



# The Saint Andrew Bugle

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 1  
MARCH 2019

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

Dear Parishioners,

The Lord's blessing be with you all, and His grace from above to strengthen you all to seek Him with zeal during the Holy Days of Great Lent.

We launched into the Holy Fast with the Liturgical Commemoration of the Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise this last Sunday. Our Mother, the Church, wants to fix our hearts and minds on our true home. Our true home is Paradise, not Riverside, California or the United States. We are exiles and sojourners, and this remains the core fact of our earthly existence no matter how much we love (and we should!) our earthly country.

Learning to live the faithful life of an exile- *both* seeking the good of our land *and* seeking first and above all the Kingdom of God - is a basic virtue for Christians. It is not something to learn at the end of your life, but at the beginning. It is foundational. This is why it is placed at the beginning of our Lenten Journey liturgically, and why it is found so early in St. John of Sinai's *Ladder of Divine Ascent*. The Ladder contains 30 rungs that begin where every Christian begins - in renunciation of the world. Our baptismal candidates publicly renounce the devil and all allegiance to him and the world he rules *before they even step into the baptismal font*. Renunciation is basic, and there is no

Christian who has not renounced the world to become one. Step 2 is detachment for we cannot both love God and money (and all other earthly things). Step 3 is what follows detachment- a life of exile, of wilderness wandering, of patient and consistent journeying toward the Promised Land. Here are a few edifying words from St. John of Sinai in his explanation of what exile or pilgrimage means.

"Exile means that we leave forever everything in our country that prevents us from reaching the goal of piety."

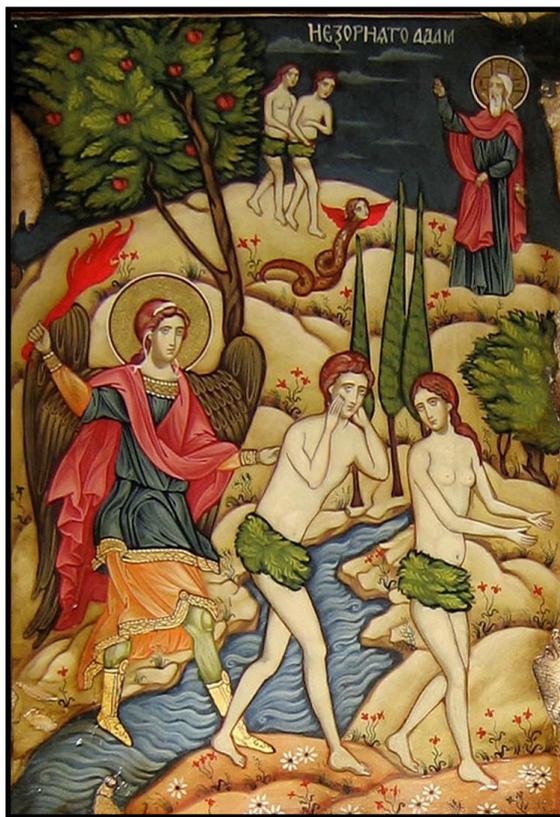
"Run from places of sin as from the plague. For when fruit is not present, we have no frequent desire to eat it."

"Exile means modest manners...a hidden life, an invisible intention, unseen meditation...constant determination to love God, abundance of love...and depth of silence."

May God inspire each of you to sever the cords of attachment to this world that keep you from truly living as an exile, and during the course of the Great Fast strengthen those cords which fix you to God and His Kingdom which is coming upon us even now.

Be assured of my common struggle with you during these days, and of my love and prayers,

Fr. Josiah

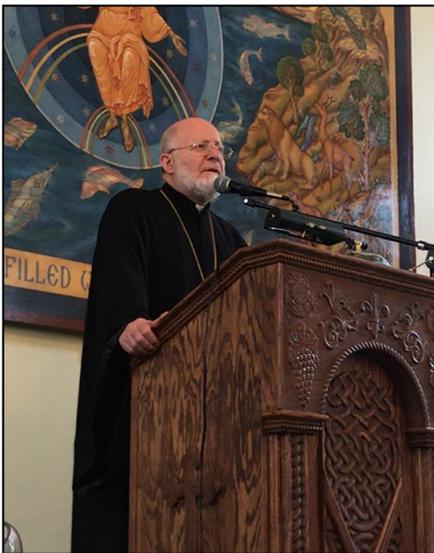


## 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD FOR FR. JOSIAH...

On Sunday, February 17, 2019, the parish of St. Andrew put together a surprise celebration for Fr. Josiah on the occasion of his 25th anniversary in the Holy Priesthood. We timed with the annual hierarchical visit of His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH. We pulled off a complete surprise for Fr. Josiah, complete with an elegant lunch following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. Following the opening prayer, the St. Andrew children, teen and adult choirs joined in singing many years to their beloved spiritual father. Several Southern California clergy from sister parishes attended the lunch, including Fr. Michael Laffoon who gave a moving tribute on behalf of the clergy. Also attending were Father's mother, Leigh Trenham, who is longtime parishioner of St. Andrew, and his father Noble Trenham. A monetary gift from the parish was presented to Father by Parish Council Chairman, Christopher Kassaseya.



The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy



Kh. Catherine gave a moving account of Father's life as a priest, a husband and a father. She then introduced our keynote speaker, His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH who spoke about Father's amazing ministry within and outside of our parish saying: *"Father Josiah, it is with the greatest joy that I join you today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of your ordination to the holy priesthood. When I first arrived on the West Coast in 1995, you were a new, young, assistant priest. You came to me with a request to study St. John Chrysostom's writings in England and I told you to study this great saint here through serving a parish. You were obedient! You started with a dream of building a large parish that would be a beacon of Orthodoxy in Southern California. For many, dreams remain dreams. In your case, however, your dream became a reality. Through your hard work and dedication, you have not only built a magnificent temple, but you have built dedicated souls striving toward the Kingdom of God. As such, you have used your time and talents to the best of your ability and we are proud of your accomplishments and example. In fact, you have earned the respect of both your brother clergy both here and abroad, the people you serve and, most of all, of me"*.

Fr. Josiah's children and godchildren also took the stage and made us all tear up as they spoke of their father/godfather with such loving emotion and humor. First-born son, Chad, spoke first followed by Basil and Cassian. All three spoke with passion about the great example their father has set for them and their siblings and how he always made time for his family and never brought home the pressures of his ministry no matter how difficult they were. Absent from the event was the eldest of the 4 daughters, Victoria Jakubowski, who along with her husband Paul, had just welcomed their first-born the previous day. Also Absent was the second of the 6 sons, Aidan, who lives and works in Wichita, KS.



The Trenham Children from left to right: Chad, Basil, Cassian, Gareth (hiding behind the podium), Luke, Olivia, Stasie & Mary Catherine.

### **Fr. Josiah's 25th Anniversary, cont.**

A tribute on behalf of the parish was given by Lucy Hanna and she presented Father with a commemorative book which included letters of congratulations from His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, His Grace Bishop Basil, His Grace Bishop Irenei and about 30 of Father's clergy friends, as well as more than 70 photos representing his life before as well as during his time at St. Andrew to date.

Following this outpouring of love from all who spoke and from the more than 200 people in attendance, Fr. Josiah took the stage and was visibly very moved. In humility, he thanked everyone for their words and said he prays that one day he can get close to being all those things that were said about him. He then continued with the following which is a transcription of his words. Thank you Kh. Robin for recording it.

*"The priesthood is an amazing thing. The supra-celestial grace of the priesthood is the greatest gift of God on earth. Nothing God has given us, is greater than the priesthood. Every good thing flows from the priesthood. St Paul says that after conquering death, Jesus ascended on high and He gave gifts to men, and chief among those gifts is the pastor. When a man becomes a priest - when the bishop puts his hand on your head and makes you a priest, he says that you are 'axios', you are 'worthy', and then the people repeat that and they say 'axios'; but any priest worth his salt knows he is totally 'unworthy'. He is only worthy by the grace of God and by the judgement of his spiritual father—his bishop, and by the acceptance of his worthiness by his people. That is what makes someone worthy and I can only say for all the years of Sayedna's longsuffering with me, I thank you Sayedna and I also ask your forgiveness for the times I have made it difficult to be my bishop; and for all the flock here at St. Andrew, I am deeply grateful for you. I thank God for you. It has been 25 years of joy—25 years of happiness—and I feel very blessed to have Lucy up here, and to have protodeacon up here, Fr. Joseph and Fr. Thomas and all of you. I thank you. If I live for a little bit longer,*



*perhaps what Sayedna has asked us to do might take place. He's asked us to think big and to celebrate the past but to move on to the future. He's given us a commission to try to build a school and that's what I think we're going to try to do. By the grace of God, move on and spend our days trying to do something productive for the kingdom of God and for the salvation of the young people in our parish. Thank you a hundred times over. I love you very much and thank you for coming. Please never have anything like this again". (everyone laughs)*

The event ended joyously with Fr. Josiah and Kh. Catherine mingling among the people, receiving their love and congratulations and blowing out the single candle on every one of the 25 cakes, one on each table.

We would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this event happen: the donors who sponsored the lunch, the cooks, the bakers, the servers, the decorators, those who set up and those who cleaned. Without all your loving and sacrificial work this beautiful event would not have happened.

Congratulations also to our two new Subdeacons who were ordained by His Eminence during the Divine Liturgy: Subdeacon Jason Covarrubias, who did a wonderful job as our Master of Ceremonies at the luncheon, and Subdeacon George Rombach who has served in the St. Andrew Altar for many years.

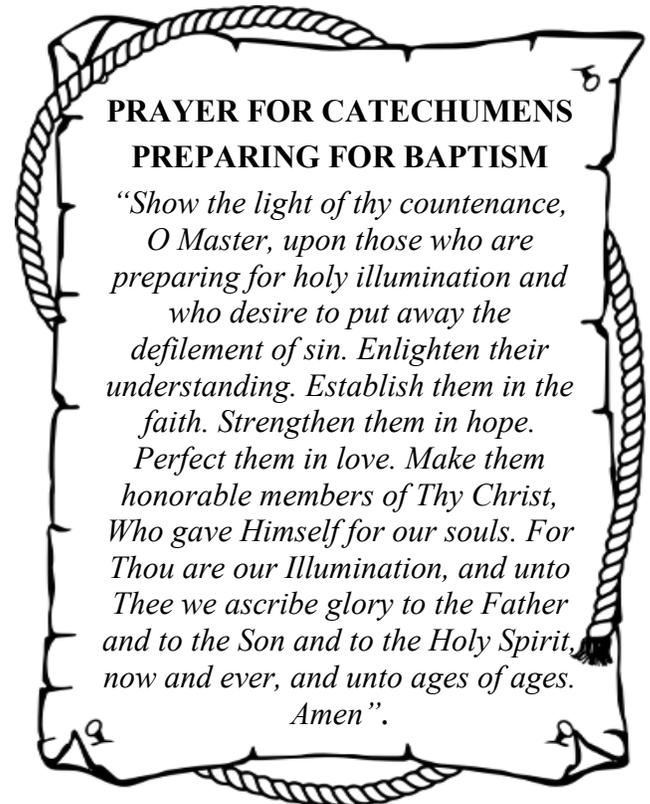


## ST. ANDREW COMMUNITY NEWS...

Please pray for the Catechumens who are preparing to be received into the Orthodox Church on Holy Saturday

Ayala, Angelica  
 Burton, Adrienne  
 Burton, Chris  
 Craig, Olivia  
 Cruz, Anthony  
 Cruz, Carol  
 Cruz, Ethan  
 Cruz, Jon  
 Cuahuizo, Diego  
 Cuahuizo, Edwin  
 Ellen, Astena  
 Garcia, Anthony  
 Geoffrion, Lauren  
 Geoffrion, Nathaniel  
 Gonzalez, Janicia  
 Lavenant, Ashton  
 Lavenant, Boston  
 Lavenant, Brittany  
 Lavenant, Brooke  
 Lavenant, Preston  
 Lavenant, Shaun

Lavenant, Tristan  
 Maiden, Jana  
 Marco, Roza  
 Massaro, Brandon  
 Osuna, Charlie  
 Palmer, Amos  
 Palmer, Jacob  
 Palmer, Jesse  
 Palmer, Oliver  
 Palmer, Teri  
 Palmer, Timothy  
 Palmer, Willow  
 Perez, Angelica  
 Saenz, Lanna  
 Saenz, Miraya  
 Saenz, Samuel  
 Soto, Jorge  
 Tovar, Jose  
 Watters, Mitchell  
 Yocum, Robert  
 Yocum, Sharon



Catechism classes continue on Saturdays at 4pm. Catechism classes are open to all and are very beneficial. This Saturday, March 16, will be catechism #3 "The Holy Eucharist". See list below.



Lecture #:

1. The Mystery of Holy Baptism
2. The Mystery of Chrismation
3. The Mystery of Holy Eucharist
4. The Mystery of Holy Confession
5. The Mystery of Holy Priesthood
6. The Mystery of Holy Matrimony
7. The Mystery of Holy Unction
8. The Mystery of Death and the Funeral

During the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on February 17, all Catechumens present received a special blessing from His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH.

# ST. ANDREW COMMUNITY NEWS...(Cont.)

Congratulations to the new 2019 Parish Council, Myrrhbearers and Teen SOYO boards. May God grant you wisdom to lead our parish to the glory of God.



2019 Parish Council members from L to R: Suzie Wahbeh, John-Cassey Shannon, Gordon Trendt, Lauren Covarrubias (treasurer), Christopher Kassaseya (chairman), Adam Khoury (vice chairman), David Romano (secretary), Jonathan Brubaker and Leo Perrine.



Photo above: SOYO officers L to R: Brigid Griffin V. pres., Anna Jackson, secretary; Patrick Griffin, treasurer; Maria Alexandrescu, president.



Photo to the left, Myrrhbearers 2019 officers from L to R: Taylor Schaefer, co-president; Cindy Joris, co-president; Carrina Jiminez, secretary; Jaclyn Romano, V. president. Not in the picture, Stacie Trenham, treasurer

## Ladies & Girls of St. Andrew mark your calendars for the 21st Annual Annunciation Tea

**Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 11am**

*Guest Speaker: Father Joseph Corrigan*

**Donation: \$5.00 per person**

- ◆ Bring a flower to adorn the icon of our Lady the Theotokos
- ◆ This is a potluck, so please bring a Lenten finger food
- ◆ Invite your family and friends

*Register on the Temple plaza after Liturgy or contact Christina Thomazin at [doctort681@verizon.net](mailto:doctort681@verizon.net)*

*St. Andrew Orthodox Church  
4700 Canyon Crest Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507*



Sponsored by the  
St. Andrew  
Myrrhbearers



## ST. ANDREW COMMUNITY NEWS...(Cont.)

After a year-long hiatus, the St. Andrew Newsletter is back. I want to thank everyone for your patience and prayers for me and for my husband who, although better than a year ago, still needs care and my continuous care.

Because of this long gap, the following is a summary of the parish register covering the period since the last published newsletter (which was in February 2018). to present.

Forgive me,  
Lucy Hanna, Newsletter Publisher

### Parish Register

#### Births

*Evangelina Scines* - born to John & Sarah Scines on February 21, 2018. Godparents, Joseph & Veronica Sirko.

*Annayah Schaefer* - born to Joel & Taylor Schaefer on February 25, 2018. Godparents, Michael & Ruth Hensley.

*Milo Mueller* - born to Nicholas & Lisa Mueller on March 8, 2018. Godparents, Rdr. Andrew & Christina Thomazin.

*Joanna Osadchuk* - born to Michael & Erin Osadchuk on March 10, 2018. Godparents, Isaac & Sarah Lewis.

*Victoria Vasquez* - born to Daniel & Stephanie Vasquez on April 14, 2018. Godparents, Joseph & Marina Thornburg.

*Cyprian Niko Chondropoulos* - born to Christina Chondropoulos on April 16, 2018. Godfather John Chondropoulos.

*Constantine Yanni* - born to Charles & Mira Yanni on May 25, 2018. Godparents, Shadi & Suzie Wahbeh.

*Maria Garcia* - born to Juan Antonio & Maria Politis Garcia on June 27, 2018. Godparents, Paul & Victoria Jakubowski.

*Anna Conrad* - born to James & Katie Conrad on July 18, 2018. Godmother, Tiffany Pla.

*Marguerite Sandoval* - born to Israel & Sarah Sandoval on August 10, 2018. Godparents, Dn. John & Toy Ma'ae.

*Veronika Rahal* - born to George & Maha Rahal on September 14, 2018. Godmother, Presbyteria Catherine Trenham.

*Camille Perrine* - born to Leo & Suzanne Perrine on September 22, 2018. Godparents, Jesse & Thais Tayde Guiles.

*Peter James Chinn* - born to Jonathan & Lindsey Chinn on November 1, 2018. Godparents, Joel and Taylor Schaefer.

*Victoria Henkes* - born to Derek & Christine Henkes on November 8, 2018. Godparents, Paul & Victoria Jakubowski.

*Katarina JoAnn Jakubowski* - born to Paul & Victoria Jakubowski on February 16, 2019. Godparents, to be announced.

#### Adoptions

*Elias Kelley* - born on January 16, 2014 and adopted by Michael & Jennifer Kelley on November 1, 2018. Godmother, Gina Bernard.

*Nicole Kelley* - born on August 26, 2016 and adopted by Michael & Jennifer Kelley on November 1, 2018. Godmother, Tiffany Pla

#### Engagements

*Matthew Dowling & Tiffany Pla* - engaged in October 2018

*Charlie Osuna & Christina Rahal* - engaged in December 2018. Charlie is one of our 2019 catechumens.

#### Marriages

*Elia & Joanna Qumseya* - united in Holy Matrimony on July 1, 2018. Sponsors, Elias Bandak & Eliana Salek.

*Michael & Ashley Khoury* - united in Holy Matrimony on December 30, 2018. Sponsors, Maurice Khoury & Natalie Ghasb.

## Parish Register, cont.

### Departed - Memory Eternal!

#### Don Gedney

Don Gedney, husband of Janice Gedney of our parish, fell asleep in the Lord on July 28, 2018. Don was a Catechumen at the time of his death. May God rest his soul with the angels and may his memory be eternal.



#### Dorothy Andrus

On November 4, 2018, Dorothy Andrus, one of the founders of St. Andrew parish, fell asleep in the Lord at the age of 86. She passed away with the Holy Unction wet on her head, and the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in her mouth. Dorothy, who was a Registered Nurse, served for many years and retired as a Major from the United States Airforce. She was buried on November 20, 2018 with Honor Guard at Riverside National Cemetery. May Dorothy's memory be eternal!



#### Father Ibrahim Chahoud

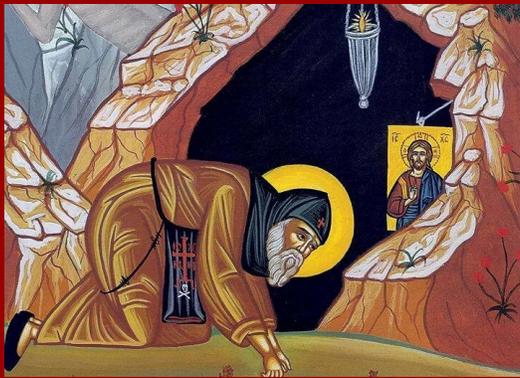
Father Ibrahim Chahoud fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, January 13, 2019.

The Trisagion Service for the Departed were held at St. Mary Church in Murrieta, California, where he served as founding pastor for several years until his health declined and he could no longer serve. The funeral service, presided over by His Grace Bishop THOMAS, was held at St. Andrew Church on January 15. Fr. Ananias, the new pastor of St. Mary's, served with His Grace along with our St. Andrew clergy and other clergy from around the diocese. Following the burial at Evergreen Cemetery in Riverside, a mercy meal was held at St. Andrew Fellowship Hall hosted by our ladies in conjunction with the ladies of St. Mary Church. May Fr. Ibrahim's soul rest in God's Heavenly Kingdom and may his memory be eternal!



#### Basil (Donald) Kelpinsky

Basil Kelpinsky reposed peacefully in the Lord on March 14, 2019 having made his last communion. Basil and his wife Gloria are new members of our parish, having transferred here some months ago from our sister parish, St. Barnabas in Costa Mesa. Basil will be buried at St. Mary and Martha Orthodox Monastery in South Carolina. The funeral service will be at St. Andrew Church on Saturday, March 16, 2019. May Basil's soul rest in peace and may his memory be eternal.

**Prayer of Saint Ephrem**

O Lord and Master of my life,  
take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness,  
lust of power, and idle talk.  
But give rather the spirit of chastity,  
humility, patience and love to your servant.  
Yea, O Lord and King,  
Grant me to see my own sin and not to judge my brother,  
for You are blessed from all ages to all ages. Amen.





## St. Andrew Orthodox Church

4700 Canyon Crest Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507

