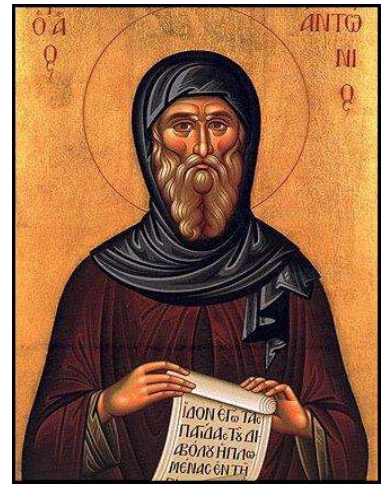


# St. Anthony's Scroll



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## To Feel Good, You Must Do Good

Fr. Anthony Baba

Show of hands...who doesn't like to feel good? Or let me ask it another way, who likes to feel bad? Well...because I can't see any hands, I'll just assume you didn't raise yours! It feels great to feel good, but how do we acquire that feeling? Hint: the answer is in the title – do good and you'll feel good.

I was privileged and honored again to be a session priest at Camp St. Raphael this year, and it felt great! The atmosphere of prayer and fellowship was awesome. The kids especially have a blast, even in Church during the services - and it's not like we have a praise and worship band to keep them entertained. These kids are singing their hearts out to God and the sound of their voices will move you to tears. They feel good at camp because they're *doing* good at camp. We pray with them. We teach them. We learn from them. We play sports with them, and we tire them. The whole day, from the moment they wake up at seven o'clock to the moment they go to sleep at ten o'clock (or later I'm sure), the day is filled. At camp, there's no idle time. We *do* good things throughout the day and it makes them "feel good." The only problem is that when camp is over, we start to feel bad. We miss camp. We miss the fun activities. We miss the praying. We miss the eating all together and singing "Peanut Butter, Reese's Cup, sing a song to cheer you up" in the dining hall. We have this experience that you can only hear about if you've never been. And when your child or camper tries to explain it, it does no justice because you just have to see it. You have to be there.



It's easy to get this good feeling when you're at camp, but what about when you're not at camp? When you're at home and school begins? Or when you're too old for camp or never even went to camp? How do we get those feelings? Should I give the answer away (again)? Father James Shadid, the Camp Director of CSR, in a sermon asked all the kids to smile. Then he asked the kids to make eye

contact with another person and smile at them. The campers followed his instruction and immediately there were giggles. He explained that it took no effort to smile, but the little extra effort it took in a simple smile to another person filled the chapel with laughter. Have you ever seen or heard someone laughing and couldn't help but either laugh with them or just smile at the sound of their laugh? It's a beautiful thing to be joyful brothers and sisters, and it only takes just a little extra effort to do so! When you're feeling down, try to smile. And if you see someone else feeling down, offer a smile to them. "For in doing good actions", says St. John Chrysostom, "It is not those who receive the kindness that are benefited, so much as those who do it that make gain and profit."

St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Christian Church

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## Iconography? PLC? Camp? Summer Vacations? Archdiocese Convention? New Attached Priest? Construction on the Fellowship Hall?

By the Grace of God, and the support and help of our parish family, our Church community is moving in a very positive light. Thank God! It's great to reflect on what we have been able to accomplish over the past year, and to even be humbly proud as well. We're building our community, and the term "building" isn't just limited to physical structures or past events. It's a present participle, used in forming continuous tenses (says Dictionary.com).

So while it's a good thing to reflect and be proud, it's also a good idea to think about what's next. Here's what to watch for in the coming weeks and months.

### LOOKING AHEAD TO WHAT'S NEXT...

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>August 1-15</b>	Dormition Season ~ check the schedule for the Paraklesis (Supplication) Services during this period.
<b>August 6</b>	Feast of the Transfiguration ~ this feast falls on Sunday. After Divine Liturgy, we will have the Blessing of Grapes.
<b>August 20</b>	Back-to-School Blessing. A special prayer for the students, teachers and administrators will be offered after Liturgy.
<b>August 26</b>	Church School Staff & Volunteers will meet on that Saturday @ 10 AM to discuss the upcoming Church school year.
<b>September 4</b>	Labor Day
<b>September 9</b>	Altar Server Training Day on Saturday @ 10:30 AM
<b>September 10</b>	Church School Resumes
<b>September 23</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Mediterranean Night Gala! RESERVE YOUR TICKETS!
<b>September 30</b>	Garage Sale – More information to come!
<b>October 8</b>	Annual General Parish Meeting
<b>November 3</b>	Bishop BASIL to visit our parish – Friday evening



## August 6

The Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ  
Divine Liturgy on August 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9 AM

The **transfiguration** of Christ is one of the central events recorded in the gospels. Immediately after the Lord was recognized by his apostles as “the Christ [Messiah], the Son of the Living God,” he told them that “he must go up to Jerusalem and suffer many things ... and be killed and on the third day be raised” (Mt 16). The announcement of Christ’s approaching passion and death was met



with indignation by the disciples. And then, after rebuking them, the Lord took Peter, James, and John “up to a high mountain” —by tradition **Mount Tabor**—and was “transfigured before them.”

*... and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as snow and behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” He was still speaking when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead” (Mt 17:1-92, see also Mk 9:1-9; Lk 9:28-36; 2 Peter 1:16-18).*

## August 15

The Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Theotokos  
Divine Liturgy on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

In giving birth thou didst keep thy virginity, and in thy dormition thou didst not forsake the world, O Mother of God. Thou didst pass on to life, since thou art the Mother of Life, and by thine intercessions thou redeemest our souls from death. *Troparion*



In this icon the All-Holy Theotokos is on the funeral bier, with the Apostles gathered around to venerate her all-pure body for the last time (Saints Peter and John are near her head and Saints Paul, Andrew and Simon near her feet). Our Lord Jesus Christ is depicted taking her spotless soul (symbolized by the infant in His arms) to Heaven, accompanied by a host of angels. The color of the angels is blue which is the color of the liturgical season for the Theotokos. Candles are burning and St. Peter is censuring in veneration.

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## **CHURCH CLERGY & STAFF**

Rev. Fr. Anthony Baba ~ Priest

Rev. Fr. John Ballard ~ Attached Priest

Rev. Dn. Photios Beekman ~ Deacon

Ms. Adella Winder ~ Youth Director

Mrs. Bonnie Kokkinis ~ Secretary

# *Mediterranean Night Gala*

**11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FUNDRAISER & BANQUET DINNER**

**Saturday, September 23<sup>RD</sup>**

*The Woodlands Resort & Conference Center*

Live Entertainment ~ Dinner & Dance ~ Silent Auction

**Purchase Your Tickets TODAY!**