

# **THE LIGHT OF THE EAST**



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

**1117 South Blaine Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46221**

**Website: [www.saindy.com](http://www.saindy.com) Email: [sabcc@indy.rr.com](mailto: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: Office: 317-632-4157; FAX: 317-632-2988**

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

### **WEEKEND DIVINE SERVICES**

**Sat.: 7 PM [Festal 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 MAY 3, 2015**

**SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN.**  
**THE FEAST OF ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT.**

**Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost.**

**The Holy Martyr Timothy and His Wife Maura.**

**The Passing of our Ven. Fr. Theodosius of the**  
**Pecherskaya Lavra [Monastery of the Caves in Kiev].**

**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><u>SAT. MAY 2</u></b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>FESTAL EVENING PRAYER</b>
	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<i>Mystery of Holy Repentance</i> <b>[CONFESSIONS]</b>
<b><u>SUN. MAY 3</u></b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>FESTAL MORNING PRAYER</b>
	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<i>For the People</i>
	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>PARISH PATRONAL</b>
		<b>PROCESSION</b>
	<b>12 NOON</b>	<b>PARISH BBQ</b>
<b><u>MON. MAY 4</u></b>		<b><u>The Post-Festive of Mid-Pentecost.</u></b>
		<b><u>The Holy Martyr Pelagia.</u></b>
		<b>NO DIVINE SERVICES. FATHER'S DAY OFF</b>
<b><u>TUE. MAY 5</u></b>		<b><u>Post-Festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy &amp;</u></b>
		<b><u>Glorious Martyr Irene. Our Ven. Fr. Nicephor,</u></b>
		<b><u>Hegumen of the Medikion Monastery.</u></b>
	<b>7 AM</b>	<b>FIRST HOUR</b>
	<b>7:30 AM</b>	<i>Intention of Austin McGoff</i>

**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.**

**WED. MAY 6**

**Leave-Taking of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy & Just Job, the Long-suffering.**

**7 AM FIRST HOUR**

**7:30 AM** *Int. of Andrew Basil Dietz*

**THU. MAY 7**

**The Appearance of the Sign of the Cross in the heavens at the Third Hour of the day in Jerusalem, before the Emperor Constantius.**

**The Holy Martyr Acacius. Our Holy Father Alexis of Wilkes-Barre, Enlightener of America.**

**7 AM FIRST HOUR**

**7:30 AM** *Health of Anthony Jesko*

**FRI. MAY 8**

**The Holy Apostle & Evangelist John the Theologian. Our Ven. Fr. Arsenius the Great.**

**7 AM FIRST HOUR**

**7:30 PM** *The New Christian Martyrs of Garissa, Kenya*

**SAT. MAY 9**

**The Holy Prophet Isaiah. The Holy Martyr Christopher. Translation of the relics of Our Holy Father Nicholas to Bari, Italy.**

**7AM FIRST HOUR**

**7 PM FESTAL EVENING PRAYER**

**8 PM MYSTERY OF HOLY REPENTANCE  
[CONFESSIONS]**

**SUN. MAY 10**

**SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND.**

**The Holy Apostle Simon the Zealot.**

**9:00 AM MORNING PRAYER**

**10 AM FOR THE PEOPLE**

**11:15 AM PARISH LUNCHEON**

**PARISH PATRONAL FEAST BBQ LUNCHEON:** After the Traditional Parish Patronal Procession around the Temple [weather permitting] we will have a Parish BBQ. Come and join us for Hamburgers and hot dogs and all of the fun picnic foods [and some healthy foods thanks to Judy Ernst et.al.] Rain or shine!

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

Arabic: Al-Maseeh qam! Háqqan qam!

Greek: Christós anésti! Alithós anésti!

Slavonic: Christós voskrése! Vo-ístinu voskrése!

Romanian: Christós a inviáht! Adevarát a inviáht!

Magyar: Feltamadt Kristus! Valoban Feltamandt!

**The Paschal greeting and response in various languages. Please use it until the Ascension!**



**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, DAVID BLEVINS, FR. DEACON MICHAEL GEORGE, MONICA KING GILBRECH, KATHERYN LOIDOLT, EVIE KOBUS, JOHN BORGERT, LAUREN FIORELLI, CLARE HUNTER, IGNATIO ROMERO, MAGDELINA CHAUBY, COL. WILLIAM HOSPODAR, ALEXANDER YOUNG, RICHARD MEDWIG, MEGAN ZAHN, JOSEPH COSGROVE, BARB & PHIL LINK, DAVE WILSON, TOMMY CAITO, REBECCA MALY, LILAH NICHOLE MALY, AL MACEK, LINDA STENGER, MATT HIZNAY, ANTHONY JESKO.

***IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE TO ADD TO THE LIST PLEASE WRITE IT DOWN AND GIVE IT TO FATHER. PLEASE ALSO TELL HIM WHEN SOMEONE HAS RECOVERED AND CAN BE REMOVED.***

## **PARISH REPAIR, RENOVATION AND RENEWAL PROJECTS**



We need your help in the continuation of the repair, renovation and renewal of our Parish Property. The following projects need to be completed or performed:

- 1] Complete the repair, replacement and painting of the Buttressing around the Church, and on the bell-tower.
- 2] Complete the construction and instillation of the room partitions in the Parish Hall.
- 3] Clean the siding on the Rectory and scrap and repaint the exposed wood especially on the porches and around the windows.
- 4] Replace and paint the window sill on the large west window in the Church.
- 5] A number of people expressed the desire to plant flower beds around the Church and Rectory. Father Bryan responds with: If you are willing to plant and take care of the flowers, please feel free to do so. Father has

a brown thumb, and can only manage to kill plants and flowers either from “Kindness” or “Neglect.” So if you wish to plant and take care of them, go right ahead.

*If everyone would volunteer to coordinate and/or take care of these projects we can get a lot accomplished this summer, even with our very limited financial resources. St. Athanasius the Great Parish’s most important asset is YOU!*

**Christian marriage is blameless.** The Savior was not ignorant that she had no lawful husband, and his inquiry about her husband was not the plea of one who needed hidden things revealed.... He had full knowledge of her circumstances and helpfully affirms her comment that she has no husband, although she had had so many. For it is not the union of pleasure but the approval of the law and the bond of pure love that makes marriage blameless. St. Cyril of Alexandria: *Commentary on the Gospel of John*.

# **Tithes for the month of April 2015**

Date	Collection	Candles	Holy Day	Building Fund	Raising	Weekly Totals
4/5/15	\$1,936.01	\$197.78	\$65.00		\$1,084.85	\$3,283.64
4/12/15	\$839.20	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$11.00	\$850.20
4/19/15	\$564.00	\$5.00	\$0.00		\$35.00	\$604.00
4/26/15	\$599.65	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$554.00	\$131.20	\$1,326.85
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,938.86</b>	<b>\$244.78</b>	<b>\$65.00</b>	<b>\$554.00</b>	<b>\$1,262.05</b>	<b>\$6,064.69</b>

***Many thanks to those who sacrificially contribute to St. Athanasius the Great Parish. Please consider it your personal spiritual goal to donate a full tithe [10% of your income] for the support of YOUR parish.***

*Bring the full tithes into the storehouse [of the Temple], 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*

<b><u>Candles Available</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly Donation</u></b>	<b><u>Intention</u></b>	<b><u>Sponsor</u></b>
Eternal Lamp	\$40.00	<b>AVAILABLE</b>	
Icon Screen (6)	\$40.00	<b>Alison Hendricks</b>	<b>Judy Ernst</b>
Tetrapod (2)	\$30.00	<b>AVAILABLE</b>	
Nativity Icon	\$25.00	<b>AVAILABLE</b>	
Theotokos of Vladimir Icon	\$25.00	<b>Special Intention</b>	<b>Glen Grabow</b>
Resurrection Icon	\$25.00	<b>AVAILABLE</b>	
St. Athanasius Icon	\$25.00	<b>AVAILABLE</b>	
Holy Table	\$40.00	<b>Peter &amp; Christine Majanja</b>	<b>Judy Ernst</b>

**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!



**THE AKATHIST TO THE THEOTOKOS,**  
**THE INEXHAUSTIBLE CUP, HEALER**  
**OF ALCOHOLICS**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> 7 PM**

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> 7 PM**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 15<sup>TH</sup> 7 PM**

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup> 7 PM**

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> 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? THIS IS A POWERFUL PRAYER SEEKING THE INTERCESSION OF THE THEOTOKOS FOR THE HEALING OF THIS TERRIBLE AND DEBILITATING DISEASE. 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.**

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

*Wednesday May 27 Paraclis & Holy Anointing*

*Wednesday June 24 Paraclis & Holy Anointing*

*Wednesday August 29 Paraclis & Holy Anointing*

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

**Parish Weekly Luncheon Donations:**

*Everyone is invited and always welcome to join us at our Weekly Luncheon after the Liturgy. There is a Donation Basket at the beginning of the meal line, and we ask those who are able, to place a few dollars in the basket, occasionally.*

*These monies are used to provide the various snacks, bottled water, juices, coffee and milk that we have at this weekly Luncheon. And without these monies or in-kind donations, we will not be able to regularly have these items available. So anything that you can contribute would be most welcome and appreciated.*

*We greatly appreciate everyone who have been working with Dr. Judy Ernst and using the Perfect Potluck website to make sure we have a complete variety of foods. Also thank you for your attention to those of our parishioners who have food allergies and other special requirements.*



**Parish Patronal Potluck Picnic ~  
TODAY**

***after the 10 AM Divine Liturgy.***

*Please plan now to attend! We are hoping to have a BBQ! And other such Picnic items.*

*Please also use this as an opportunity to invite your neighbors, family and friends to join us for this Sunday celebration!*

*Weather-permitting we will have the traditional Patronal Feast Day procession with the Four Gospels chanted around the Temple [in our*

*case possibly around the Rectory ☺]. Please join us!*



**UPCOMING HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES**  
**AT ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT CHURCH**

**MAN-BORN-BLIND CELEBRATION [MOTHERS' DAY]**

**Sat. May 9**                      **7 PM**                      **FESTAL EVENING PRAYER**  
   **8 PM**                      **MYSTERY OF HOLY**  
   **REPENTANCE**

**Sun. May 10**                      **9 AM**                      **FESTAL MORNING PRAYER**  
   **10 AM**                      **FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY**

**ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CELEBRATION**

**Wed. May 13**                      **7 PM**                      **FESTAL EVENING PRAYER**

**Thu. May 14**                      **7 AM**                      **FIRST HOUR / DIVINE LITURGY**

**FATHERS OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ECUMENICAL COUNCIL CELEBRATION**

**Sat. May 16**                      **7 PM**                      **FESTAL EVENING PRAYER**

**Sun. May 17**                      **9 AM**                      **FESTAL MORNING PRAYER**  
   **10 AM**                      **FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY**

**11:15 AM**                      **WEEKLY SUNDAY LUNCHEON**

**Wed. May 20**                      **7 PM**                      **INEXHAUSTIBLE CUP AKATHIST**

**Sat. May 23**                      **5<sup>TH</sup> ALL SOULS SATURDAY**

**7 AM**                      **FIRST HOUR**

**7:30 AM**                      **DIVINE LITURGY AND HRAMOTY**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY CELEBRATION**

**7 PM**                      **FESTAL EVENING PRAYER**

**8 PM**                      **MSTRY. OF HOLY REPENTANCE**

**Sun. May 3**                      **9 AM**                      **FESTAL MORNING PRAYER**

**10 AM**                      **FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY**

**11:30 AM**                      **PARISH LUNCHEON**

**11:45 AM**                      **PARISH FEAST CELEBRATION**

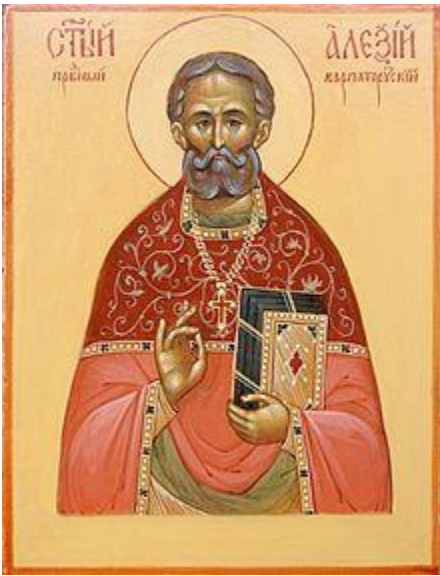
**Garissa Kenya Massacre Divine Liturgy**~ Father Bryan and Fr. Deacon John will celebrate a Divine Liturgy for the New Christian Martyrs of Garissa, Kenya on this Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> [The Feast of St. John the Theologian] at 7:30 AM. At this Divine Liturgy will remember all the victims on the attack of the radical Islamist terrorist Al-Sabbah from Somalia upon the students and others at the Garissa Campus of Moi University. We will also remember their parents, other relatives and loved ones, who are also victims of these Islamic Terrorists. Along with the Garissa Martyrs we will remember all of the Christian martyrs who have been victims of Islamic terror.

**Father Bryan, someone told me that women could not serve as Cantors or Readers in Byzantine Catholic Churches. Is that true?**

*No! There are no Church Canons that forbid women from assisting in the Divine Services as Cantors or Readers. Many Parishes of the Parma Eparchy, in fact, have women cantors. Personally, Fr. Bryan has served 3 parishes with female cantors in Minneapolis, Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH, and Marblehead, OH.*

*Perhaps the person who was talking to you was speaking of people being “ordained” as Cantors or Readers. Currently those men preparing to serve as Presbyters [Priests] and Deacons receive various offices called in the West “minor orders”. In the East these offices are called “Cheirothesia”. They include the orders of Acolyte, Reader/ Cantor, and Subdeacon. These orders are restricted to men, some of whom in many Byzantine Churches remain in the office for life. They receive the “cheirothesia” [laying on of hands] by the Bishop [or occasionally designated Archimandrite or Protopresbyter] outside of the Altar Area to perform these various services in Church.*

*So while the ordained office is limited to men, typically in modern usage, laymen and laywomen fulfill these offices without ordination. At St. Athanasius the Great Parish we welcome all men and women to serve in all liturgical offices that are open to them. Your Pastor hopes that the women of this Parish, feel welcome to serve as Readers and Cantors in the Liturgies of our Church.*



**Saint Alexis Toth or St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre;** was a Russian Orthodox church leader in the Midwestern United States who, having resigned his position as a priest in the Byzantine Catholic Church, became responsible for the conversions of approximately 20,000 Byzantine Catholics to the Russian Orthodox Church, which contributed to the growth of Eastern Orthodoxy in the United States and the eventual establishment of the Orthodox Church in America. He was canonized by the Orthodox Church in 1994.

Alexis Georgievich Toth was born to Father George and Cecilia Toth (or Tovt) on March 14, 1853, near Prešov in Zepes county of Slovakia (then a part of the Austrian Empire) during the reign of Franz Joseph. Having completed his primary schooling, he attended a Roman Catholic seminary for one year, followed by three years in a Greek Catholic seminary and additional time at the University of Prague, where he graduated with a degree in Theology.

Toth married Rosalie Mihaluk on April 18, 1878, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1878 by Bishop Nicholas Toth, the Greek Catholic Bishop of Prešov. Following the death of his wife and child a few years later, he served in local parishes, as diocesan chancellor, and as professor and Rector at the Greek Catholic seminary of Prešov. In 1889, Fr. Alexis' bishop received a petition from the Byzantine [Greek] Catholic Church in the United States, asking that Toth be sent to them as a priest. He arrived on November 15, 1889, and by the 27th of that month was holding services at St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Finding the church barely furnished and deeply in debt, he set about rectifying the situation, ultimately bringing the parish to a place of fiscal stability while not drawing a salary.

As a Byzantine Catholic, Toth honored the custom of paying a visit to the local Roman Catholic bishop in his area, since there was no Byzantine

**Alexis Toth [page 2]** Catholic bishop serving in the United States at that time. The ordinary of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis was Archbishop John Ireland, who had been attempting to "Americanize" German and other Catholic immigrants, and was hostile to ethnic parishes such the one in which Toth served.



When speaking of their meeting, Toth later claimed that Archbishop Ireland became angry and threw Toth's priestly credentials onto his table while ardently protesting his presence in the city. Toth reported that Ireland said he did not consider Toth or his bishop to be truly Catholic, in clear contradiction of the Unions of Brest and Uzhorod and papal decrees to the contrary. Toth reported that the conversation became more heated as it progressed, with both men losing their tempers. Ireland refused to give Toth permission to serve as a priest in Minneapolis, and furthermore ordered his parishes and priests not to have anything to do with the Byzantine Catholic priest or his parishioners.

Although Toth sent letters to his bishop in Slovakia, detailing his experience and requesting specific instructions, he reportedly never received a reply.

Toth came to believe that he and other Eastern Rite Catholic priests in North America were to be recalled to Europe, and their parishioners folded into existing Roman Catholic congregations in their respective cities.

Having heard nothing from his own bishop, he and other Byzantine Catholic priests who had shared similar experiences began to cast about for a solution to their dilemma. In December 1890, they contacted the

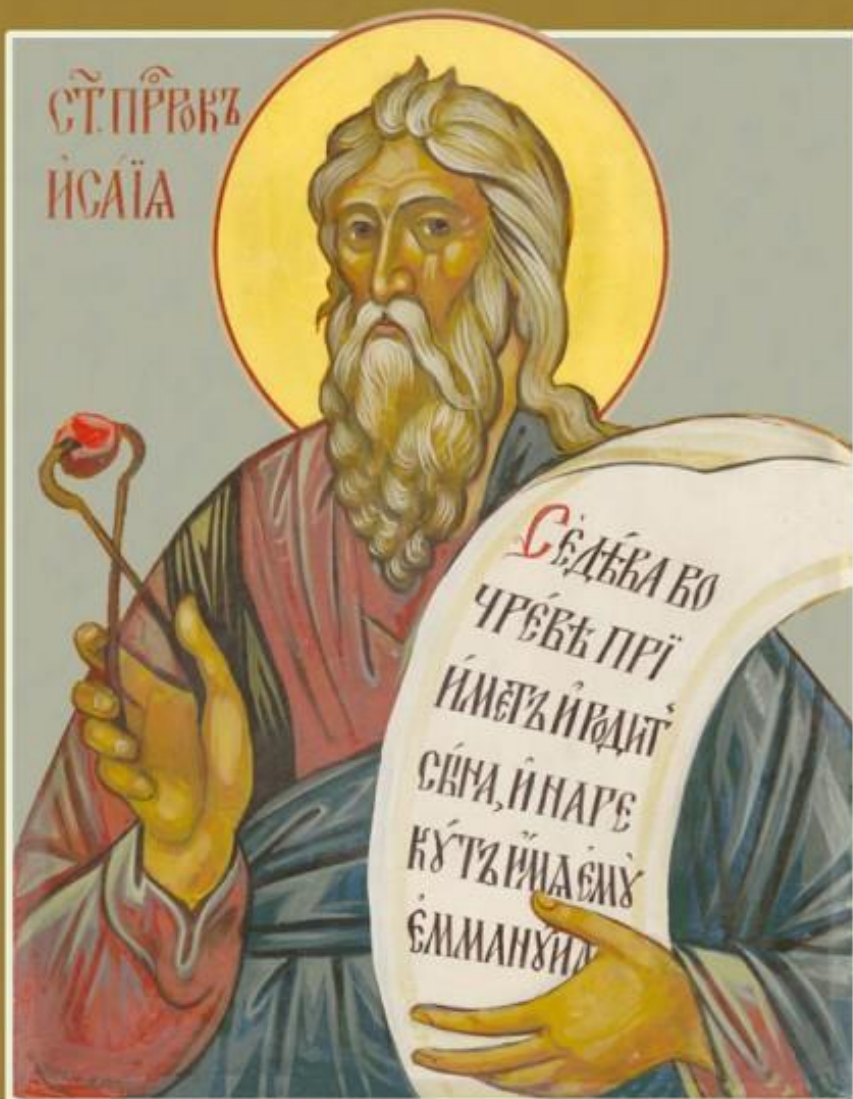
**Alexis Toth [page 3]** Russian consul in San Francisco, California, asking to be put in touch with a Russian Orthodox bishop. Correspondence and personal meetings with Bishop Vladimir Sokolovsky of San Francisco followed, culminating in Toth's decision to formally enter the Russian Orthodox Church in March 1892. Toth was accompanied by 361 fellow Byzantine Catholics, including the Grandfather of the first Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Stephen J. Kocisko; thousands more would follow in the years to come, largely due to his own efforts to persuade them toward this move.



Following his reception into Orthodoxy, Toth tirelessly preached his new faith to other Byzantine Catholics in North America. This, combined with further demands by U.S. Latin bishops against Byzantine Catholic parishes facilitated the conversion of over 20,000 Byzantine Catholics to Russian Orthodoxy by the time Toth died in 1909. The Russian Orthodox Church in America has claimed that by 1916 the Latin Catholic Church had lost 163 Byzantine Catholic parishes, with over 100,000 faithful, to the Russian missionary diocese.

Toth was elevated to the rank of Protopresbyter later in life, continuing his efforts to convert the Byzantine Catholics of North America to Eastern Orthodoxy. He died on May 7, 1909, and was honored with a special shrine at St. Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, Pennsylvania. On May 29, 1994, Toth was glorified (canonized) as St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre by the Orthodox Church in America, whose establishment and membership numbers are largely traceable to his efforts.

Having served at the nearby St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Minneapolis, your Pastor is well aware of the history surrounding this tragic encounter between Archbishop Ireland and Father Alexis Toth. Let us pray that the Catholic and Orthodox Church can unite.



*May 9 –*

*The Prophet Isaiah*

## **“More an Evangelist than a Prophet”**

OF ALL THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS quoted in the New Testament, the most frequently cited is Isaiah, who is remembered on our Church’s calendar on May 9. Isaiah’s prophecies are referenced 66 times in the New Testament; only the Psalms are more frequently quoted.

Isaiah lived in the eighth century BC, a time of great political upheaval in the Holy Land. The Assyrian Empire was poised to engulf the northern kingdom, Israel, (which it would succeed in doing) and threatened the southern kingdom, Judah, as well. While the rulers’ response was to seek military alliances with neighboring pagan kingdoms, Isaiah’s response was decidedly apolitical: only faithfulness to God and His way would save His people. Isaiah insisted that the Jews reject the idolatry of their pagan neighbors rather than flirt with it for political ends. He preached the need for rediscovering justice and charity as the distinctive signs of God’s people at a time when the godly way of life was being forgotten. Otherwise God would use His people’s enemies to chastise them for their infidelities.

## *The Prophet Isaiah [Page 2]*

While some modern scholars suggest otherwise, ancient authors claim that Isaiah prophesied for over sixty years and died in the reign of Manasseh. *The Martyrdom of Isaiah*, a first-century AD Jewish work, reflects the tradition that Isaiah was killed by order of Manasseh. Manasseh would later repent and author the prayer which bears his name.

### **The Call of Isaiah**

Isaiah describes the religious experience which launched his prophetic activity: *“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.*

*Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!’ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.*

*“So I said: ‘Woe is me, for I am undone!*

*Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.’*

*“Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: ‘Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged’” (Is 6:1-7).*

Isaiah’s vision has become an icon of our liturgical experience of the glory of God. We depict the six-winged seraphim hovering over the throne of God on the ripidia which are poised over our churches’ holy tables. We quote their description (“*with two he covered...*”) in our Liturgy of St. Basil. In every Liturgy of East and West the angels’ cry (“Holy, holy, holy...”) introduces the anaphora, its central prayer. Finally, the live coal from the altar has become an image of the Eucharist which touches our lips, takes away our iniquities and purges our sins.

## *The Prophet Isaiah [Page 3]*

### **Isaiah's Messianic Prophecies**

Isaiah foretold the coming of a Messiah who would deliver God's people from their oppressors. In Isaiah 45 this Messiah is identified as Cyrus the Great, the Persian monarch who defeated the Babylonians in the sixth century BC and allowed the Jews to return to the Holy Land and rebuild Jerusalem. *"Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held... 'I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways; he shall build My city And let My exiles go free, not for price nor reward,' says the LORD of hosts"* (Is 45:13).

Nevertheless, Jewish scholars saw that this prophecy would reach its ultimate fulfillment in Another who was to come in the future. The first Christians recognized that Jesus was the long-awaited One who fulfilled these prophecies:

*"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel"* (Is 7:14).

*"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali... the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles: the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined"* (Is 9:1, 2).

*"There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him..."* (Is 11:1, 2).

*"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever"* (Is 9:6, 7).



## *The Prophet Isaiah [Page 4]*

*“And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious” (Is 11:10).*

*“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God’” (Is 40:3).*

*“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound...” (Is 61:1).*

### **The Suffering Servant**

Perhaps the first prophecies of Isaiah to resonate among the followers of Jesus were the following which Jewish texts like the Babylonian Talmud attributed to a Messiah who conquered through suffering: *“I gave My back to those who struck Me, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting” (Is 50:6).*

*“He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed... He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth” (Is 53:2-5, 7).*

St Jerome (c. 342–420) expressed the thought of many Christian commentators since when he said, “[Isaiah] was more of an Evangelist than a Prophet, because he described all of the Mysteries of the Church of Christ so vividly that you would assume he was not prophesying about the future, but rather was composing a history of past events.”

**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.

**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 returned from deployment to the Persian Gulf. He is now serving in South Carolina.

**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 Douglas. 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 is getting married in July, 2015.

**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. 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!*