

# St. Panteleimon Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

Fr. Andrew Bartek, Rector V. Rev. Anthony Spengler, Attached  
Protodeacon Robert Northrup

Parish Council President: John Grabavoy



**Sunday, February 26, 2017**

**Tone 3**

**Gospel:** Matthew 6:14-21

**Epistle:** Romans 13:11-14:4

**Sunday of Cheesefare / Forgiveness Sunday**  
**St. Porphyrius, Bp. of Gaza / Martyr Sebastian**

## February Bulletin Sponsor

*By Father Andrew in Honor of His Spiritual Father's Priestly Ordination*

### Liturgical & Events Schedule

**Sunday, February 26**

9:30 am: Confessions

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: D.L. / Church School / Social /  
Following the social, Forgiveness  
Vespers

**Monday, February 27**

7:00 pm: Canon of St Andrew

**Tuesday, February 28**

7:00 pm: Canon of St Andrew

**Wednesday, March 1**

11-2:00pm: Fish Fry

2:00 pm: Beyond Classroom Meeting

4:-8:00pm: Fish Fry

**Thursday, March 2**

7:00 pm: Canon of St Andrew

**Friday, March 3**

7:00 pm: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy followed by  
pot-luck dinner

**Saturday, March 4**

9-11:00 am: "Beyond the Classroom" Prog.

10:00 am: Coffee with the Mayor

6:00 pm: Great Vespers

**Sunday, March 5**

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: D.L. / Procession with Icons /  
Church School / Social

6:30 pm: Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers

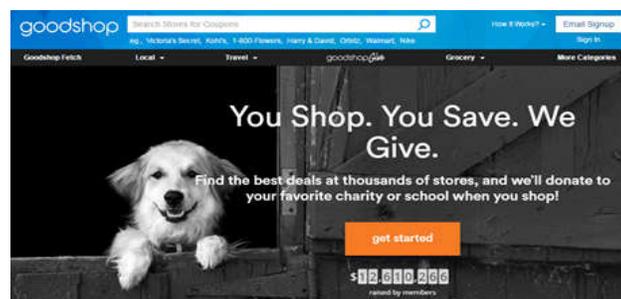
### Gertrude Hawk Candy Fundraiser

Please place your order by March 5<sup>th</sup> w/ Mat.  
Susan



### 40 DAYS MEMORIAL

Feb. 19: 2 Police officers killed in FL / Jim  
March 12: Mat. Juliana Schmemann / William  
(Navy Seal from Peoria)



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Did you know that \$90.24 was donated to the parish in 2016? How much more can be done in 2017?!

Goodshop also has a free app. Check it out!

### SCRIP FUNDRAISING PROGRAM UP & RUNNING

Who to see: Matushka Susan

When: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month

- In order for the program to be cost effective for us, a minimum \$300 order must be placed.
- A list of participating businesses is available for your review.

This is a great way for you to do your regular shopping and it benefit your church! Try it out!



7549 West 61st Place, Summit, Illinois 60501

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

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

## Chicago-area Triumph of Orthodoxy Vesper Service announced

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, 1220 South 60th Court, Cicero, IL will be the site of the Triumph of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Vesper Service at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 5, 2017.

Sponsored by the Orthodox Clergy Association of Greater Chicago, the annual service, traditionally celebrated on the evening of the first Sunday of Great Lent, will feature Priest Josiah Trenham, Pastor of Saint Andrew Antiochian Orthodox Church, Riverside, CA, as guest homilist.

The Pan-Orthodox Choir of Greater Chicago, under the direction of Gordona Trbuhovich, will sing the liturgical responses.

The public is invited to attend. Additional information may be found on the Chicago Synergy web site.

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## Sunday of Cheesefare: Expulsion of Adam from Paradise

*Commemorated on [February 26](#)*

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam's expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendents became heirs of death and corruption.

Let us consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Today we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

At Forgiveness Vespers we sing: "Let us begin the time of fasting in light, preparing ourselves for spiritual efforts. Let us purify our soul, let us purify our body. As we abstain from food, let us abstain from all passion and enjoy the virtues of the spirit...."

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## Beginning of Great Lent

*Commemorated on [February 27](#)*

In the Orthodox Church, the last Sunday before Great Lent—the day on which, at Vespers, Lent is liturgically announced and inaugurated—is called Forgiveness Sunday. On the morning of that Sunday, at the Divine Liturgy, we hear the words of Christ:

"If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses..." (Mark 6:14-15).

Then after Vespers—after hearing the announcement of Lent in the Great Prokeimenon: "Turn not away Thy face from Thy child, for I am afflicted! Hear me speedily! Draw near unto my soul and deliver it!", after making our entrance into Lenten worship, with its special melodies, with the prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian, with its prostrations—we ask forgiveness from each other, we perform the rite of forgiveness and reconciliation. And as we approach each other with words of reconciliation, the choir intones the Paschal hymns, filling the church with the anticipation of Paschal joy.

What is the meaning of this rite? Why is it that the Church wants us to begin the Lenten season with forgiveness and reconciliation? These questions are in order because for too many people Lent means primarily, and almost exclusively, a change of diet, the compliance with ecclesiastical regulations concerning fasting. They understand fasting as an end in itself, as a "good deed" required by God and carrying in itself its merit and its reward. But the Church spares no effort in revealing to us that fasting is but a means, one among many, towards a higher goal: the spiritual renewal of man, his return to God, true repentance and, therefore, true reconciliation. The Church spares no effort in warning us against a hypocritical and pharisaic fasting, against the reduction of religion to mere external obligations. As a Lenten hymn says:

"In vain do you rejoice in not eating, O soul!  
For you abstain from food,  
But from passions you are not purified.  
If you persevere in sin, you will perform a useless fast!"

Now, forgiveness stands at the very center of Christian faith and of Christian life because Christianity itself is, above all, the religion of forgiveness. God forgives us, and His forgiveness is in Christ, His Son, whom He sends to us so that by sharing in His humanity we may share in His love and be truly reconciled with God. Indeed, Christianity has no other content but love. And it is primarily the renewal of that love, a growth in it, that we seek in Great Lent, in fasting and prayer, in the entire spirit and the entire effort of that season. Thus, truly forgiveness is both

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### ***Beginning of the Great Lent Con't***

the beginning of, and the proper condition for, the Lenten season.

One may ask, however: Why should I perform this rite when I have no “enemies?” Why should I ask forgiveness from people who have done nothing to me, and whom I hardly know? To ask these questions is to misunderstand the Orthodox teaching concerning forgiveness. It is true that open enmity, personal hatred, real animosity may be absent from our life, though if we experience them, it may be easier for us to repent, for these feelings openly contradict Divine commandments. But the Church reveals to us that there are much subtler ways of offending Divine Love. These are indifference, selfishness, lack of interest in other people, of any real concern for them—in short, that wall which we usually erect around ourselves, thinking that by being “polite” and “friendly” we fulfill God’s commandments. The rite of forgiveness is so important precisely because it makes us realize—be it only for one minute—that our entire relationship to other men is wrong, makes us experience that encounter of one child of God with another, of one person created by God with another, makes us feel that mutual “recognition” which is so terribly lacking in our cold and dehumanized world.

On that unique evening, listening to the joyful Paschal hymns we are called to make a spiritual discovery: to taste of another mode of life and relationship with people, of life whose essence is love. We can discover that always and everywhere Christ, the Divine Love Himself, stands in the midst of us, transforming our mutual alienation into brotherhood. As I advance towards the other, as the other comes to me—we begin to realize that it is Christ who brings us together by His love for both of us.

And because we make this discovery—and because this discovery is that of the Kingdom of God itself: the Kingdom of Peace and Love, of reconciliation with God and, in Him, with all that exists—we hear the hymns of that Feast, which once a year “opens to us the doors of Paradise.” We know why we shall fast and pray, what we shall seek during the long Lenten pilgrimage.

Forgiveness Sunday: the day on which we acquire the power to make our fasting—true fasting; our effort—true effort; our reconciliation with God—true reconciliation.

—Father Alexander Schmemmann



### **1st Saturday of Great Lent: The Miracle of the Boiled Wheat**

*Commemorated on [March 4](#)*

Today we remember the miracle of Saint Theodore and the boiled wheat. Fifty years after the death of Saint Theodore, the emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363), wanting to commit an outrage upon the Christians during the first week of Great Lent, commanded the city-commander of Constantinople to sprinkle all the food provisions in the marketplaces with the blood offered to idols. Saint Theodore appeared in a dream to Archbishop Eudoxius, ordering him to inform all the Christians that no one should buy anything at the marketplaces, but rather to eat cooked wheat with honey (kolyva).

In memory of this occurrence, the Orthodox Church annually celebrates the holy Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit on the first Saturday of Great Lent. On Friday evening, at the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts following the prayer at the ambo, the Canon to the holy Great Martyr Theodore, composed by Saint John of Damascus, is sung. After this, kolyva is blessed and distributed to the faithful. The celebration of the Great Martyr Theodore on the first Saturday of Great Lent was set by the Patriarch Nectarius of Constantinople (381-397).

The Troparion to Saint Theodore is quite similar to the Troparion for the Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths (December 17, Sunday Before Nativity). The Kontakion to Saint Theodore, who suffered martyrdom by fire, reminds us that he also had faith as his breastplate (see I Thessalonians 5:8).

Saint Theodore the Recruit is also commemorated on February 17.

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#### **Romans 13:11-14:4 (Epistle)**

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to judge another’s servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

## Chicago's annual "Celebration of Books" to be held March 12-16

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church, 2501 South Wolf Road, Westchester, IL once again will host the annual "Celebration of Books" in mid-March 2017.

The theme of this year's event — "Navigating God's Holy Word" — will be explored during three special presentations.

The Rev. Dr. Eugen Pentiu, Professor of Old Testament at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA will speak on "Understanding the Old Testament." on Sunday, March 12. Vespers will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. with Father Eugen's presentation slated to begin at 8:00 p.m.

"Hearing and Keeping the Word of God" is the theme of a presentation to be given by Dr. Alexis Torrance, Assistant Professor of Byzantine Theology at the University of Notre Dame, on Tuesday, March 14. Compline will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m., with Dr. Torrance's presentation scheduled for 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Bruce Beck, Assistant Professor of New Testament at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology will offer a presentation titled "Reading Scripture with the Orthodox Church" on Thursday, March 16. The 8:00 p.m. presentation will follow the celebration of Compline at 6:30 p.m.

The week-long event also will feature a book store at which thousands of Orthodox books and resources will be available for purchase. The bookstore will be open daily from Monday, March 13 through Friday, March 17 from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m.

The Celebration of Books is sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago's Religious Education Department. The public is invited to attend.

There is no charge. For additional information please call 708-562-2744.

## St. Tikhon's Seminary reaccredited by ATS

In a letter dated February 15, 2017, the Board of Commissioners of the Association of Theological Schools [ATS] informed [Saint Tikhon's Seminary](#) that the school has been reaccredited for seven years, with no notations. The news came as a result of the seminary's periodic reaccreditation review that occurred November 20-23, 2016.

"This is great news for the seminary, following several years of consistent and intensive preparation," said Archpriest Steven Voytovich, STOTS Dean. "We wish to express gratitude to all who assisted in this effort!"

Father Steven chaired the Self-Study Leadership Team directed by Dr. Paul Witek, Assistant to the Dean for Academic Affairs, and Dr. David Ford, Professor of Church History, who also served as Self-Study Editor. His Eminence, Archbishop Michael, STOTS Rector, chaired the Self-Study Steering Committee, while Prof. Sergei Arhipov served as committee Secretary and respondent on behalf of the school's library. Michael Skor was one of several seminarians engaged in the self-study process—including those who had served as Student Government chairs in recent years—who continued to be integrally involved in developing the study's final draft well after his graduation.

"Our goal for this review was for all dimensions of the seminary community to be engaged in and able to speak to the self-study process with the site visit team," Father Steven added. "Thanks be to God, it is wonderful to see such a strong outcome following our collaborative effort."

The seminary also expressed gratitude to its new Accreditation Liaison, Dr. Barbara Mutch, and the site visit team that

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### Matthew 6:14-21 (Gospel)

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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### CONFESSIONS

Confession will be heard before and after each Lenten service, Great Vespers and Sunday mornings before Liturgy.



## Prayer List - UPDATED 2-19-17

**Prigists:** His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius, His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman, His Eminence Archbishop Iagovos His Grace Bishop Matthias, Anthony Spenglar, John Kuchta, James Gleason (*Fr.'s spiritual father*), John Duranko, \***Ted Bobosh**, Archimandrite Vladimir, \***Joseph Gibson**, \* **Philip Lashbrook**, \***John Reeves**, **Fr. Emilian Hutnyan**, **Deacon Bohdan Melnychenko**

**Matushkii:** \***Carol Janacek**, **Mary Perez**, **Snezana Ruzic**, **Laryssa Hutnyan**, Pani Patricia Duranko

**Parishionzrs:** Karen Muzyka, Ronald Stachowiak, Rebecca Eggers, Sonja Harris, Pauline Michals, Marilyn, Michals, Pat Svava

**Parishionzr's Family:** Sandra (*Karen's sister*), Erika Northrup, Mary Northrup, Raymond Northrup, Mark Svava, Joey Krush, Jan Kost (*Linda's sister*), Tommy Leonchik, Jason Kimbauer, Lucille (*Carol's mom*), Edward Arendt (*joann's uncle*), Stephen Holly & Walter Litzie (*Fr.'s cousin*), (*Spengler Family*): Bruce (*fr's Kurt's brother*) Jacob, Emilian, Joyce, John, Robert, William & Dana, Mark, Eve

**Other Requests:** June (*Hruban friend*), Elizabeth Lilos, Jemsey Pradun, Hermenegil & Lydia Guerrero (*Neighbor*), Cathleen Rebollar, Eva Quagon (*Andy friend*), John & Mary Ann Magerko, Gloria Salgado (*Lynn's Friend*), Vivian (*friend of Beckky Eggers*), Marlyn (*Karen's friend*), Laurel (*Bill Rudolph's daughter*), Deputy Chief Frank Batura, \***John Sedor**, \* **Daria Petrykowski**, \***Cynthia Koranda**, Alice Sutko, Mike Jacobson & Brian Turner (*fr's friends*) Michelle & her unborn baby, Crystal & her unborn baby, Susie & her unborn baby

**Military:** Fr. Herman, Fr. Gregory, Amber, Caleb, Nicholas, David, Timothy, Robert, Kristen, Matthew, Brian, Daniel, Joseph

**Captivz:** 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.

### A Lenten Reading List

by Fr. Steven Kostoff

I thought to compile a list of more-or-less Orthodox "lenten classics" upon which you may want to draw as Great Lent approaches. I have read and re-read these books through the years and they have all had an impact on my spiritual formation.

Each book is quite accessible—no dry theology, just a variety of lively approaches to God and the spiritual struggles that we all face, as well as deeply pondered wisdom to guide us in our journey not only toward our annual Pascha celebration, but in our life-long journey to the Kingdom of God. As we pray, fast and practice charity during Great Lent, a good book that deepens our understanding of God so that we can build our relationship with God is one more important component to a holistic lenten effort.

I have kept the list to an Orthodox "Top Ten". Of course, any such list of good books presupposes that our primary reading source is always Holy Scripture. We begin with the Word of God—the prescribed Old Testament books perhaps, together with the Psalter. During Great Lent, we also read from the remarkable Epistle to the Hebrews and the austere Gospel According to Saint Mark. However, the books on this list are certainly more than mere supplementary reading.

They are books written by teachers and guides who love God and who desire to awaken that same love of God in our own minds and hearts.

**Great Lent by Father Alexander Schmemmann.** Recommended by Metropolitan Kallistos [Ware] as the best single volume about Lent in English, this book has become a "classic" that should be read by one and all. After reading this book, you will never approach the lenten services in exactly the same way. In fact, you just may want to come to church more often during Great Lent. This book includes the great appendix chapter, "Taking Lent Seriously", which you will do after reading this book!

**The Lenten Spring by Father Thomas Hopko.** Already something of a "classic", this book offers a series of 40 three-to-four page meditations on a variety of lenten themes. It features a wonderful use of the Scriptures and the Church's lenten hymnography, together with Father Thomas' endless stream of great insights.

**The Way of the Ascetics by Tito Collander,** a Finnish Orthodox lay theologian, is another "classic" offering short, insightful chapters about an "applied Orthodoxy" that are very challenging in today's world.

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**Archbishop Michael to address St. Moses Brotherhood annual conference**

His Eminence, Archbishop Michael of New York and New Jersey will head the lineup of speakers at the 24th annual conference of the Brotherhood of Saint Moses the Black October 6-8, 2017.

The conference, titled “Closer to Christ, Closer to Each Other”, will be held at the Mother of God Joy of All Who Sorrow Church, Princeton, NJ.

Other speakers include Archpriest Moses Berry, Hieromonk Alexi [Altschul], Priest Jerome Sanderson, and the Nun Catherine [Weston].

A pan-Orthodox organization, the Brotherhood embraces individuals committed to multi-racial, Orthodox Christian fellowship and study of the Church’s ancient roots and to bringing Orthodoxy to the African American community as a means of “expanding the Mission.”

**Bishop Paul ordains Jonathan Lincoln to Diaconate at St. Tikhon’s Monastery**

On Sunday, February 19, 2017, Jonathon Lincoln was ordained to the Holy Diaconate by His Grace, Bishop Paul of Chicago at Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery Church here.

Concelebrating with Bishop Paul Archpriest Steven Voytovich, STOTS Dean; Archpriest Dennis Swencki, STOTS CFO; Hieromonk Innokenty; and seminarian Priests Basil Ferguson and John Kennerk.

Deacon Jonathan and Matushka Megan Haak, also a seminary student, were married in the monastery church in October 2016. Deacon Jonathan hails from Holy Assumption Church, Canton, OH. Bishop Paul indicated his hope that upon graduation, the Lincolns will serve in the Diocese of the Midwest.



**FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS**

BIRTHDAY	NAMES DAY	ANNIVERSARY
2- John Grabavoy Jr 4- Nathaniel Bremer 10- Luba Johnson 12- Fr. Gleason 17-Heidi Posada 19 Vitaly Muzyka 19- Sonia Harris 19- Robert Johnson 22- Scott Eggers 23- Chrissy Marron	NONE	2-9-80: Nicholas & Joann Cavaligos 2-10-73: His Beatitude retired Met. Herman 2-14-04: His Beatitude Met. Tikhon 2-21-98: Luis & Heidi Posada 2-21-14: His Grace Bishop David of Alaska

*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.*

**FEBRUARY - REPOSED**

1-Alexander Grabavoy (14) 5- Josephine Spengler (99) 9- Olga Akers (14) 8- Natalie Leonchik (98) 8- Jean Mueller (16) 10-Alexandra L. Samuta (86) 12-Mary Stopka (86)	12- Helene W Suchlak (06) 12- Mitrofan (Mike) Grabavoy (61) 16- Baby Girl Grabavoy (71) 17- Metropolitan Orestes (77) 18- Anthony John Nausieda (06) 20-Nicholas Tarchuk (99) 23-Mary Klimiuk (91) 27-Ivan Rosannacha (84)	1940: Ipolit Denika Maria Yakel Leontiy Trofimovich  1941: Dimitri Shchelkun Efirma Kuyava
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*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.*