



# ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America*

*4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641*

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*www.allsaintsorthodox.org*

## **Sunday, November 26, 2023**

**Saturday Vespers, 7pm • Sunday Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am  
13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Luke • Venerable Stylianos of Paphlagonia**



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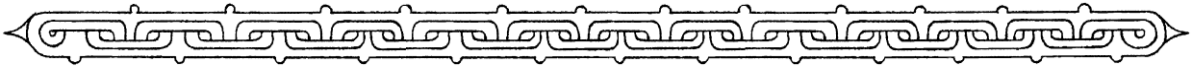
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**Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 8):** From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate one. And Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our life and our resurrection; O Lord, glory to Thee!

**Kontakion for the Pre-feast of the Nativity (Tone 3):** The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice O earth at the message. With the angels and shepherds, give glory to Him who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God!

**Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4):** Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people! Grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.



## THE EPISTLE

*For the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His name is great in Israel.

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians (4:1-7)**

Brethren: I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

## THE GOSPEL

*For the Thirteenth Sunday of Luke*

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (18:18-27)

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.”

And the man said, “All these I have observed from my youth.”

And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, “One thing you still lack: Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”

But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?”

Jesus said, “What is impossible with men is possible with God.”



From *THE WINTER PASCHA*, BY FR. THOMAS HOPKO

#### Chapter 4: Temples of the Living God

In the Orthodox Church the Virgin Mary is the image of those who are being saved. If Jesus Christ is the Savior, Mary is, par excellence, the image of the *saved*. She is, in every aspect of her life, as Father Alexander Schmemmann so often said, not the great *exception*, but rather the great *example*. From her conception to her dormition, that is, her true and real death, she shows how all people must be when they are sanctified by the Holy Spirit as servants of God and imitators of Christ.

In the festival of the entrance of Mary into the temple we have seen how Christ's mother is continuously hymned as the *"living temple of the holy glory of Christ our God."* She is praised

as the *"living ark which contained the Word that cannot be contained."* She is glorified as *"the temple that is to hold God,"* consecrated by the spirit to be the *"dwelling place of the Almighty."* She enters the Holy of Holies to become herself the *"animated Holy of Holies,"* the one in whom Christ is formed, thereby making her, and everyone who is one with her in faith, the *"abode of heaven."*

We are all made to be living temples of God. We are all created to be dwelling places of his glory. We are all fashioned in His image and likeness to be abodes of His presence. The first Christian martyr, the protodeacon Stephen whose memory is celebrated on the third day of Christmas, was killed for proclaiming this marvel when he bore witness that *"the Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands."* For this, like Jesus himself, he was accused of planning the destruction of the earthly temple at Jerusalem. The apostle Paul proclaims this same doctrine clearly and without equivocation when he writes to the Corinthians and to us that *"we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building"* (1 Cor 3:9).

*Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.* (1 Cor 3:16-17)

Jesus Christ, the Son, Word, and Image of God, is physically and spiritually formed in the body of Mary so that He might be formed in us as well (see Gal 4:19). This is the meaning of Christmas, which is the meaning of life itself: Christ in us and we in Christ, God with us and we with God. The Spirit in our hearts so that the Spirit can flow out from us, sanctifying the world around us. This is not mere symbolism, the high-blown language of the liturgy and the scriptures. This is serious business. It is a matter of life and death. For we are either the living vessels of God – *"earthen vessels"* to be sure, to show, as the apostle again affirms, that *"the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us"* (2 Cor 4:7) – or we are, to use the apostles language once more, *"vessels of wrath"* to be destroyed in our wickedness by God's righteous glory (Rom 9:22).

As we go the way of the Winter Pascha the choice placed before us is clear. We can follow the *"narrow way"* that leads to life, or we can go on the *"broad way"* that leads to destruction (Mt 7:13-14). We can, like Mary, cleave to the Lord and become His dwelling place in the Spirit. Or we can through immorality and sin choose the death of the nothingness which we are unless the Lord Himself lives within us. *"But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him"* (1 Cor 6:17).

# Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prospora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
<b>Sunday Nov 26</b>	Richard C	Cristina P	John O	Zach C	A-F
<b>Sunday Dec. 3</b>	Michelle C	Sarah S	JoAnne T	Alina S	G-K
<b>Sunday Dec. 10</b>	Sd Joseph	Sandy A	Azizeh C	Domitille	L-P
<b>Sunday Dec. 17</b>	Doug J	Debbie K	Domitille	Lydia A	R-Z
<b>Sunday Dec. 24</b> <i>Genealogy Sunday</i>	Paul K	Pat K	Nancy L	Zach C	A-F
<b>Monday Dec. 25</b> <i>Nativity</i>	Jim K	Domitille	John O	n/a	n/a
<b>Sunday Dec. 31</b> <i>St. Basil</i>	Joseph L	Cristina P	JoAnne T	Alina S	G-K

*For Sunday coffee hour, the church has been divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). On your assigned week, please bring something simple to share with everyone for coffee hour.*

*If you have children, please monitor them as they go through the coffee hour line, and help them clean up after themselves. **Weekly clean-up will be the responsibility of those providing coffee hour.** And of course, things go faster when we all pitch in and help!*

*Shaded dates are fasting days. No meat or dairy products should be served at the church on these days.*

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

*For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website [www.allsaintsorthodox.org](http://www.allsaintsorthodox.org)*

## **Today:**

- Orthros and Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am
- Coffee hour downstairs
- No church school this week; we will resume next Sunday

*No Tuesday morning prayers at the church this week.*

## **Wednesday, Nov. 29:**

- Morning prayers, 9am
- Homeschool classes, 10am-4pm
- Vespers for St. Andrew the Apostle, 7pm

## **Thursday, Nov. 30:**

- Orthros for St. Andrew, 9am

## **Friday, Dec. 1:**

- Morning prayers, 9am

## **Saturday, Dec 2:**

- Choir practice, 2-4pm
- St. Nicholas stockings & ladies' book discussion, 4-7pm
- Romans Bible Bowl study, 5-7pm
- Vespers, 7pm

## **Next Sunday, Dec. 3:**

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am
- A visit from St. Nicholas
- Coffee hour and church school

**DCFS CHRISTMAS DRIVE:** If you took a toy drive sheet, gifts are due today! If you have any questions, please contact Sh. Kim, [Kegg854@aol.com](mailto:Kegg854@aol.com). Thank you for your participation and generosity!

**WOMEN'S ADVENT BOOK DISCUSSION:** Join us as Sandy A. leads our discussion through *Putting Joy into Practice: Seven Ways to Lift Your Spirit from the Early Church*, by Phoebe Farag Mikhail. Books are available at the book table. Meetings dates are Saturdays, November 18 (5pm), December 2 (4pm), and December 9 (5pm). Please bring a fasting dish to share for our potluck meal. Please see Sh. Kim with questions.

**ADVENT FOOD DRIVE:** The time of the Advent fast is quickly approaching, and again we are blessed to be able to participate in our Advent food drive for the poor in our city. Beginning **Saturday, November 18**, please bring your donations of non-perishable foods. These will be given to individuals living on the street who visit the drop-in center of Northside Housing. In particular, they are asking for items that don't need cooking, heat and serve containers, or cans with pop-tops (there is a microwave available at the center). A list of suggested items is on the greeter table. Please place your donations in the back of the church on or near the table. The deadline is **Sunday, December 17**. Monetary donations are also accepted, please write 'food drive' on the memo line.

If you have any questions, please call or email Sandy Abraham. God blesses those who remember the poor!

**COATS NEEDED:** We are partnering with Alderwoman Cruz's office to provide warm outer garments and disposable diapers for the refugees in our neighborhood. Please donate your un-needed coats, scarves, hats and gloves. Maybe warm socks too? Or find some at a local thrift shop – whatever you can afford. Don't forget the disposable diapers. There are bins under the coat rack downstairs for these donations. Thank you!

**THE NATIVITY FAST:** The Orthodox Nativity Fast (Advent) begins **Wednesday, Nov. 15**, and lasts until **Christmas Eve, Dec. 24**. Let us dedicate ourselves to prayer, fasting, and generosity during this time! If you are able, abstain from meat and dairy products, but please see Fr. Andrew if you have any questions or concerns about keeping the fast.

All Orthodox Christians should also make it to confession during this holy season. If you desire to confess to another Orthodox priest outside of our parish, that is generally fine, but let Fr. Andrew know.



# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

## NOVEMBER 26–DECEMBER 2, 2023

ADAPTED FROM THE  
LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

### **SUNDAY, NOV. 26: STYLIANOS THE MONK OF PAPHLAGONIA**

Mark 16:9-20 / Ephesians 4:1-7 / Luke 18:18-27

### **Monday, Nov. 27: James the Great Martyr of Persia**

Isaiah 39 / 1 Timothy 1:1-11 / Luke 17:20-37

### **Tuesday, Nov. 28: Stephen the New**

Isaiah 40 / 1 Timothy 1:12-17 / Luke 18:1-8

### **Wednesday, Nov. 29: Hieromartyr Dionysios, Bishop of Corinth**

Isaiah 41 / 1 Timothy 1:18-2:7 / Luke 18:9-14

### **Thursday, Nov. 30: Holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called**

Isaiah 42 / 1 Timothy 2:8-15 / Luke 18:15-17

*For St. Andrew:* Matthew 4:18-23 / 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 / John 1:35-51

### **Friday, Dec. 1: Holy Prophet Nahum**

Isaiah 43 / 1 Timothy 3:1-13 / Luke 18:28-34

### **Saturday, Dec. 2: Holy Prophet Habakkuk**

1 Timothy 3:14-16 / Luke 19:11-28

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