

- WELCOMING HOME:

Lydia Margitich is organizing a charitable event here for Saturday, January 30, with the organization “[Welcoming Home](#).” The link takes you to the post made on Groups a few days back. The goal for the day will be to collect and sort through furniture and other household items dropped off/picked up that morning (the pick ups will be done by a moving company) in order to fully set up two apartments for formerly homeless families that very afternoon. Parish Members are invited to donate one or more of the listed household items shown on the link provided. [Click here for more info](#) and to identify what you’d like to donate. Our Parish Council member Freddie Myles will be the parish liaison for this event. I am particularly happy that we are continuing with various charitable activities during these trying times, especially those that let us partner with other organizations (we don’t have to do all the organizing). These activities are a part of our parish ministry to do works of mercy (not optional, according to the Lord Jesus Christ) and to keep a positive presence in the community that Glendi used to provide.—*Fr Lawrence*

- SAINT ANTHONY THE GREAT:

This Sunday we celebrate the life of Anthony the Great of Egypt. You can find a [short account of his Life here](#).

Abba Anthony said: “This is the work of a great man: always to take responsibility for his own sins before God and to expect temptations until his last breath.”

Once he said: “A time is coming when people will go mad and when they see someone who is not mad, they will attack him, saying, “You are mad, you are not like us.”

He also said: “Whoever you may be, always have God before your eyes; whatever you do, do it in accordance with the testimony of the Holy Scriptures; in whatever place you live, do not easily leave it. Keep these three precepts and you will be saved.”

He also said: “From our neighbor is life and death. For if we gain our neighbor, we gain God; and if we scandalize our neighbor we have sinned against Christ.”

He also said: “Always have the fear of God before your eyes. Control your tongue and your stomach. Test yourselves to see if you are worthy of God.”

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION of the HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX Church



January 17, 2021

Feast of St. Anthony the Great of Egypt



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy Disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

- TROPARION OF ST. ANTHONY, Tone Four:

Emulating the ways of Elias the zealot, and following the straight paths of the Baptist, O Father Anthony, thou madest of the wilderness a city; and didst support the world by thy prayers. Wherefore intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

- KONTAKION OF ST. ANTHONY, Tone Two:

Thou leftest behind all earthly cares and turbulence, and leddest a life of stillness and tranquillity, emulating John the Baptist in every way, O most righteous one. Wherefore, we acclaim thee with him, O Father of Fathers, righteous Anthony.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Indicates Streaming and FM transmission on 87.7, KDOX*

- Saturday, January 16: 5 PM, Great Vespers and Matins*
- Sunday, January 17: 9 AM, Baptism of Ania and Matthew Rademacher / Reception of Bob Kulze as catechumen
10 AM, Divine Liturgy and Water Blessing*
- Wednesday, Jan. 20: 5 PM, Vespers*
7 PM, Scripture Study with Fr. James via Zoom
- Thursday, Jan. 21: 7 PM, Parish Council Meeting
- Friday, Jan. 22: 11:30–1:30 PM, Confessions
- Saturday, Jan. 23: 5 PM, Great Vespers and Matins*
- Sunday, Jan. 24: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy*

[Link for Scripture Readings for this Sunday](#)

[Hymns for Saturday evening Vespers](#)

[Home “Typika” Prayer Service for Sunday morning](#)

• CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY YEARS:

Last week’s unfortunate cancellation of Services meant that we were unable to baptize Ania and Matthew, and make Bob Kulze a Catechumen. So all that has been rescheduled for this coming Sunday at 9 AM. Many Years to their sponsors, Matushka Ann—Godmother to Ania; Anastasia Brodeur—Godmother to Matthew and Michael Dovey, his Godfather. We also congratulate and ask God’s blessing and guidance for Bob Kulze, joining the ranks of catechumens. Bob has been attending since the summer. With our outside congregation, and lack of fellowship time, many of you probably have not yet met Bob. Please take a moment to congratulate these wonderful folks.

• GREAT BLESSING OF WATER TODAY:

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy this Sunday, right after “Blessed be the Name of the Lord...” the clergy will proceed outside to the font and bless the water. Normally we all gather ’round the fonts to fill our jars with Holy Water. This year we will have someone fill up jars for you. We will have

seventy-five 16 oz. mason jars to distribute. The *Blessing of Water* is important for us on so many levels. The Readings and Prayers of the *Great Blessing* tell us of God’s presence, His revelation to us so that we may know Him, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and to be one with Him; the readings tell us that nature itself is healed by the presence of the Lord Jesus in the Jordan River, and that the sanctification of water at our own water blessing today is a share in that sanctification both of our own human nature and of the creation itself: “...*water shall burst forth in the desert, and a valley in the thirsty land. The waterless desert shall become meadows, and the thirsty land springs of water. There will be the gladness of birds, a habitation of reeds and marshes. A pure way shall be there, and it shall be called a holy way.*” What joy! What a great responsibility we have to care for God creation that He has entrusted to us. Furthermore, we are given a share in Christ’s destruction of the tyranny of the devil. We ask that the Holy Water will “prove effectual for the averting of every plot of visible and invisible enemies...” The climax is reached, the heart leaps, tears of joy flow, in hearing these words excerpted from lengthy *Prayer of St. Sophronios of Jerusalem*:

Today the Moon with its radiant beams sheds light on the world. Today the stars formed of light make the inhabited world lovely with the brightness of their splendor. Today the clouds rain down from heaven the shower of justice for mankind. Today the Uncreated by his own will accepts the laying on of hands by his own creature. Today the Prophet and Forerunner draws near, but stands by with fear seeing God’s condescension towards us. Today the streams of Jordan are changed into healing by the presence of the Lord. Today all creation is watered by mystical streams. Today the failings of mankind are being washed away by the waters of Jordan. Today Paradise is opened for mortals and the Sun of justice shines down on us...

• WEDNESDAY EVENING SCRIPTURE STUDY:

Fr James continues the study on the *Old Testament Prophecies about the Coming of the Messiah* via Zoom each Wednesday evening at 7 PM.

• YOUR PRAYERS:

Bishop Daniel asks for your prayers as he recovers from his covid infection. Dorothy Erickson asks for prayers for her husband Paul, who is in the ICU with covid related issues. Paul and his wife Dorothy are dear friends of our parish and regularly attend Vespers on Saturday evenings.