

In Our Prayers:

Ollie (Alexander) Aslan, Nora Bangert, Constantine Bellos, Tom Dubis, Seraphima Henderson, Achilles Kirkou, Jean Kotakis, Michael Labis, George and Janice Paradissis, Elaine Scott, Chris & Despina Zeris.

Memorials & Trisagia

January 15

1-year Memorial for Evangelos (Angelo) Palladino, son of Stella Palladino, brother of Kathy Palladino and Iakavos Palladino

17-year Memorial for George Palladino, husband of Stella Palladino, father of Kathy Palladino and Iakavos Palladino

February 12

18-year Trisagion for Mary Labis, wife of Mike Labis

January 1: Our Father Among the Saints Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea of Cappadocia

Saint Basil the Great was born about the end of the year 329 in Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family renowned for their learning and holiness. His parents' names were Basil and Emily. His mother Emily and grandmother Macrina are Saints of the Church, together with all his brothers and sisters: Macrina, his elder sister, Gregory of Nyssa, Peter of Sebastia, and Naucratius. Basil studied in Constantinople under the sophist Libanius, then in Athens, where also he formed a friendship with the young Gregory, a fellow Cappadocian, later called "The Theologian." Through the good influence of his sister Macrina, he chose to embrace the ascetical life, abandoning his worldly career. He visited the monks in Egypt, in Palestine, in Syria, and in Mesopotamia, and upon returning to Caesarea, he departed to a hermitage on the Iris River in Pontus, not far from Annesi, where his mother and his sister Macrina were already treading the path of the ascetical life; here he also wrote his ascetical homilies.

About the year 370, when the bishop of his country reposed, he was elected to succeed to his throne and was entrusted with the Church of Christ, which he tended for eight years, living in voluntary poverty and strict asceticism, having no other care than to defend holy Orthodoxy as a worthy successor of the Apostles. The Emperor Valens, and Modestus, the Eparch of the East, who were of one mind with the Arians, tried with threats of exile and of torments to bend the Saint to their own confession, because he was the bastion of Orthodoxy in all Cappadocia, and preserved it from heresy when Arianism was at its strongest. But he set all their malice at naught, and in his willingness to give himself up to every suffering for the sake of the Faith, showed himself to be a martyr by volition. Modestus, amazed at Basil's fearlessness in his presence, said that no one had ever so spoken to him. "Perhaps,," answered the Saint, "you have never met a bishop before." The Emperor Valens himself was almost won over by Basil's dignity and wisdom. When Valens's son fell gravely sick, he asked Saint Basil to pray for him. The Saint promise that his son would be restored if Valens agreed to have him baptized by the Orthodox; Valens agreed, Basil prayed, the son was restored. But afterwards the Emperor had him baptized by Arians, and the child died soon after. Later, Valens, persuaded by his counsellors, decided to send the Saint into exile because he would not accept the Arians into communion; but his pen broke when he was signing the edict of banishment. He tried a second time and a third, but the same thing happened, so that the Emperor was filled with dread, and tore up the document, and Basil was not banished. The truly great Basil spent with extreme ascetical practices and continual labors at the helm of the Church, departed to the Lord on the 1st of January, in 379, at the age of forty-nine.

Excerpted from: The Great Horologion or Book of Hours, Trans. Holy Transfiguration Monastery. Holy Transfiguration Monastery Press, Brookline, MA, 1997.

Sunday Bulletin

January 1, 2017



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Fr. Joseph Strzelecki

Fr. Anastasios Theodoropoulos

Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ἁγίου.

Ἦχος α΄.

Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος σου, ὡς δεξαμένην τὸν λόγον σου, δι' οὗ θεοπρεπῶς ἐδογματίσας, τὴν φύσιν τῶν ὄντων ἐτράνωσας, τὰ τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἦθη κατεκόσμησας, Βασιλεῖον Ἱεράτευμα, Πάτερ Ὅσιε, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεὸν ἰκέτευε, δωρήσασθαι ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Apolytikion for the Saint

Mode 1

Your proclamation went forth into all the earth, for it accepted your word, through which you taught the dogmas befitting God, you expounded on the nature of all that is, and you arranged the morals of society. A royal priesthood! Devout father Basil, intercede with Christ our God, to grant us His great mercy.

Welcome to all our visitors.

Welcome to the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. We are honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. It is our hope that your visit here will bring you many blessings from God and that you will visit with us again soon. Please join us for coffee hour in the Church Hall.

Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; St. Basil the Great

Epistle Reading: St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 2:8-12

BRETHREN, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fulness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fulness of life in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:20-21, 40-52

At that time, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days, they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.



Announcements

New Air Conditioner: The air conditioning unit for the Philoptochos Room was recently replaced with a new unit. The Men's Kafenio made a generous donation to help cover the cost, but more help is needed to cover the total amount. If you would like to help, please make donations payable to Assumption, and write "Air Conditioner" in the memo line.

The Holy Monastery of the Annunciation of the Theotokos in Ormylia, Greece has a Philanthropic center called "Panagia Philanthopini - Our Lady who Loves Mankind," whose mission is to comfort and alleviate the suffering of the poor and working class public. The director of this center is Charles Anthony, a former parishioner of the Assumption Church. During this holy season, we will have a collection to help the children's programs at this center. Please make checks payable to "The Assumption Church" and mark it for "the Ormylia Foundation". Thank you for your support.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, Jan 1:	<u>Circumcision of Christ - St. Basil the Great</u> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Divine Liturgy
Monday, Jan 2:	Nishop Silvestros; Hieromartyr Theagenes
Tuesday, Jan 3:	Prophet malachi. Martyr Gordios 8:30 am Orthros 5:45 pm Greek School 6:30 pm Vespers 7:20 pm Bible Study
Wednesday, Jan 4:	Synaxis of the 70 Apostles; Righteous Theoktistos 8:30 am Orthros 2:00 pm Kafenio
Thursday, Jan 5:	<u>Eve of Theophany</u> 9:00 am Great Hours & Typica 6:00 pm Great Vespers, Divine Liturgy & Great Blessing of the Waters
Friday, Jan 6:	<u>Holy Theophany</u> 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy & Great Blessing of the Waters 11:00 - 2:00 pm Friday Lunch 1:15 pm Pan-Orthodox Blessing of the Waters
Saturday, Jan 7:	<u>Synaxis of St. John the Baptist</u> 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Great Vespers 6:00 pm GOYA 6:00 pm Sr. YAL Christmas Party
Sunday, Jan 8:	St. George of Chozebite; Righteous Domenica 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Divine Liturgy & Sunday School 11:30 am Cutting of the Vasilopita 1:00 pm Sunday School Teacher's Social



Let there always be a preponderance of mercy with you, even though you don't feel such mercy in yourself, as God has for the world . . . A cruel and merciless heart is never purified. A merciful man is the doctor of his own soul, because as it were aby a strong wind from his heart he drives out the darkness of the passions.

- St. Isaac the Syrian