# 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: <u>Father Deacon John Russell, M. Div.</u> Cantors: <u>John Danovich, Brian Goshorn, Marcus Loidolt,</u>

**Business Manager: John Danovich** 

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

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Victim Assistance Coordinator: Sharon DiLauro Petrus M.D.: 216-741-8773

**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 JANUARY 18, 2014 SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS.

### THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

Our Holy Fathers Athanasius and Cyril of Alexandria.

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].

<b>SAT. JAN. 17</b>	7:00 PM	FESTAL EVENING PRAYER
	8:00 PM	MYSTERY OF HOLY
		REPENTANCE [CONFESSION]
<b>SUN. JAN. 18</b>	9:00 AM	FESTAL MORNING PRAYER
	10:00 AM	For the People
	11:30 AM	PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON
	<b>12 NOON</b>	ECF CLASSES FOR ALL
<b>MON. JAN. 19</b>	Our Ven. Fr. Macarius of Egypt.	

NO DIVINE SERVICES~FATHER'S DAY OFF

TUE. JAN. 20 Our Ven. And God-Bearing Fr. Euthymius the

Great.

**7 AM** FIRST HOUR

WED. JAN. 21 Our Ven. Fr. Maximus the Confessor. The Holy

> Martyr Neophyte. The Holy Martyrs Eugene, Candidus, Valerian & Aquila, The Holy Virgin

**Martyr Agnes of Rome.** 

THE FIRST HOUR **7 AM** 

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

> **CHRIST IS AMONG US!** HE IS AND SHALL BE!

<b>THU. JAN. 22</b>	The Holy Apostle Timothy. The Holy			
	Venerable-Martyr Athansius the Persian.			
	<b>7</b> AM	THE FIRST HOUR		
<b>FRI. JAN. 23</b>	The Holy Martyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra.			
	The Holy Martyr Agathangel. Commemoration			
	of the Sixth Ecumenical Council.			
	<b>7 AM</b>	THE FIRST HOUR		
<b>SAT. JAN. 24</b>	Our Ven. Mother Xenia of Rome. The Holy			
	Martyrs of Pidlashia, the Blessed Vincent			
	Lewoniuk and his companions.			
	<b>7 AM</b>	MORNING PRAYER		
	<b>7 PM</b>	FESTAL EVENING PRAYER		
	8 PM	MYSTERY OF HOLY		
	REPENTANCE [CONFESSIONS]			
<b>SUN. JAN. 25</b>	<b>SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE</b>			
	PHARISEE. THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY			
	<b>AFTER THEOPHANY. Our Holy Father</b>			
	Gregory the Theologian, Patriarch of			
	Constantinople.			
	9:00 AM	MORNING PRAYER		
	10:00 AM	FOR THE PEOPLE		
	11:30 AM	PARISH LUNCHEON		
	<b>12 NOON</b>	ECF CLASSES FOR ALL!		

# ~YOUR GIFT TO THE LORD ~THE MONTH OF JAN. 2015

Sunday	Collection	<b>Candles Holy Day</b>	<b>Fund Raising</b>	Weekly Totals		
1/4/15	\$624.99	\$187.00 \$61.00	\$203.35	\$1,076.34		
1/11/14	\$521.37	\$70.00 \$25.00	\$230.01	\$846.38		
TOTAL	\$1,146.36	\$257.00 \$86.00	\$433.36	\$2,172.72		
SPECIAL BUILDING FUND DONATIONS \$250.00						
WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE!						
Thank you for all of your support!						
<b>SERVICE ANIMALS</b> ~ are welcome at our Divine Services.						

### 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, COL. WILLIAM HOSPODAR, ALEXANDER YOUNG, RICHARD MEDWIG, MEGAN ZAHN, BARB & PHIL LINK.

Candles Available M	onthly Donation	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Eternal Lamp	\$40.00	Ukraine	Dan & Olga Vaughn
Icon Screen (6)	\$40.00	Allison Hendricks	Judy Ernst
Tetrapod (2)	\$30.00	Special Intention	Al Macek
Nativity Icon	\$25.00	Jesus, Mary, Jose	eph Richard Medwig
Theotokos of Vladimir Id	on \$25.00	Special Intention	Glen Grabow
Resurrection Icon	\$25.00	Healing	Dan & Olga Vaughn
St. Athanasius Icon	\$25.00	Richard Medwig	Judy Ernst
Holy Table	\$40.00	Peter & Christine	Majanja Judy Ernst

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.

Thank you for your support of St Athanasius the Great Parish.

## THE AKATHIST TO THE THEOTOKOS,



# THE INEXHAUSTIBLE CUP, HEALER OF ALCOHOLICS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20° 7 PM
FRIDAY MARCH 20° 7 PM
WEDNESDAY APRIL 8° 7 PM
WEDNESDAY MAY 20° 7 PM
WEDNESDAY JUNE 3° 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 NEXT SUNDAY after the Parish Luncheon. Their will be no Classes TODAY. PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOUR CHILDREN ARE IN OUR ECF PROGRAM. The Children are divided by age and grade. Currently the Pre-K and Kindergarten and Primary Grade classes have begun. Parents please commit to have themselves and their children here each week to make the classes.

We expect EVERY ADULT to participate in the Adult Enrichment Class. Sadly all too many of you have NOT been faithful in attending and participating in Eastern Christian Formation Classes. Please recommit yourself to growing in the Holy Spirit and Faith. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

The Cupboard is almost bare! It would be a great help if every family would bring a few non-perishable food items to Church. We especially need cereals, canned fruit and vegetables, canned and boxed soups, canned meats, and canned soups. But any non-perishable food items would be most welcomed!

Please bring them to Church or bring them to the Church hall and place in the food bank box.

### <u>Upcoming celebrations of the Paraclis to the Theotokos</u> <u>and Mystery of Holy Anointing "Ancient Healing Service" at 7 PM.</u>

Wednesday January 14 Paraclis & Holy Anointing NO FEBRUARY SERVICE

Wednesday March 11 Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts & Holy Anointing

Wednesday April 29 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Wednesday May 27 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Wednesday June 24 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Please invite your friends and join us for this beautiful Healing Service!

All Souls Saturdays~ Every Year Byzantine Catholics remember their departed Loved Ones during the 5 All Souls Saturday during the Pre-Lenten period, the Great Fast, and the Saturday before Pentecost. This year we will celebrate the All Souls Saturdays on the following Dates:

- 1) Saturday February 21 [moved from Feb. 7] 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of the Great Fast First Hour 7 AM Divine Liturgy and Panachida 7:30 AM
- 2) Saturday February 28 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of the Great Fast First Hour 7 AM Divine Liturgy and Panachida 7:30 AM
- 3) Saturday March 7 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of the Great Fast First Hour 7 AM Divine Liturgy and Panachida 7:30 AM
- 4) Saturday March 14 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of the Great Fast First Hour 7 AM Divine Liturgy and Panachida 7:30 AM
- 5) Saturday May 23 Saturday before Pentecost First Hour 7 AM Divine Liturgy and Panachida 7:30 AM Please provide Father Bryan with an updated list of your faithful departed. Thank you very much!

Pampered Chef Fundraiser ~Belinda Dorney is hosting a Pampered Chef Fundraiser for St. Athanasius Parish. It is open from now until Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. The Parish will earn 15% of sales at \$600 and above. The Parish will receive 10% of for amounts of \$599 and less. For more information please go on-line <a href="https://www.pamperedchef.com/pws/karenwood/guest-landing/8900158930075">www.pamperedchef.com/pws/karenwood/guest-landing/8900158930075</a>.

### **Byzantine Catholic Seminary Online**

Register Today

Credit Courses (begin January 26, 2015)

Foundations of Spirituality 1
Introduction to Sacred Scripture

Certificate Courses (begin February 2, 2015)

Byzantine Perspectives on Social Justice Theology of the Divine Liturgy Women in the Bible

# <u>UPCOMING HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES</u> ATST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT CHURCH

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee Celebration.

Sat. January 24 7 PM FESTAL VESPERS

[FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS]

Sun. January 25 9 AM FESTAL MATINS

10 AM DIVINE LITURGY

11:15 AM PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON

12 NOON ECF CLASSES FOR ALL

Three Holy Hierarchs Celebration

Thu. January 29 7 PM FESTAL EVENING PRAYER

Fri. January 30 7 AM FIRST HOUR

7:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday of Prodigal Son Celebration.

Sat. January 31 7 PM FESTAL VESPERS

[FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS]

**Sun. February 1** 9 AM FESTAL MATINS

10 AM DIVINE LITURGY

11:15 AM PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON

12 NOON ECF CLASSES FOR ALL

Encounter of our Lord with Simeon and Anna celebration

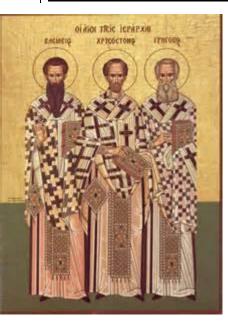
Mon. February 2 7 AM FIRST HOUR

7:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY

**Sunday of Meatfare Celebration** 

Regular Liturgy Times

## UPCOMING HOLY DAYS IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY!

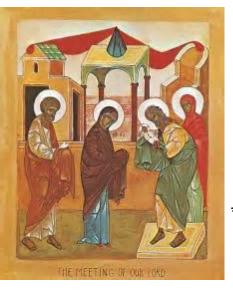


<u>Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil the</u> <u>Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John</u> <u>Chrysostom</u>

Thu. Jan. 29 7 PM: Festal Evening Prayer

Fri. Jan. 30 7 AM: First Hour

7:30 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy



# <u>Feast of the Encounter of our Lord with Simeon</u> and Anna

Mon. Feb. 2 7 AM: First Hour

7:30 AM: Divine Liturgy

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

# Cheesefare [Forgiveness] Sunday Special Luncheon and Services

St. Athanasius the Great Parish will prepare for the beginning of the Great Fast with the Divine Services for Cheesefare [Forgiveness] Sunday on the weekend of February 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. We will have our normal schedule of Saturday 7 PM Evening Prayer, Sunday Morning Prayer at 9 AM, with a Divine Liturgy at 10 AM. We will have our Special Cheesefare Luncheon following the Divine Liturgy. Than at 12:30 PM we will have or traditional Vespers of Mutual Forgiveness. Please plan to join us for this important beginning of the Great Fast.

Hall Kitchen / Hospitality Committee~ One of the most enjoyable and evangelistic aspects of St. Athanasius the Great Parish is the way that many in the Parish come over to our St. Mary Hall and share food and fellowship with one another. A very good suggestion was brought to Father Bryan by Dr. Judy Ernst, regarding the establishment of a Hall Kitchen Hospitality Committee to organize the post Sunday Liturgy Brunch each week. Father Bryan completely agrees with this idea and requests that those who received the email and anyone else interested in helping with this Committee, speak to Judy about participating.



This Committee would include people interested in planning, provisioning, preparing, presenting and cleaning up the Sunday repast. The Committee would develop a core group that would rotate the responsibility for planning for a particular

Sunday during the month. Perhaps at first we would begin with one person responsible for one Sunday per month.

The Committee would develop groups FROM THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP that are willing to provide, prepare, serve and/or clean up. Father Bryan has decide to permit the person[s] responsible for getting the food out on time would be excused from the Liturgy immediately following Holy Communion. When this has recently been attempted the Brunch was ready to begin when Father arrived to bless the food.



When we have visitors, please be sure to invite them over to the Brunch. It is a chance to meet with the visitors and for Father Bryan and Father Deacon John to speak with them and perhaps answer any questions that they may have. Each and everyone of us have the responsibility to be apostles who share the Good News about what is going on at

St. Athanasius the Great Parish.



January 18
Saints Athanasius and Cyril
of Alexandria

# Spokesmen of the Fathers

ON JANUARY 18 the Byzantine Churches remember two monumental archbishops of Alexandria, Athanasius the Great and Cyril I. These hierarchs lived in the fourth and fifth centuries respectively, at a time when the

administrative structures as well as the fundamental theology of the Church were being fixed. Both were instrumental in combatting major heresies on the nature of Christ. Athanasius championed the fight against Arianism while Cyril stood against the teachings of Nestorios, defeating him at the Third Ecumenical Council (Ephesus, 431).

Today the second largest city in Egypt, Alexandria was founded in the fourth century BC by Alexander the Great as a link between Greece and the fertile Nile valley. Within a century it had become the largest city in the Mediterranean world and the leading center of Hellenistic culture. It was the capital of Egypt for almost 1000 years, as well and the home of the world's largest library until the Islamic conquest in the seventh century AD.

Alexandria was also the home of the largest Jewish community in the ancient world. It was this community which produced the Septuagint (LXX), the Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures in the late second century BC. The Septuagint was used by Christians from the beginning of the Church and is quoted regularly in the New Testament. It became the

### Spokesmen of the Fathers [Page 2]

basis for the Latin and other translations that were developed with the spread of the Gospel in the first millennium.

By the time of St. Constantine the Great, when the persecution of Christians ceased, Alexandria was the intellectual center of the Church, home to such theologians as Clement of Alexandria and Origen. Egypt was also the spiritual center of monasticism which first arose there with Saints Anthony and Pachomios. When local Churches were ranked at the First Ecumenical Council, Alexandria was declared the first see after Rome.

With the establishment of Constantinople a few years later as the "New Rome" a rivalry grew up between these two Churches, which was only resolved at the Fourth Ecumenical Council (Chalcedon, 451) when the imperial capital displaced Alexandria as the second see in Christendom.

#### St. Athanasius the Great (c. 297–373)

Born and educated in the Christian community of Alexandria, Athanasius was ordained a deacon in 319 and attended the First Ecumenical Council in 325 as aide to his archbishop, Alexander. The Council confronted Arianism, the belief that Christ's essence was similar to that of God (in Greek, homoiousios) rather than one with Him (homoousios). The Council affirmed the latter belief and incorporated it into the Nicene Creed which confesses Christ as "one in essence with the Father." Despite the Council, Arianism remained a problem for the Church for the rest of the century.

On the archbishop's death in 328 the young Athanasius was elected to succeed him. In his 45 years as Archbishop of Alexandria Athanasios spent 17 years in exile, deposed by the emperors Constantius II and Valens, who were sympathetic to the Arians, as well as by Julian the Apostate. Because of these conflicts – and because he prevailed against them all – he came to be known as "Athanasius Against the World."

### Spokesmen of the Fathers [Page 3]

Exiled to Gaul, Germany and Rome Athanasius found himself in the position of being the champion of Nicene Orthodoxy throughout the Christian world. He distinguished himself as the Church's principal theologian against Arianism, teaching that the purpose of Christ's incarnation is our deification: "God became man so that we might become divine." He concluded that, since our union with the Father is based on our union with Christ, our deification depends on Christ being divine. The same, he reasoned, was true of the Holy Spirit; his teaching would be confirmed at the Second Ecumenical Council (381), a few years after his death on May 2, 373. Athanasius is revered in all the historic Churches of East and West.

#### St. Cyril I of Alexandria (c. 376–444)

Like Athanasius, St Cyril was involved in theological controversies over the nature of Christ and was endorsed at an Ecumenical Council (Ephesus, 431). While Athanasius contested with pro-Arian emperors, Cyril was in conflict with his rival for the second place in the hierarchy, Nestorios, the Archbishop of Constantinople.

Cyril was the nephew of Archbishop Theophilus of Alexandria, the implacable enemy of St John Chrysostom. Cyril accompanied Theophilus to Constantinople where that bishop held the "Synod of the Oak" in 402 and deposed Chrysostom.

Theophilus died on Oct 15, 412; on the 18th

Cyril was consecrated to succeed his uncle.

For some years Cyril refused to commemorate St John Chrysostom in the diptychs of his Church, in spite of the requests of Chrysostom's successor. He excluded from the Church the Novatians whom his uncle had tolerated. He also engaged in a long-standing rivalry with Orestes, the Prefect of Egypt who was jealous of the archbishop's influence over the people.

### Spokesmen of the Fathers [Page 4]

Cyril's deepest resentment, however, was for Nestorios, the Archbishop of Constantinople.

On becoming archbishop, Nestorios found himself embroiled in a local controversy involving those who believed that God had been incarnate in Christ and that therefore the Holy Virgin was Theotokos. Others felt that it was only Christ's humanity which had been born and that therefore Theotokos was not an appropriate title. Nestorios' own teaching seemed to favor the anti-Theotokos faction and the battle was enjoined. A series of councils attempting to deal with the issue culminated in the Third Ecumenical Council, over which St Cyril presided.

Cyril had legitimate theological reasons for opposing Nestorios – it was not an abstract nature which was born in Bethlehem but a Person. The Holy Virgin gave birth to that Person who was God the Word Incarnate. However Cyril so manipulated events by excluding pro-Nestorios bishops and inciting the crowds including the monks to riot against the "ungodly" that the emperor, Theodosios II, labeled him a "proud pharaoh." Nevertheless, when the Council deposed Nestorios and condemned his teaching, the Emperor exiled him to a monastery in Egypt where Cyril could keep an eye on him.

The Church saw Cyril's teaching as decisive in the development of theology and praises him as a Pillar of Faith and "the Seal of all the Fathers." Besides his important essays On the Incarnation and That Christ Is One, Cyril wrote extensive commentaries on the Gospels which still survive. His concept of Christ as "One nature of the Word of God incarnate" would be refined in the Fourth Ecumenical Council (Chalcedon, 451) by the teachings of St Leo the Great, Pope of Rome.

The Church of Alexandria was divided in the wake of the Council of Chalcedon. The Greeks accepted St Leo's clarification but the native speakers (Copts) did not, feeling that it went against St Cyril's teaching. In time two Churches were formed: the majority Coptic (Oriental) Orthodox and the Greek Orthodox (centered in Alexandria).

## **Triodion: Pre-Lenten Sundays**

The Triodion is a liturgical book used by the Eastern Orthodox and Byzantine Catholic Churches during the Pre-Lenten and Great



Lenten periods. Most of its canons contain only three odes, as the name Triodion implies. An ode is an ancient type of lyrical verse that glorifies an event or an individual being.

The Pre-Lenten period begins 22 days before the beginning of Great Lent, and its first Sunday falls ten weeks before Pascha (Easter) Sunday. The four Sundays within the Pre-Lenten period are consecutively named *The Publican and the Pharisee*,

The Prodigal Son, The Last Judgment (or Meat-Fare – the last day within the Triodion period that meat may be eaten), and Sunday of Forgiveness (or Cheese-Fare – the last day within the Triodion period that dairy products may be eaten). Zacchaeus Sunday, the eleventh Sunday before Pascha, is sometimes added within the Slavic tradition - although the Triodion is not used on that day.

The theme of The Publican and the Pharisee, a parable of Jesus which is told in Luke 18:9-14, is humility. It contrasts the smug religiosity of this particular Pharisee with the sincere repentence of this particular Publican. The Triodion includes these lines: Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! And learn humility from the Publican's tears!

### **Triodion: Pre-Lenten Sundays [Page 2]**



The Prodigal Son - perhaps the best-known parable of Jesus, and told in Luke 15:11-32 - teaches about redemption. It contrasts the proverbial "good boy" with the proverbial "bad boy," and ends with a surprise twist. The story culminates with this famous line: *He was lost, and is found.* 

The Last Judgment (aka Judgment Day or The Day of the Lord) is said to take place after the Second Coming of Christ and the resurrection of

the dead. As depicted in Revelation 20:12-15 (and referred to within many other passages such as Matthew 3:10-12 and 13:40-43), it is a time of rejoicing for some – but certainly not for all. The Last Judgment is an extremely prominent theme within Byzantine Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy.

The Sunday of Forgiveness is the day before the beginning of



Great Lent. It often involves a Ceremony of Mutual Forgiveness. This experience of reconciliation paves the way for the profound introspection of the Great Fast that follows.

These Pre-Great Fast Sundays of the Holy Triodion are truly a time of

preparing for the rigors of the Great Fast. Whether it is the Sunday of Zacchaeus where we see a man willing to do just about anything to encounter Christ, or the Sunday of the Prodigal Sunday where we discover that the Love of the Father awaits the repentant sinner; these Sundays bring us into the special spirit that is the Great Fast.

#### Contraception and Abortion: NEVER accepted by the Christian Church

Byzantine Catholics do well to know the history of moral teaching on contraception and abortion. The following are a few of the texts from the patristic (early Christian) sources to demonstrate how early was the Christian rejection of these practices, known widely in the Greco-Roman world.

The earliest reference to contraception and abortion is in the **Didache**, a document from the second half of the first century or early second century. *Didache* reads: "You shall not practice birth control, you shall not murder a child by abortion, nor kill what is begotten".

Another early text is the *Epistle of Barnabas*: "You shall not slay the child by procuring abortion, nor shall you destroy it after it is born". This also shows that the earliest Christians forbade abortion.

In the second century, **St. Clement of Alexandria** wrote in the *Paedagogus* (2.10.96): "Women who resort to some sort of deadly abortion drug kill not only the embryo, but along with it, all human kindness." This passage supports our translation of the *Didache* by mentioning the use of drugs to induce abortion.

In 177, **Athenagoras of Athens** wrote in the *Supplication for the Christians*: "And when we say that those women who use drugs to bring on abortion commit murder, and will have to give an account to God for the abortion, on what principle should we commit murder?"

In the third century, **Minucius Felix** (226) wrote in *Octavius*: "There are some women who, by drinking medical preparations, extinguish the source of the future man in their very bowels, and thus commit a parricide before they bring forth".

**St. Basil the Great** wrote in his *First Canonical Letter*, Canon 2: "The woman who purposely destroys her unborn child is guilty of murder. With us there is no nice enquiry as to its being formed or unformed. In this case it is not only the being about to be born who is vindicated, but the woman in her attack upon herself; because in most cases women who make such attempts die. The destruction of the embryo is an additional crime, a second murder, at all events, if we regard it as done with intent" (374).

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> youngest brother. He has reentered the Army Reserve and is currently serving with the 848<sup>th</sup> FST [Forward Surgical Team] stationed in Twinsburg, OH. He has returned to his family in Solon, OH.

<u>CAPT. BRIAN HEWKO USA</u> 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.

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

<u>CAPTAIN [FATHER] JOSEPH BRANKATELLI USA</u> 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

<u>USAF</u> ~ 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.

**2<sup>ND</sup> 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. <u>If you remain until the end of the Divine Liturgy; you will fulfill</u> 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!