

***VENERABLE AND GOD-BEARING
FATHER ANTHONY THE GREAT***

When St. Anthony was about 20 years old, he lost his parents; but he was responsible for the care of his younger sister. Going to church about six months later, the youth reflected on how the faithful, in the Acts of the Apostles (4:35), sold their possessions and gave the proceeds to the Apostles for the needy.

Then he entered the church and heard the Gospel passage where Christ speaks to the rich young man: “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come follow Me” (Matthew 19:21). Anthony felt these words applied to him. He sold the property he had received after the death of his parents, distributed the money to the poor, and left his sister in the care of pious virgins in a convent.

St. Anthony began his ascetical life in a hut not far from his village. By working with his hands, he was able to earn his livelihood and also alms for the poor. Sometimes the holy youth also visited other ascetics living in the area, and from each he sought direction and benefit.

During this period of his life St. Anthony endured terrible temptations from the devil - the young ascetic was troubled with thoughts of his former privileged life, doubts about his chosen path, concern for his sister, and lewd thoughts and carnal feelings. But the saint extinguished that fire by meditating on Christ and by thinking of eternal punishment.

He tried to accustom himself to a stricter way of life, partaking of food only after sunset and spending all night in prayer. Soon he slept only every third day. The saint protected himself from the devil’s tricks with the Life-Creating Cross. He moved farther away from the village, into a graveyard. St. Anthony asked a friend to bring him a little bread on designated days, then shut himself in a tomb. Devils pounced upon him, intending to kill him, and inflicted terrible wounds upon him. By the providence of the Lord, Anthony’s friend arrived the next day. Seeing him lying on the ground as if dead, he took Anthony back to the village. They thought the saint was dead and prepared for his burial. At midnight, St. Anthony regained consciousness and told his friend to carry him back to the tombs.

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VENERABLE FATHER ANTHONY THE GREAT

***HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44134***

THE TRINITARIAN

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CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 216-524-4859
CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.holy-trin.org>
V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

RECTORY: 963 John Glenn Drive, Seven Hills, Ohio 44131 Phone 516-761-8772

BULLETIN 12 - VOLUME LVIII

TONE 7

JANUARY 17, 2021

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Venerable and Godbearing Father Anthony the Great

Ven. Anthony of Dymsk;

Ven. Anthony of Chernoezérsk

“Your way of life reflects Elijah’s zeal, and your path resembles that of John, the Baptist. Your life in the desert led countless souls to follow you, while your prayers fortified the entire world. O holy father, Anthony, beg Christ, our God, to save our souls.”

Troparion for Ven. Anthony the Great, Tone IV

“By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile, and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe! O our holy father Anthony, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!”

Troparion for Ven. Anthony of Dymsk, Tone VIII

TODAY’S EPISTLE: COLOSSIANS 1:12-18
HEBREWS 13:17-21

TODAY’S GOSPEL: LUKE 18:18-27
LUKE 6:17-23

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, January 23 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Monday, January 18 | Hebrews 3:5-11,17-19 | Luke 20:27-44 |
| Tuesday, January 19 | Hebrews 4:1-13 | Luke 21:12-19 |
| | Hebrews 5:11-6:8 | Luke 21:5-7,10-11,20-24 |
| Wednesday, January 20 | Hebrews 13:17-21 | Luke 6:17-23 |
| Thursday, January 21 | Hebrews 7:1-6 | Luke 21:28-33 |
| Friday, January 22 | Hebrews 7:18-25 | Luke 21:37-22:8 |
| Saturday, January 23 | Ephesians 2:11-13 | Luke 13:18-29 |

“I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer.”
Psalm 39:1

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 12 - Volume LVIII

January 17, 2021

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY:

17, TODAY

6:00 p.m. Pray for the Unborn - Virtual Service on Youtube

FEBRUARY:

14, Sunday

Second Sunday Food Sale

**A NOTE TO PARISHIONERS FROM FATHER ALEXANDER
ABOUT HOUSE BLESSINGS**

Unfortunately, the continuing COVID pandemic has led to the conclusion that it would be prudent to avoid doing House Blessings this year. Holy Water was blessed on Theophany, January 6, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, and it is now available for distribution in the vestibule. In addition to partaking of it and saving some at home for special purposes, people may sprinkle Holy Water around their premises as well. Should anyone require the need of a pastoral visitation, it can always be arranged by calling Fr. Alexander, either on the office phone (216-524-4859) or directly (516-761-8772).

PRAY FOR THE UNBORN:

ZOE for Life! invites all to participate in a virtual service, which will be held on today, at 6:00 p.m., at Sts. Constantine & Helen Church. The service will be live streamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/stsconstantine>

Prayers for the Unborn will be offered by Fr. Stephen Callos and Fr. Alexander Garklavs.

LIFE COACHES:

If you are an Orthodox woman seeking the opportunity to help someone in need, ZOE Women’s Center needs you. ZOE is currently recruiting for a 2021 training class of volunteer life coaches, who will work with women in distress due to an unplanned pregnancy. Nursing or related healthcare experience is a plus but is not required. Please contact Paula Kappos for details: paulamk@roadrunner.com

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Janice and Ted Strauss in memory of Anastasia Filipowicz.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Carol Bohurjak in memory of Tom.

There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule for those who would like to offer covers in 2021. Your donation goes toward the printing costs of our weekly Trinitarian. Cost is \$8, or \$20 for Pascha and Christmas.

THANKS TO ALL DONORS!

As attendance has diminished, regular weekly donations have fallen off, but expenses continue. With winter upon us, heating costs will rise, and expenses for utilities and maintenance are always occurring. *We are very grateful to all donors.* Special thanks to those who have continued to support the parish by mailing or dropping off donations! We are confident that, through God’s mercies and His inspiring doctors and scientists, we will return to normal parish life during 2021.

2021 CALENDARS:

We have lectionary wall calendars available in the vestibule.

“All my happiness and unhappiness are contained in the thoughts and inclinations of my heart. If the thoughts and inclinations of my heart are in accord with God’s truth or the will of my God, then I am at rest, filled with divine light, joy and blessedness; if not, I am uneasy, filled with spiritual soul-corrupting darkness, heaviness and despondency. If I completely change the false impious thoughts and inclinations of my heart into true ones, pleasing to God, then I again obtain rest and blessedness.”

St. John of Kronstadt

THE SPIRITUALITY OF JANUARY

We begin a new series on “The Spirituality of the Calendar Year,” reflections about the spiritual moments and unique qualities of each of the calendar months.

January is a month of ambiguity. The month usually begins in high spirits, having just celebrated Christmas; then, on New Year’s Day we raise happy toasts to expectations, making resolutions and hoping for good things to come. At the same time, however, the days are still dark, the weather is cold, and the unavoidable return, after the holiday recess, to school or work, brings a strange feeling of ambiguity. This year we are also still in the midst of COVID.

January does have some notable days of civic importance. Martin Luther King Day gives us pause to consider his legacy and issues of racial injustice. There is the quadrennial spectacle of Inauguration Day, solemnizing new leadership in the Executive Branch of our government. The impressive transfer of authority in our system of constitutional democracy has been a noteworthy historic event. This year, unfortunately, it will be overshadowed by controversial enmity instead of inspiring pomp and ceremony.

Here we are looking at the passage of time from a *spiritual* perspective, seeking insights in the “Spirituality of January.” Is there a day or are there aspects of January that stand out with special significance? The answer is, “Definitely, yes!” The Feast of Theophany on January 6 is one of the Great Feasts of the Church, with wide-ranging spiritual implications. Its liturgical celebration is highlighted by the impressive ritual of the Great Blessing of Water. It can be done at a river, lake or any outdoor body of water, but most frequently in the church at the end of the Divine Liturgy. Blessed in large vessels or fountains, so that all parishioners can take some Holy Water home, several gallons are also kept in churches for occasions that require blessings throughout the year. There is also the time-honored tradition of blessing homes after Theophany, whereby a parish priest celebrates a sanctifying ritual in parishioners’ homes, actualizing the “experience” of Church in the intimate context of our day-to-day lives. The theological implications of Theophany are many, one of which is that it is the Scriptural prototype for Holy Baptism, the Sacrament by which we are initiated into Christian life.

Theophany is only one of the spiritual markers of January. A fascinating aspect of January spirituality is that a good number of outstanding saints are commemorated in it. Beginning with St. Basil the Great (Jan. 1), there is St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Theophan the Recluse (Jan. 10), St. Sava of Serbia (Jan. 12), St. Anthony the Great (Jan. 17), Sts. Athanasius and Cyril of Alexandria (Jan. 18), St. Macarius the Great and St. Mark of Ephesus (Jan. 19), St. Maximus the Confessor (Jan. 21), St. Xenia of Petersburg (Jan. 24), St. Isaac and St. Ephrem the Syrian (Jan. 28), and the Three Holy Bishops, Sts. Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom (Jan. 30). A recent addition to the Church Calendar is the commemoration of the New Martyrs of Russia on the Fourth Sunday of January. As many of these saints are depicted on the walls of our Holy Trinity Church, we have a personal connection through their visual representations. When we gather together in worship, they are with us, vivid expressions of Christian spirituality that has endured over millennia from Jesus Christ’s time to ours!

Fr. Alexander Garklaus