

JANUARY 25, 2026

**BULLETIN – GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE**

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Bulletin Submissions Deadline – **10 am Wed.** ♦ church website: <https://ssppaoc.org>

**Ss Peter & Paul Mission:** preserve, practice, and proclaim the Gospel of our Lord, God, & Savior Jesus Christ in order to glorify God in the parish and wider community.

*This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul*

*January 26-February 1, 2026*

- 1/27 Tu 7:00 am – Readers Orthros  
10:00 am – Akathist for Healing
- 1/28 Wd 6:00 am – Divine Liturgy – Ephraim & Isaac the Syrians  
6:00 pm – Paraklesis
- 1/29 Th 7:00 am – Men's Reading Group
- 1/31 Sa 6:00 pm – Great Vespers & Compline
- 2/1 Su 8:20 am – Orthros  
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy – Pharisee & the Publican  
10:20 am – Church School  
6:00 pm – Great Vespers

*Looking ahead –*

- February 2 *Morning Divine Liturgy*
- February 7 *Men's Breakfast*
- February 8 ***Sunday of the Prodigal Son***  
*Catechism*
- February 9 *Adult Choir rehearsal*
- February 10 *Morning Divine Liturgy*
- February 14 *Morning Divine Liturgy*
- February 15 ***Sunday of the Last Judgement***  
***(Meatfare)***  
*Meatfare BBQ*
- February 16 *Adult Choir rehearsal*
- February 18 *Morning Divine Liturgy*  
*Parish Council*
- February 19 ***Akathist to Jesus & Koffee w/Khouria***
- February 22 ***Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)***  
*Community Dinner*  
*Adult Choir rehearsal*  
***Forgiveness Vespers***
- February 23 ***Great Lent Begins***  
***Great Compline w/Canon of St. Andrew***

<i>Many Years – Birthday</i>	
<i>Jenny Shevchikova</i>	<i>January 26</i>
<i>Gabriela Garcia</i>	<i>January 28</i>
<i>Karlene Mills</i>	<i>January 28</i>
<i>Many Years – Anniversary</i>	
<i>Dn. Antonio &amp; Sh. Lucia Rivera</i>	<i>January 27</i>

**6:00 am January 28**  
**Divine Liturgy – Ephraim & Isaac**  
**the Syrians**

**HOUSE BLESSINGS**

Please contact the church office if you have not yet had your house blessed.

**COMMUNITY DINNER**

**TODAY**

**2:00 pm**

Donations of non-perishable food items, money, and helpers to make and distribute the dinner needed.

Leave food items in the parish hall kitchen or industrial refrigerator marked for Community Dinner, **not the residential refrigerator**. To volunteer, contact Marc Sacoolas @ (408) 334-1924.

**5:00 pm Sunday, February 1**  
**All About the Feasts**  
**in the parish hall**

**Presentation (Meeting) of Christ**  
**6:00 pm Great Vespers Sunday, February 1**  
**8:00 am Divine Liturgy, Monday, February 2**  
 Bagels & cream cheese after the Divine Liturgy. Bring additional items you'd like to share.

**TODAY – Adult Choir rehearsal**

**Diocese of Los Angeles & the West  
Parish Life Conference (PLC)  
July 1-5, 2026  
At the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina  
Hosted by St. George Church  
San Diego, CA**

### House Blessings

*Why do we bless homes?*

We spend a good amount of time in our homes. Some work from home, raise children, study, pray, eat meals, and sleep. We want these activities to take place in a blessed context. As Christ sanctified the waters of the Jordan by his presence, we bless our homes with holy water to cleanse it from anything evil or sinful.

*I had my home blessed last year. Why does it need to be blessed again?*

Throughout the year we think, say, and do things that are sinful in our home. These things tarnish the purity of the home, in addition to ourselves. Some did not have their homes blessed last year which means they are especially in need of God's blessing and purity. If your home has never been blessed (especially if you moved or you are new to Orthodoxy), there is a special blessing that is done. Please let the priest know if this applies.

*What do I need to do before the priest arrives?*

It is customary to pick up around the home before the priest arrives. This not only allows a clear path to walk through the house, but also allows all the surfaces to be blessed. If you are able, have a small surface near your icon corner where the priest can set Holy Water, a candle, and cross. You may have a cloth and your own candle set-up if you like.

The service text for the house blessings can be found at this link:

<http://www.dowama.org/sites/docs/TheophanyHouseBlessing.PDF>

**8:00 am February 10  
Divine Liturgy – St. Charalambos**

**"When Domentian struck him in the face, spat upon him and broke his teeth, the holy Hieromartyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra replied, "You are doing me great honor, O Domentian, and you are not torturing me, for the mouth of my Lord Jesus Christ was also beaten and struck in like manner, and behold: I, the unworthy one, have now been made worthy of this!"**

### NEW ISSUE OF THE WORD AVAILABLE

The Jan-Feb. 2026 edition of *The Word* magazine is now available online. Go [here](#) at the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America website to read it.

**No fasting on Wednesday,  
February 4 or Friday, February 6**

### Holy Water

Holy water is that water which is blessed on the Feast of Theophany, the celebration of Christ's baptism in the Jordan, blessing the waters (and all of creation) by His presence therein.

On Theophany, the faithful bring Holy Water containers to fill and take home. It is sprinkled and consumed "for the purification of the souls and bodies of all those who, with faith, shall draw and partake of it," "that Satan may speedily be crushed under our feet, and that every evil counsel directed against us may be brought to naught," and to "illumine us with the light of understanding and of piety, and with the descent of the Holy Spirit." (*service of the Blessing of the Waters, Feast of Theophany*)

Holy Water is kept in the church so that the faithful may use it, for healing and strength in the case of illness or dealing with struggles in life, especially of a spiritual nature. The Holy Water in the church is also available to replenish your home containers. **Whether at home or at church, Holy Water should always be consumed with prayer.** Holy Water should be kept in a container set apart and dedicated for that purpose.

St. Luke of Crimea advised, "Drink holy water as often as possible. It is the best and the most effective medicine. I'm saying that not just as a priest but also from experience as a doctor."

+Fr Christopher

### Memory Eternal

January 28

Joseph Snyder

January 28

Sara Beth Wentzel

January 31

Alexander Pflueger

January 31

George Genereux