



St Anthony Orthodox Church

Fr Nicholas Fine | Pastor | (503) 502-2817 | frnicholas@stanthonyorthodox.org

Services This Week

Wednesday, January 31st

Daily Vespers
6pm

Thursday, February 1st

Feast of the Presentation

Metropolitan SABA presiding
Vigil (vespers, orthros, and
liturgy) at 6pm

Friday, February 2nd

Daily Vespers
6pm

Saturday, February 3rd

Great Vespers
at St George in Little Falls
6pm

Upcoming Special Services

Sunday, February 4th

Orthros and Divine Liturgy
9am

Daily Liturgical Guide

Antiochian Archdiocese Website:

<https://antiochian.org/liturgicday>

“There is nothing upon earth holier, higher, grander, more solemn, more life-giving than the Liturgy.”

- St John of Kronstadt

Weekly Announcements

1. Metropolitan SABA will be celebrating the Feast of the Presentation of Christ at St. Anthony's this Thursday, February 1st.

✦ We will celebrate a Vigil (Vespers, Orthros and Divine Liturgy) beginning at 6pm.

2. Confessions available before/after any weekday service, after Great Vespers on Saturday, or by appointment.

3. Church School & Teen SOYO will meet TODAY.

4. Our St. Anthony's Day festivities have been rescheduled to February 11th, the SAME day as our Annual Parish Meeting.

5. If you would like your house blessed, there is still time. Contact Fr. Nicholas to make arrangements.

6. Anyone who did NOT get a robo call last Sunday about the church being closed, contact Nike Bach (nike.bach@gmail.com) or Claudia Bogris (cbogris@aol.com) to add your email/phone.

7. IOCC Wine Tasting Fundraiser at St. George, Little Falls, THIS Saturday, February 3rd. Vespers at 6pm, event at 7pm. For tickets, please visit IOCC.org/northjersey. *Note: there will not be Great Vespers at St. Anthony's, please join us at St. George.

8. Join us for a Family & Friends Fellowship Night Pasta Dinner hosted by the 20/40 Group on Saturday, February 24th. No charge, donations welcome! Menu includes: appetizers, pasta, salad, bread, soft drinks, dessert, coffee & tea. R.S.V.P by February 17th to Amanda Elsabee (aelsabee@gmail.com or 732-979-9929).

9. Mardi Gras 2024 - Be True to Your School! (Or Team!) Join us on Saturday, March 2nd from 5-8pm

- Vespers will start at 4pm
- It's an early evening of family fun, food, music, dancing & games for kids of all ages! There will be a kids flag football game!
- Wear your high school or college tee, sweatshirt or a jersey for your favorite team!
- Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for kids (12 and under) & \$60. for families. Cash or check. **See Enid, Karen or Daria for tickets.**

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!
If this is your first time visiting, please introduce yourself to Fr. Nicholas at the end of Liturgy.

From Father:

Christ is in our midst!

“Let us stand upright, let us stand with fear, that we may offer the holy oblation in peace.” This line from the Divine Liturgy reminds me that we stand a lot during our services. Traditionally, Orthodox churches had no pews but would occasionally have benches or seats around the edges of the nave for those who needed to sit out of necessity. In our American context, most Orthodox churches have pews, but that doesn't mean we always use them! We found ourselves standing for much of the services, but why?

Well, what type of posture is conveyed through standing? Attention. Standing is a posture of concentration and focus. It is the posture that is perfect for prayer because it is a posture that focuses us and prepares us for action. Conversely, sitting is a posture of leisure and relaxation—a posture of inattention. For this reason, standing has always been preferred in the Church because we are there to pray and pay attention to the spiritual dance happening around us.

So, even though we have pews, it is proper to stand for as much as you are able. The specific points in the Divine Liturgy that demand standing are when the Liturgy begins, and the priest gives the blessing; during the Little and Great Entrances; when the priest is censuring the icons and the faithful; during the Gospel reading; at the Anaphora (from the cherubic hymn on); for Holy Communion; and at the final Blessing. Whenever a bishop visits the parish, out of respect, follow his example and stand and sit when he does.

Of course, no one is watching you or judging you. If you need to sit, sit. If you can stand, stand. Our posture is an outward reflection of our inward disposition.

In Christ,
Fr Nicholas

10. **The Luck of Saint Anthony's Tricky Tray has a WISHING TREE in the church hall.** Please select a card from the tree to make a donation. All donations due by February 11th.

- ✦ Also, please bring in any **NEW** items such as candles, soaps, coffee maker, air fryer, electronics, kitchen gadgets, jewelry, glass, crystal & any other donations, etc.
- ✦ We also need family & friends monetary donations.
- ✦ **See Leslie Carter or Christine Moomjy** if you have questions or to drop off donations.

11. **Time to clean your closets! The Teen SOYO Winter Coat Drive will continue through February.** Coats, scarves, gloves, blankets, and other cold weather attire are welcome. Place items in the boxes located in the north entrance & in the church hall.

12. **Thank you to Irene Kavountzis and Jackie Koskinas for hosting today's coffee hour.**

13. **The 2024 Coffee Hour Schedule is posted in the church hall.** Parishioners are asked to PLEASE host at least ONE coffee reception a year. **Many dates are available.**

- Guidelines on church website & handouts are in the coffee room.
- Sign up on the schedule posted outside the coffee room or contact **Alice Ziemba (201-664-8068 or alicenziemba@yahoo.com).**

14. **Shoprite Gift Cards are available for purchase.** For \$100, you get \$100. of gift cards & the Church earns 5%. This is a cost-free fundraiser! To purchase gift cards, **see Betty Gakos.**

15. **Attention St. Anthony parishioners** - If you are receiving church envelopes but no longer use them because you have switched to ParishSoft Giving, please notify **John Ziemba (jzphysics@yahoo.com)** to be removed from the mailing list. The smaller the mailing list, the less our printing & postage expenses.

16. **If you have any news for our church e-newsletter, *The Desert News*,** that goes out the 1st of each month, send it at least one week prior to **Claudia Bogris (cbogris@aol.com).** If you are not receiving this monthly email, contact **Nike Bach (nike.bach@gmail.com).**

17. **Reminder: The UPCI Jesus Christ Tabernacle Church celebrates services** on Sundays (2pm - 5pm) and Thursdays (6:30pm - 9:00pm) in our church hall. Please clean your tables.

“I no longer fear God, but I love Him.
For love casts out fear.”

-St Anthony the Great