

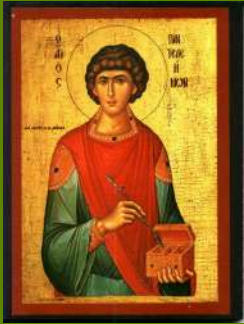
# St. Panteleimon Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

Fr. Andrew Bartek, Rector V. Rev. Anthony Spengler, Attached

Protodeacon Robert Northrup Reader James Tilghman

Parish Council President: Nicholas Cavaligos



**Sunday, January 17, 2016**

Gospel: St. Luke 18:18-27

**Tone 8**

Epistle: Colossians 1:12-18

*33rd Sunday after Pentecost / Ven. Godbearing Anthony the Great*

## January Bulletin Sponsor

*Fr. Andrew in Memory of his parents George & Dorothy*

### *Liturgical & Event Schedule*

#### **Sunday, January 17**

9:10 am Hours

9:30 am D. L. / 40 Day Panachida for Michael  
Brief Parish Update on Renovations /  
Social

12:30 pm: Leave for March for Life in Chicago

2:00 pm: March For Life Chicago

#### **Tuesday, January 19**

7:00 pm: Village of Summit Meeting

7:30 pm: Bible Study

#### **Wednesday, January 20**

7:30 pm: Monthly Board Meeting

#### **Friday, January 22**

NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE,  
Washington, DC- EWTN Coverage

#### **Saturday, January 23**

6:00 pm: Great Vespers

#### **Sunday, January 24**

9:10 am: Hours

9:30 am: D.L. / 40 Day Panachida Firefighter  
Dan / Memorial Sunday / Social

1:00 pm: Retirement Party for Fr. Andrew H.

6:00 pm: Sanctity of Life Prayer Service

### **SAVE THE DATES JANUARY 2016**

#### **Sunday, January 24**

1:00 pm: Retirement Dinner for Fr. Andrew  
Harrison

6:00 pm: Annual Sanctity of Life Prayer  
Service @ St. Peter & Paul Uk.  
Orthodox Church in Palos Park

#### **Saturday, January 30**

9:00 am: Speak Out IL

#### **Sunday, January 31**

Annual Greek Dinner in Chicago between our  
Parish & St. Peter & Paul Burr Ridge

### **SUNDAY JANUARY 24, 2016 RETIREMENT BANQUET FOR THE V. REV. ARCHPRIEST FR. ANDREW HARRISON**

Time: 1:00 pm -6:00 pm

Where: Ruffled Feathers Golf Club, 1 Pete Dye  
Drive, Lemont, IL 60439

Cost: \$30 per adult / \$15 per child 10 & under

Deadline to RSVP & pay was January 10, 2016  
via call/text: 708-710-5966 or email:

[lbetsanes@gmail.com](mailto:lbetsanes@gmail.com)

A cash bar will be available for soda & alcoholic  
beverages

Contact Golf Club for special dietary requests @  
630-257-1000

### **2016 - SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

January: St Tikhon's Seminary

This collection will take place during the Litany  
before the *Our Father* or see Steve Grabavoy or  
Mark Hruban

### **IMPORTANT DATES JANUARY 2016**

#### **Tuesday, January 26**

7:30 pm: Orthodoxy 101 Class  
(Open to Public)

### **40 Days Eternal Memory**

January 10: Terrorist attack in Mali / Russian  
Pilot Oleg

January 17: Terrorist attack in CA & Michael

January 24: Firefighter Dan Capuano

February 7: Bernice McGurk

February 14: Helen Pender

February 21: Matthew Lyons

7549 West 61st Place, Summit, Illinois 60501

Rectory 708-552-5276 / Cell 570-212-8747

website: <http://www.saintpanteleimon.org/>

## OCA represented at Scholars' Meeting at Ecumenical Patriarchate

ISTANBUL, TURKEY [OCA]: Representatives of the Orthodox Church in America were among a group of 30 Orthodox Christian scholars who participated in a gathering at the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople here January 4-5, 2016 for the purpose of establishing connections with theologians and academics working in various disciplines and ministries throughout the world and to become better acquainted with their interests and aspirations for the Church, especially in light of the forthcoming Holy and Great Council.

“We had the opportunity to listen to His All-Holiness address all those gathered, and then, as representing different communities of scholars (representing theological schools, scholars in the secular academy, those working in mission fields, and in other areas), to offer to His All-Holiness reflections on the particular challenges we face today and how we can work together, more effectively,” said Archbishop Dr. John Behr, Dean of Saint Vladimir’s Seminary, Yonkers, NY. “We then had the opportunity to hear reflections by His Eminence, Senior Metropolitan John of Pergamon on the preparations for the Council and to engage in dialogue for almost four hours, with His Eminence, sharing our thoughts and concerns in a very engaging and stimulating conversation.”

In his address, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew noted, “We have invited you because we consider you as a small representative group of a much larger segment of our Church, a symbol of our loving concern for all those ministering to the Word of God in manifold ways throughout the world. You comprise theologians and historians, scholars and teachers, women and men from the United States and Europe, as well as from Asia and Australia.... In this way, we can strengthen the bonds between hierarchical ministry and lay *diakonia* for the benefit of the Body of Christ.”

The scholars in attendance presented their reflections and responses in their respective fields and capacities as heads of Orthodox seminaries and institutes; as professors in non-Orthodox academic institutions; as theologians serving in mission, religious education and publishing; and as scholar-practitioners in the natural and social sciences, as well as human rights and social justice.

“As was noted several times during the meeting, the existence of theologians and scholars working in various fields is a relatively new phenomenon, and as such

this is the first time in history that the Church has had the opportunity to engage them as a group in open dialogue,” said Archbishop Dr. Alexander Rentel, Assistant Professor of Canon Law and the John and Paraskeva Skvir Lecturer in Practical Theology at Saint Vladimir’s Seminary. “This was an opportunity which was very enriching for all, and for which we are deeply grateful.

The afternoon of January 5 was dedicated to an open discussion on preparations for the Holy and Great Council, during which the Patriarchate’s Metropolitan John chaired two extensive sessions, addressing participants and engaging them in wide-ranging discussions about goals, challenges and opportunities of the Council.

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### Address by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew To the Scholars' Meeting at the Phanar (January 5, 2016)

Beloved and distinguished scholars,  
We warmly welcome you all to the Ecumenical Patriarchate, to the Church of Constantinople, the Church of St. Andrew “the first-called of the Apostles” and his disciple, St. Stachys of “the Seventy Apostles,” an institution with a history spanning seventeen centuries, during which it has retained its administrative offices in this very city through times of majesty and times of martyrdom.

As you all know very well and appreciate through your studies, this extraordinary region is filled with significance for our Church. It is here that St. John (the Apostle of love) wrote his Gospel; it is here that St. Paul (the Apostle to the nations) addressed the earliest Apostolic communities; it is here – in Asia Minor, not in Greece or Italy – that all of the earliest councils of the Church that defined and shaped the Christian doctrine were convened; and it is here that the spiritual treasures of Byzantium – its profound theological, spiritual and cultural legacy – have been faithfully maintained to this day.

Nevertheless, as you are also aware and as you surely understand, Orthodoxy is a faith at once rooted in the past, yet at the same time a Church looking toward the future. It is characterized by a profound sense of continuity with the times and teachings of the Apostolic Church and the Church of the Fathers; but it is also a Church that draws from its rich heritage in order to respond to modern challenges and dilemmas. It is precisely this dual nature that permits Orthodoxy to speak boldly about critical contemporary issues – precisely because it is a “living tradition.”

Dear friends, you are here at a critical time, a complex time, a challenging time – both for our Orthodox Church but also for the entire world. We have invited you for this personal encounter and exchange at the Phanar because we consider you as a small representative group of a much larger segment of our Church, a symbol of our loving concern for all those ministering to the Word of God in manifold

*Continued Page 3*

**Ec. Patriarch Address Con't**

ways throughout the world. You comprise theologians and historians, scholars and teachers, women and men from the United States and Europe, as well as from Asia and Australia. You educate and work with a wide range of people – Orthodox and non-Orthodox, Christian and non-Christian, academic and ecumenical – translating the fundamental principles of our faith in response to the vital challenges of our time.

Permit us, therefore, to suggest to you that open and honest dialogue is the way of the Church and of theology. God spoke in dialogue when the world was created, when Adam and Eve were fashioned. God spoke in dialogue through the law and the prophets. God spoke in dialogue when the divine Word assumed flesh and dwelt among us. God always spoke in dialogue through the martyrs and saints through the centuries and in our own day. Indeed, God is only comprehended and apprehended in dialogue – in the interpretation of scripture as in the Church councils. In the pithy, yet profound statement of St. John: “In the beginning was the Word . . . and the Word was God.” (John 1.1)

This is why we invited you here: so that we may talk and listen to one another – “look at each other in the eyes,” as the late Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras liked to say. You are undoubtedly informed about the dialogues with which our Ecumenical Patriarchate is engaged:

- \*with our sister Orthodox Churches, in an effort to coordinate greater unity and cooperation;
- \*with other Christian confessions and other faith communities, in our desire to promote reconciliation and understanding;
- \*and with the scientific community, for an informed response to environmental degradation and bioethical questions

However, there is another dialogue that is of paramount importance in the life and ministry of the Church, namely our dialogue with the world. We are called to hear and discern God’s voice – sometimes “like the rush of a mighty wind” (Acts 2.2), at other times “like a gentle breeze” (Isaiah 55.12) – in every circumstance and in every corner of our planet. We are to hear and speak God’s voice:

- \*in the persecution of Christian minorities all over the world, particularly in the Middle East, where Christianity emerged;
- \*in the humanitarian crisis of our brothers and sisters forced to leave their homes and seek refuge throughout the world;
- \*in the injustices inflicted on the vulnerable and marginalized members of contemporary societies;
- \*but also in the use and abuse of religion for political interests and other secular purposes

This is precisely why – with the grace of God, the prayers of our faithful, and the support of theologians and scholars such as you – we will convene the Holy and Great Council this year on the Feast of Pentecost, bringing together all of the Orthodox Autocephalous Churches in order to meet in the same place (in the Church of Haghia Irene, where the Second Ecumenical Council was held in 381) and to deliberate with one mind on issues that the Church has confronted in more recent times. We will address internal issues on the unity and administration of the Church, but also matters such as relations with other churches and faiths, in order to present a unified voice and credible witness for the life of the world.

In this regard, we invite the support of pious Orthodox scholars, who are concerned about the unity of our Church and its role in the public square, where there are so many competing opinions and where the word of Orthodoxy can contribute positively and constructively through dialogue. Our faith should not be regarded as stagnant or even obsolete. It must not be conveyed as verbose or perhaps artificial. And it cannot be dismissed as merely cerebral or uninspired. Our word must express the hope and joy, the light and life of the risen Lord. It must be renewed and renewing, reviving and refreshing.

That is how the Holy and Great Council must speak to the whole world. That is how we are all called to minister, each of us from his or her own position in the Church and in society, even after the Great Council takes place. And this is how the Church would like to support and advance your own work in seminaries, universities, as well as in ecumenical and other circles. In this way, we can strengthen the bonds between hierarchal ministry and lay *diakonia* for the benefit of the Body of Christ and the glory of our living God.

With these few paternal reflections, we welcome you once again and look forward to hearing your response and reaction. We hope that your brief stay in this remarkable city is enjoyable and rewarding.



## Share the Light Sunday: 01/17/16

*"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

*Matthew 4:19*

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA has designated Sunday, January 17, 2016 as Orthodox Christian Network "Share the Light" Sunday.

Beloved Clergy, Godly Monastics, and Blessed Faithful:

We greet you during this great and joyous Feast of Theophany in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Christ's earthly ministry begins with His baptism by St. John the Forerunner and the proclamation of the Triune God, "This is my Son in whom I am well pleased." Today we write you to join Christ's ministry as disciples of the 21st Century.

Now more than ever, the next generation of Orthodox leaders, our Christian brothers and sisters in persecution, and faith seekers worldwide need a witness to Christ. People are lost in temptation with no hope of salvation. They need to hear the message of our Lord. **By the Grace of God we have the Orthodox Christian Network - to inspire the faithful everywhere; raise up our children; call back the wayward; and reach out to our cities and towns with the joyful, Christ-centered message of the Orthodox Christian Church.**

In parishes across the country and in homes around the world, millions of youth, families, priests, Bible Study groups, and those yearning to learn more about the Church visit the Orthodox Christian Network every day. **As an official agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, the Orthodox Christian Network (OCN) comforts, inspires, interacts and informs Orthodox Christians and seekers through Digital Media.** OCN invites you and your congregation to Listen, Read, Watch, Learn and Interact at [www.myocn.net](http://www.myocn.net) with our Internet radio stations, news programs, blogs, Live Bible Study, and popular social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

**During the Orthodox Christian Network's 20th Anniversary, the Assembly asks every Orthodox parish in America to participate in a Share the Light Sunday.** Please spread the word about this ministry, and remember OCN in your parish's charitable giving. OCN is not financially underwritten by any one organization, jurisdiction, or individual. Rather, OCN is supported entirely by parish and personal donations. When your parish supports OCN, you contribute to strengthening Orthodox evangelism and outreach in the Digital Age.

On behalf of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, we thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry. Let us go forth and share the Good News.

Faithfully in Christ,  
The Right Reverend Bishop Peter (Episcopal Liaison of OCN)  
Nicholas Mavricks (Chairman of the Board)  
Rev. Christopher T. Metropoulos (Founding Father)

7549 West 61st Place, Summit, Illinois 60501

website: <http://www.saintpanteleimon.org/>

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Fr. Andrew's cousin, Fr. Dr. Nick Mihaly, was ordained Sunday, January 10, to the Holy Priesthood at Christ the Saviour Cathedral in Johnstown, Pa. He is the fourth person in Fr. Andrew's family to be ordained to the Holy Priesthood.

AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS!

God Grant Fr. Nick Many Blessed Years!



## DEANERY ORDINATIONS CONGRATULATIONS

**December 30:** Seminarian William Rettig was ordained to the Diaconate on December 30<sup>th</sup> @ Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Minneapolis, MN.

**January 9:** Bryan Bodien ordained to the Diaconate @ Holy Theophany Chapel in Lake Geneva, WI

**January 10:** John Rowley Kennerk was ordained to the Diaconate & Andrew Bender tonsured a Reader @ Christ the Saviour, Chicago

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### **"One Baptism for the remission of sins" by Fr. Steven Kostoff**

"I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins"  
[Nicene Creed]

The Great Feast of Theophany is more ancient than that of Christ's Nativity. In fact, it was precisely on January 6 that the Church first celebrated Christ's birth (and the adoration of the Magi), together with His baptism in the Jordan. These events—of the greatest significance not only in the life of Christ but in the "economy" of our salvation—

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Rectory 708-552-5276 / Cell 570-212-8747

## Prayer List : UPDATED 1-17-16

**Prizsts:** Anthony Spenglar, John Kuchta, James Gleason (*Fr.'s spiritual father*), \***Ted Bobosh**, \***Moses Berry**, \***John Magramm**, \***John Matusiak**, John Duranko, Lev Holowoty, \***Anastassy Fehr**, \***Leonid Kishkovsky**

**Deacons:** NONE

**Matushka:** Kristy Lollar & her unborn child, \***Carol Janacek**, Pani Patricia Duranko

**Parishioners:** Karen Muzyka, Mark Hruban, Ronald Stachowiak, Rebecca Eggers, Jason Kirnbauer, Sonja Harris

**Parishioner's Friends / Family:** Donna Parhas (*Nick's Cousin*), Ron (*Mark's Friend*), Mary Ann Magerko, John Magerko, Stephen Holly (*Fr.'s cousin*), George Cavaligos (*Nick's brother*), Christos Parhas (*Nick's cousin*), Constantine Cavaligos (*Nick's dad*), John Hartel (*Joann's Step-dad*), Sandra (*Karen's sister*), Erika Northrup, Walter Litzie (*Fr.'s cousin*), Danielle Krush, Mark Svava, Linda Davik, Mary Northrup, Sandra Leonchik, Dianne Northrup, Raymond Northrup, Joey Krush, Carol Bregin (*Friend of Lynn*), Ann LAZO (*Friend of Lynn*), George LAZO (*Friend of Lynn*), Bruce (*Fr. Kurt's brother*), Christine & her unborn baby, Chrissy Marron, Kelly Flynn, Baby Faith, Daniel Tiani (*friend of Becky Eggers*), Vivian (*friend of Becky Eggers*), Tim Kendra (*Rich Wolfe's father*), Joan (*Hruban friend*), Julianna (*Hruban Family*), June (*Hruban Friend*), Jacob (*Spengler Family*), Emilian (*Spengler Family*), Joyce (*Spengler Family*)

**Other Requests:** Lucille (*Duke*), Dianne (*Bill Rudolph*), Elizabeth Lilos, Jemsey Pradun, Mae Joanna Bass, Hermenegil (*Neighbor*), Lidiya (*Neighbor*), Cathleen Rebollar, Patricia Schuster, \*John Sedor, \* Maria Sokolova & her 3 new born babies (Lydia, Yekaterina, Helena)

**Military:** Amber, Caleb, Nicholas, David, Timothy, Robert, Kristen, Matthew, Brian, Daniel, Joseph, Joseph (*Fr.'s cousin*)

**Captivzs:** Metropolitan Paul (*Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo*), Archbishop John (*Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo*)

For the UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria / Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world / Those held captive throughout the world.

Additions or removals from the list? Please notify Fr. Andrew. (\***Bishop Request**) **OFF:** Helen Pender & Bernice McGurk (reposed), Fr. Dan & Mat. Elaine Rental, Dc. Theophan, Mat. Ksenia & new born Ileana, Barbara Pawlack **ON:** June & Joan (Hruban friends), Julianna (Hruban Family), Jacob, Emilian & Joyce (Spengler Family).

## SEVEN COURSE GREEK DINNER

On Sunday, January 31, 2016, St. Panteleimon Church will be having their annual Greek Dinner at the Parthenon Restaurant located at 314 S. Halsted in Chicago. Cocktails (cash bar) at 12:00 and dinner will be served at 1:00 P.M. Tickets for the seven course dinner served family style will be \$25.00, tickets sold after January 24, 2016 will be \$30.00. Free valet parking is available in front of the restaurant.

The dinner menu will consist of:  
Saganaki, Taramosalata, Gyros, Greek Salad, Moussaka, Pastitsio, Dolmades, Rotisserie Roasted Pig served with rice pilaf and roasted potatoes, Baklava, Galaktobourekos and American Coffee.

Tickets will be sold by Karen Muzyka. Contact her at St. Panteleimon or at (708) 924-1933. Checks should be made payable to St. Panteleimon Church. Checks can be mailed to her at: 7253 White Ash Drive, Justice, IL 60458



Orthodox Christian Coalition  
Healthy Youth

## OCCHY BLURB

**CALL 911 TO SAVE A FRIEND!**

Lifeline legislation amended the Illinois Liquor Control Act (P.A. 99-0447)

**exempting minors from arrest** when seeking medical assistance for **alcohol-related emergencies** (235 ILCS 5/6-20). This new law will be effective as of 6/1/2016. For details:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=099-0447&GA=99>



Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/OCCHYChicago>

# J A N U A R Y

| HAPPY BIRTHDAY   |                                  | HAPPY NAME DAY   |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| 5- Karina Posada<br>17- Natalie Northrup<br>24- Becky Eggers | 8- Susie Joynt<br>21-Alex Posada | 2- The Retired Right Rev. Seraphim of Sendai<br>19- The Retired Right Rev. Mark of Boston<br>24- The Right Rev. Daniel (Bishop of Dsanta Rosa) |

*If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.*

## In blessed repose: J A N U A R Y

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1-Anna Wojciechowski (00)<br>2- Fr. Richard Everman (07)<br>4- George Bartek (83)<br>12- Adam Kuzmich (98)<br>13- Joseph Bloschynsky (00)<br>14- Joseph Dubovik (99)<br>14- Dorothy Michaluk (08)<br>16- Theodore Grabavoy (89)<br>22- Anna Grabavoy (77)<br>24- Helen Dubovik (11) | 26- Jacqueline Marie Hansen (08)<br>29- John Mahalko (90)<br>29- Olga V Foraker (05)<br><br>1938:<br>Anisia Sloboda<br>Theodore Kozliak<br>Peter Begal | 1939:<br>Michael Blarzko<br>Ivan Yakel |
|---|--|--|

*Remember those who have gone before us in prayer. If there is a name missing from the above list, please speak to Fr. Andrew to have them added.*

### UPDATED JANUARY 2016

**Bulletin Sponsor:** Would you be interested in being a bulletin sponsor in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one or friend? Sponsors will be remembered during Divine Services for that month. Donation: \$40 for the month.

**Memorial Candle(s):** *(Give names to Fr. Andrew)*

Option 1: The Tray of Candles under the Cross is now the area of remembrance for the deceased. If you would like the tray of candles placed in memory of a deceased loved one, the suggested donation is \$30. The Sponsors will be remembered during the Divine Services for that Sunday.

Option 2: One of the small Tray's under the Theotokos in the back of the Church. Donation \$25

Option 3: If this tray is full, one or more candles may be gotten at the candle desk & be placed in the sand box.

**Candles for the Health of a Loved One** *(Speak to Fr. Andrew to make arrangements)*

Option 1: One of The small tray's of 40 candles in front of the icon of woman saints in the back of the Church - donation \$25.

Option 2: The altar candles in the Sanctuary & Eternal Light candle - donation \$20.

Option 3: If Candles are filled more candles may be gotten at the candle desk & placed in the sand box.

**Monthly Panachida Service:** The third Sunday of each month there will be a Panachida. If you would like your loved one(s) to be remembered, please give a list of names to Fr. Andrew before that Sunday for those to be remembered in the month. If there is a remembrance (newly departed or 40<sup>th</sup> day remembrance) of your family or friends we will remember them on the closest Sunday otherwise they will be remembered on the third Sunday. If it is an remembrance not related to our parish family we will just sing Memory Eternal on the 40 Day remembrance.

**Hospitalization/Shut-ins:** If anyone goes into hospital, or is a shut-in, please let Fr. Andrew know as soon as possible so he can attend to them and their family members.

**Celebration? Achievement?:** Your spiritual family would like to share in your achievement, celebration, and accomplishment. Send in a picture or email to Fr. Andrew, by Wednesday @ 5:00 pm so he can place it in the bulletin!

## ***One Baptism Cont.***

were united in one celebration known as “Theophany,” which means “manifestation of God.” (The Feast is also referred to as “Epiphany,” which simply means “manifestation.”) In His Nativity and in His Baptism, Christ is “manifested,” or “revealed,” to the world as the Light of the world in order to dispel the darkness of ignorance and spiritual blindness which are the direct result of sin. This Feast of Theophany is also referred to as the “Feast of Lights.” It was in the fourth century that we began to celebrate our Lord’s Nativity (and the adoration of the Magi) as a separate and unique event on December 25, while January 6 remained as the Feast of Theophany, on which Christ’s Baptism was commemorated.

Why did the Feast of January 6 retain the title “Theophany/Epiphany” instead of December 25, when the manifestation of the eternal Light was first revealed in His Nativity in the flesh? Saint John Chrysostom writes that it is “because it was not when He was born that He became manifest to all, but when He was baptized; for up to this day He was unknown to the majority.”

But not only was the Lord Jesus revealed to the world as He began His public ministry with His Baptism in the Jordan at the hands of Saint John the Baptist. The Holy Trinity was manifested, for the “voice of the Father” bore witness to His beloved Son, and the Spirit, “in the form of a dove,” descended and rested upon the Son. The Trinitarian nature of God was manifested when Christ came to the Jordan to be baptized.

Yet, if Baptism is for the “remission of sins,” then why is Christ baptized, for He is without sin [1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15]? The liturgical texts repeatedly ask and answer this question for us in the following manner: “Thou as God He needs no cleansing, yet for the sake of fallen man He is cleansed in the Jordan,” and “As a man He is cleansed, that I may be made clean.” Christ is representative of all humanity. He is baptized for our sake. It is we who are cleansed and regenerated when He descends into the waters of the Jordan.

For with Christ, and in Christ, our human nature—the human nature He assumed in all of its fullness in the Incarnation—descends into the cleansing and purifying waters of the Jordan (anticipating sacramental Baptism), so that the very same human nature may ascend out of the waters renewed, restored and recreated. As the New and Last Adam, He “sums up” all of us in Himself—for this reason He became man. The Spirit descends and rests upon Christ, so that our humanity may be anointed in Him. Saint Athanasios the Great writes, “when He is anointed... we it is who in Him are anointed.... When He is baptized, we it is who in Him are baptized.” Every Baptism is an “extension of” and a “participation in” the one, unique Baptism of Christ;

just as every Eucharist is an “extension of” and a “participation in” the one, unique Mystical Supper. Actually, all of creation participates and is sanctified by the manifestation of God’s Son in the flesh: “At Thine appearing in the body, the earth was sanctified, the waters blessed, the heavens enlightened.”

We die to sin in Baptism and are raised to new life—for this reason the baptismal font is both tomb and womb, as Saint Cyril of Jerusalem tells us. Our pre- and post-baptismal lives must manifest some real change, according to Saint Gregory of Nyssa. In fact, I would like to append a few paragraphs from some of Saint Gregory’s writings about Baptism in order to allow him to describe the meaning of that need for change. Saint Gregory wrote in the fourth century—a time when he could presuppose adult baptism as the norm—but we can apply his teaching to our own consciousness of being Christians as we grow up in the Faith following “infant Baptism.”

Saint Gregory writes...

“When discussing Baptism and spiritual birth, we have to consider what happens to our life following Baptism. This is a point which many of those who approach the grace of Baptism neglect; they delude themselves by being born in appearance only and not in reality. For through birth from above, our life is supposed to undergo a change. But if we continue in our present sinful state, then there is really no change in us. Indeed, I do not see how a man who continues to be the same can be considered to have become different when there is no noticeable change in him....

“Now the physically born child certainly shares his parents’ nature. If you have been born of God and have become His child, then let your way of life testify to the presence of God within you. Make it clear Who your Father is! For the very attributes by which we recognize God are the very marks by which a child of His must reveal His relationship with God. ‘God is goodness and there is no unrighteousness in Him.... The Lord is gracious to all.... He loves His enemies.... He is merciful and forgives transgressions.’ These and many other characteristics revealed by the Scripture are what make a Godly life....

“If you are like this and you embody the Spirit of God, then you have genuinely become a child of God, but if you persist in displaying evil, then it is useless to prattle to yourself and to others about your birth from above. You are still merely a son of man, not a son of that Most High God! You love lies and vanity, and you are still immersed in the corruptible things of this world. Don’t you know in what way a man becomes a child of God? Why, in no other way than by becoming holy!”



# CHICAGO DEANERY WINTER YOUTH CAMP 2016

for all youth ages 11 through 18

**11 AM Saturday, February 13 – 2 PM Monday, February 15, 2016**

**Edwards YMCA Camp, East Troy, Wisconsin**

Once again, it's time for our annual winter youth get together – a weekend of sledding, skating, tubing, cross-country skiing, hiking, team building, snow sculpture, art projects, worship, camp fire, Vespers and Sunday Liturgy, and more... all for just \$104.00, which covers lodging, all meals, and all camp fees and activities!

## REGISTER NOW!

A completed registration form must accompany all registrations!

Questions? Call Fr. Tom Mueller at 414-671-5819.

### Registration Form – Deadline is February 6

Please return to **Father Tom Mueller, 2515 South 30 Street, Milwaukee, WI 53215-2829** or by e-mail to **crankypriest@gmail.com**. No registrations will be accepted without ALL info below. Please attach check for \$104.00 per camper, payable to the "Chicago Deanery."

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_