

# St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop

Bishop BASIL, Diocese of Wichita

7202 FM 2920 ~ Spring, TX 77379 ~ (281) 251-6000

[www.StAnthonyTheGreat.org](http://www.StAnthonyTheGreat.org)

**OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday 9:00a-3:00p ~ Office is closed on Mondays**

Rev. Anthony Baba, Priest	(281) 995-0582	<a href="mailto:FrAnthonyBaba@gmail.com">FrAnthonyBaba@gmail.com</a>
Rev. John Ballard, Attached Priest	(214) 497-3505	<a href="mailto: PriestJohnBallard@gmail.com">PriestJohnBallard@gmail.com</a>
Rev. Photios Beekman, Deacon	(281) 253-2586	<a href="mailto: DnPhotios@gmail.com">DnPhotios@gmail.com</a>
Adella Winder, Youth Director	(936) 615-3264	<a href="mailto: AdellaWinder@gmail.com">AdellaWinder@gmail.com</a>
Bonnie Kokkinis, Secretary	(936) 718-5288	<a href="mailto: OfficeOfStAnthony@gmail.com">OfficeOfStAnthony@gmail.com</a>

## 4 February 2018

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS AND GUESTS** If you would like to receive our weekly email of events and services, please complete the Welcome Card located in the pew pocket, and place it in the offering tray or give it to one of the ushers. You are welcome to join us next door for coffee and fellowship following the service.

**RECEIVING COMMUNION** While only Orthodox Christians who have spiritually prepared themselves by fasting, prayer and confession may receive Holy Communion, all are welcome to venerate the Cross and receive the blessed bread at dismissal.

**CELL PHONES** and all other electronic devices should be shut off during Divine Liturgy.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** To include information in the bulletin, please notify the Church Office by 9:00AM Wednesday at [OfficeOfStAnthony@gmail.com](mailto: OfficeOfStAnthony@gmail.com).

**PRAYER REQUESTS** To be included on the prayer list, or to join the parish prayer chain, please contact the Church Office.

### TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BREAD OF OBLATION** is offered by Fadia Khoury

**COFFEE HOUR** is sponsored by Pat Boyd, Zeffie Giannousi and Abeer Nasrawi

**PLAYGROUND MEETING** If you or your child (age 12 and under please) would like to provide your input into the selection of the church's playground, please join us for a brief meeting today after Church School in the Fellowship Hall.

**BLUE JEANS, BOOTS 'N' BBQ** is this Saturday! Tickets are \$25. Get your ticket today!

**SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY VESPERS AND A SPECIAL GUEST!** Join us Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p at St. Anthony for Pan-Orthodox Vespers. All of the Orthodox churches in the Greater Houston Area gather once a year to serve all together on this first Sunday of Lent. This year we will be blessed to have Hank Hanegraaff, the host of "The Bible Answer Man" radio show, join us. A potluck will follow in the Hall following the service.

**HAVE PHOTOS OF METROPOLITAN JOSEPH'S ST. ANTHONY VISIT?** If so, please send them to [OfficeofStAnthony@gmail.com](mailto: OfficeofStAnthony@gmail.com) so we can include them in a photo record of the Church's events for 2018.

**2018 PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY** is available for purchase for \$10. If you would like a copy, please see Bonnie. Please note the directories will only be available to parishioners of St. Anthony.

**FEBRUARY CALENDAR** is on the information table in the narthex and in the hall.

### SCHEDULE OF THIS WEEK'S DIVINE SERVICES

Wednesday, February 7	~	No Services
Saturday, Feb. 10	4:30 p 5:00 p	Confession (or by appointment w/Fr. Anthony) Great Vespers
Sunday, Feb. 11	8:45 AM 10:00 AM	Orthros Divine Liturgy

### UPCOMING MEETING AND ACTIVITIES

**SPAGHETTI LUNCH** will be this Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, from 11 AM to 2 p. Come and join us for this weekly event for great food and fellowship! Cost is \$8 per plate.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** will be this Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:15p.

### NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**STRIVE TO TITHE** Our General Pledge Fund Drive for the coming year has commenced. The goal is for each of us to offer the Biblical tithe (or 10%) of our income. Understandably, giving a tithe can be difficult, financially burdensome and maybe even impossible, but we can certainly strive for it little by little. Pledge forms are available in the narthex and on the information table in the Hall. As of January 14<sup>th</sup> there are 43 pledging families for 2018.

**ADULT EDUCATION AND CATECHISM CLASS** led by Deacon Photios begins after everyone has received Holy Communion and meets in the old Fellowship Hall.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICE BOOKS** Lent is quickly approaching! Are you interested in purchasing the book for the Services of Great and Holy Week and Pascha? If so, please contact Bonnie at the Church Office. Price is \$35.00.

**GARAGE SALE DONATIONS** Starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, donation items may be brought to the Fellowship Hall during normal office hours (Tuesday – Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00p) or on Sunday after Divine Liturgy. We will have designated areas in the hall for your drop off convenience. Items sought include gently used clothing and shoes sorted according to size, housewares and electronics, toys and games, and furniture. Unfortunately, we will not have the ability to pick up large pieces. **Donations will be accepted until Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** Starting March 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM to 2:00p we will need volunteers to sort and organize items as well as volunteers for shifts for the Garage Sale on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Barbara Aiello.

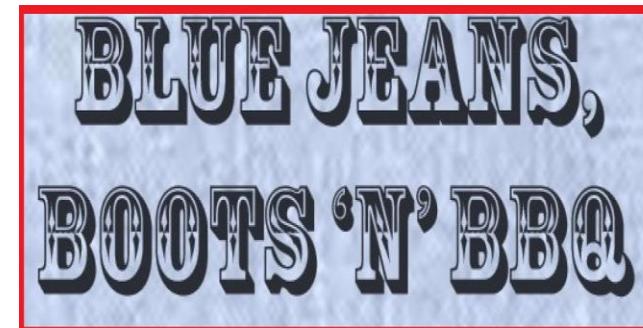
### YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS AND EVENTS

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10<sup>th</sup>: "BLUE JEANS, BOOTS & BAR-B-Q" EVENT** is scheduled for that Saturday evening. The ladies are asking *if teens can sell raffle tickets* similar to how they sold for the Med Night Gala. If you teen is interested in serving in this capacity, please let Adella know.

**CAMP AT HOME** Mark your calendars for our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp at Home Retreat Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>! This retreat will include our 7 on 7 Flag Football Tournament for any children interested in playing on St. Anthony's team. Forms are in the narthex and hall.



**SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON** Our parish is partnering with Italian Café (19620 Kuykendahl) to provide our community with a weekly luncheon every Thursday from 11-2 beginning on January 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be open to the public, and to you and your friends! While it will not be our responsibility to do any cooking, it is a great opportunity for you to provide our parish with your time. We will need greeters and helpers to volunteer. Please call the Church Office to sign up!



**"BLUE JEANS, BOOTS & BAR-B-Q" EVENT** is scheduled for **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>** after Vespers! This will be a fun-filled night for the adults and teens of our parish (ages 13 and up). Event tickets are available for \$25, and that ticket not only gets you a delicious dinner brought to you by "Chip and Rusty Meat Emporium", it also gives you a chance to win a \$500 Visa gift card! For tickets or more information, please contact Theresa Allen at [Dand3@att.net](mailto: Dand3@att.net).

# **SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON** **AFTER-FEAST OF PRESENTATION OF CHRIST**

## **Entrance Hymn of Ordinary Sunday**

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 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 Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

## **Troparion of the Presentation of CHRIST (Tone 1)**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, enlightening those who are in darkness. Rejoice, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

## **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 a 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 of the Presentation of CHRIST (Tone 1)**

Thou, who didst sanctify the virginal womb by thy nativity and didst bless the hands of Simeon, hast come this day and saved us, O Christ God. Grant peace and strength to the Orthodox people whom thou hast loved, O only Lover of mankind.

## **THE EPISTLE**

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

### **The reading is from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)**

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be enslaved by anything. Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food; but God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (15:11-32)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father.

But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"