

1 March 2020

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAD OF OBLATION is offered by Victoria Tannous

COFFEE HOUR is sponsored by Hala Khoury and Family

MEMORIAL Nine day memorial in memory of +Riad Khoury will take place after today's Divine Liturgy. May his memory be eternal.

FALAFEL LUNCHEON TICKETS are now on sale for the March 15th luncheon. Adults \$10, children \$7.

FORGIVENESS VESPERS will be served tonight at 6:00p. This marks the beginning of Great Lent. In order to properly start our Lenten journey to Pascha, it must begin with forgiveness. The actual service provides us this blessed opportunity.

PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY is served each Wednesday of Lent at 6:00p. All are encouraged to participate and bring a Lenten dish to share (no meat, dairy, fish, wine or oil should be used).

NEXT SUNDAY IS SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY The children of our parish will process during Liturgy around the church with their icons brought from home.

SCHEDULE OF THIS WEEK'S DIVINE SERVICES

Monday, March 2	6:00 p	Great Compline and Canon of St. Andrew
Tuesday, March 3	6:00 p	Great Compline and Canon of St. Andrew
Wednesday, March 4	6:00 p	Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy
Thursday, March 5	6:00 p	Great Compline and Canon of St. Andrew
Friday, March 6	7:00 p	1st Akathist to the Mother of God " <i>Madayeh</i> "
Saturday, March 7	4:30 p	Confession (<i>or by appointment w. Fr. Anthony</i>)
Sunday, March 8	8:45 AM 10:00 AM	Orthros Divine Liturgy

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

BIBLE STUDY Join us this Wednesday, March 4th, for our continued Bible study with Fr. Anthony from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM. We are studying the Letter of James. All are invited to attend.

PC MEETING RECAP (from Meeting on February 20)

- Iconography update – The iconography will start being installed in September and continue again next year in February.
- Bishop Basil will be visiting us November 7th for Vespers and November 8th for Liturgy.
- Med Night will be on September 12th. Save the date!

NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL ST. PARASKEVI MONASTERY VISIT is scheduled for Saturday, March 21st. We will meet at the Church at 9:00 AM and caravan to the monastery, and return to the church at 3:00 PM. Please see flyer on the information tables in the narthex and hall for more info. If you plan on attending, please email Bonnie by Sunday, March 15th, so an accurate number of participants may be relayed to the monastery.

PARISH DIRECTORY the new 2020 Parish Directory is now available! To receive a copy, please see Bonnie, or email Admin@stanthonythegreat.org.

FROZEN MEALS FOR PARISHIONERS We are accepting frozen home-cooked meals for members of our parish family who are in need. If you would like to help, please bring a freezer-friendly meal such as casseroles, soups, chili, etc. to the church on Sundays in March. Please label the meal with the date it was prepared, and with a list of ingredients. Meals will be stored in the hall freezer and dispersed as needed. For more information, or to request a meal confidentially, please call Bonnie at the church office, or Fr. Anthony.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE "Cultivating Vision and Change and Inspiring Generosity and Stewards". Taking place Saturday, March 7th in the St. George Hall from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. To register, go to stgeorgehouston.com, scroll down to Upcoming Events.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS AND EVENTS

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER is available on the information table in the narthex.

CAMP ST. RAPHAEL SUMMER REGISTRATION has begun! Spaces fill quickly, so register today!

CROSSROAD SUMMER PROGRAM is a ten-day summer institute that prepares high school juniors and seniors to make big life decisions and invites them to connect with the Orthodox Christian theological and spiritual tradition. Visit www.CrossRoadsInstitute.org for more info.

What is the "Pre-Sanctified Liturgy" on Wednesday evenings during Lent?

The service is called "Pre-Sanctified" because the Holy Gifts we receive that evening were already "sanctified" on the previous Sunday. On Sundays during the Liturgy, just before we receive Communion, when you hear the priest intone, "The Holy things are for the holy", he is lifting up the Lamb (the consecrated bread). On the Sundays during Lent, at that particular point in the Liturgy, instead of holding up one Lamb, he is holding up two. The second one, which has been consecrated, is placed in the pyx (a container) on the Altar Table until we partake of it on Wednesday evening. Hence, it's been "sanctified" which is why we call the service, "Pre-Sanctified Liturgy." The service will now begin at 6:00pm and will end about 7:15. After the service, we gather in the Fellowship Hall for a Lenten Pot-luck meal. It's a blessed time to come together as a family in Christ, to break bread, and to fast together.

SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESEFARE)

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High:

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

To declare Thy steadfast love in the morning, and thy faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. (Refrain)

For Thou, O Lord, hast made me glad by Thy work; at the works of Thy hands I sing for joy. (Refrain)

Glory... Both now... (Refrain)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

The Lord reigns, He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, He is girded with strength.

Refrain: O Son of God Who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Yea, the world is established; it shall not be moved; Thy throne is established from of old; Thou art from everlasting. (Refrain)

The floods have lifted up their heads, O Lord, the floods lift up their roaring. (Refrain)

Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty! (Refrain)

The decrees are very sure; holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forever more. (Refrain)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

Entrance Hymn of Ordinary Sundays

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Troparion of the Resurrection (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.

Troparion of St. Anthony, our patron (Tone 4)

Thou didst become like the zealous Elijah, and didst follow John the Baptist in his upright ways, as dweller in the wilderness, thou didst steady the world by prayer. O Father Anthony, intercede with Christ our God for our soul's salvation.

Kontakion for Forgiveness Sunday (Tone 6)

O Thou Who guidest to wisdom, bestower of virtue, who teaches the thoughtless and protects the poor, strengthen and enlighten my heart, O Master. Give me word, O Word of the Father, for behold my lips will not be restrained from crying to Thee: have mercy on me --- the transgressor, O merciful Lord.

THE EPISTLE

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

O clap your hands, all ye nations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (13:11-14:4).

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Master is able to make him stand.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (6:14-21).

The Lord said to His Disciples: If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father Who is in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.