

ST. SIMEON ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY

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DIVINE LITURGY SUNDAY, MARCH 01, 2026

TONE 5 / EOTHINON 5

**FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (SUNDAY OF
ORTHODOXY)**

VENERABLE-MARTYR EUDOKIA OF HELIOPOLIS; VENERABLE
DOMNINA OF SYRIA;

MARTYRS MARKELLOS AND ANTHONY OF PAMPHYLIA

****DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT****

VISITORS WELCOME!

“The newest Church in Santa Clarita; the oldest Church in the World.”

St. Simeon Orthodox Church welcomes you to our community this Sunday- for truly, ***“This is the Day that the Lord has made.”*** We are honored to have you worship with us. Please join us at the coffee hour following Liturgy. We have set up a table with a **blue tablecloth** for visitors so that our clergy can meet and chat with you after Liturgy. May our Lord bless you and your families.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty. The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength. For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? Who can cause all his praises to be heard? Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy. (***Refrain***)

Glory... Both now... (***Refrain***)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful works to the children of men.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

Let them exalt Him in the congregation of the people, and praise Him in the seat of the elders. (***Refrain***)

The eyes of the Lord are upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy; to hear the groaning of the prisoners, to loosen the sons of the slain. (***Refrain***)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Let the heavens and the earth praise Him. This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto Thee forever.

*During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the **First Sunday of Great Lent**:*

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 5)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF THE FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

(Tone 2)

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, with thankfulness we cry aloud to thee: Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

TROPARION FOR ST. SIMEON (Tone 1)

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice, thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receivest in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection.

KONTAKION FOR SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT (AND
AKATHIST SATURDAY) (Tone 8)

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

THE EPISTLE

(For the First Sunday of Great Lent)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews.

(11:24-26, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of the Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the recompense of reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Sampson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and all the prophets, who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

THE GOSPEL

(For the First Sunday of Great Lent)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

(1:43-51)

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the

Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these.” And Jesus said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.”

ST. BASIL LITURGY MEGALYNARION

All creation rejoiceth in thee, O thou who art full of grace: the angelic hosts and the race of men. O hallowed temple and spiritual paradise, glory of virgins, of whom God was incarnate and became a little child, even our God who is before all the ages; for he made thy womb a throne, and thy body more spacious than the heavens. All creation rejoiceth in thee, O thou who art full of grace. Glory to thee.

****THE PROCESSION OF THE HOLY ICONS****

The clergy, bearing icons, now make a great entrance around the church. The altar servers carry the processional candles, the holy cross, the fans and the banners followed by the Sunday School children bearing their icons. The Procession will go around the entire church, stopping in each of the four corners, as the choir sings the Apolytikion of the Sunday of Orthodoxy leading up to each stop. The clergy then offer a litany.

APOLYTIKION (Tone 2)

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, with thankfulness we cry aloud to thee: Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

THE LITANY (AT THE FIRST STOP)

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

The choir responds “Lord, have mercy” (thrice) for each petition..

Deacon: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Deacon: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan N., (and for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.).

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Procession continues as the choir sings the Apolytikion again.

THE LITANY (AT THE SECOND STOP)

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

The choir responds "Lord, have mercy" (thrice) for each petition.

Deacon: Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hieromonks, deacons, hierodeacons and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for (the servants of God, [Names], and) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Procession continues as the choir sings the Apolytikion again.

THE LITANY (AT THE THIRD STOP)

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

The choir responds "Lord, have mercy" (thrice) for each petition.

Deacon: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church and for (the departed servants of God, [Names], and) all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Deacon: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, those who serve and those who sing, and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Procession continues as the choir sings the Apolytikion again.

THE LITANY (AT THE FOURTH STOP)

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (thrice)

Deacon: Again we pray for the ever-memorable Orthodox patriarchs, kings and rulers, and all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Choir: Memory eternal. (thrice)

Priest: For Thou art the Resurrection, and the Life, and the Repose of Thy departed servants, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine All-Holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Procession returns to the solea as the choir sings the apolytikion for the final time. Once the Procession and the apolytikion have concluded, the priest leads the congregation in reciting the Synodicon.

THE SYNODICON: THE AFFIRMATION OF THE ORTHODOX FAITH

As the Prophets beheld, as the Apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the Teachers have dogmatized, as the universe has agreed, as Grace has shown forth, as Truth has revealed, as falsehood has been dissolved, as Wisdom has presented, as Christ has awarded: thus we declare, thus we assert, thus we preach Christ our true God, and honor His Saints in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in churches, in Holy Icons; on the one hand worshiping and reverencing Christ as God and Lord; and on the other hand honoring as true servants of the same Lord of all, and accordingly offering them veneration.

This is the Faith of the Apostles; this is the Faith of the Fathers; this is the Faith of the Orthodox; this is the Faith which has established the universe!

THE GREAT PROKEIMENON (Tone 7)

Priest: Who is so great a God as our God? Thou alone art the God that doest wonders. (ONCE)

Verse 1. Thou hast made known Thy power among the peoples. (Refrain, sung by the choir)

Verse 2. And I said, now have I begun; these are the charges of the right hand of the Most High. (Refrain, by the choir)

Verse 3. Remembering the works of the Lord; for from the beginning I will remember Thy wonders. (Refrain, first half by priest, completed by the choir)

The clergy now return to the sanctuary for the dismissal.

HOLY OBLATIONS

Happy Birthday to our beloved Mother and Thetee, Kh. **Janine**, from your loving children, grandchildren, and from all your family and friends at St. Simeon! May God bless you and grant you many more years. We love you dearly!

God's blessings to **Father George** on his retirement from your loving family! We love you and thank God for the example you've been for all of us.

Prayers are offered for **Robert Nectarios** on the occasion of his birthday. May God grant you many happy and healthy years! With love, Larysa, Victoria, Rosie, and all your friends at St. Simeon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **Charity Outreach** has partnered with the Santa Clarity Veterans Services to provide toiletries to veterans and their families. A table will be set up at the church for you to drop off items. All donations must be received by March 15 for distribution through Veterans Services. See George Sunna if you have any questions.

Plan to join the clergy and faithful of the area tonight at the **Vespers of the Triumph of Orthodoxy**, starting at 6 PM at St. Nicholas Cathedral, Los Angeles.

Join us on 1st - 4th Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. to **learn more about the Orthodox Faith**. Topics range from Church Dogma, Theology, Holy Tradition, Scripture, Worship, Prayer, and how to apply these concepts in our lives and conscript them to our hearts.

Coffee Hour Sponsors-Six Week Look Ahead

March 1-Ajalat/Abraham Children

Mar 8 – John & Laura Andonian

Mar 15 – Hanin and Ahed Kastoun

March 22-Kristy Maloof

March 29-Raluca Cadar

April 5-Parish Council

If you would like to host Coffee Hour, please pick a date using our Sign-Up Page: <https://tinyurl.com/SCV-Coffee>.

Epistle Reading Schedule

March 1, Tracy Kuncar



March 8, Sh. Brigid

St Simeon's Greeter Schedule

March 1, Alex Heacock (8:20-8:50), Tracy Kuncar (9:10-9:40)

Please submit your announcements and oblations to:
bulletin@scvorthodox.com by 9 P.M. on WEDNESDAY!