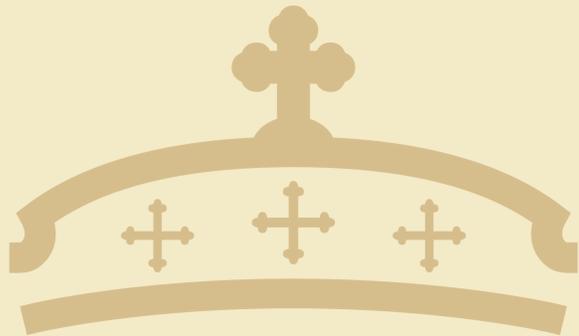


Thank you!

We are very grateful for your continued financial support, which allows St. Anthony's to remain current with its obligations.

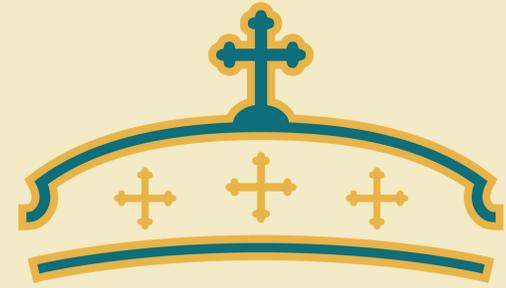


God Bless You!



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St. Anthony Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Martie Johnson, Jr.
(724) 287-6893 revmarjohn@netzero.com

Our mission: We pray and strive to bear witness to the Orthodox Faith by caring for the people of God and our neighbor and to embody Christ's teachings through prayer, study, and hospitality. We live to proclaim the fullness of the Orthodox faith in our lives and to the city of Butler as we share our love, fellowship, and charitable works.

**Sunday before the Nativity of Christ
(Genealogy)
December 20, 2020**



Remember in Your Prayers:

LIVING: Newborn Isaac (Heath); newly baptized Nicholas (DiNunzio); Larry Hamil (undergoing cancer treatment); Michael (Stephine's husband); Vassila (Georgia's godmother); Dollie; Maura (Andronic); Don (Dollie's brother); Ann (Wilson); Nyal, Jean's son-in-law (motorcycle accident); Joseph Totin; Christine (Abraham); Venetia; Maura; Ann; Ed, Peter, John, Jonathan and Joanna; Andrei; Kent, Bob, David (relatives of Jean); Diane; Susannah; Ed Sr (Totin).

DEPARTED: Joseph Sipos (Dolly's husband) Karen (Jane Best's daughter); Frank (Seba's brother); Kurt (Melinda's father); Jackie (Rose Totin's mother); Maria (Stella Lyras' sister); Sula; Kurt (Diane's son); Norma; Miltiades; Tim (Becker); Silviu; Ross (Chrissi's friend); Richard Johns; Viorica; Bishop Antoun; Vito (DiPento); Jim and Marion (Raimondi); Stephanie (Yazge); Job; George (Georgiades); Abie (Abraham); Bill (Thomas); Marta.

At the Little Entrance

O' Come let us worship and fall down before Christ!
*Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, as we sing to Thee:
Alleluia!*

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 3):

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVY (Tone 4)

Thou Be thou ready, Bethlehem, Eden hath opened unto all. Ephratha, prepare thyself, for now, behold, the Tree of Life hath blossomed forth in the cave from the holy Virgin. Her womb hath proved a true spiritual Paradise, wherein the divine and saving Tree is found, and as we eat thereof we shall all live, and shall not die as did Adam. For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforetime.

APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY (Tone 2)

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

TROPARION OF SAINT ANTHONY (Tone 4 Russian):

Like the zealous Elijah thou didst become and followed John the Baptist in his upright ways. A dweller in the wilderness, thou didst steady the world by prayer. O Father Anthony, intercede with Christ our God for our souls' salvation.

KONTAKION: THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (Tone 3):

Today the Virgin gives birth, to the Transcendent One, and the earth presents a cave, to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds give Him glory, wiseman follow a star as they journey to Him who is God of all ages, yet for our sake is born as a little child.

TONE 3, Eothinon 6– Hieromartyr Ignatios the God-bearer, bishop of Antioch, New-martyr John the tailor of Thasos; Daniel II, archbishop of Serbia

First Antiphon:

-It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy Name, O Most High! -To proclaim in the morning Thy mercy and Thy truth by night! -Upright is the Lord our God and there is no unrighteousness in Him!

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

-Glory... Both now... **(Refrain)**

Second Antiphon:

-The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength and has girt Himself! -For He established the world which not be shaken!

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, as we chant to Thee, Alleluia!

-Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days!
(Refrain)

-Glory... Both now...**(Refrain)**

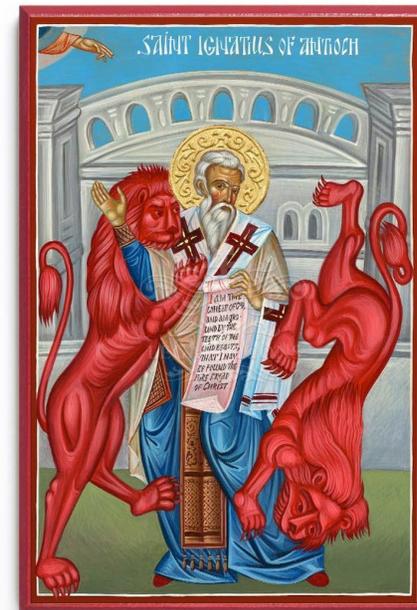
Only begotten Son and Word of God...

Announcements

Please bring canned goods and other dry foods each Sunday. We will be giving donations to the Butler, St. Vincent de Paul Ministry every week until Christmas.

Christmas Eve Matins-Festal Hours 0915am
Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy
10:00am, December 24

Christmas Day Festal Matins-Festal Hours 0915am
Feast of the Nativity of Christ
10:00am, December 25



Today's Epistle Reading:

Prokeimenon:

"Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us."

The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40).

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living intents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight.

Women received their dead by resurrection.

Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Today's Gospel Reading:

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.