

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

January 10, 2020

Saints Commemorated today: Gregory of Nyssa; Dometian, Bishop of Melitene; Theosebia the Deaconess, sister of Basil the Great & Gregory of Nyssa; Afterfeast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; Markianos, Priest & Oikonomos of the Great Church

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 4:7-13

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:12-17

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

ENTRANCE HYMN: PLAGAL OF THE SECOND MODE

When the angelic powers were at Thy tomb, then they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood beside the grave seeking Thine immaculate body. Thou has despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant life to us. O Thou who art risen from the dead, Lord glory be to Thee!

FOURTH MODE

As the first-called of the Apostles, and brother of their leader O Andrew, entreat the Master of all that peace be granted unto the world and great mercy to our souls.



GREETINGS:

Dear St. Andrew Community,

My family and I are very excited to be in Michiana and I'm overjoyed at the opportunity to serve as the priest of this community. I pray we have many years together as we strive to love God and our neighbor in all of our thoughts, words, and actions. As we traverse the Covid-19 era, unfortunately, I know it will take awhile to get to know you all. However, always feel free to reach out if you need anything or have any questions. May our Lord Jesus Christ guide us in this New Year!

Fr. John

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE:

The church office will now be using the following email address: office@saintandrewgoc.org. Our announcements, bulletins, etc. will come from this address so make sure to add it to your contacts! Fr. John can be reached directly at: fr.john@saintandrewgoc.org. Fr. John's phone number is (314) 443-9672. You are always able and welcome to call Fr. John, but if there are matters that aren't urgent, please go through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Happy and Blessed New Year to our church family! Thank you to everyone who has in the past and continues to support Saint Andrew with time, talent and treasure - all the very critical and ONLY components that enable our church to exist. For 2021, so far we've received pledges totaling \$114,612 from 62 households. We've received to date, \$10,575 in actual pledged stewardship income and \$790 income from unpledged stewards. We thank all stewards for their generosity, but pledges certainly help the church plan knowing what income to expect. We ask that the remaining households please submit your pledges to the church office.

For 2020 - 7 pledged stewards still owe \$2,450. The Covid appeal was supported by 60 stewards, and produced \$64,550. Many thanks to those who respond to urgent calls for action such that our church can survive financially.

Figures and facts to keep in mind: We have 158 attending households, and the church annual operating budget is \$360,000. We CAN NOT use SAREF funds for the annual operating budget.

As we engage with the Metropolis strategic planning effort and specifically the focus on Stewardship, **we want to hear any and all of your ideas regarding our Stewardship program and journey.**

Directionally, the Metropolis is urging all parishes to get to a point where we don't rely on festivals and other fundraisers to support the annual budget, but it also recognizes that this is a high goal that may take a few years to accomplish. We are also asked to re-examine the idea of expecting the local community to support our church - WE should want to support our church, with OUR time, talent and treasure. The Stewardship committee and Parish Council would like all of us to think about this: if EVERY household did just a little bit more in contributing time, talent and treasure, we could accomplish a lot toward becoming financially self-sufficient and not living paycheck to paycheck and some months not being able to pay the bills. So please express your thoughts and ideas about Stewardship to Father John or anyone on the Parish Council, as TOGETHER we work to figure this out, especially during the pandemic, which God willing, is on its way out this year.

Big Thank you for your commitment to Saint Andrew day in and day out.

PHILANTHROPY AT ST. ANDREW - UPDATE

As Philoptochos closed out our church's philanthropic projects for 2020, here are some highlights:

- 1) We donated \$100 to the family who lost everything in a house fire, a few days before Christmas. Please click [HERE](#) to learn more!
- 2) We made a \$200 Christmas donation to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana
- 3) We donated \$100 to the Salvation Army
- 4) We are finishing our mask donation project by donating 70 masks to Elkhart General Hospital this week. To help with the pandemic, we donated a total of 452 hand-made cloth masks to 10 different medical and public service organizations within our local community. This goes toward the Metropolis goal of donating 10,000 masks by the end of 2020. Incidentally this goal has been surpassed.
- 5) Look for a detailed summary of our 2020 giving in the next monthly bulletin.

Finally, we welcome Father John and his family to Saint Andrew, and look forward to working with our entire parish family to continue our church's philanthropic outreach. Thank you to all who participate in this endeavor.

PROSFORO COMMITTEE

We are in need of parishioners willing to join the Prosforo Committee. If needed, we will do an instructional class for anyone who would like to join but is not sure how to prepare the Prosforo. Generally it means making the Prosforo for four Sundays during the year (2 every six months) and occasionally making extra for weekday Liturgies. The more who sign up the less often each individual will need to cover a Sunday. Please contact the office if you are able to volunteer. Thank you.

Jesus is the Bread of Life Who offers Himself for our salvation. "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood you have no life in you; he who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:53-54).

DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Discretionary Fund is to assist families that face financial crisis, students that need financial aid, single moms, philanthropic institutions in this city and overseas, people with catastrophic illnesses, and missions for the Archdiocese, etc. Thank you for your support. If you would like to help please contact Father John or make donations payable to the Discretionary Fund.

VISITING SAINT ANDREW?

People of different religious affiliation or tradition are always welcome at the liturgical services of our Holy Orthodox Church. If you are interested in learning more about Orthodoxy or have specific questions, please set up a time to speak with Father John.

YOUR PRAYERS HELP...

"...I was sick and you visited Me..." St. Matthew 25:36. "Holy Father, Physician of our souls and bodies have mercy, forgive and heal thy servants." The following brothers and sisters in Christ need your constant prayers and love, recovering at home or ill at home/hospital: Lynn Whittenberger (home), and Nick Limberopoulos (home).

In nursing homes or home bound: Andrew Manos (home), Artemis Hoke (Westgate Garden), and Amelia Morris (Miller's Merry Manor, Walkerton).

Today's **Ushers** are: Manolis Anagnostou, George Mighion, Chris Strafford, Pete Arvan A. If you are not serving in the pangari today, you should join everyone in the Sanctuary. Thank you.

Today's **Epistle Lesson** will be read by **an Altar Boy**.

Rose Rorres prepared the Prosforo for this morning. May our God grant you spiritual joy always.

Note changes in services times:

THIS WEEK

Sat, Jan 9	Great Vespers 5pm
Sun, Jan. 10	Sunday after Theophany 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Thu, Jan 14	Leave-taking of Theophany 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sat, Jan 16	Great Vespers 5pm

Sun, Jan 17
Twelfth Sunday of Luke
8:30am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy

LOOKING AHEAD

Mon, Jan 18
Sts. Athanasios and Cyril
8:30am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy

Thu, Jan 21
St. Maximos the Confessor
9:30am Divine Liturgy

Sat, Jan 23
Great Vespers 5pm

Sun, Jan 24
Fourteenth Sunday of Luke
8:30am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy

Mon, Jan 25
St. Gregory the Theologian
9:30am divine Liturgy

Sat, Jan 30
Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom
8:30am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy
Great Vespers 5pm

Sun, Jan 31
Fifteenth Sunday of Luke
8:30am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy