

Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church

Established on July 20, 1969 + Church Blessed May 16, 2006
995 N. West Street - Anaheim, CA 92801-4305 - (714) 533.6292

Located on West Street just south of La Palma

Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix

Most Reverend John S. Pazzak, C.Ss.R

DIVINE LITURGIES

SUNDAY 10:00 am

HOLY DAYS

Vesper/Liturgy 7:30 pm
& Feast Day 9:00 am

DAILY

Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri 9:00 am
No Liturgy on Thursdays

CONFESSIONS

Sunday 9:30 -9:50 am
Daily 8:30 - 8:50 am

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 10am-4pm
Closed on Thursdays
Give a courtesy call before
coming to the Office.

ADVISORY BOARD

Stephen Kopko, Jan Washicko,
Mara Weil, Bruce Terry, Helen
Malinick, Nina Erickson, John
Sheftic & Beth Gath

FINANCE COUNCIL

Andy Spisak, Stephen Kopko &
Robert Erickson



BAPTISM/CHRISMATION & COMMUNION Membership & Preparation classes required.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & SHUT-INS the parish office must be contacted. Anointing of the Sick is available in church after the Liturgy.

CROWNING OF MARRIAGE Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance.

QUINCEANERA available for parish members.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION September - June on Sunday after the Parish Liturgy. Marya Weil Religious Coordinator. Preschool through High School

PARISH CHOIR director Robert Pipta. Rehearsal every other week. Want to join? See our director.

Parish Membership

The Parish Family of Annunciation is open to any Catholic, and to anyone:

- who is interested in seeking the Lord Jesus Christ through His Word and Sacred Mysteries (Sacraments)
- who accepts the teachings of the Catholic Church
- who will help us form a community based on the Lord's love
- who is willing to grow as a Christian within the legitimate traditions of the Byzantine Catholic Church
- who acknowledges the authority of the Pope, Bishop and Pastor
- who will attend Liturgical Services on Saturday or Sunday, and on the Great Holy Days
- who is willing to support the growth of the Church by sharing their Time, Talent and Treasure (financial support)
- who will participate in the yearly Bishop's Appeal

For registration information, please contact the Parish Office.

Served by Right Reverend Stephen G Washko, pastor

E-mail: abcc72069@gmail.com

**Website: www.annunciationbyzantine.org
facebook.com/annunciation.byzantine**



DIVINE LITURGIES & ACTIVITIES for this Week

How do we make the world a better place? We are rocked by scandal after scandal these days, yet the answer to the question rests within us.

Join us for the Divine Liturgy this Sunday at 10:00 AM or for the Daily Liturgies as we explore how to put the pieces of our world back together in the most unexpected and forgotten of ways through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Sat 12/2 No Liturgy scheduled

Hebrew Readings for Vespers
Deuteronomy 5: 1-22 & Sirach 31: 1-7

Sun 12/3 26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, TONE 1, p. 125

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal

9:30-9:50 am Confessions

10:00 am *Members of our Parish & Friends*
Saint Nicholas Celebration—Parish Pot-luck, program and goodies for the children and young at heart.

Mon 12/4 The Great Martyr Barbara, p. 391

9:00 am +Fr. Zakaria Botros by Ron Pasmant

Our HolyFather Nicholas of Myra in Lycia Solemn Holy Day

Tue 12/5 Vigil for St. Nicholas

7:30 pm Vesper/Liturgy *God's blessing on Connie Trigilio by Charlie & Patricia Kanenbley*

Wed 12/6 Feast of St. Nicholas, p. 274

9:00 am +Miklos Kovacs by Mary Washko

The Maternity of Holy Anna—Solemn Holy Day

Thu 12/7 Vigil for the Conception

7:30 pm Vesper/Liturgy *God's blessing on Joan Marsh by Jessica Hoskinson*

Fri 12/8 Feast of the Conception, p. 277

9:00 am +August Maggio by Jean Berardi

Sat 12/9 SATURDAY No Liturgy

Hebrew Readings from Vespers
Numbers 12: 1-15 & 2 Kings 5:1-19

Sun 12/10 27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, TONE 2, P. 130

9:40 am THE THIRD HOUR

9:30-9:50 am Confessions

10:00 am *Members of our Parish & Friends.*

***Solemn blessing of the Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and to Our Lady of Guadeloupe.*

11:45 am ECF Classes

Christmas Boutique in the Parish hall

LET US JOIN WITH THE SAINTS IN HEAVEN TO PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED

Margarette Samul Family	Frank Malinick
Chuck Johnson	Bob & Rita Pipta
Bill Drahusz	Ron & Isabel Christian
Nina Erickson	Irene Shiring
Frances Bisaha	Lenny Morris
Christopher Torday	Stella Navarette
Stephen Torday	Charles & Marilu Krofchik
Fr. Christopher Petruska	Joseph Moran
Ruth Terry	Adrian Flores
Veronica Navarette	Jessica Kanenbley
Judy Livingston	Brian Safian
June Yontos,	Jean Anderson
Betty Perebzk	Richard Sesma
Deanna Keefe	Ron Lowery & Family
Alex Vida	Susan Dovin
Janet Lambert	Ron, Carol & Gilbert Pasmant
Ethan McArthur	Fr Christopher Zuger
Fr Francis Vivona	Fr. Marcus Gomori
Michael Bergeron	Helen Malinick

*For prayer requests: call Fr. Stephen or E-mail to
abcc72069@gmail.com*

ABSTINENCE (no meat) recommended on Wednesdays and Fridays during this 40 day preparation for the Birth of Our Lord.

COFFEE SOCIAL HOST

Thank you for your love

and service to the parish community.

December—Robert & Carmela Yarosik

We thank our parishioners for helping our hosts keep our parish hall clean after the Coffee Social.

7 DAY CANDLE OFFERING IN FRONT OF THE ICONS OF OUR LORD & THEOTOKOS

The special envelopes are available on the greeting table.

The donation for the Icon Candles are \$5.

Eternal Light-Candle —

*Thanksgiving for all the Parishioners
by Richard Kaikonapiliani Sesma*

Our Lord

*M/M J. Lavenia by Charles Lavenia
Moon Gilbert by Bob & Nina Erickson*

Theotokos

*M/M J. Lavenia by Charles Lavenia
Special Intention by Helen Bruce*

Tetrapod

Special Intention for Sally Rock

2017 VOCATION ICON SCHEDULE

Prayer for Vocation Program

- Dec 3 *Albert & Margaret Hatton*
- Dec 10 *Robert & Carmela Yarosik*
- Dec 17 *Ingrid Spisak*

Please bring the Icon on the following Sunday and leave it on the Tetrapod and the carry box in the front pew for the next family. Any question contact our coordinator Sally Rock

READERS & REHEARSAL SCHEDULE for more information or would like to join the choir, visit our choir loft after the Liturgy —contact our Cantor Robert Pipta. Be sure to join us for the Rehearsal, this will give you more confidence when singing. Thank you for your dedication.

12/03	REHEARSAL	9:00 - 9:45 am
	Mike Petyo	Ephesians 5: 9-19
12/10	3 rd Hour	9:40 am
	Greg Gath	Ephesians 6: 10-17
12/17	REHEARSAL	9:00 - 9:45 am
	Brad Franklin	Colossians 3: 4-11
12/24	3 rd Hour	9:40 am
	Greg Gath	Hebrews 11: 9-10, 32-40
12/31	REHEARSAL	9:00 - 9:45 am
	George Petyo	Galatians 1: 11-19

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Preparing for the Birth of our Lord
THANK YOU**

To all the bakers, friends and holy rollers who worked in the warmth of our Parish Hall making the Christmas rolls and cookies.

To the kind lady who spent the day rubbing oil into the altars, the wooden candle holders, the rapidea, processional cross and screens.

50/50 RAFFLE a big thank you to *Joanne Kopko*, she will be selling the tickets for the **Sanctuary Fund**. The sale of the tickets will take place in the parish hall.

\$5 per ticket \$20 per five tickets.

The drawing will take place at the end of the month. Need not be present to win.

WINNERS for our 50/50 drawing—*Rita Pipta* for \$135. 2 consolation prizes— tickets for the upcoming St. Nick’s Auction were also offered. Thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE **Alive in Christ 2018 July 12th - 15th**
The next Alive in Christ Ascetical Boot Camp, sponsored by the Eparchy of Phoenix Vocations Office, will take place at Palomar Christian Conference Center, Palomar Mountain California, from **July 12th - 15th**. Be sure to mark your calendars for this wonderful and action-packed event open to boys ages 7-17 and their dads. Watch for upcoming information in the near future.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEXT WEEK

- 12/10 & 12/17 CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE-** time for your Christmas shopping for that special religious items unique to our Church & St. Nick’s Auction.
- 12/10 Sunday-*BLESSING & DEDICATION** of the newly installed shrines to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Our Lady of Guadeloupe after the 10:00 am Divine Liturgy.
+RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION
- 12/14 Thursday-**Eastern Catholic Pastoral Association Meeting & Trip
- 12/17 Sunday Confessions after the Liturgy for Christmas & CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE**
- 12/22 Friday** *A voluntary* Strict Abstinence from Meat and Dairy Products or Abstinence from Meat 7:30 pm **OFFICE OF READINGS FOR THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD & CONFESSIONS**
- 12/24 Sunday**—the Fathers will be available for Confession after the Divine Liturgy
- 12/25 Monday CHRISTMAS DAY**
10:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

TITHING AND ATTENDANCE REPORT

Our Stewardship November 26

Attendance: Sun: 10:00 am 115 Souls

Adult Tithes : \$3,423.00

Youth Tithes: \$9.00

Candles: \$145.00

Mortgage Reduction: \$110.00

Thanksgiving: \$575.00

Baptism Thanksgiving for Liam: \$100.00

Bake Sale: \$560.00 *prepaid orders*

Memorial for +Fr Gregory Petruska: \$50.00

50/50 Raffle Sanctuary Fund: \$135.00

Thank you for your generous support. Your generosity help us to keep our church beautiful and as a Big Asset to the neighborhood plus to help pay down our mortgage.

Mortgage Balance 10/10/17 \$976,041.15

Memorial Gifts to Sanctuary Fund

In Behalf of Sam & Toni Holowatch by Larry A Jr.....\$50

In Behalf of Sam & Toni Holowatch by Karen Tr.....\$100

In Behalf of Fr: Gregory Petruska by Diana Q. Leoncio.....\$50

Thank You for your Remembrance.

**GETTING READY FOR ST. NICHOLAS..
ANGEL TREE—located in the parish hall.**

This year as part of our celebration of St. Nicholas day we will bring gifts for the residents of the Precious Life Shelter in Los Alamitos which provides housing and support for mothers in crisis pregnancies.

Everyone is invited to take an angel from the tree and bring the gift listed on **December 3, the day of our St. Nicholas Day celebration.** We will accept late comers. Don't panic.

Please note the following:

* The gift should be in a bag

UNWRAPPED

* Each child should have a gift to give St. Nicholas when they visit with him.

Please see Beth Gath if you have any questions. Thank you!



St. Nicholas' Wonder-Doer

By Joseph F. Kelly

December 6th is the feast of St. Nicholas, who is usually associated; with a much larger feast day; somewhat later in the month. Although today he has metamorphosed into Santa Claus, Nicholas was a historical figure in his own right, a fourth-century Greek bishop who became known, after his death in 346, as a famous; wonder-worker. It sounds odd to us that someone could become a wonder-worker after his death, but medieval people believed that relics, the physical remains of a saint, could produce miracles, and they tried constantly to get hold of these relics.

Nicholas, moreover, was a special kind of saint, a myroblyte, an "oil-gusher" — that is, people believed that his dead body oozed a sacred oil, so pilgrims went to his tomb where the custodians, usually Eastern Orthodox priests, would dip a sponge into the oil surrounding his body and then squeeze it into a phial for the pilgrims to take home. This way everyone could get a relic, and yet the supply would never run out. Some pilgrims even claimed that small bits of bone were carried out with the oil, thus providing a sort of two-for-one deal.

Nicholas' body rested for centuries in his episcopal city of Myra on the southern coast of modern Turkey, a part of the Byzantine empire which in the 11th century passed under the control of the Muslim Turks. Because of the fame of the miraculous oil, the Turks generally left the tomb alone so that pilgrims could keep coming to Myra and spending their money.

As the great Italian mercantile cities of Venice and Bari began to trade with the Turks, more and more of the pilgrims were Italians, who came to resent Nicholas' body being in an "infidel" country. These Western Christians also realized what a boost to their own economies the body of Nicholas would be. After all, if people would risk an often dangerous sea journey to a foreign and Muslim country to visit the saint's tomb, think of how many would journey to a safe and close Italian location.

In early 1087, the Venetians decided to kidnap Nicholas' body. Venetian fleets could match those of the Turks, and they counted on surprise. But word of their plan reached the leaders of Bari, a smaller but still important city in the far south of Italy. The Barians decided to beat the Venetians to the punch.

On April 11, 1087, Barian sailors, returning from a trip to the Near East, disembarked at Myra at night to kidnap the saint's body. Fortunately for them the Turks did not guard this Christian shrine, and when the Italians arrived there, they found only some custodians. The badly outnumbered custodians

offered no resistance but instead said confidently that Nicholas would not allow his body to be moved. The Italians replied that they came from a Christian country and thus Nicholas certainly would move. When the custodians realized they could not stop the Barians, one of them reluctantly admitted that St. Nicholas had once warned them in a vision that he would leave Myra some day.

Led by a courageous young sailor named Matteo, the Barians broke into the shrine surrounding the tomb. They found the body intact floating in a waist-high pool of oil. They also found an icon, likewise famous for its miraculous deeds. They decided to leave the icon for the local inhabitants, but they managed to get the greasy, slippery body into a container and headed back to their ship.

Word of the kidnapping leaked out, and the local populace went down to the shore to bemoan the loss of the body and to plead with the Barians to return it. But the Barians replied that Nicholas had been in Myra long enough, and it was right that he should no longer be in an infidel country. Besides, they said, the locals still had a tomb filled with oil and the sacred icon. With that, they sailed "off, fearful that the Turks would soon come.

The voyage to Italy was more adventurous than the sailors would have liked, because of bad weather. When they got back to Bari, they expected a peaceful end to the journey, but troubles were only beginning.

The Venetians, of course, were furious that a smaller, southern Italian city had outwitted the great northern power, and they promptly claimed that the Barians had kidnapped the wrong body, if

indeed they had kidnapped anybody. Inevitably the Venetians came up with a St. Nicholas body of their own which they enshrined for tourists to see in their city. But to no avail. People believed that the real Nicholas now rested in Bari.

But where in Bari? One group of citizens, of Greek descent like many Barians, wanted the body in a shrine they would build. The bishop of the city, one of the Norman conquerors of southern Italy, wanted it for his church. The debate went on for some time, until the bishop died in 1089. The pope then stepped in to settle the matter, appointing a new bishop who was acceptable to both sides and declaring that the people should build a basilica for Nicholas' body. They did, and Nicholas rests there still. The day on which Nicholas arrived in Bari, May 9, became a major feast, and it is observed in that city to this day.

The Barians had guessed correctly; the basilica became a popular tourist spot. Many medieval people were devoted to Nicholas, from unlettered pilgrims to the great German emperor Frederick Barbarossa, and they were thrilled that the famous wonder-worker had come to the West.

But we moderns must realize that those courageous Italian sailors who kidnapped the body were just as moved by piety as by profit. In an era when the sacred interwove and interacted so much with the secular, it was possible for people to want sincerely to rescue Nicholas from non-believers and simultaneously to want just as sincerely to make money from his cult.

Although Nicholas was in no way associated with Christmas at this stage in history, the kidnapping of his body — an odd but solid combination of the commercial and the religious — somehow forecast it.

