



The Saint Andrew Bugle

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A Bi-Monthly Publication of St. Andrew Orthodox Church
4700 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, California 92507

Dear Ones,

Blessings. A few weeks a new semester began at St. Katherine College in San Marcos, Ca. - an Orthodox liberal arts college started a few years ago in N. County San Diego as most of you know. I am teaching a wonderful class there this semester on Thursday nights entitled, Contemporary Orthodox Elders. It is an upper division Theology class, and we survey the lives and teachings of incredible Christian ascetics who are either currently living or have reposed in the last 50 years - all of them love-gifts from the Glorified Christ to us- His people.

The first Elder we discussed was Elder Epiphanius (Theodoropoulos) of Athens who reposed in 1989. He was an incredible Archimandrite and father-confessor who served at the small Three Holy Hierarchs Chapel in downtown Athens, and was spiritual father for thousands of people.

He had a beautiful ministry with married people and families, and encouraged and guided many parents through the challenges of child rearing.

He is famous for many inspired words, and I share one here with you.

"When you are free (unmarried) you have rights and responsibilities. When you get married you have fewer rights and many responsibilities. When you have children you have no rights, and only responsibilities."! !

When he would do a baptism for a couple of a child who was their 4th or 5th child - he would always encourage the parents by telling them at the end that to welcome children like this was to embrace a form of martyrdom! The sacrifice is greatly pleasing to God, and God will respond with His loving paternal blessing and support.

In this edition of the BUGLE you will see that many of our parents are accepting God's call to embrace children, give up rights, and tackle responsibilities. Let it be known - through the soul-encouraging words of Elder Epiphanius - that this is a great work well-pleasing to God! We are proud of our parents, and we ask God to assist them in the beautiful and difficult work of child-rearing.

Assuring you of my love and prayers, I remain,

In Christ,

Father Josiah

Elder Epiphanius
of Athens



Please note that beginning with this issue, the Bugle will be published bi-monthly
Help is needed to collect material and assist the publisher.

If you can assist, please contact Lucy Hanna at her email address below.

ST. ANDREW COMMUNITY NEWS...



FEAST OF ST. ANDREW THE FIRST-CALLED

What a wonderful feast of our Patron St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle we had! The festivities began on Friday night, November 27 with a young adult get together. Young adults 18 or over came together for a meal out on the plaza and then moved inside the temple to hear our guest speaker for the weekend, Fr. John Parker, pastor of Holy Ascension Orthodox Church in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, and a discussion on “**Serious vs. Nones and Dones: How to have Strong Faith in a Generation of the Uncommitted**”.

On Saturday evening, following Great Vespers, our annual Patronal Feast Banquet was enjoyed by about 160 parishioners and guests with Keynote address by Fr. John Parker entitled “The Mission of Your Parish”

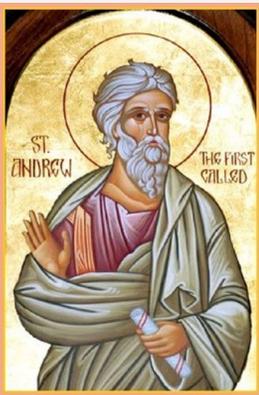
On Sunday morning, Fr. John was the homilist at the Divine Liturgy. On Sunday night, November 29, and

Monday morning, November 30, the celebration was crowned with the services of the actual Feast Day.

At the Divine Liturgy on Monday morning, an amazing sight was beheld by those in attendance. A bright light shone straight down on the Saint’s icon as he presided over his feast. He demonstrated his protection as patron of our church in such a visible manner, you could feel his presence.



† Who is the Holy, Glorious and Illustrious Apostle Andrew the First-Called †



He was the brother of the Apostle Peter, from Bethsaida on the shore of Lake Gennesaret. Andrew left his fisherman's trade to become a disciple of St John the Baptist. Soon after the Forerunner had baptized Jesus, he said to Andrew and his other disciple John the Theologian, "Behold the Lamb of God!" At this, both disciples followed after Jesus. After conversing with Christ, Andrew hurried home and told his brother Simon Peter, "We have found the Messiah." For being the first to recognize Jesus as the Christ, St Andrew is known as the First-Called.

After Pentecost, Andrew was appointed to preach the Gospel around the Black Sea and in Thrace and Macedonia, travelling as far as Lazica in the Caucasus. According to Slavic tradition his travels took him even further, into the land that was later to be called Russia.

In later travels the Apostle preached throughout Asia Minor with St John the Theologian, then travelled to Mesopotamia, then back to Sinope on the Black Sea, and finally to Patras in the Peloponnese, where he soon established a large community of Christians. One of his converts was Maximilla, the wife of Aegeates, the Proconsul of that region. Aegeates was so angered by his wife's conversion that he had the Apostle arrested and crucified head downwards on a cross in the shape of an "X." The holy Apostle rejoiced to be allowed to suffer the same death as his Master.

The holy relics of St Andrew, after various travels, were returned to Patras in 1964, where they are now venerated. In the West, St Andrew is venerated as the patron of Scotland: in the Middle Ages, more than eight hundred churches in Scotland were dedicated to him.

Introducing our new babies



Youssef & Tamar Ibrahim welcomed their son **Georgy** on Nov. 19, 2015 weighing in at a hefty 11 lbs. and measuring 21" long.



Teddy and Hannah Laurman welcomed their first child, **George** on Dec. 17, 2015 weighing in at 8 lbs. 13ozs and 21.25" long.



Thomas and Maria Ham welcomed their third child, **Penelope Jane** on Nov. 28, 2015 weighing in at 7 lbs. 5ozs and 20" long.



Subdeacon Jeremy and Katie Phillips welcomed their second son, **Ephraim John**. It was a crazy and totally unexpected day, Katie writes, as baby Ephraim was born a few weeks early weighing in at 6 lbs. 1.9ozs and 19" long.



Another early baby was **Roman Anthony**, son of Maximus & Rebecca Diaz. On Jan. 12 Becky wrote: "So, yesterday (Jan 11) we welcomed our new little Diaz into the world! 5 weeks early, but he is a healthy 6lbs 12oz and 19 1/2" long thank God, we couldn't be happier!!!!"



Congratulations to the parents and godparents of these four handsome princes and one beautiful princess. May God grant you all many years!



ST. ANDREW COMMUNITY NEWS... (Continued)



On St. Nicholas Day, Sunday, December 6, 2015, our own seminarian Jeremy Phillips was ordained Subdeacon by the hands of His Grace Bishop Nicholas at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Brooklyn, NY.

Congratulations and many years to Subdeacon Jeremy and to his beautiful wife, Katie, and their adorable boys Symeon and Ephraim.



ST. NICHOLAS DAY CELEBRATION AT ST. ANDREW

On Sunday, December 6, St. Nicholas visited the parish of St. Andrew and was received by the children (and adults) at the parish hall following the Divine Liturgy.

The children, who had left their shoes at the hall before church, came back to find them filled with gifts from Santa. They then gathered with eagerness around Santa to listen to the story of the Nativity of Christ. God grant our beautiful children many, many years.



Happy 50th Birthday George



2016 WALK FOR LIFE

On the weekend of January 22 - 24 a busload of St. Andrew young people (and some oldies too :) traveled to San Francisco for the 11th annual West Coast Walk for Life - to join 50,000 people in praying and walking for an end to legalized abortion.

Our itinerary was terrific. We were hosted most graciously by Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in San Francisco, had two liturgies Saturday and Sunday morning- one at Holy Trinity and one at Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Cathedral - the Shrine of St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco.

We participated in the Walk, were fed by the good people of Holy Trinity, played basketball and volleyball until we couldn't any more, and attended the annual Students for Life Pro-Life Conference at the Catholic Cathedral on Sunday.



One of the joys of the weekend (there were MANY!) was my personal meeting with Roman Catholic Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, one of the country's strongest opponents of abortion and same-sex marriage and meeting Mr. David Daleiden, the man who spearheaded the Planned Parenthood expose videos that have revealed the dark underbelly of Planned Parenthood's illicit trade in aborted baby parts. He is only 27, was the featured speaker at both the DC and SF Walks for Life this last week, and is an incredible young person. I was able to



spend some time with him on Sunday.

Much to my horror, less than a day after being with David, the Grand Jury of Houston- which was convened to investigate the illegal activities of Planned Parenthood, issued an indictment AGAINST DAVID HIMSELF! It is hard to believe that such a travesty of justice could take place - but then again if we won't stop killing a million unborn children a year what won't we do?

Fr. Josiah

UPDATE;

HOUSTON, February 4, 2016 (LifeSiteNews) - This morning, Harris County prosecutor's office offered David Daleiden a plea deal. His legal team, in turn, made a counter-offer.

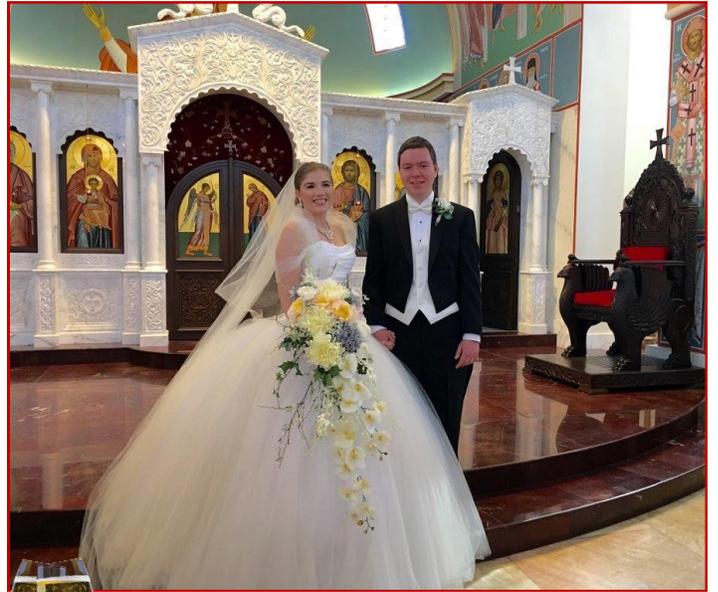
"The only thing we're going to accept right now is an apology," said Terry Yates, one of four attorneys who flanked Daleiden down the corridors of the courthouse as he visited two court rooms to face felony and misdemeanor charges. He confirmed an offer had been made but was unlikely to be accepted. Instead, Yates said that a hearing before Judge Brock Thomas of Texas District 338 had been scheduled for March 28. "At that time, we anticipate filing a couple of motions" asking that all charges be dismissed at once. "We believe the indictments are factually and legally insufficient."



ST. ANDREW COMMUNITY NEWS...(Continued)

O Lord our God, crown them with glory and with honor...!!!

On Saturday, January 2, 2016 our own Elizabeth Joris became Mrs. Rashkeev when she married Kirill Rashkeev from our Antiochian parish of Ss. Peter and Paul in Salt Lake City, Utah. Hearty congratulations to the newly-wed couple and their families.



Presenting Mr. & Mrs. Kirill Rashkeev!



The day's reigning couple presented to their subjects at the elegant reception!



The first dance! The bride and groom twirled to the melody of the "The Snowstorm Waltz" (Sviridov)



Newest icon installed on Friday, January 29 at St. Andrew Church, the “Dormition” on the west wall above the main entrance of the temple, depicting our Lady’s Dormition, her assumption, the apostle Thomas being transported when she gave him her sash, and the apostles at her empty tomb.



On Sunday, Jan. 31, Ramzi and Summer Saba received a blessing on the occasion of their 25th wedding anniversary. God grant them many years!



On Sunday, January 31, our 2016 Parish Council was installed. The new officers are Adam Khoury, Chairman; Gina Bernard, V. Chairman; Christopher Kassaseya, Treasurer and Nectarios Pla, Secretary. May God guide them and all the council members and grant them wisdom in making the decision for the good of our parish.



Memory Eternal....

To our sister in Christ Veronica Khadembashi who fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, December 18, 2015 at the home of her daughter Christina and son-in-law Subdeacon Terrence Frazier. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 23 followed by burial then a Mercy Meal at St. Andrew Parish Hall.

Our deepest sympathies to her family and may Veronica’s memory be eternal.



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