

**FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST:
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY
March 6, 2022**



The Sunday of Orthodoxy is a celebration of the Triumph of the True Faith regarding icons. Even though the 7th Ecumenical Council in 787 AD settled the truth regarding icons, that they were not idols, but rather a vehicle to the holy saint depicted in it, it was not until 843 AD that the battle to restore icons to the churches was realized in the Byzantine Empire. It was celebrated with a procession of icons in that year and the tradition has continued ever since.

St. Anne Byzantine Catholic Church

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Served by:

Father Michael Bezruchka, Pastor

Deacon John Bradley

Bishop: Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted, D.D., J.C.D. Apostolic Administrator Sede Vacante
Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix

Welcome! We are honored to have you come to worship with us. If you are unfamiliar with the worship of the Byzantine Church, simply listen to the Liturgy and allow the rest of the congregation to carry you in worship. We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you here, celebrating with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God that you are with us. If you would like to be an active member of our Byzantine Catholic community, please contact the parish office. Since we are one Catholic Church with many Traditions (each that includes a liturgical rite), becoming a parishioner does not require that you make a canonical transfer of Rite, for example, from the Roman Rite to our Byzantine Rite. Yet we invite you to join us in our traditions, fast days, and feast days so as to better understand and perhaps one day embrace our Eastern Catholic spirituality. Please join us for our Coffee Social, held in the fellowship hall, immediately after the Divine Liturgy and make yourself known to our Pastor who would be happy to answer your questions. Welcome to St. Anne's!

St. Anne bulletin email list: Would you like to have our bulletin emailed to you each week? Request it at slosa.email@gmail.com

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

This week's liturgical schedule: (Check the MCI <https://mci.archpitt.org> for music and prayers.) Livestreaming of Sunday in the parking lot is available for those taking extra health precautions. Contact the pastor.

Sat., Mar. 5	No Vespers this evening	<i>Vigil Vespers for Sunday</i> Deuteronomy 5:1-5, 18:15-19; Isaiah 42:1-12.
Sunday, March 6 Use handout	Confessions: 8:45-9:30 AM 10 AM Divine Liturgy <i>For the Parishioners</i> 12 PM: ECF classes	<i>FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST</i> Hebrews 11:24-26, 32 -12:2; John 1:43-51. <u>Tone 8</u> Celebrant: Fr. Michael O'Loughlin
Mon. Mar. 7	No liturgical services today Parish Office CLOSED	<i>Holy Martyrs and Bishops of Cherson: Basil, Ephram, Capiton, Eugene, Etherius and Others.</i>
Tue., Mar. 8	No liturgical services Parish Office CLOSED	<i>Venerable Father and Confessor Theophylact.</i> Genesis 4:8-15; Proverbs 5:1-15.
Wed., Mar. 9 Use handout	No morning liturgical service No Confessions 6:30 PM Typika service with Communion	<i>Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste.</i> Parish Office CLOSED Genesis 4:16-26; Proverbs 5:15 - 6:3; Hebrews 12:1-10; Matthew 20:1-16.
Thu., Mar. 10	No liturgical services Parish Office CLOSED No RCIA class	<i>Holy Martyr Codratus and His Companions.</i> Genesis 5:1-24; Proverbs 6:3-20.
Friday, March 11 Use handout	No morning liturgical service 5:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy or Typika service +Ruth Cihak by Fr. Michael (Rescheduled from March 5)	<i>Holy Father Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem.</i> Genesis 5:32 - 6:8; Proverbs 6:20 - 7:1.
Saturday, March 12 Use handout	Confessions: 9:00-9:30 AM 10 AM Divine Liturgy Deceased names submitted for prayer 5 PM Great Vespers	<i>2nd All Souls Saturday.</i> <i>Venerable Father and Confessor Theophane of the Sygrian Mountain.</i> Hebrews 3:12-16; Mark 1:35-45. Parish Office Open Jeremiah 31:27-34; Jonah 3:1-10; Isaiah 49:1-6.
Sunday, March 13 Use handout	Confessions: 8:45-9:30 AM 10 AM Divine Liturgy <i>For the Parishioners</i> 12 PM: ECF classes	<i>SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST</i> Hebrews 1:10 - 2:3; Mark 2:1-12. <u>Tone 1</u>

The Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix subscribes to the

Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

Please see February 27 bulletin or earlier bulletins (also available online) for more info.

UPCOMING CALENDAR DATES

**Birthday: March 8—Chad Benson;
God grant them many blessed years!**

SUNDAY GIFTS TO THE LORD

Feb. 27, 2022: collection
Total bank Deposit: \$1,821
Total parish income: \$1,821

Tithes: \$1,475
Donations: \$264
Candles: \$72
Gift Shop: \$10

Your donations are enabling us to continue paying our bills at St Anne's. Thank you! Please note that you have three ways to contribute: 1) Place your donation in the collection basket or the secure locked box in the Narthex; 2) Mail it; or 3) Go to www.stanneslo.org and click on the Giving tab.

May God bless your generosity to His Church!

OIL LAMP INTENTIONS

Eternal Lamp above Ambon in church: [Available]

Eternal Lamp to St. Anne in the narthex: [Available]

Icon of Jesus Christ: [Available] Icon of the Theotokos: [Available]

Icon of St. John the Baptist: + Russ Tolchard by Chris Guzman (3/12/22)

Icon of St. Anne: + Janice Sawko by Paul Sawko (6/25/22)

Icon of St. Nicholas: + Russ Tolchard by Chris Guzman (3/12/22)

Icon of St. Mary Magdalene: +Sheryl Ibarra by Paul & Janice Sawko (6/25/22)

The large "eternal" vigil oil lamps have a suggested offering of \$10 and will burn continuously from Sunday through Saturday. The other smaller oil lamps are each available for a suggested \$2 offering, which will burn for each Divine Liturgy for one week. The bulletin will remind your fellow parishioners of your special intention or loved one above. (These donations are probably not tax-deductible and are not included in your tax-deductible letter.) See narthex envelopes to sponsor a lamp. Make checks payable to **St. Anne Catholic Church**.

LITURGY INTENTIONS Please fill out one of the Liturgy Intention envelopes on the greeting table in the narthex with the name of your living or deceased person. Make checks payable to **St. Anne Stipends** and write "Liturgy Stipend" in your memo line. Donations are not required, though the suggested stipend from the Pastoral Handbook is \$10, which is later paid to the priest offering the Liturgy. (These donations are probably not tax-deductible and are not included in your tax-deductible letter.)

Modified liturgical schedule from March 4-11: On Wednesday, March 2, your pastor Fr. Michael B. started having a fever. On March 4, he used a rapid home covid test and it came out positive. As a result, most daily liturgical services have been cancelled but we are having the Sunday Divine Liturgy celebrated by Fr. Michael O'Loughlin from our parish in Sherman Oaks, CA. In addition, we will have a Typika service with the distribution of Communion by Deacon John Bradley on Wednesday evening and most likely a regular Presanctified Divine Liturgy on Friday, March 11 or that will be a Typika service. The plan is for the normal liturgical Lenten schedule to resume March 12. Please pray for Fr. Michael B. as he recovers from this illness which so far, has turned out to be mild.

Online Byzantine intro courses: Visit <https://tinyurl.com/ntmuetab> and <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzhBP62eRM1Durly43SfNJw> to learn more about our Tradition.

Three more Catechisms being given away for free: We raffled off most of our ten *Christ Our Pascha* catechisms last Sunday given away for free. However, we have three more to raffle off and two that need to be picked up that were won last Sunday.

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving (parts 1, 2, and 3)

Remember that prayer, fasting and almsgiving are tools, given by Our Lord, to help us navigate this pilgrimage of life, but especially during the desert journeys of the fasts. They make us aware of, and able to receive, the treasures that are offered, and to avoid the hazards that are placed in our path by the evil one. The Church has reflected on these three tools over the centuries, but we find Our Lord offering them himself in the Holy Scriptures (Matthew 6:6ff).

Part 1: Prayer

In addition to the prayers below, a sincere conversation with God, filled with repentance and in anticipation of the Resurrection of Christ, and done **in** as much silence and stillness as possible, will help fill this Great Fast with joy and conviction.

Lenten Liturgies

We will be celebrating many of the traditional Byzantine liturgical services that are offered to Byzantine Catholics. Our liturgical schedule is filled with Morning Prayers, (including the readings from Isaiah on Wednesday and Friday mornings), Presanctified Divine Liturgies (including the readings from Genesis and Proverbs), All-Souls Saturdays, Divine Liturgies of St. Basil and others that sustain us through the Great Fast. Please make these a priority. If you feel a tug in your heart to participate more, talk with Fr. Michael who can listen to your schedule and obligations and give you an idea of what you can add. Weekday services are a very important part of the Lenten prayer cycle.

Triodion

The Lenten Triodion is a book that contains all of the changeable daily prayers. They are prayed during the daily prayer services: Vespers (evening), Matins (morning), 6th Hour (mid-day), and others from Pre-Lent through Great and Holy (Good) Friday. If you have the time, you can insert them into the daily prayer services, or as part of an edited service. Various versions are for sale online (the best is the Sisters of St. Basil 724-439-6180 if any are still for sale). One version is available digitally at <http://www.ocf.org/OrthodoxPage/prayers/triodion/triodion.html> . Again, talk to Fr. Michael if you would like further guidance.

Prayer of St. Ephrem

This is a short and simple prayer that gets right to the heart of why and how we live out the seasons of fasting. It can be prayed multiple times a day:

Lord and Master of my life,

Spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,

lust for power and idle chatter. (Prostration)

Instead, bestow on me Your servant,

The spirit of integrity, humility, patience and love. (Prostration)

Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins

And not judge my brothers and sisters,

For You are Blessed, forever and ever. Amen. (Prostration)

Old and New Testament Readings

Just as the Old Testament was a preparation for the coming of the Messiah, so the Great Fast is a preparation for the death and resurrection of that Messiah. We therefore only read from the Old Testament Monday through Friday of the Great Fast. To represent the whole Old Testament, we read the entirety of one of the books from each general category of Old Testament books. Genesis represents the Law, Proverbs the Wisdom books, and Isaiah the Prophets. If you are able to read and reflect on these readings every day, you complete the three books just before Holy Week. "Sixth Hour" means this reading is done at mid-day prayer (noon is the "sixth hour" if counting begins at 7am) and "Vespers" means these readings are done as part of evening prayer. At home they can be prayed whenever you are able. We hear New Testament readings on Saturdays and Sundays as we acknowledge that the Messiah has indeed come and we are commemorating his resurrection every Sunday.