

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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Send announcements for the bulletin and/or website to bulletin@stjohnorthodox.org

Send announcements to be emailed to all members to announce@stjohnorthodox.org

January 16, 2011



Veneration of the Precious Chains of the Holy and All-Glorious Apostle Peter

The Veneration of the Honorable Chains of the Holy and All-Praised Apostle Peter: In about the year 42, on the orders of Herod Agrippa, the Apostle Peter was thrown into prison for preaching about Christ the Savior. In prison he was held secure by two iron chains. During the night before his trial, an angel of the Lord removed these chains from the Apostle Peter and led him out from the prison (Acts 12:1-11).

Christians who learned of the miracle took the chains and kept them as precious keepsakes. For three centuries the chains were kept in Jerusalem, and those afflicted with illness and approached them with faith received healing. Patriarch Juvenal (July 2) presented the chains to Eudokia, wife of the emperor Theodosius the Younger, and she in turn transferred them from Jerusalem to Constantinople in either the year 437 or 439.

Eudokia sent one chain to Rome to her daughter Eudoxia (the wife of Valentinian), who built a church on the Esquiline hill dedicated to the Apostle Peter and placed the chain in it. There were other chains in Rome, with which the Apostle Peter was shackled before his martyrdom under the emperor Nero. These were also placed in the church.

On January 16, the chains of St Peter are brought out for public veneration.

Blessed Maximus the Fool-for-Christ of Totma, Vologda

Blessed Maximus, Priest of Totma, was for a certain time, a priest in the city of Totma in the Vologda diocese. For forty years he undertook the difficult exploit of foolishness for Christ, constantly in fasting and in prayer. St Maximus died in great old age on January 16, 1650 and was buried at the Resurrection church in which he served. The local veneration of the saint began in 1715, because of the numerous miracles occurring at his grave.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

Sunday, January 16 – Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Sunday School following Liturgy; Lunch following; Sisterhood meeting following lunch

Tuesday, January 18 – Inquirer's/Catechism Class at the Townsends 7:00pm

Wednesday, January 19 – Vespers 6:00pm

Friday, January 21 – Spiritual Circle 9:30am

Saturday, January 22 – Great Vespers 6:00pm

Sunday, January 23 – Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Sunday School following Liturgy; Lunch following

EPISTLE READERS

Jan 16 - Joy Corey

Jan 23 - Sbdcn. Barnabas Schaefer

Jan 30 - Tabitha Townsend

Feb 6 - Sbdcn. Mark (Eric) Townsend

CHURCH CLEANING

Week of Jan 17 – Schaefer

Week of Jan 24 - Goolsby

Week of Jan 31 - Townsends

Week of Feb 7 - Fellegy/Holman

LUNCHEON & CLEANUP

Jan 16 - Team 5 - Poland, Schaefer, Gallatin, Nolan, Johnson

Jan 23- Team 1 - Tsalaky, Ayoub D., Ayoub M., Vlahos

Jan 30 - Team 2 - Corey, Tecca, Roth, Ranson, Holman

Feb 6 - Team 3 - Garbinski, Tourous, Jenkin, Weddle, Kane, Ayres, O'Daniel

PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING:

Paul Truebenbach, Allyson Gross, Mike Kerr, Katrina (Mike Kerr's wife), Bonnie (Jenny Dancy's Mother), Susan and parents Coo and Lou (friends of Jenny Dancy), Bill (Thomas Craffey's father), Elena & Vitaly w/reposed son Stefan (friends of Teccas), Russell & Samantha & newly reposed infant (Chelsea Stillman's brother & wife & baby), Teri Hundt (sister of Tiffany Gallatin), Robin and her unborn baby girl (Joanna Townsend's cousin), Inna Epling, Jim Ayres, Moses (Michael) Fillmore, Mark & Christina Bischoff (friends of Bartimaeus), Mike Allen, Tammy (cousin of Nanette Sanman), Jess Akins & her daughter Hallee (friends of Trudy Olinger), Bill Brisbane (Nanette's father), Jacob Hunter (Dan Monaghan's cousin in Afghanistan), Pamela Olsen, Mat. Michaela Fenn (wife of Fr. Mark Fenn), Fr. Michael Lewis, Jill Foss (friend of Jeane Wood), Nancy Corey (Ed Corey's sister), Moses Kemper, Jamie Landers, Nikolai Kupcow, Lynda (Michelle Fellegy's mother), George Kucera, Bonnie (Jenny Dancy's mother).

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED:

Milic Milojevic, Wilma Young (Steve Wood's mother), Marvel (mother of Mary Jo Neyman), Kathleen (Erin Laning's mother), Celeste Botsaris, Joan (Allyson Gross' Mother), John Paras, Nikolay, (father of Oksana Johnson), Sam (Karen Karres' daughter's finance), Archbishop Augustinos of Florina, Devin Austin & Ryan Reinhardt (friends of John Charles and Nanette Sanman), George El Hayek, Fr. Matthew MacKay. Nathan Larson (friend of Tatiana & Jed Bartlett)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sisterhood Meeting Today – There will be a meeting of the Sisterhood today following lunch. Please join us!

Welcome Home Steve! A hearty "Welcome home," to Steve Wood who was baptized into the Holy Church at St. John last Sunday afternoon! We will recognize Steve as a new Orthodox Christian and a new member of our beloved parish today after Liturgy. It is a joy to have Steve in our midst! May God grant him many fruitful years of growth & ministry in our Lord Jesus Christ!

Prayer for Youth Retreat - Please pray for the participants, priests, and volunteers of the Pan-Orthodox Youth Winter Retreat that is being held this weekend at Cedar Springs Camp in Lake Stevens.

House Blessings - Now that we have celebrated the Great Feast of Theophany and blessed the waters for a new year it is time for Theophany Houseblessings! If you would like to have your house blessed this year, please contact Fr. Basil either by email (frbasil@caldaroni.net) or by phone (208-818-2646) to set up an appointment.

Beautiful Parish Ministry – Looking for a Volunteer! We are looking for a volunteer (or team of two who would like to work together) to change the seasonal decorations and tablecloths in the Parish Hall. This is a truly a ministry of encouragement, making our hall inviting and warm for all our members and visitors. Basically, everything is made already (although if someone would like to add their creativity to our present decorations, they would be welcome!). It simply requires changing the tables about five times a year – at the Church New Year (fall), Nativity, Valentine's, Lent, and Pacha. Please contact Fr. Basil if you would consider taking over this important parish ministry. Thank you!

Skirt Around Riser in Parish Hall - All of you out there who sew, please help! We desperately need a skirt made for around the riser/stage in the fellowship hall. It needs to be made out of black fabric that is wash'n'wear to fit around the perimeter of the riser with velcro on the back where it is gathered at the top and another strip of velcro affixed to the riser. When we completed the hall three years ago, the white plastic skirt that exists to this day was put up temporarily. Since the hall is rented more and more as a source of income and used for our own pleasure for Christmas productions, retreats, music festival, etc., we need to have a permanent skirt that can easily be washed when needed. If you can sew, would you be willing to use your God-given talent for this need within our church? The riser is 12" x 16" x 12." The portion against the wall does not need to have a skirt. If you wish to volunteer, please see or contact Joy Corey. Thank you so much and God Bless you!

Inquirer's/Catechism Class – Tuesday

Our Inquirer's/Catechism Class meets each Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Eric & Joanna Townsend! All are invited to please attend! This is an opportunity to learn (or re-learn!) the basics of Holy Orthodoxy in the context of a discussion format. We hope to see you there!

Wisdom of the Fathers

"Why is it so important to read the Lives of the Saints? – In the infinite spectrum of the paths leading to God, which are revealed in the lives of the various saints, we can discover our own; we can obtain guidance to help us emerge from the jungle in which we have become entangled through our human sinfulness, and so gain access to the path which leads towards the light."

+Fr. Alexander Elchaninov, *Diary of a Russian Priest*

Spring Bake Sale

The Sisterhood will begin baking for this year's Bake Sale in a couple of weeks so as to not interfere with Lent which begins on March 7th. We are ONLY baking our FIVE MOST POPULAR items (instead of 10 as in previous years) - Baklava, Kourembiethes, Melomacharona, Date Maloul, and Queen Elizabeth Cake. Although we'd previously considered not doing the Bake Sale this year, Fr. Basil requested we reconsider, due our parish's financial need.

We NEED your help PLEASE! If anyone is interested in helping, please call Joy Corey at 660-0538 or 777-2863, email her at joyinidaho@gmail.com or catch her at Church to volunteer. Everyone has such a good time working together in fellowship while baking so it is not only a work party, but a social gathering. Come and join the fun! This is one event in which you can turn work into fun and make money for the Church at the same time. Glory to God for all things!

Items Needed for Bake Sale:

- Pitted Dates
- C&H Granulated Sugar
- Powdered Sugar
- Unsalted Sweet Butter
- Gold Medal Flour
- Brown Sugar
- Walnuts (lots and lots)
- Coconut
- Vegetable Oil
- Colored + Foil cupcake liners

Please bring these every week over the next six weeks. Thank you so much for your donations. If we can keep our costs down, especially this year in light of our having cut the number of bake sale items in half, it will help us maximize our net income. THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU! What a beautiful family we are at St. John's. **God is Good!**

APOLYTIKION OF VENERATION OF ST. PETER'S CHAINS IN TONE FOUR

Without leaving Rome, thou didst come to us by the precious chains which thou didst wear, O Peter, foremost of the Apostles. And worshipping them, with faith, we pray: By thine intercessions with God, grant us Great Mercy.

KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

THE EPISTLE

*How magnified are Thy works, O Lord; in wisdom hast Thou made them all.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (17:12-19)

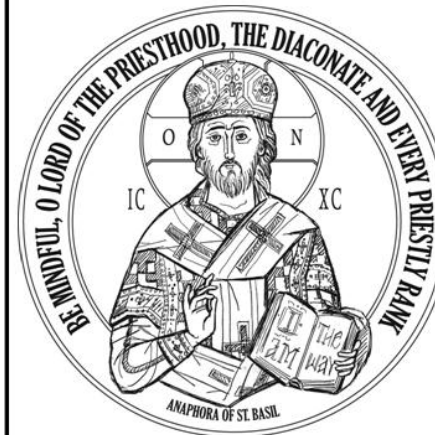
At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

The Way ~ Kids Church School

This month: Remember to bring in a small printed icon of your patron Saint to put in the Mountain of Prayer.

January Memory verses:

1. **2 Timothy 4:5:** *But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*
2. O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth
Who art everywhere and fillest all things.
3. Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life:
Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity,
And save our souls, O Good One.
4. **St. Gregory the Great** -Every virtue is a good thing, but most of all gentleness and meekness.



Creative arts Festival

Theme:

**Be mindful O Lord of the Priesthood, the
Diaconate and every priest rank.**

Entry options:

Painting
Collages
Pictures
Photography
Sculptures
Poetry
Oratorical Composition

We are still waiting on firm deadlines for the entries – I have seen two, but it looks like it will be **April 15th**. If you would like to get started at home the details and rules for the Creative Festivals are on the bulletin board in the hall or can be found at http://www.antiochian.org/assets/asset_manager/cf2633b7a8cbd4563881f5b9cf5e93ee.pdf Also be watching for art and writing workshops...coming in February and March!

In Christ Love,
LaVonne Ayoub/ Christian Education