

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



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Reader Julius Kovach,
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Erin Zawolowycz
Ambo Editor

Divine Services

Eve Sundays & Feast Days

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sundays and Feast Days

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Please check weekly schedule
for specific days

AMBO: Articles for publica-
tion should be submitted to:

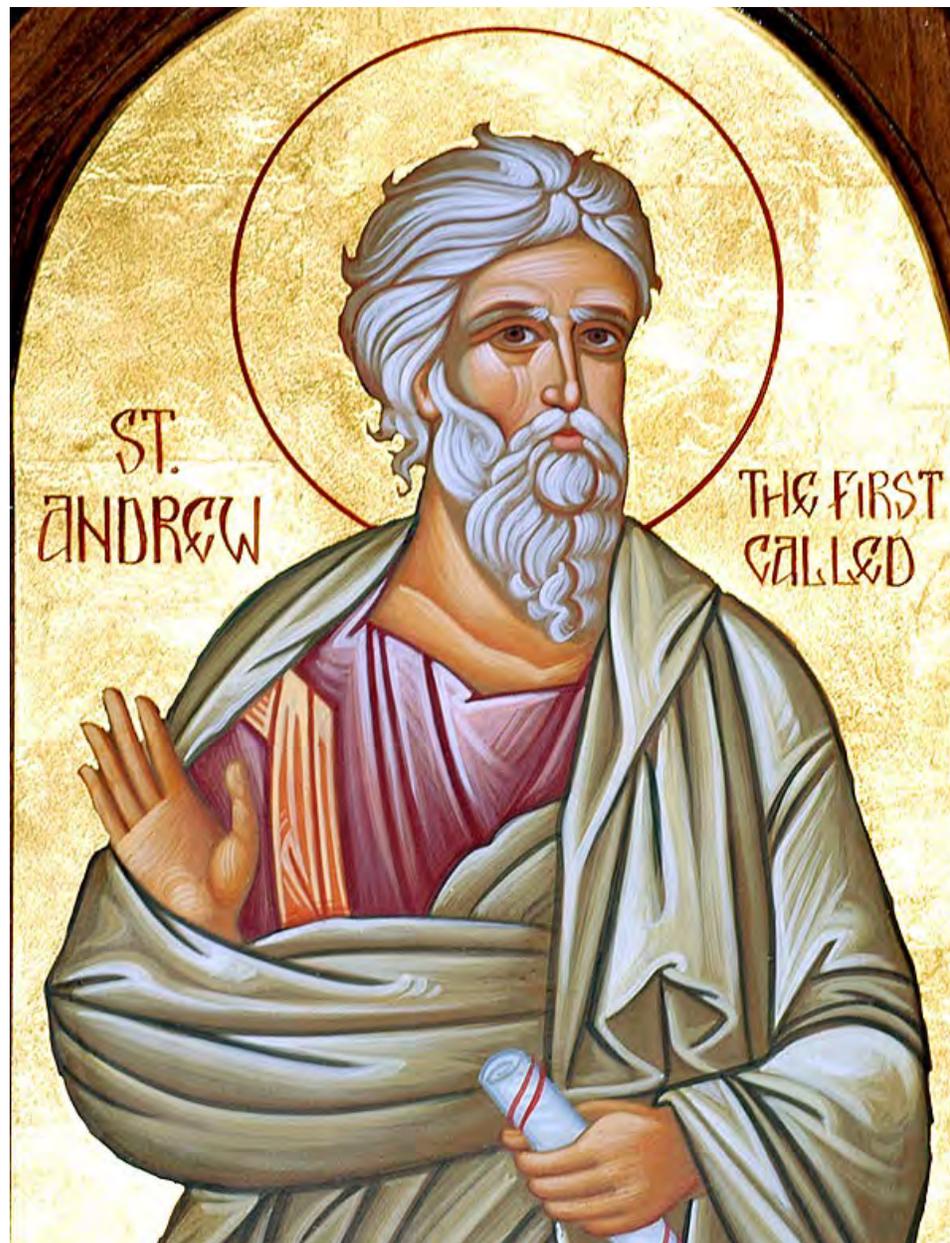
[ambo-theodosius](mailto:ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com)

[@googlegroups.com](mailto:ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com)

by Wednesday of each week
before noon.

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

MARTYR PARAMON AND 370
MARTYRS IN BITHYNIA



Apostle Andrew, the Holy and All-Praised First-Called (November 30)

The Holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called was the first of the Apostles to follow Christ, and he later brought his own brother, the holy Apostle Peter, to Christ (John 1:35-42). The future apostle was from Bethsaida, and from his youth he turned with all his soul to God. He did not enter into marriage, and he worked with his brother as a fisherman. When the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John began to preach, Saint Andrew became his closest disciple. Declaring Christ to be the Lamb of God, Saint John the Baptist himself sent to Christ his own two disciples, the future Apostles Andrew and John the Theologian.

After the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, Saint Andrew went to the Eastern lands preaching the Word of God. He went through Asia Minor, Thrace, Macedonia, he reached the River Danube, went along the coast of the Black Sea, through Crimea, the Black Sea region and along the River Dniepr he climbed to the place where the city of Kiev now stands.

He stopped overnight on the hills of Kiev. Rising in the morning, he said to those disciples that were with him: "See these hills? Upon these hills shall shine forth the beneficence of God, and there will be a great city here, and God shall raise up many churches." The apostle went up around the hills, blessed them and set up a cross. Having prayed, he went up even further along the Dniepr and reached a settlement of the Slavs, where Novgorod was built. From here the apostle went through the land of the Varangians towards Rome for preaching, and again he returned to Thrace, where in the small village of Byzantium, the future Constantinople, he found-

ed the Church of Christ. The name of the holy Apostle Andrew links the mother, the Church of Constantinople, with her daughter, the Russian Church.

On his journeys the First-Called Apostle endured many sufferings and torments from pagans: they cast him out of their cities and they beat him. In Sinope they pelted him with stones, but remaining unharmed, the persistent disciple of Christ continued to preach to people about the Savior. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the Lord worked miracles. By the labors of the holy Apostle Andrew, Christian Churches were established, for which he provided bishops and clergy. The final city to which the Apostle came was the city of Patra, where he was destined to suffer martyrdom.

The Lord worked many miracles through His disciple in Patra. The infirm were made whole, and the blind received their sight. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the illustrious citizen Sosios recovered from serious illness and Maximilla and Stratokles, the wife and brother of the governor of Patra, were healed. The miracles accomplished by the Apostle and his fiery speech enlightened almost all the citizens of the city of Patra with the true Faith.

Few pagans remained at Patra, but among them was the prefect of the city, Aegeatos. The Apostle Andrew repeatedly turned to him with the words of the Gospel. But even the miracles of the Apostle did not convince Aegeatos. The holy Apostle with love and humility appealed to his soul, striving to reveal to him the Christian mys-

Merrick House Angel Tree Update

Thank you VERY much to all who participated in our Merrick House Angel Tree! With the pandemic, I wasn't sure it would work out this year, but it was a real success. All gifts (with name tags!) need to be at church no later than Sunday Dec. 13.

Any questions, please see Dan Morris. God bless you richly for your generosity.

- Reader Dan Morris

tery of life eternal, through the wonderworking power of the Holy Cross of the Lord. The angry Aegeatos gave orders to crucify the apostle. The pagan thought he might undo Saint Andrew's preaching if he were to put him to death on the cross.

Saint Andrew the First-Called accepted the decision of the prefect with joy and with prayer to the Lord, and went willingly to the place of execution. In order to prolong the suffering of the saint, Aegeatos gave orders not to nail the saint's hands and feet, but to tie them to the cross. For two days the apostle taught the citizens who gathered about. The people, in listening to him, with all their souls pitied him and tried to take Saint Andrew down from the cross. Fearing a riot of the people, Aegeatos gave orders to stop the execution. But the holy apostle began to pray that the Lord would grant him

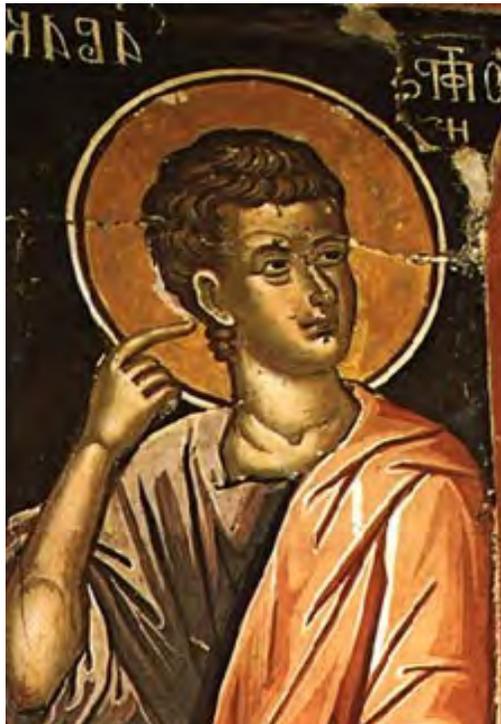
death on the cross. Just as the soldiers tried to take hold of the Apostle Andrew, they lost control of their hands. The crucified apostle, having given glory to God, said: "Lord Jesus Christ, receive my spirit." Then a blazing ray of divine light illumined the cross and the martyr crucified upon it. When the light faded, the holy Apostle Andrew had already given up his holy soul to the Lord. Maximilla, the wife of the prefect, had the body of the saint taken down from the cross, and buried him with honor.

A few centuries later, under the emperor Constantine the Great, the relics of the holy Apostle Andrew were solemnly transferred to Constantinople and placed in the church of the Holy Apostles beside the relics of the holy Evangelist Luke and Saint Paul's disciple Saint Timothy.

The Holy Prophet Habakkuk (commemorated December 2), the eighth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, was descended from the Tribe of Simeon, and he prophesied around 650 B.C.

The Prophet Habakkuk foresaw the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple, the Babylonian Captivity and the later return of the captives to their native land. During the war with the Babylonians the prophet withdrew to Arabia, where the following miracle occurred. When he was bringing dinner to the reapers, he met an angel of the Lord, and instantly by the strength of his spirit he was transport-

ed to Babylon, where at the time the Prophet Daniel was languishing in prison. The food intended for the reapers assuaged the hunger of the exhausted Prophet Daniel (Dan. 14:33-37).



After the end of the war with the Babylonians, the Prophet Habakkuk returned to his homeland and died at a great old age. His relics were found at the time of Emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), together with the relics of the Prophet Micah (August 14).

The Fourth Ode of the Psalter ("O Lord, I have heard thy report, and was afraid...") is based on Habakkuk 3:2-19.

CONFESSION

There are four fasting seasons in the Orthodox Church: the Nativity Fast (or St. Philip's Fast as St. Philip is commemorated on November 14 with the Fast beginning on November 15 lasting until the celebration of the Incarnation of Christ), Apostle's Fast (Monday following All Saints Sunday), the Dormition Fast (starting on August 1, going until the Feast of the Dormition August 15), and the Great Fast (beginning forty days before Pascha).

As we are now in the Nativity Fast, our thoughts turn to preparing for this great and saving Feast. We abstain from certain foods, increase our corporate and private prayer life, give alms, and increase reading the Bible and spiritual works. The Holy Orthodox Church defines fasting as abstaining from meat and dairy product, and eating a sparse meal once a day. How one accomplishes this fasting regimen is a personal matter between the person themselves and our Lord.

Frequently asked questions about the holy mystery of Confession are: 1) What should I confess?; 2) What should I say?; and 3) How often should I go to confession?

Generally one should come to confession whenever one commits a sin. It is very important for us to spiritually examine our souls, then confessing the sins we have committed. One of the suggestions is to come to Confession at the very least once per year, although coming during the fasting seasons is a good place to start.

One then may ask: What is a sin? A sin is anything contrary to the love and will of God. We really know what sins are, even though we try to justify our-

selves, and not really admit to them. One should take some time before coming to Confession and look deeply into the heart and soul, seeing where we have fallen away from the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. One way of doing this is to consider the Ten Commandments, but something even better is to examine our lives against the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12).

Once we have examined ourselves, we come to the Church and participate in the Mystery of Confession during which we tell our sins to our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has promised to forgive our sins, in the presence of our Spiritual Father. We then unburden ourselves by telling our Spiritual Father the sins we have committed. We should tell him whatever is in our hearts, without fear of judgment. He then is able to offer guidance for us to correct our lives, and gives assurance of our Lord's forgiveness.

Take advantage of this Nativity Fast to come to Confession. Generally, Confessions are heard on Saturday evening beginning at about 5:15pm. This give ample time to quietly and thoughtfully confess what is on our heart. One should refrain from coming for Confession on Sunday morning, as this is a very rushed time with Divine Liturgy beginning so soon. Depending on the serving schedule, either Fr. John Zdinak, or Fr. John Adamcio are available on Saturday afternoon to hear your confession. To be sure, you may contact Fr. Protodeacon Daniel Boerio to alert either of us to you wish to come to Confession. Don't delay! Come to Confession and prepare to have a most blessed and joyous Feast of the Nativity of Christ!

FAITH ENRICHMENT ON HOLD UNTIL 1/14/2021

Faith Enrichment is on hold until January 14th, 2021. Please contact Subdeacon Leon Felon at (440) 666-7601 if you have any questions.



PRAYER REQUESTS



Departed:

Archbishop David

Patriarch Irinej

Marguerite Mihal (*Paul Mihal's mother*)

Special Intentions:

Deacon Paul Mitchell (*Tom Mitchell's father*)

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Reader Paul Pangrace

Arlene Czajkowski

Child Mary Kate Zweidunger

Child Vivian Sherer

Melissa (*cousin of Mary Ann Kovach*)

Lyndsey (*friend of Melissa McCutcheon*)

Elizabeth (Betty) Balasz

Marie Borland

Sandra Brello

Elsie Conrad

Horia Dascalescu

Debra Ellis

Gregory Galan

Aleksei Green

Virginia Haupt (*Lisa Theodore's mother*)

Don Hinkl

Matthew Hunly (*Phyllis Gindlesperger's brother-in-law*)

Diane Kearsey (*Janice Tkacz's sister*)

Mara Kilbane (*Melissa McCutcheon's*

granddaughter)

Annamarie Luvison (*Daughter of Kaite Ellis-Luvison*)

Chris Magee (*Erin Zawolowycz's brother*)

Melissa McCutcheon

Paul Mihal

Natalya Miller (*Arlene Neale's great-niece*)

Andrew Mytrohovich

Debra Parhamovich (*Karen Felon's sister*)

Grace Parhamovich (*Karen Felon's mother*)

Jim Paulitzky (*Jerry Czajkowski's son-in-law*)

James Peter Petkac

Susan Reese (*friend of Jerry & Arlene Czajkowski and Betty Balasz*)

Elena Rich (*Jerry Czajkowski's daughter*)

Joseph Rusynyk

Andrew Sykaluk

Elaine Sudnick (*Joy Pfeiffer's mother*)

Tony Sykaluk (*friend of Lydia Mytrohovich*)

Janice Tkacz

Joanne Theodore (*Lisa Theodore's mother-in-law*)

Gayle Vidovitch

Eleanor Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

Robert Walsh (*friend of the Felons*)

Colleen Walsh (*friend of the Felons*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Kristin Robinson

Janet Budko (*sister-in-law of Arlene Neale*)

Laurie Budko (*niece of Arlene Neale*)

Alex Ponomarenko

Mary Kay Weber

Mirta Szewczyk (*friend of Tatiana*)

Mickey O'Brien (*friend of Arlene*)

Roger Pinta Jr.

Kelly Buehner

Anna Sykaluk (*friend of Tatiana*)

Edward Zewczyk (*friend of Tatiana*)

Joe Czajkowski (*son of Jerry*)

Patrick Gallagher

Nathan Pozderac

Elliott Udell (*grandson of Michael Udell*)

Constance Zimmerman (*Cindy's cousin*)

Denny Kovach

Karen Felon

William Nasi (*brother-in-law of Kenneth Kovach*)

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 29

Nov 29
 Mark 16:9-20
 Eph 4:1-6
 Luke 13:10-17

Nov 30
 1 Peter 1:1-2:6
 1 Peter 2:21-3:9
 1 Peter 4:1-11
 Matt 4:18-23
 1 Cor 4:9-16
 John 1:35-51
 1 Tim 1:1-7
 Luke 19:37-44

Dec 1
 1 Tim 1:8-14
 Luke 19:45-48

Dec 2
 1 Tim 1:18-20, 2:8-15
 Luke 20:1-8

Dec 3
 1 Tim 3:1-13
 Luke 20:9-18

Dec 4
 Heb 13:7-16
 Luke 12:32-40
 1 Tim 4:4-8, 16
 Luke 20:19-26

Dec 5
 Wis 3:1-9
 Wis 5:15-6:3
 Wis 4:7-15

Luke 6:17-23
 Gal 5:22-6:2
 Matt 11:27-30
 Gal 3:8-12
 Luke 12:32-40

Dec 6
 Composite 2—Proverbs 10, 3, 8
 Prov 10:31-11:12
 Wis 4:7-15
 Luke 24:1-12
 Heb 13:17-21
 Luke 6:17-23
 Eph 5:9-19
 Luke 17:12-19

ST. THEODOSIUS IS NOW A SUBSCRIBER TO TITHE.LY

In response to requests to be able to donate electronically, we have set up a Tithe.ly account so people can donate either regularly or for special occasions online. Click here to see: <https://www.sttheodosius.org/donate> Special thanks to Council Vice President Cathy Weber and our new Webmaster Kate Zolikoff for making this happen.



Sunday, Nov 29

Martyr Paramon and 370 Martyrs in Bithynia
 3rd and 6th Hours read at 8:40 AM
 Liturgy Begins 9:00 AM

Monday, Nov 30

Holy and All-Praised Apostle Andrew the First-Called

Tuesday, Dec 1

Venerable Botolph of Iken

Wednesday, Dec 2

Prophet Habákkuk

Thursday, Dec 3

Prophet Zephaniah
 No Faith Enrichment this week

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

2020

Friday, Dec 4

Glorification of Heiromartyr
 Protopresbyter Alexander Hotovitzky

Saturday, Dec 5

Ven. Sabbas the Sanctified
 5:15 PM Confessions
 6:00 PM Great Vespers
 with visit by St. Nicholas

Sunday, Dec 6

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker,
 Archbishop of Myra in Lycia
 3rd and 6th Hours read at 8:40 AM
 Liturgy Begins 9:00 AM