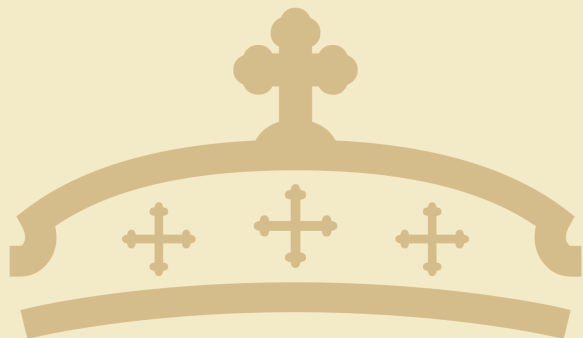


**Thank you!**

*We are very grateful for your continued financial support, which allows St. Anthony's to remain current with its obligations.*

**God Bless You!**



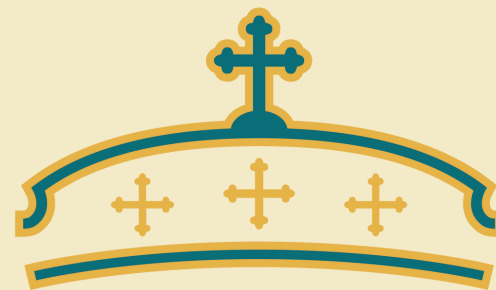
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# **St. Anthony Orthodox Church**

**Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Martin Johnson, Jr.  
(412) 390-8208 revmarjohn@netzero.com

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Our mission: We strive to bear witness to the Orthodox Faith by caring for the people of God and our community and to embody Christ's teachings through the practice of prayer, study, and hospitality. We live to proclaim the fullness of the Orthodox faith in our lives and to the city of Butler as we share with others our love, fellowship, and charitable works.

**Sunday of the Forefathers  
(Ancestors) of Christ  
December 14th, 2025**

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**Tone 2, Eothion 5** – The Martyrs Thyrsos, Leukios and, Kallinikos of Apollonia; and Martyrs Philemon, Apollonios, Hypatios and, Arrianos of Alexandria

**First Antiphon:**

--It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy Name, O Most High. **(Re)**

--Upright is the Lord our God and there is no unrighteousness in Him. **(Re)**

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

--Glory... Both now... **(Re)**

**Second Antiphon:**

-The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength and has girt Himself. **(Re)**

-For He has established the world which not be shaken. **(Re)**

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, as we chant to Thee, Alleluia.

-Holiness befits Thy house O Lord, unto length of days. **(Re)**

-Glory...Both now...

Only begotten Son and Word of God...

**WELCOME!**

Thanks for praying with us today!

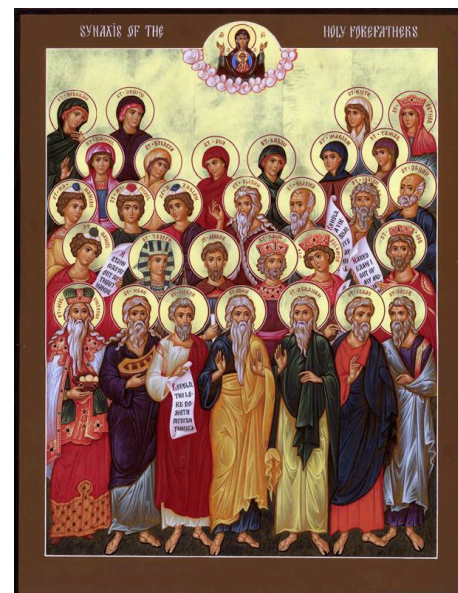
**Feast of the Nativity of Jesus Christ**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Orthros 11:00am**

**Divine Liturgy 12:00 (noon).**

**Christmas Potluck Gathering &  
Carols 1:30pm - 4:30pm**



## Remember in Your Prayers:

**LIVING:** Maura (Andronic); Joseph (Totin); Christine (Abraham); Venetia; Maura; Anne; Ed, Peter, John, Mother Barbara, Jonathan and Joanna; Andrei; Diane; Susannah; David, Evelyn, Sally, Courtney, Jean, Jennifer, Jesse, Kaela, Elsa, Brad, Moses, Lee, Christina, Tyler, Jacob, Maria, Ann, Aaron, Heather, Erin, Spencer, Leland, Christina, Bailey, Leah and James,

**DEPARTED:** Dolores Sipos, Karen (Jane Best's daughter); Joseph Sipos (Dolly's husband), Frank (Seba's brother); Kurt (Melinda's father); Jackie (Rose Totin's mother); Maria (Stella Lyras' sister); Sula; Kurt (Diane's son); Norma; Miltiades; Tim (Becker); Silviu; Ross (Chrissi's friend); Richard Johns; Viorica; Bishop Antoun; Vito (DiPento); Jim and Marion (Raimondi); Stephanie (Yazge); Job; George (Georgiades); Abie (Abraham); Bill (Thomas); Marta, Lance, Glenn, Kent (Jean's husband), Carol, Jeffrey, Janet (Seba's Sister), Jason, Michael, Bonnie, and Norm

## At the Little Entrance

*O Come Let us worship and fall down before Christ.*

*Save us, O Son of God who are risen from the dead, as we chant to Thee: Alleluia.*

### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 1)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

### APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFATHERS (Tone 2)

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

### TROPARION OF SAINT ANTHONY (Tone 4 Russian):

Like the zealous Elijah thou didst become and followed John the Baptist in his upright ways. A dweller in the wilderness, thou didst steady the world by prayer. O Father Anthony, intercede with Christ our God for our souls' salvation.

### KONTAKION OF PREPARATION FOR CHRIST'S NATIVITY (Tone 4)

Today the Virgin gives birth to Transcendent One/ And the earth presents a cave, to the Unapproachable One/ Angels with shepherds, give Him glory/ Wisemen follow a star, as they journey to Him, Who is God from all ages, yet for our sake, wills to be seen, as a little child.

## Today's Epistle Reading:

### Prokeimenon:

"Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.  
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us."

### The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator.

Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

## Today's Gospel Reading:

### The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (14:16-24)

"The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.'"

And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."