

THE LIGHT OF THE EAST



ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT **BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

1117 South Blaine Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46221

Website: www.saindy.com Email: sabcc@indy.rr.com

Pastor: Very Rev. Protopresbyter Bryan R. Eyman. D. Min. D. Phil.

Pastoral Associate: Father Deacon John Russell, M. Div.

Cantors: John Danovich, Brian Goshorn, Marcus Loidolt,

Business Manager: John Danovich

Phones: Rectory: 317-632-4157; Pastor's Cell Phone: 216-780-2555
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WEEKEND DIVINE SERVICES

Sat: 7 PM [Evening Prayer]

Sun: 9 AM [Morning Prayer] 10 AM [Divine Liturgy]

**Mystery of Holy Repentance [Confessions]: AFTER Saturday
Evening Prayer or ANYTIME by appointment**

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2014

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

The Holy and Glorious Apostle Andrew the First-called.

PLEASE COME FORWARD AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY;

**KISS THE HOLY ICONS, KISS THE HAND CROSS [OR RECEIVE
THE HOLY ANOINTING], & PARTAKE OF THE ANTIDORAN**

[BLESSED BREAD].

SAT. NOV. 29

7:00 PM

FESTAL EVENING PRAYER

8:00 PM

MYSTERY OF HOLY

REPENTANCE [CONFESSION]

SUN. NOV. 30

9:00 AM

FESTAL MORNING PRAYER

10:00 AM

For the People

11:30 AM

PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON

12 NOON

ECF CLASSES FOR ALL

MON. DEC. 1

The Holy Prophet Nahum.

NO DIVINE SERVICES

TUE. DEC. 2

**The Holy Prophet Habakkuk. The Passage of
the Blessed Confessor Ivan Slezyuk, Bishop of
Ivano-Frankivsk [1973].**

7 AM

THE FIRST HOUR

7:30 AM

THE EMANUEL MOLEBEN

WED. DEC. 3

The Holy Prophet Zephaniah.

7 AM

THE FIRST HOUR

7 PM

THE EMANUEL MOLEBEN

THU. DEC. 4

**The Holy Great Martyr Barbara. Our Ven. Fr.
John of Damascus.**

7 AM

THE FIRST HOUR

7:30 AM

THE EMANUEL MOLEBEN

**WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS TO THIS MORNING'S
DIVINE SERVICES. PLEASE LOOK FOR THE
CHANGEABLE PARTS, HYMN NUMBERS, AND
PROPER SONGS ON THE COLORED INSERT.**

CHRIST IS AMONG US! HE IS AND SHALL BE!

FRI. DEC. 5

**Our Ven. And God-Bearing Fr. Sabbas the
Consecrated.**

7 AM

THE FIRST HOUR

7 PM

FESTAL EVENING PRAYER

SAT. DEC. 6

**OUR HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS,
ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA, THE
WONDER-WORKER.**

7 AM

THE FIRST HOUR

9 AM

+Grace Kelly by Family

7 PM

FESTAL EVENING PRAYER

8 PM

***MYSTERY OF HOLY
REPENTANCE [CONFESSION]***

SUN. DEC. 7

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST. Our Holy Father Ambrose,
Bishop of Milan.**

9:00 AM

MORNING PRAYER

10:00 AM

FOR THE PEOPLE

11:30 AM

PARISH LUNCHEON

A visit from St. Nicholas

12:15 PM

ECF CLASSES FOR ALL!

~YOUR GIFT TO THE LORD ~THE MONTH OF NOV. 2014

Sunday Collection Candles Holy Day Fund Raising Weekly Totals

11/2/14	\$1,092.75	\$58.00	\$00.00	\$454.82	\$1,605.57
11/9/14	\$1,149.49	\$83.43	\$10.00	\$654.83	\$1,897.75
11/16/14	\$1,142.48	\$53.41	\$00.00	\$587.78	\$1,793.67
11/23/14	\$1,271.93	\$55.65	\$00.00	\$1,069.50	\$2,397.08
TOTAL	\$4,656.65	\$250.49	\$10.00	\$2,776.93	\$7,694.07

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE!

Thank you for all of your support!

Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. [Malachi 3:10]

Many Thanks to those who participated in Last Weekend's Exciting Events. Whether you helped with cleaning, setting up, cooking, serving the meal, greeting the Bishop, and assisting at the Divine Services etc. YOUR HELP WAS ESSENTIAL TO THE WONDERFUL SUCCESS OF THE WEEKEND! WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS FOR THE LORD HERE AT ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT PARISH!



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR

PRAYERS: our parishioners, family members, friends and others who are ill or infirm: AMY CHIAPPE, ETHAN EYMAN, CULVER "RED" EYMAN, MARGARET EYMAN, BOBBI SPAK, JAY MURTAUGH, BJ NOVAK, ELAINE WILSON, DR. CHARLOTTE NEUMANN, SONIA DOUGLAS-STANTON, RON ZELLER, NICHOLE RICHARDS, BR. JAMES BROWN S.M., WILLIS WILLIAMS, BELINDA DORNEY, DAVID BLEVINS, FR.

DEACON MICHAEL GEORGE, MONICA KING GILBRECH, KATHERYN LOIDOLT, PAUL SUVAK, GLEN GRABOW, EVIE KOBUS, JOHN BORGERT, LAUREN FIORELLI, CLARE HUNTER, IGNATIO ROMERO, MAGDELINA CHAUBY, ROBERT SUVAK.

2014-2015 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL PLEDGES TO DATE: \$925.00

ST. ATHANASIUS STEWARDSHIP GOAL: \$1400.00

NEEDED TO REACH OUR GOAL \$475.00

Please turn in your pledge card and initial payment check made out to "St. Athanasius Byzantine Catholic Church". You can pay your pledge over a 5 month period. You may also donate online at www.parma.org and go to the donate tab. If every family pledge \$200.00 we would be able to easily reach our goal, and we receive back the remainder.

<u>Candles Available</u>	<u>Monthly Donation</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Eternal Lamp	\$40.00	Thanksgiving	Karen Ybarra
Icon Screen (6)	\$40.00	Allison Hendricks	Judy Ernst
Tetrapod (2)	\$30.00	Healing	Dan & Olga Vaughn
Nativity Icon	\$25.00	Jesus, Mary, Joseph	Richard Medwig
Theotokos of Vladimir Icon	\$25.00	Special Intention	Glen Grabow
Resurrection Icon	\$25.00	Special Intention	Father Bryan
St. Athanasius Icon	\$25.00	Ukraine	Dan & Olga Vaughn
Holy Table	\$40.00	Special Intention	Al Macek

Give a spiritual Gift to someone in need. We have candle Gift Cards you can send or give to a loved one, friend or someone in need of prayers. A single 6-day candle is \$5. For an entire month the cost is \$25. When giving your donation use the candle envelope in the back of the Church. Paired with it, take the candle card to give as a gift. In addition to the name on the candle, please specify a start date if you would like the Church to light the candle[s] in front of the Icons of our Lord or the Theotokos for you on a future date.

THE AKATHIST TO THE THEOTOKOS,

THE INEXHAUSTIBLE CUP, HEALER OF ALCOHOLICS

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 17TH 7 PM

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14TH 7 PM

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19TH 7 PM

ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1117 S. BLAINE AVE. INDIANAPOLIS.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS TROUBLED BY THE

DISEASE OF ALCOHOLISM OR CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY?

**PLEASE GIVE THEIR FIRST NAME TO FR. BRYAN AND JOIN US FOR
THIS LIFE-CHANGING AND HEALING AKATHIST.**





ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT PARISH COMMUNITY MEAL~

Many thanks to all who helped and participated watch this space for further announcements

As part of our call to participate actively in the Holy Father's call for the "New Evangelization", we need

to truly reach out to the Neighborhood Community surrounding our Parish Facilities. One way for us to do this is to provide a Free Community Meal on a regular basis.

Daun Hughey has come forward to coordinate this effort. But she will need everyone's cooperation to connect with the Community to make this meal a success. If you are willing to help with this effort, please see Daun or Father Bryan.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES 2014-2015



Our Eastern Christian Formation Classes will continue **THIS SUNDAY** after the Parish Luncheon. The Children are divided by age and grade. We hope to have a Pre-K and Kindergarten class, a Primary Grade class, a Middle Grade class, and a High School age class. Currently the Pre-K and Kindergarten and Primary Grade classes have begun. **We need the parents' commitment to have themselves and their children here each week to make the classes successful.** We expect EVERY ADULT to participate in the Adult Enrichment Class.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS!~ please be sure to have all of the children at the Divine Services next Sunday! We will have a visit from St. Nicholas the Archbishop of Myra. He will be visiting children of all ages at our Parish Weekly Luncheon after the Divine Liturgy. O WHO LOVES, NICHOLAS THE SAINTLY! O WHO SERVES, NICHOLAS THE SAINTLY!

UPCOMING HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES

AT ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT CHURCH

Wed. December 3 7 PM **EMANUEL MOLEBEN**

St. Nicholas Celebration

Fri. December 5 7 PM **FESTAL EVENING PRAYER**

Sat. December 6 7 AM **FIRST HOUR**
9 AM **FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY**

26th Sunday after Pentecost Celebration.

Sat. December 6 7 PM **FESTAL VESPERS**
[FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS]

Sun. December 7 9 AM **FESTAL MATINS**
10 AM **DIVINE LITURGY**
11:15 AM **PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON**
A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS
12 NOON **ECF CLASSES FOR ALL**

Conception of St. Anna of the Theotokos Celebration.

Mon. December 8 7 PM **FESTAL VESPERS**
Tue. December 9 9 AM **FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY**
Wed. December 10 7 PM **EMANUEL MOLEBEN WITH**
HOLY ANOINTING

27TH Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday of the Forefathers Celebration

Sat. December 13 7 PM **FESTAL VESPERS**
NOTE NEW TIME **[FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS]**

Sun. December 14 9 AM **FESTAL MATINS**
10 AM **DIVINE LITURGY**
11:15 AM **PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON**
12 NOON **ECF CLASSES**

UPCOMING HOLY DAYS IN DECEMBER!



Feast of the Maternity of the Holy Anna **[Conception of the Theotokos]**

Mon. Dec. 8

7 PM: Festal Evening Prayer

Tue. Dec. 9 [traditional and proper day]

**9 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy [with
Mirovanije]**



Feast of the Nativity of our Lord

Wed. Dec. 24

9 AM: Royal Hours [Office of Readings]

**6 PM: Holy Night Supper [for all
Parishioners]**

8 PM: Great Compline of the Nativity

Thu. Dec. 25

9 AM: Festal Morning Prayer

**10 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy [with
Mirovanije]**

Feast of the Synaxis of the Theotokos

Fri. Dec. 26

9 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy

Feast of the Holy Proto-martyr Stephen

Sat. Dec. 27

9 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy

Please plan now to share in celebrating these joyous Holy Days!

ST. PHILIP'S FAST (14 November - 24 December):

The St. Philip's Fast (or Filipovka), continues through December 24th. *The Byzantine focus is on the Light we are awaiting.* We celebrate the victory of light over darkness both in nature and in us. The fast of Filipovka once had very strict rules. **Today, the Church requires us to abstain from meat on Fridays, and recommends Wednesdays.**

Everyone is encouraged to keep the Strict Fast of no meat and dairy products, if possible. Parish functions except on Saturday and Sunday will be meatless.

We are also required to practice the spirit of sacrifice, penance, especially charity. To prepare to celebrate the joy of Christmas, we fast, we pray more and we increase our acts of love and compassion. Fasting involves not just food, but the entire being.

Upcoming celebrations of the Paraclis to the Theotokos and Mystery of Holy Anointing "Ancient Healing Service" at 7 PM.

Wednesday December 10 Emanuel Moleben and Mystery of Holy Anointing

From the writings of Saint Athanasius the Great

These are fountains of salvation that they who thirst may be satisfied with the living words they contain. In these alone is proclaimed the doctrine of godliness. Let no man add to these, neither let him take out from these.

One cannot possibly understand the teaching of the saints unless one has a pure mind and is trying to imitate their life.

Thus united to them in the fellowship of life, he will both understand the things revealed to them by God and, thenceforth escaping the peril that threatens sinners in the judgment, will receive that which is laid up for the saints in the kingdom of heaven.

The Son of God became man so that we might become God.

EMMANUEL MOLEBEN

THE PHILLIP'S FAST PRAYER SERVICE OF THE BYZANTINE CHURCH



***WE EXTOL YOU, O LIFEGIVING CHRIST, FOR FULFILLING
THE SIGN FORTOLD OF EMMANUEL, YOU REVEALED
YOURSELF AS SAVIOR, BY PROPHETS FORTOLD!***

***PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THIS TRADITIONAL PRE-
CHRISTMAS PRAYER SERVICE OF THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH.***

***THE EMMANUEL MOLEBEN WILL BE SERVED ON THE FOLLOWING
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 7PM:***

DECEMBER 3RD, DECEMBER 10TH, AND DECEMBER 17TH

***THE EMMANUEL MOLEBEN WILL ALSO BE SERVED ON THE FOLLOWING
DAYS AT 7:30 AM:***

TUESDAY DECEMBER 2ND; THURSDAY DECEMBER 4TH;

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12TH; TUESDAY DECEMBER 16TH;

THURSDAY DECEMBER 18TH; FRIDAY DECEMBER 19TH

November 30

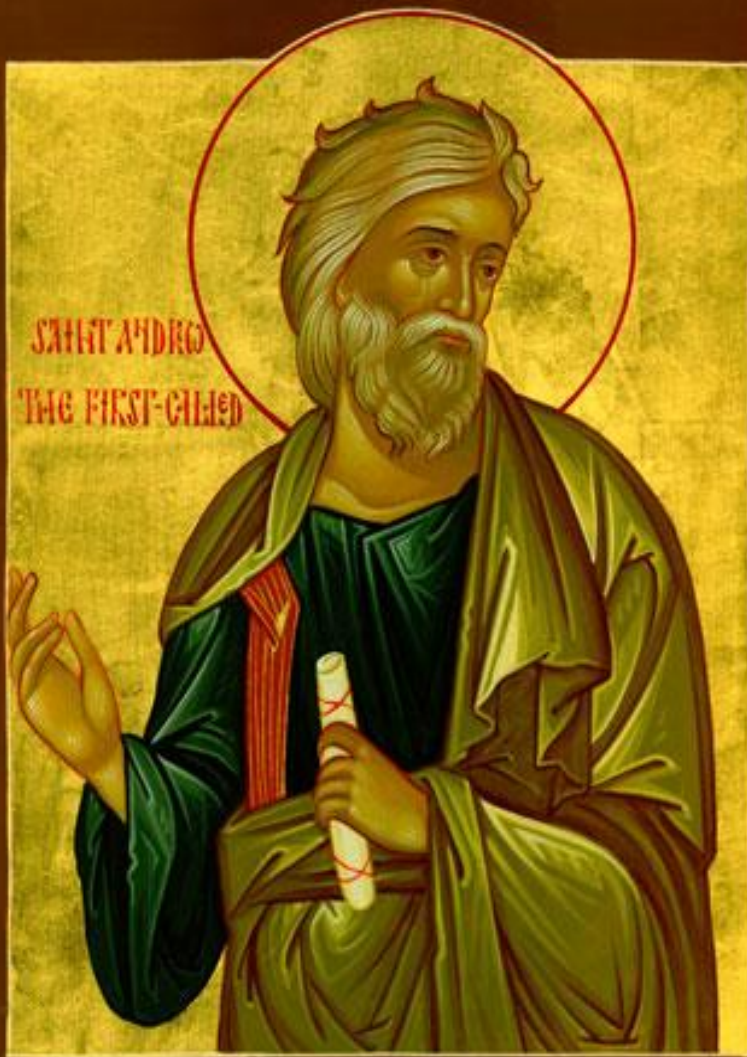
Feast of St. Andrew the
First Called

First Called and
Much Traveled

ONE OF THE MOST REVERED New Testament figures in the Christian East is the Apostle Andrew the First Called. His title comes from the first mention of him in the Gospel of John: *“The next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, ‘Behold the Lamb of God!’ The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. Then Jesus turned, and seeing them*

following, said to them, ‘What do you seek?’ They said to Him, ‘Rabbi’ (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), ‘where are You staying?’ He said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus” (Jn 1:35-42).

As disciples of John the Baptist, Andrew and Peter were among those with a firmer faith, ready to make a deeper commitment to God in their lives. And so when they next encountered Jesus back home in their adopted home town of Capernaum (the Gospel calls Andrew a native of



Feast of St. Andrew the First Called [Page 2]

Bethsaida), the result should not strike us as odd. “*Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, ‘Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.’ They immediately left their nets and followed Him*” (Mt 4:18-20).

While Peter, James and John came to be the foremost of Christ’s closest followers, Andrew had a prominent place as well.

In the Gospel of John, he appears as a kind of go-to person for Jesus, bringing people to Him and presumably keeping the crowds at bay. It was Andrew who reported to Jesus about the lad with the five loaves and two fish. When Jesus and His disciples had arrived in Jerusalem for the Passover we are told that, “*Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus*” (Jn 12:20-22). Since both Philip and Andrew had Greek names – not unusual in Galilee since the second or third century BC – it was perhaps natural that these Greek pilgrims approached them.

St Andrew and the Early Church

After Pentecost, at which he was present, there is no further mention of Andrew in the New Testament. Our next reference to this apostle in in Eusebius’ *History of the Church* 3, is written in the fourth century. There he quotes Origen as saying that Andrew brought the Gospel to Scythia.

The region known as Scythia in the ancient world corresponds to portions of today’s nations of Bulgaria, Romania and Ukraine. For this reason Churches in these nations have a particular devotion to St. Andrew.

Ukrainians, for example, hold that St Andrew planted a cross on the site of the future city of Kiev, prophesying that a great Christian center would be established there in time. The *Primary Chronicle* of the eleventh-century Monk Nestor added that St. Andrew’s apostolic preaching took him as far as Novgorod, making him apostle to Russia as well.

Feast of St. Andrew the First Called [Page 3]

Another city claiming a connection with St Andrew is Constantinople. Founded in the fourth century by St Constantine the Great, this city was built on the site of the earlier town of Byzantium. A work entitled *On the Seventy Apostles of Christ*: and attributed to Hippolytus of Rome (+ 235) identified Stachys, one of the Lord's seventy disciples as the first bishop of Byzantium. Later tradition held that Stachys was given leadership of the Church at Byzantium by St. Andrew. Thus the Church of Constantinople would claim to be founded by an apostle like the other Apostolic Churches (Jerusalem, Antioch, etc.).

Death of St Andrew

According to the second-century *Acts of Andrew*, the Apostle was martyred in Patras, an important center in central Greece, then capital of the province of Achaia. Seized by order of the proconsul Aegeates for converting his wife, St Andrew was condemned to be crucified. According to the Acts, St. Andrew spoke to the bystanders from the cross, saying: "Listen to us rather who hang here for the Lord's sake and are about to depart out of this body. Renounce all the lusts of the world, spit upon the worship of abominable idols and establish your minds as men believing in Christ."

The tradition that St Andrew asked to be crucified on an X-shaped cross because he was unworthy of being placed on a cross like Christ's is of later origin, probably in imitation of St. Peter.

The relics of St. Andrew were preserved by the Christians in Patras. In 357 they were taken to Constantinople by order of Emperor Constantius and interred in the Church of the Holy Apostles, built by his father, St Constantine, to house the remains of all the Apostles. The saint's skull was returned to Patras by Emperor Basil I (867-886).

The relics remaining in Constantinople were taken to Italy when the city was sacked by the Crusaders in 1204. When the present St Peter's Basilica was constructed in the sixteenth century they were encased in one of the great columns surrounding the altar. In 1964 Pope Paul VI had the relics

Feast of St. Andrew the First Called [Page 4]

removed and returned to Patras, the first of many such ecumenical gestures in recent years. In 1980 fragments of the cross of St Andrew, venerated in Marseilles since the Crusades, were also returned. They are enshrined together with the relics in the Cathedral of St Andrew, the largest church in the Balkans.

St. Andrew Today

In recent years St. Andrew has become an important focus in the growing friendship between Rome and Constantinople. Since 1969 a delegation from the Roman Catholic Church has visited Constantinople each November to participate in the feast of St Andrew, patron of the Byzantine Church. Every June a Greek Orthodox delegation has traveled to Rome for its patronal feast of Saints Peter and Paul. Several times these delegations have been led by the Pope of Rome and the Ecumenical Patriarch.

You had walked in the light of the Forerunner. But when the incarnate Image of the Father's glory appeared to save mankind in His mercy, you were the first to follow after Him, O illustrious Andrew, whose spirit was illumined by the perfect splendor of His radiant divinity. Thus you were the Apostle and Herald of Christ our God: entreat Him to save and enlighten our souls.

Renouncing the catching of fish, you became a fisher of men with the rod of divine preaching and the hook of faith, O illustrious Apostle, who fished the whole assembly of the nations up from the depths of error. You are the brother of Peter, whose voice went out to instruct the whole world. O Andrew, do not cease to intercede for us, the faithful, who celebrate your sacred memory with their whole heart.

Seeing the God you loved walking in the flesh on earth, O first-called of His eye-witnesses, you cried out to your brother, full of joy: "Simon, we have found the One whom we love!" Then you spoke to the Savior in the words of David: "Like the deer that yearns for living streams, so my soul is thirsting for You, O Christ our God!" Loving Him ever more deeply, you joined Him by means of the Cross, as a true disciple imitating His passion; since you share His glory, ceaselessly pray to Him for our souls.



The Holy Great Martyr Barbara~ lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Maximian (305-311). Her father, the pagan Dioscorus, was a rich and illustrious man in the Syrian city of Heliopolis. After the death of his wife, he devoted himself to his only daughter.

Seeing Barbara's extraordinary beauty, Dioscorus decided to hide her from the eyes of strangers.

Therefore, he built a tower for Barbara, where only her pagan teachers were allowed to see her. From the tower there was a view of hills stretching into the distance. By day she was able to gaze upon the wooded hills, the swiftly flowing rivers, and the meadows covered with a mottled blanket of flowers; by night the harmonious and majestic vault of the heavens twinkled and provided a spectacle of inexpressible beauty. Soon the virgin began to ask herself questions about the First Cause and Creator of so harmonious and splendid a world.

Gradually, she became convinced that the souless idols were merely the work of human hands. Although her father and teachers offered them worship, she realized that the idols could not have made the surrounding world. The desire to know the true God so consumed her soul that Barbara decided to devote all her life to this goal, and to spend her life in virginity.

The fame of her beauty spread throughout the city, and many sought her hand in marriage. But despite the entreaties of her father, she refused all of them. Barbara warned her father that his persistence might end tragically and separate them forever. Dioscorus decided that the temperament of his daughter had been affected by her life of seclusion. He therefore permitted her to leave the tower and gave her full freedom in her choice of friends and acquaintances. Thus Barbara met young Christian maidens in the city, and they taught her about the Creator of the world, about the Trinity, and about the Divine Logos. Through the Providence of God, a priest arrived in Heliopolis from Alexandria disguised as a merchant. After instructing

The Holy Great Martyr Barbara [Page 2] her in the mysteries of the Christian Faith, he baptized Barbara, then returned to his own country.

During this time a luxurious bathhouse was being built at the house of Dioscorus. By his orders the workers prepared to put two windows on the south side. But Barbara, taking advantage of her father's absence, asked them to make a third window, thereby forming a Trinity of light. On one of the walls of the bath-house Barbara traced a cross with her finger. The cross was deeply etched into the marble, as if by an iron instrument. Later, her footprints were imprinted on the stone steps of the bathhouse. The water of the bathhouse had great healing power. St. Simeon Metaphrastes (November 9) compared the bathhouse to the stream of Jordan and the Pool of Siloam, because by God's power, many miracles took place there.

When Dioscorus returned and expressed dissatisfaction about the change in his building plans, his daughter told him about how she had come to know the Triune God, about the saving power of the Son of God, and about the futility of worshipping idols. Dioscorus went into a rage, grabbed a sword and was on the point of striking her with it. The holy virgin fled from her father, and he rushed after her in pursuit. His way became blocked by a hill, which opened up and concealed the saint in a crevice. On the other side of the crevice was an entrance leading upwards. St Barbara managed then to conceal herself in a cave on the opposite slope of the hill.

After a long and fruitless search for his daughter, Dioscorus saw two shepherds on the hill. One of them showed him the cave where the saint had hidden. Dioscorus beat his daughter terribly, and then placed her under guard and tried to wear her down with hunger. Finally he handed her over to the prefect of the city, named Martianus. They beat St. Barbara fiercely: they struck her with rawhide, and rubbed her wounds with a hair cloth to increase her pain. By night St Barbara prayed fervently to her Heavenly Bridegroom, and the Savior Himself appeared and healed her wounds. Then they subjected the saint to new, and even more frightful torments.

The Holy Great Martyr Barbara [Page 3] In the crowd where the martyr was tortured was the virtuous Christian woman Juliana, an inhabitant of Heliopolis. Her heart was filled with sympathy for the voluntary martyrdom of the beautiful and illustrious maiden. Juliana also wanted to suffer for Christ. She began to denounce the torturers in a loud voice, and they seized her.



Both martyrs were tortured for a long time. Their bodies were raked and wounded with hooks, and then they were led naked through the city amidst derision and jeers. Through the prayers of St. Barbara the Lord sent an angel who covered the nakedness of the holy martyrs with a splendid robe. Then the steadfast confessors of Christ, Ss. Barbara and Juliana, were beheaded. Dioscorus

himself executed St Barbara. The wrath of God was not slow to punish both torturers, Martianus and Dioscorus. They were killed after being struck by lightning.



In the sixth century the relics of the holy Great Martyr Barbara were transferred to Constantinople. Six hundred years later, they were transferred to Kiev (July 11) by Barbara, the daughter of the Byzantine Emperor Alexius Comnenos, who married the Russian prince Michael Izyaslavich. They rest even now at Kiev's St Vladimir cathedral, where an Akathist to the saint is served each Tuesday.

The Holy Great Martyr Barbara's feast day is on December 4th.

The Holy Bishop and Confessor Ivan Slezyuk was born on January 14, 1896 in the village of Zhyvachiv, in the Ukrainian region of Stanislaviv, now called Ivano-Frankivsk. In 1923 he was ordained a Byzantine Catholic Priest. In 1945 his bishop, Blessed Hryhorij Khomysyn, secretly consecrated Blessed Ivan as Bishop coadjutor with right of succession for the Eparchy of Stanislaviv in which case he [Khomysyn] was arrested by the atheistic Soviet Communists. This decision was providential, as Khomysyn died on Dec. 28 of that year in the hospital of the Lukianivska prison in Kiev.



Bishop Ivan could not succeed Bishop Khomysyn immediately. He had been jailed since June 2, 1945 and deported in the work camps of Vorkuta in Russian Siberia. In 1950, he was relocated to the work camps of Mordovia, in SW Russia. On November 15, 1954 Bishop Ivan was finally freed and was able to return and take possession of his episcopal see. He was then arrested again, in 1962, and sentenced to five years of hard time in prison for being a bishop of the illegal Byzantine Catholic Church in Ukraine.



He was released again on November 30, 1968, but continued to be regularly called in by the KGB for “conversations”, the last of which took place two weeks before his death. Despite the secrecy in which the Byzantine Catholic Church in Ukraine was forced to live, Blessed Ivan Slezyuk continued unabated to exercise his ministry to the Byzantine Catholic faithful. He witnessed the Love of Christ firmly and without fear before the atheistic, secularist

Communist persecutors of faith. He finally died at Stanislaviv December 2, 1973 and was beatified by Pope John Paul II on June 27, 2001, together with another 24 Byzantine Catholics who were all victims of the Soviet regime.

Our venerable and God-bearing Father John of Damascus

(c. 676 - December 5, 749) was also known as *John Damascene*, *Chrysorrhoeas*, "streaming with gold," (i.e., the golden speaker). He was born and raised in Damascus, in all probability at the Monastery of Saint Sabbas (*Mar Saba*), South East of Jerusalem. His feast day in the Orthodox and Byzantine Catholic Churches is December 4.



Practically all the information concerning the life of John of Damascus available to us today has been through the records of John, Patriarch of Jerusalem. Though these notes have served as the single source of biographical information, dating back to the tenth century, these writings have been noted by scholars as having an exuberant lack of detail from a historical point of view and a bloated writing style.

Although he was brought up under the Muslim rule of Damascus, this was not to affect his or his family's Christian faith or cause any grievances with the Muslim countrymen who held him in high esteem. To the extent that his father held a high hereditary public office with duties of chief financial officer for the caliph, Abdul Malekunder, apparently as head of the tax department for Syria.

When John reached the age of twenty-three, his father sought out to find a Christian tutor who could provide the best education for his children available at the time. Records show that while spending some time in the market place John's father came across several captives,

imprisoned as a result of a raid for prisoners of war that had taken place in the coasts of Italy. This man, a Sicilian monk by the name of Cosmas, turned out to be an erudite of great knowledge and wisdom. John's father arranged for the release of this man and appointed him tutor to his son. Under the instruction of Cosmas, John made great advances in fields of study such as music, astronomy and theology. According to his biographer, he soon equaled Diophantus in algebra and Euclid in geometry.

In spite of his Christian background, his family held a high hereditary public office with the Moslem rulers of Damascus, led by caliph Abd al-Malik. He succeeded his father in his position upon his death; John of Damascus was made *protosymbullus*, or chief councilor of Damascus.

It was around his term in office that burst of insurgence by the iconoclasts began to appear in the form of heresy, actions which disturbed the Church of the East. In 726, in disregard of the protests of Germanus, Patriarch of Constantinople, Emperor Leo the Isaurian issued his first edict against the veneration of images and their exhibition in public places. A talented writer and in the secure surroundings of the caliph's court, John of Damascus initiated his literary defense against the monarch in three *Apologetic Treatises against those Decrying the Holy Images*. This was the earliest of his works and the one which earned him a reputation. Not only did he attack the monarch, but his use of a simpler writing style brought the controversy to the common people, inciting revolt among those of orthodox Christian faith.

Unable to punish the writer openly, Leo the Isaurian managed to get possession of a manuscript written and signed by John of Damascus which he used to forge a letter from John to the Isaurian monarch offering to betray into his hands the city of Damascus. Despite John's earnest advocacy to his innocence, the caliph dismissed his plea and discharged him from his post, ordering his right hand, which he used for writing, to be severed at the wrist.

According to the tenth-century biography, his hand was miraculously restored after fervent prayer before an icon of the Virgin Mary. At this point the caliph is said to have been convinced of his innocence and inclined to reinstate him to his former office. However, John then retired to the Monastery of Saint Sabbas near Jerusalem, where he continued to produce a stream of commentaries, hymns and apologetic writings, including the *Oktoechos* (the Church's service book of eight tones) and *An Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith*, a summary of the dogmatic writings of the Early Church Fathers.

He died in 749 as a revered Father of the Church and is now universally recognized as a saint.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY ESPECIALLY THOSE SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ.

Lt. COL. CRAIG M. EYMAN D.O.~ is Fr. Bryan's 2nd youngest brother. He has reentered the Army Reserve and is currently serving with the 848th FST [Forward Surgical Team] stationed in Twinsburg, OH. He has returned to his family in Solon, OH.

CAPT. BRIAN HEWKO USA~ is a friend of Fr. Bryan and a parishioner of St. Anne Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church in Austinburg, OH. He is a 2008 graduate of West Point. Brian has been deployed to the Emirate of Kuwait on the Persian Gulf.

CAPTAIN CHRISTINA MOMONIER~ is a friend of Fr. Bryan. Christina is from Baltimore, MD is a Byzantine Catholic. She is currently serving at Ft. Benning, GA.

CAPTAIN [FATHER] JOSEPH BRANKATELLI USA ~ is a friend of Fr. Bryan and a priest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland and the Archdiocese for the Military Services. Fr. Joseph is posted in Washington, DC.

AIRMAN MICHAELA and AIRMAN FIRST CLASS JOHANN WELLER USAF ~ are friends of Fr. Bryan and members of St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church in Harrisburg, PA. Before entering the Armed Forces they were active with the BYZANTEEN Youth Rallies.

PRIVATE CODY ROMERO USA, STAFF SERGEANT NIKO ROMERO, and STAFF SERGEANT RORY ROMERO Sons of Sonia Stanton. Cody received the Military Blessing at our Church and is currently serving at Fort Bragg, NC. His brother Rory has been deployed to Afghanistan. Their brother Niko serves as an Army recruiter in Anderson, IN.

PRIVATE JACKSON RUANE USA~ Jackson is formerly from St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Parish in Ashtabula, OH. He is currently serving at Ft. Polk, LA since September, 2014. He thanks you for your prayers.

PRIVATE ABIGAIL BROWN USA~ is the Grand Niece of parishioner Belinda Dorney. She was recently promoted to PFC and has completed training in Army Intelligence at a base in Arizona. She is serving in Oklahoma.

2ND LT. AARON JACOBSON~ from Mounds View, MN is a friend of Fr. Bryan. He is a 2013 West Point graduate, who has just completed his special training as a platoon leader. He is serving in Ft. Drum, NY.

May God, in His infinite Love and Mercy, guide and protect all of those serving our Republic in the Armed Forces.

Welcome to St. Athanasius Byzantine Catholic Church of Indianapolis, IN. We are a Byzantine Catholic Community that, as part of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy [Diocese] of Parma, is in Communion with Pope Francis I and the other Catholic Churches. If you remain until the end of the Divine Liturgy; you will fulfill your Sunday Obligation. We welcome to Holy Communion all Orthodox and Catholic Christians, who are able to receive Holy Communion in their own parish Church. **In the Byzantine Catholic Church we give Holy Communion to infants and young children. If you bring your child forward at Communion time he or she will be given Holy Communion. If you do not wish your child to receive Holy Communion, please do not bring the child forward at Communion time.** At the conclusion of the Liturgy, all should come forward to kiss the Holy Cross, or be anointed with blessed oil, and share in the Blessed Bread. Then join us in our St. Mary Hall for our Coffee Social. **THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!**