

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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**JULY 4, 2021**



# St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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**July 4, 2021**

## Second Sunday after Pentecost & Second Sunday of Matthew

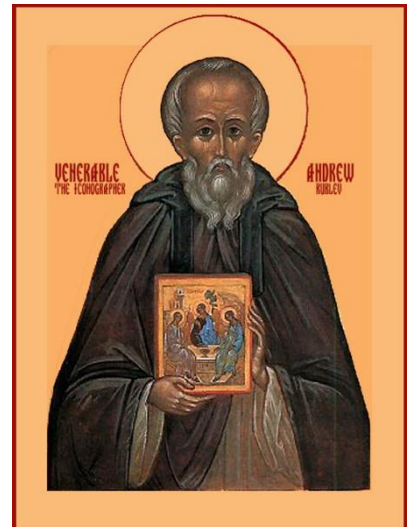
On July 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our father among the saints Andrew, archbishop of Crete, the Jerusalemite.

*The shepherd of Crete, whose toil was the Great Canon,  
Upon dying found for his toils a great garland.  
On the fourth, death took Andrew the Chief Sacrificer.*

Born in Damascus of Christian parents, Andrew could not speak until the age of seven. When his parents took him to church for Communion, he received the power of speech. He went to Jerusalem at the age of fourteen and was tonsured in the monastery of St. Savas the Sanctified. Patriarch Theodore took him as his secretary and deacon. He sent Andrew to the Sixth Ecumenical Council in 681 to refute the Monothelite heresy, which taught that the Lord had no human will but only a divine one. At the Council, Andrew refuted this heresy with his great gifts: his articulateness, his zeal for the Faith and his rare prudence. He was later chosen as archbishop of the island of Crete, where he was greatly beloved by the people. Andrew wrote many learned books, poems and canons, of which the best-known is the Great Canon of Repentance, a compunctionate hymn that examines all the Holy Scriptures to urge all souls to imitate good deeds and shun evil ones, thus returning to God. It is read in full on the Thursday of the Fifth Week of the Great Fast. Andrew's soul went to the Kingdom of Christ, in about the year 723.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyrs Theodore of Cyrene and Lucia; and Venerable Andrei Rublev.

*By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.*





## RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

## ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

## THE EPISTLE

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

### The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (2:10-16)

Brethren, glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek; for there is no respect of persons with God. For as many as have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law; and as many as have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law (for it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before God but the doers of the Law are justified. For when the nations who do not have the Law do by nature the things contained in the Law, these then, in spite of not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, and their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them) in the day when God judges the secrets of persons, according to my gospel, through Jesus Christ.

## THE GOSPEL

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:18-23)

At that time, as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. And going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And He went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.



## WISDOM:

To repent is not to look downwards at my own shortcomings, but upwards at God's love, it is not to look backwards with self-reproach but forward with trustfulness; it is to see not what I have failed to be, but what by the grace of Christ I might yet become. -St. John Climacus

From [The Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete](#) (Thursday of the fifth week of Great Lent)

He is my Helper and Protector, and has become my salvation. This is my God and I will glorify Him. My father's God and I will exalt Him. For gloriously has He been glorified. (Exodus 15:2, 1; Psalm 117:14)

Refrain: Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Where shall I begin to lament the deeds of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer, O Christ, for my present lamentation? But in Thy compassion grant me release from my falls.

Come, wretched soul, with thy flesh, confess to the Creator of all. In the future refrain from thy former brutishness, and offer to God tears in repentance.

Having rivaled the first-created Adam by my transgression, I realize that I am stripped naked of God and of the everlasting kingdom and bliss through my sins. (Genesis 3)

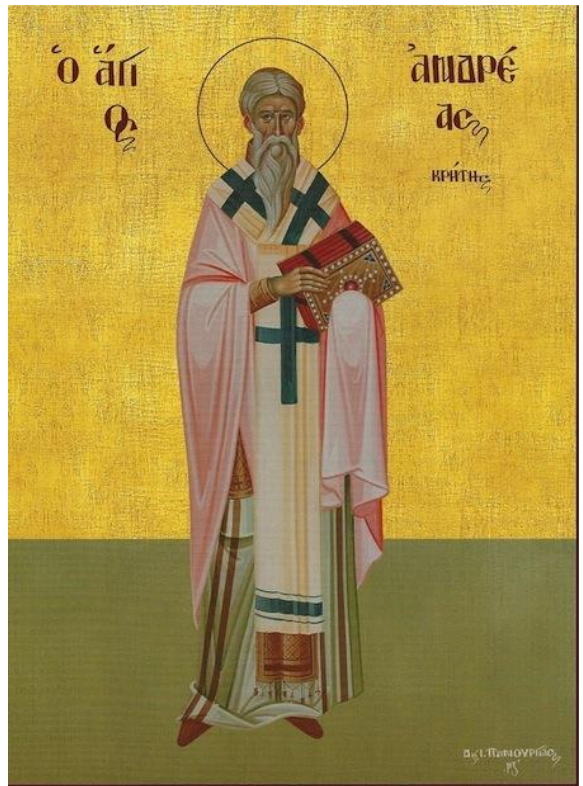
Alas, wretched soul! Why art thou like the first Eve? For thou hast wickedly looked and been bitterly wounded, and thou hast touched the tree and rashly tasted the forbidden food.

The place of bodily Eve has been taken for me by the Eve of my mind in the shape of a passionate thought in the flesh, showing me sweet things, yet ever making me taste and swallow bitter things.

Adam was rightly exiled from Eden for not keeping Thy one commandment, O Savior. But what shall I suffer who am always rejecting Thy living words? (Hebrews 12:25; Genesis 3:23)

I have willfully incurred the guilt of Cain's murder, since by invigorating my flesh I am the murderer of my soul's awareness, and have warred against it by my evil deeds. (Genesis 4:8)

I have not resembled Abel's righteousness, O Jesus. I have never offered Thee acceptable gifts, nor divine actions, nor a pure sacrifice, nor an unblemished life. (Genesis 4:4)



Like Cain, we too, O wretched soul, have likewise offered to the Creator of all foul deeds, defective sacrifice and a useless life. Therefore we too are condemned. (Genesis 4:5; Hebrews 11:4)

In molding my clay into life, O Potter, Thou didst put in me flesh and bones, breath and vitality. But, O my Creator, my Redeemer and Judge, accept me who repents. (Genesis 2:7; Jeremiah 18:1-10; Romans 9:21)

I confess to Thee, O Savior, the sins I have committed, and the wounds of my body and soul which murderous thoughts like robbers within have inflicted upon me. (Luke 10:30)

I have sinned, O Savior, yet I know that Thou art the Lover of men. Thou strikest compassionately and pitiest warmly. Thou seest me weeping and runnest towards me as the Father recalling the Prodigal. (Luke 15:20)

In old age even, O Savior, do not cast me out empty to hell as I lie prostrate before Thy gates. But before my end, in Thy love for men, grant me release from my falls.

I am the one by my thoughts who fell among robbers; and now I am all wounded by them, full of sores. But stand by me, O Christ my Savior, and heal me. (Luke 10:30)

The priest saw me first and passed by on the other side. Then the Levite took a look at my sufferings and disdained my nakedness. But stand by me, O Jesus Who didst dawn out of Mary, and have compassion on me. (Luke 10:31-33)

O Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of all, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion grant me tears of compunction (John 1:29)

It is time for repentance. I draw near to Thee, my Creator. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion grant me tears of compunction.

Abhor me not, O Savior, cast me not away from Thy face. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion grant me release from my falls.

All my sins, voluntary and involuntary, obvious and secret, known and unknown, forgive, O Savior, for Thou art God; be merciful and save me.

From my youth, O Christ, I have rejected Thy commandments. I have passed my whole life without caring or thinking as a slave of my passions. Therefore, O Savior, I cry to Thee: At least in the end save me.

I have squandered in profligacy my substance, O Savior, and I am barren of virtues and piety; but famished I cry: O Father of mercies, forestall and have compassion on me. (Luke 15:13, 17)

I fall prostrate before Thee, O Jesus. I have sinned against Thee, be merciful to me. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion grant me tears of compunction.

Enter not into judgment with me, by recording my deeds, demanding an account of my words, and examining my motives and desires. But in Thy compassion disregard my terrible past and save me, O God All-Powerful.

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

*{If you want to include an announcement in the Sunday bulletin, please email Simon by Thursday evening.}*

**July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration at Sandberg's home is CANCELLED:** Due to the unusual heat wave and a late delivery of backyard patio and garden materials, we decided to cancel our gathering at the Sandberg home. I apologize to anyone making plans to come, but we will be planning another opportunity in the Fall when it is much cooler. Stay cool and drink plenty of water!

**Men's Gathering:** Thursday July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm at the Molloy home. We'll plan our first service project with the help of Rob Schannep. Please bring a "finger food" to share for our Tapas themed meal. Call Aaron Plew (805) 312-5810 with questions.

## ON-GOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**St. Herman of Alaska Scholarship:** Congratulations to Basil Plew for receiving the St. Herman of Alaska Scholarship this year. Many Years!

**Help needed in the Cemetery:** Eleni is setting aside every Wednesday from 10am to noon (just 2 hours a week) to work in the cemetery, weeding, and general maintenance. ANYONE WHO WANTS TO HELP, PLEASE COME, bring your own tools, gloves, etc. Thank you!

**Volunteers are needed to attend Right-to-Life booth:** Jeane Wood is coordinating an effort along with Holy Myrrhbearers Church to attend a Right-to-Life booth at the Kootenai County Fair from August 20<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. There are many options, including short shifts. *If you have questions, please contact Jeane Wood (208) 660-3046, [plastinowood@gmail.com](mailto:plastinowood@gmail.com).*

**Teachers are needed for preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.** If you are interested in teaching our children after liturgy on Sundays, *please talk with Jen Jensvold or Jan Truebenbach.*

**Parents, please tell your children that the downstairs is off limits** unless an adult is with them at all times. We are preparing the space for our Christian Education programs and the children may get into things. "Unsafe it is to leave unattended children downstairs." -Yoda

**Help keep our Church beautiful!** We need volunteers for Church clean up. The areas requiring cleaning are the nave, narthex, hallway, upstairs restrooms, and hall floor. To sign up, please go to <https://signup.com/go/NcUVdJr>

**FREE Lumex Adult Folding Walker with Wheels.** Teresa Chala has a brand-new adult walker to give to anyone who needs it. For more information, call: (509) 475-0671



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS [Calendar]

**Saturday, July 3:** Great Vespers 6pm

**Sunday, July 4:** Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am

**Wednesday, July 7:** Vespers 6pm

**Thursday, July 8:** Virtual PLC (see Diocese of Los Angeles Parish Life Conference)

**Friday, July 9:** Virtual PLC; Teen YA Retreat in Bonner's Ferry; Spiritual Circle 9:30am

**Saturday, July 10:** Virtual PLC; Teen YA Retreat in Bonner's Ferry; Great Vespers 6pm

**Sunday, July 11:** Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am; Neena Rothstein Baptism

## EPISTLE READERS

7/4 Aaron Plew

7/11 Rob Schannep

7/18 TBD

7/25 Rob Schannep

*If you would like to read the Epistle, please contact Aaron Plew or sign up: **Epistle Readers***

## CLEANING ROTATION (nave, narthex, hallway, upstairs restrooms, and hall floor)

Week of 7/4 Dcn. Joseph & Sh. Susan

Week of 7/11 Sandbergs & Tim Peterson

Week of 6/18 Jeane Rickert & Volunteer\*

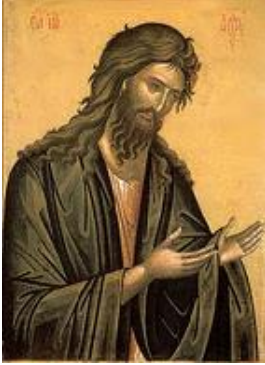
Week of 6/27 Volunteer Needed\*

***\*Volunteers needed! Please sign up at Church clean-up! Or contact Sh. Susan: (940)723-1726***

**PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING:** Weaver family, Khouria Joanna, John/Steven Wood, Korbin (friend of Alyson Gross), Charalambos and Eugenia (Mary Welsh's parents), James & Helen Odell, those suffering with the Covid-19 virus and those caring for the sick and suffering, victims of injustice and social unrest, Metropolitans Paul and John (hostages in Syria), the suffering Christians throughout the Middle East.

**PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED:** Bryce (Jeane Wood's cousin), Victims of abortion, Victims of the Covid-19 virus, Victims of injustice and social unrest, the departed Christians throughout the world who have died for the Faith.





### ***Troparion of St. John the Baptist***

*The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is enough for thee, O Forerunner. For thou wast shown to be more wonderful than the prophets since thou wast granted to baptize Him whom thou didst proclaim. Then having endured great suffering for the truth thou didst rejoice to bring even to those in hades the good tidings, that God who hast appeared in the flesh, takes away the sins of the world, and grants us great mercy.*