

Diocese of
Los Angeles
and the
West

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PROPHET ELIJAH

Antiochian Orthodox Church



Apolytikion / Troparion (Tone 4)

*The incarnate Angel, and
the Prophet's summit and boast,
the second forerunner of the
coming of Christ our God,
Elijah, the glorious, from above
sent down his grace upon Elisha;
he doth cast out sickness
and also cleanse lepers,
and unto all that honor him,
he poureth forth streams of cures.*

Our Mission is dedicated to the Prophet Elijah,
Patron and protector of our community.

Sunday, July 20th, 2025
Prophet Elijah the Thesbite & Sixth Sunday of Matthew

Tone 5 / Eothinon 6
Epistle: St. James 5:10-20
Gospel: St. Matthew 9:1-8
Homilist: Fr. Paul Moses Jaroslaw

OUR PASTOR:

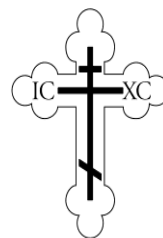
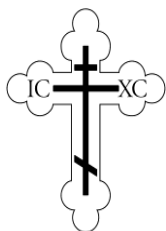
V. Rev. Paul Moses Jaroslaw
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prophetelijahellensburg@gmail.com / www.prophetelijah.net

OUR DEACONS: Rev. Dn. Basil Hinkle & Rev. Dn. Joseph Frangipani

OUR METROPOLITAN:
+Metropolitan SABA

OUR BISHOP: +Bishop ANTHONY

Attached Clergy: Rev. Fr. Andrew Bardwell



Announcements for the Week

1. Today, Sunday July 20th: **Prophet Elijah Patronal Feast Day w/ Baptism of 2 Catechumens @ 9:00 AM /**
& **Divine Liturgy about 10:30 AM** / (followed by Festal Luncheon & Folk-Dancing & Water-Play for the kids, etc...
& **Wedding Crowning of the newly Illumined Gregory & Morwenna Hendrix in the afternoon, about 2:00 PM!**



2. Tonight, Sunday, July 20th: **NO Midnight Divine Liturgy** (12:00 AM) On hold for just a bit, again!



3. Tomorrow, Monday, July 21st – Fri. July 25th: **Fr. Paul in Chicago for Antiochian Archdiocese Convention**



4. Next Sunday, July 27th: **Baptism of 5 Catechumens @ 9:00 AM & Divine Liturgy about 10:30 AM /**
(followed by Festal Luncheon) & **Wedding Crowning of the newly Illumined Anthony & Olga Horton in the**
afternoon, about 2:00 PM!

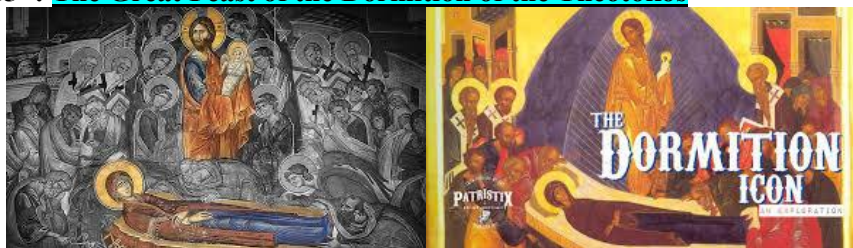


Looking Ahead

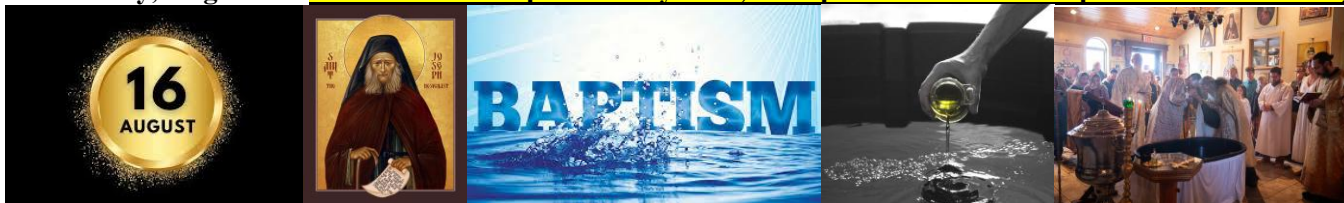
1. Saturday, August 2nd – Wednesday, August 13th: **Fr. Paul & Kh. Thekla in Alaska.**



2. Friday, August 15th: **The Great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos**



3. Saturday, August 16th: **Feast of St. Joseph the Hesychast, & Baptism of Jacob Konopasek & James Hardy**



NORMAL SCHEDULE FOR DAILY SERVICES

SUNDAY

8:45am – Orthros

10:00am – Divine Liturgy

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Midnight <u>Divine</u> <u>Liturgy</u>		8:00am Orthros	8:00am Orthros		
	6:00pm Vespers	6:00pm <u>Divine Liturgy</u>	6:00pm Vespers	6:00pm <u>Divine Liturgy</u>	6:00pm Great Vespers

(Fr. Paul hears confessions on Saturday's before & after Vespers, & by appointment!)

On Sunday, "We should encourage the people to come to Orthros from the very beginning. In the Six Psalms of Orthros, we find all the Christian advice, wisdom, and morality. We cannot come to the Divine Liturgy and receive the Holy Communion without preparation. Orthros is about how to prepare for Divine Liturgy."

(former) **Metropolitan JOSEPH**

NAME DAYS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Name Day</u>	<u>Patron Saint</u>
Jacob Ramsey	July 26 th	St. Yakov Netsvetov of Alaska

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

<u>Member</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Celebration</u>
Kathryn Thompson	July 24 th	Birthday
Xenia Pruitt	July 25 th	Birthday
Efpraxia Pruitt	July 25 th	Birthday

Spiritual Morsels

("If the world is against truth, then I am against the world!" St. Athanasius the Great)

Wherefore on no account suffer any evil habit to master thee; but, while it is yet young, pluck the evil root out of thine heart, lest it fasten on and strike root so deep that time and labor be required to uproot it.

St John Damascene

If you seriously desire true prayer and yet succumb to anger or resentment, you are out of your mind. If you want to see clearly, you do not scratch your eyes. **Evagrius Ponticus**

A desert hermit advised, Do not blame other people of your troubles. Instead, blame yourself. Think, "I am in this situation because of my own choices." **Sayings of the Desert Fathers**

When **Abba Macarius** lived in Egypt, he returned to his cell one day to discover a thief with a donkey who was stealing his belongings. Pretending that he was not the owner, Macarius helped the load his donkey and sent him away with a smile. He thought "We bring nothing into this world. The Lord gives and the Lord takes away. Blessed be the name of the Lord" **Sayings of the Desert Fathers**

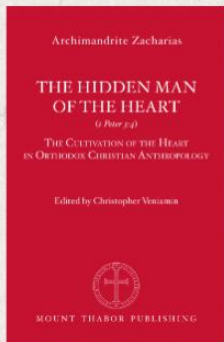
"Today, children are destroyed by two things: first, the secular world in which we live; secondly, the fact that their parents are largely secular. This secular environment has a great impact. Only a few children will be reserved... Audacity makes children unmanageable. Parents will bring their children to me at say: 'Father, my child is possessed.' And I see that the children - God forbid - do not have a demon; possession is a rare thing. Most of them suffer from external demonic influence. In other words, the demon actually rules their life — not from inside, but from the outside. But even in this way, he manages to get the job done. And how does it all start? It starts with impudence and audacity. When children begin to speak to adults with audacity, they drive God's Grace away. And when God's Grace departs, the demons get to work; children become rowdy, and get into all kinds of mischief. But take children who have reverence and respect, who listen to their parents, their teachers and their elders, and you will see that they are full of Grace and blessed by God. God's Grace protects and shelters them."

"It is actually not unusual to hear even a student at the Athonias Academy to tell the Director, who is a Bishop, 'Holy Director, let's speak man to man.' There is where things have come to. And what's worse, they will come tell you: 'Why? What did I say that was so bad?' He will not say, 'Forgive me, Father, may I have your blessing to express a thought, as dumb as it may be?' Instead, they come to you and speak their mind — as if there were nothing wrong. 'It's your opinion versus mine.' Do you see what I mean? Unfortunately, this same spirit has entered Monasticism and spiritual life. You hear novice monks saying: 'I have told the Elder so many times, but he does not understand me. You know how many times I have told him?' It's like they are saying, 'The Elder will not correct himself.' 'Why,' they go on, 'can't I even express my opinion?' I feel like exploding when I hear such things. And at the end, they will tell you: 'Oh. I didn't realize that I upset you! I'm sorry.' He wants me to forgive him — not for his audacity and impudence, but for making my blood boil!"

"There are times when I get so upset! You see older, serious people, with high positions in society, having a conversation, and then these children come and interrupt with such audacity — only to say something foolish, and they consider it an achievement. I gesture them to stop interrupting, but nothing. You must put them to shame, before they will stop. Otherwise, they will go on talking. No Patristic text says that young people should talk that way. In fact, we read in the *Gerontikon*(*) : 'An Elder once said...' It does not say anywhere: 'A young man once said...' In the old days, children would not speak in the presence of adults; and they were happy with that. Nor did they sit where the adults sat. They were reserved and respectful... On the Holy Mountain, if a monk did not have a white beard, he was not allowed in the choir. Nowadays, everybody is allowed; novices and pre-novices are gathering around the lectern to chant. At least they should behave with respect and reverence." **St. Paisios of Mt. Athos**

(*) - The teachings of the Desert Fathers. The most extensive collection is found in the four volumes called **The Evergetinos**, all four of which are available in English.

INDEED, THE FATHERS TEACH THAT THE ASCENT TO HEAVEN IS CONNECTED WITH THE DESCENT INTO OURSELVES. THE MORE WE SINK OUR ATTENTION DEEP INTO THE SOUL, THE MORE WE FIND OUR SECRET HEART; THROUGH REPENTANCE THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN DESCENDS INTO THE HEART AND MAKES IT PARADISE AND HEAVEN. **METROPOLITAN HIEROTHEOS VLAKOS**



In the Holy Eucharist, we accomplish the exchange of our limited and temporal life for the unlimited and infinite life of God. We offer to God a piece of bread and a little wine, but in that bread and wine, we place all our faith, love, humility, expectation of Him, all our life.

And we say to God, 'Thine own of thine own, we offer unto Thee in all and for all.' We offer to God all our life, having prepared ourselves to come and stand before Him and do this act. And God does the same: He accepts man's offering and He puts His life - the Holy Spirit - in the gifts, transmaking them into His Body and Blood, in which all the fullness of Divinity is present, and He says to man, 'The Holy things unto the holy.' God accepts our gifts and fills them with His life, and He renders them back to us.

Archimandrite Zacharias, *The Hidden Man of the Heart* (Mount Thabor Publishing, 2014), p. 84.

Photos of our Parish

NEWLY ILLUMINED VERONICA & PAISIA ON THE FEAST DAY OF ST. VERONICA & ST. PAISIOS!

