

## A TEACHER OF TEACHERS

(Taken from "The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin" – Vestal Publishing)

**St. Anthony the Great** is widely acclaimed by the Church as being the "Father of Monasticism." Born in a remote village near the Egyptian desert, he was drawn to a life of asceticism and solitude. At the age of 20, Anthony followed Christ's command to "sell what you possess and give it to the poor" and retired into the wilderness, hoping to spend the rest of his life in unceasing prayer and contemplation. Soon, St. Anthony discovered what many other saints knew and experienced: the harder one tries to give his life to the Lord, the harder the Devil tries to take it away! For years, he struggled to overcome temptations that constantly attacked him. Finally, the Lord spoke these words to him, rewarding him for his spiritual struggles: "Since you have not yielded to temptation, I will always help you and make your name known throughout the world."

Yes, Anthony's reputation spread, and others sought his advice and wise counsel. By the time of his death at the advanced age of 105, he had scores of followers who also became "dwellers of the desert." When we read some of his teachings, we soon realize that St. Anthony had a unique perception of life. Listen to some of his thoughts: "As a man comes forth naked from his mother's womb, so the soul goes forth naked from the body. One soul is pure and light, a second soiled by sin and a third darkened greatly by them. If a body coming forth from an unhealthy womb cannot live, so also a soul, if it has not come to the knowledge of God through good works cannot be saved." Although he had no formal theological training, these words show that Anthony had a firm grasp of the Church's teaching on salvation. It is, indeed, proper that he is referred to as an "educator of educators."

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### To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

*Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*

## Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



January 17, 2016

12th Sunday of Luke/St. Anthony the Great

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January 17, 2016

## 12th Sunday of Luke/St. Anthony the Great

Commemoration of: Anthony the Great; George the New Martyr of Ioannina; Theodosios the Emperor

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### Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

*Ex ipsus katilthes* (Hymn of the Day) Tone 8

*Ton zilotin Ilian* (St. Anthony) Tone 1

*Imitating the manners of Elijah the Zealot, and following the straight paths of John the Baptist, O Father Anthony, you colonized the desert, and you supported the Empire by your prayers. Therefore intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.*

*Tou Stavru Su* (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

*Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone are the lover of mankind.*

### Kontakion

*O mitran parthenikin* Tone 1

*For our salvation You took flesh and You sanctified the Virgin's womb; You blessed the aged Symeon as You lay resting in his arms; and having come to save us all, O Christ our God, to these troubled times, bring Your lasting peace. Give strong and undaunted faith to all Your people, O only lover of mankind.*

Epistle Reading Hebrews 13:17-21

BRETHREN, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading Luke 17:12-19

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said: "Jesus, Master, have mercy

on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus's feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus: "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him: "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

### This Week

Today— 12th Sunday of Luke/St. Anthony the Great; Adult Religious Education: "Slowing Down and Ordering Your Life" 12 to 12:40 p.m. in the Bookstore

✘ MON 1/18— Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day; House Blessings in Central Oahu (schedule already set)

✘ FRI 1/22— March for Life at State Capital 3 to 7 p.m.

✘ SAT 1/23— Dance Group Glendi Fundraiser 6 to 10 p.m.

✘ SUN 1/24— 14th Sunday of Luke

### ✘ Epiphany/Theophany House Blessings

Now that we have completed the celebration of Theophany, Fr. Alex is available to bless homes on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the afternoons after 1:30 p.m., by appointment. Please see Fr. Alex or call the office to schedule a House Blessing. House Blessings can be arranged and grouped by region.

✘ **34th Annual Rally & March for Life**— Friday, January 22nd, 3 to 7 p.m. at the State Capital. You are welcome to join Fr. Alexander and local priests and pastors. Please see flyer for more information. *"Abortion kills twice. It kills the body of the baby and it kills the conscience of the mother. Abortion is profoundly anti-women. Three quarters of its victims are women: Half the babies and all the mothers."* (**Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta**)

✘ **Nisiotes Dance Group Glendi Fundraiser at Church Hall**— Saturday, January 23rd, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$25 Adults, Children 10 and under \$10. Pre-Sold Tickets only. See Dianna, dancer or parents of dancers. Pupu's, Dinner, Dessert, Prizes, Cash Bar. Entertainment by Nisiotes Dancers and Bouzouki by Dimitrios.

✘ **Soup Sunday**— Sunday, January 31st, Fundraiser for the Aloha Youth Choir, delicious bowl of "FRIENDSHIP" soup and roll for \$5.