

tion, hymns and canons, of which the most renowned is the Great Canon of repentance, read on the Thursday of the fifth week of the Great Lenten Season. His outward appearance was such that, "seeing his face and hearing his words flowing like honey, everyone found delight and mended their ways." Finally, while returning from a sea journey to Constantinople, Andrew foretold that his death would occur before he arrived in Crete. And so it happened. As the ship sailed near the island of Mitylene, this beacon of the Church finished his earthly life and his soul took up habitation in the Kingdom of Christ, in the year 721 A.D.

Saint Martha: Martha was the mother of St. Simeon of the Wonderful Mountain (May 24). Dedicated with all her soul to the Faith, she did not think of marriage. When her parents betrothed her to a young man, Martha thought of leaving the home of her parents and withdrawing from the world. Then St. John the Baptist appeared to Martha and counseled her to fulfill the will of her parents by entering into marriage, which she did. From this marital union, the wondrous St. Simeon, ascetic of the Wonderful Mountain, was born. St. Martha had the regular habit of rising at midnight for prayer. With great compassion she helped the poor, visited the orphaned, and served the sick. A year before her death she saw a multitude of angels with candles in their hands, and learned from them the time of her death. Upon learning this, Martha dedicated herself to prayer and good works with even great zeal. She died peacefully in the year 551 A.D., and was buried near the pillar of her son, Simeon the Stylite. After her death, she appeared many times to instruct people and to heal the sick. Her most significant appearance on record was to the abbot of Simeon's monastery. Following the burial of St. Martha, the abbot placed a votive candle on her grave, with the understanding that it should never be extinguished. But after a certain time, people became lazy, and the lamp went out. Then the abbot became ill, and the saint appeared to him and said: "Why do you not burn a votive candle on my grave? Know that I am not in need of the light from your candles, since I have been found worthy before God, the Eternal Heavenly Light—but you need it. When you burn a light on my grave, you entreat me to pray to the Lord for you." It is obvious from this that the goal of our veneration of the saints is to entreat them, as those worthier than we are, to pray to God for us and for our salvation.

Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

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July 4, 2021

Sunday Holy Scripture Reading

Apostolic Reading: Romans 2:10-16

Gospel: St. Matthew 4:18-23

Services: *Sunday*-8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy, *Weekdays* 8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy when scheduled.

Saints of the Day: 2nd Sunday After Pentecost. Andrew, bishop of Crete, author of the Great Canon; Martyrs Theodore of Cyrene and Lucia; Venerable Andrew Rublev.

Order of Service

Apolytikion of the Resurrection Tone 1

The stone that had been sealed before your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred body, O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the Giver of Life: Glory unto our Resurrected Christ; Glory unto Your Kingdom; Glory to Your Dispensation; O You alone who loves all. *Page 80 in the green book.*

Apolytikion of the Archangels Tone 4

Supreme Commanders of the Hosts of the Heavens, we, the unworthy, implore and beseech You that by Your supplications You encircle us in the shelter of the wings of Your immaterial glory, guarding us who now fall down and cry to You with fervor: Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, as the great marshals of the heavenly hosts on high.

Kontakion to the Theotokos Tone 4

A protection of Christians unshameable * intercessor to our Holy Maker unwavering * reject not * the prayerful cries of those who are in sin * instead come to us, for You are good * Your loving help bring unto us * who are crying in faith to you * Hasten to intercede * and speed now to supplicate* as a protection for all time * Theotokos, for those who honor you. *(Sung with long ending)*

Divine Services

Wed., July 7: Paraklesis to the Theotokos 5pm *(please note new time)*

Sat July 10: Great Vespers 5pm

Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church

Holy Communion of the Orthodox Church is the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is *“With the fear of God, faith and love”* that we approach the Divine Mysteries. Therefore, Holy Communion is reserved only for those baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer and fasting, as prescribed by the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church. We ask that women, before approaching to receive from the Holy Cup, in respect of our Lord, to please remove lipstick.

Coffee Hour Signup

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour. Donations are welcome!

July 4: Topakas Family

July 11: Sponsor Needed

July 18: Maria Lafayette

July 25: Sponsor Needed

Christians Around the World

Please remember to keep Christians around the world in your prayers. Many are being persecuted and even killed for their faith in Jesus Christ. Remember also the two kidnapped Orthodox bishops from Syria.

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Lubbock, TX Vandalized

Last Sunday, St. Andrew Church was vandalized early in the morning prior to services. We have received word that damages are at least \$100,000. While a GoFundMe page has been established, we would like to take a collection from our community and send it to them.

Greek Festival

We are planning to have our festival on the weekend of August 20, 21, 22, 2021, please mark the dates and kindly volunteer. *OPA!*

Capital Campaign

Amazon Smile: You may support Archangel Michael GOC through Amazon Smile. Please make sure you sign in at: <https://smile.amazon.com/>

King Soopers Rewards: Please continue to input your King Soopers Rewards number when shopping there. We receive a percentage of the amount you spend. You must register for the program in order to activate this benefit for us.

Stewardship 2021

Please support our parish with your time, talent and treasure. Remember to

send in your stewardship card. See Ruxandra Georgescu for more information.

Bookstore and Library

We have close to forty new books in the bookstore; there is something for everyone! Please come by and feel free to browse. If you have any questions, please see Olga Sonnenburg or email her at osonnenburg@comcast.net. *All that are careful for this life, procure books that will be medicine for the soul.*
-St. John Chrysostom

Greek Store

Visit our Greek Store in the church hall. We have food items for sale and specialty items can be ordered. Please see Connie Leonard for more information.

Happy 4th of July!

May our Lord continue to bless our nation and all of our citizens! We are grateful to those who have sacrificed much to afford us all that we have and enjoy! *God bless America!*

Saints of the Day

Saint Andrew, Archbishop of Crete: Andrew was born in Damascus of Christian parents, and he was mute from birth until the age of seven. When his parents brought him to church and he received Holy Communion, he began to speak. Such is the power of Divine and Holy Communion. At age fourteen, Andrew went to Jerusalem and was tonsured in the Lavra of St. Sabas the Sanctified. By virtue of his understanding and asceticism, he surpassed many of the older monks and was an example to them. After a while the patriarch took him as his personal secretary. When the Monothelite heresy—which held that the Lord Jesus did not possess a human will, but only a divine will—began to rage, the Sixth Ecumenical Council was convened in Constantinople, in the year 681 A.D. during the reign of Constantine IV [Bearded One]. Theodore, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, was unable to attend the council but sent Andrew (at the time an archdeacon) as his representative. There, Andrew displayed his splendid gifts, his oratory, his zeal for the Faith, and his rare prudence. Having assisted in strengthening the Orthodox Faith, Andrew returned to his duties in Jerusalem. Later, he was elected and installed as the Archbishop of the Island of Crete. As archbishop, he was greatly loved by the people. Andrew was very zealous for Orthodoxy and vehemently resisted all heresies. Through his prayers he worked miracles, including driving the Saracens from the Island of Crete. Andrew wrote many books of instruc-