013 on "The Sounding" blog

<https://myocn.net/the-sounding/>

My granddaughter is 2-and-a-half years old now. For anyone who has been around a toddler, you will know that this means the dawn of strong willfulness.

As a grandfather, I can step back in a way that I could not as a father, and observe and (trying very hard to keep it to myself) laugh at the things which would have brought out the omnipresent, stern corrections that were the hallmark of the parenting style of my younger days.

What am I observing this time that I did not as a father? It is weird in a complex and sad kind of way, but I think I am getting a glimpse at the fall of Adam and Eve. A two-and-a-half-year-old's rebellion IS funny to me, this time. Playing this humor against my understanding of Scripture offers my thoughts a blooming flower with petals of conflict. Some of the petals have humor and beauty, some have horror. Through this odd flower creeps a particular perception of my opinion of The Fall of Adam and Eve.

I have had to think of these things before. It was when I was commissioned to paint the icon of "The Expulsion from Paradise". Now I weigh those thoughts from the time of painting it with the current thoughts that stem from watching my granddaughter.

Zoe's willfulness is funny to me, a human sinner. Was Adam and Eve's willfulness "funny" to God the Father, creator of the universe? I do not imagine or believe that it is that simple. However, if a sinful human like me can love a willful toddler as deeply as I love my granddaughter, I do not find it so difficult to extrapolate that God's love can be infinite, unconditional, and merciful towards Adam and Eve and all of His children.

Zoe's willfulness is complexly funny while simultaneously having a weird beauty. It is beautiful in the way it offers that glimpse into God's eternal, ubiquitous mercy. It is complexly beautiful in the revelation that the beginnings of humanity's sins may, just maybe, originate from seeds of toddler-like rebellion. (I do not believe that I am alone in this perception of the fall. It is my recollection that some of the Holy Fathers suggest Adam and Eve's fall was child-like.)

We are willful, us humans! It comes from somewhere. With Zoe, is it a sense that she knows some chastisement or guidance that is being "inflicted" onto her is not perfectly, exactly correct or born of perfect love? Is it the same for all of us? Is it a sense that she thinks she knows more, or what is best for her, or what she needs?

The Bible, by way of Genesis especially, would tell us that we have placed ourselves above God. Observing a toddler seems to echo the primordial story and message found in Genesis. A toddler, like Adam and Eve towards God, would believe that she is above her caregivers.

Why do I laugh then? What does placing ourselves above our caregiver, God, look like in its most primordial way, in a toddler? From all the angles I look at it, it always comes up funny, yet sad, yet beautiful, yet complex, yet simple, yet beyond words.

And maybe that is why the fall of Adam and Eve, our human ancestors, is so hard to fathom and maybe observing a toddler is the best window we have into understanding it.

Now, as a "grown up" who contemplates, regurgitates, and rolls through the mud of trying to understand "The Fall" with the touchstone of a granddaughter's simple, complex, baby rebellion, I have come to two main conclusions.

ONE... If all of the horrors and sins and darkness of mankind are, ultimately, born of childlike willfulness, even the most horrific horrors might, just maybe, deserve mercy.

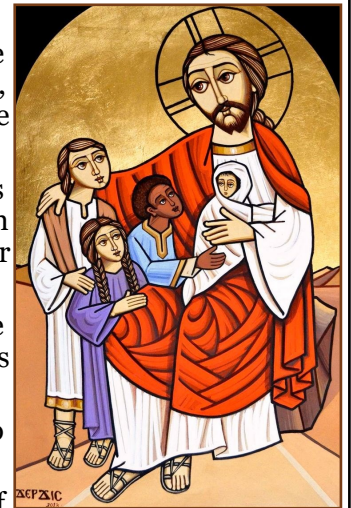
TWO... At some point, like I imagine Zoe will discover, we may get our first inklings that willfulness does not always pay off. It may take a lifetime of challenging and questioning and measuring but sometimes, by some grace, a sliver of light beams into us humans and we may find something altogether different than the game of will and the game of self and the game of power. We might, by grace, find Jesus.

This would be a great discovery. All of the kooky toddler things could dissolve with such a discovery.

Our toddler perceptions, like knowing what is best for ourselves, knowing the truth, knowing what we want, could become meaningless compared to the new message that we are unconditionally loved, that we will never be lied to, that we will be cradled, hugged, washed, fed, and protected, perfectly, fully and endlessly.

I observe Zoe's willfulness and feel that microscopically as a grandfather, I might be getting a shadowy sense of God's perspective on all of us.

In the midst of willfulness or ranting, or crying, or pouting, or anger, or any rebellion, is not Jesus ready and waiting to give us whatever we need?



April 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.

April 4 3rd of Lent: Veneration of the Cross

St. Joseph the Hymnographer (9th cent.)
St. Isidore, Bishop of Seville (7th cent.)

Tone 2
Eothinon 10 (St. John 21:1-14)

Epistle: Heb. 4:14 - 5:6
Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 8:34 - 9:1

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!

April 11 4th of Lent: St. John Climacus

Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum, disciple of St John the Divine (92)
Jacob of the Iron-mines (Russia, 1442)

Tone 3
Eothinon 11 (St. John 20:14-25)

Epistle: Heb. 6:13-20
Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 9:17-31

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!

April 18 5th of Lent: St. Mary of Egypt

John, disciple of Gregory of Decapolutis (Constantinople, 826)
Euphymy, Missionary of Corelia (Finland, 1453)

Tone 4
Eothinon 1 (St. Matthew 28:16-20)

Epistle: Hebrews 9: 11-14
Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 10: 32-45

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!

April 25 6th of Lent: Triumphal Entry (Palm Sunday)

Mark the Evangelist (1st cent.)
Macedonius, Patriarch of Constantinople (516)

Matins Gospel: St. Matthew 21: 1-11, 15-17
Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-9
Liturgy Gospel: St. John 12: 1-18

PALM SUNDAY TROPARION - Tone 4 - O Christ God, when we were buried with thee in Baptism, we became deserving of thy Resurrection to eternal life. Wherefore, we praise thee, crying, "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord!"

**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.



Orthodox organizations worthy of your prayers and financial support:

FOCUS North America
www.focusnorthamerica.org

FOCUS Cleveland (St Herman House of Hospitality)
www.sainthermans.com

International Orthodox Christian Charities
www.iocc.org

Orthodox Center for the Advancement of Biblical Studies (OCABS)
www.ocabspress.org

Orthodox Christian Mission Center
www.ocmc.org

Orthodox Fellowship of the Transfiguration (ecological mission of the Church)
www.orth-transfiguration.org

Orthodox Peace Fellowship (applying the principles of the Gospel to situations of division and conflict)
www.incommunion.org

St. Panteleimon Fellowship - A Society for the Practice of Orthodox Christian Healthcare
www.facebook.com/saintpanteleimonfellowship

For more online resources, visit the Links page on our website, under the Resources tab.

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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