



San Antonio Byzantine Catholic Community

Meeting at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church
1202 S. Zarzamora St., San Antonio, TX

March 5, 2017

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Please join us for hospitality in the classroom in the rear of the church after Divine Liturgy.

Welcome guests. Please sign the guest book in the back of the church. If you would like to be added to our mailing list leave your email address. Please stay and visit after Liturgy. Visit www.stanastasiasa.org. Also please leave your email in the guest book so you can be added to the mailing list.

**REMEMBER LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS
FRIDAY AT 7:00 PM IN THE CHURCH**

Fr. Chris Zuger <https://frchriszuger.com/> has written a very insightful blog on African Americans in the Church in the United States. It is well worth a read and will open some eyes.

Read Sara Lynn's from the Monastery of the Bridegroom <http://www.christthebridegroom.org/> reflections on the season of Lent and giving ourselves over to dependence on God.

Often there are questions about fasting regulations in the Byzantine Catholic Church. The normal fasting time before communion is the same as in the Roman Catholic Church, one hour before receiving communion. A good source for answers to fasting questions and a lot of other things is Byzantine 101 http://www.eparchyofphoenix.org/education_of_the_faithful.html

There is always time for a cup of coffee with Sr. Vassa. <http://www.coffeewithsistervassa.com/> On Sister's website you can access daily reflections, an ongoing comic strip and of course, her youtube videos. Check it out.

As usual, the Kaiserswest blog is well worth a read. <https://kaiserswest.wordpress.com/author/kaiserswest/> Her reflections for Lent deal with forgiveness how to give it and receive it. Good stuff.

We always need help. If you are interested in being a reader or altar server or singing in the choir please see Fr. Ramon.

Please put the books on the table by the entrance door. Drop you donation in the basket on the counter.

2-19-17
Attendance 22
Collection \$190

Expenditures for the last two weeks

none			
------	--	--	--

Fr. Ramon J. Gonzalez, O.P.
St. Alphonsus Catholic Church
2004 Chihuahua St,
San Antonio, TX 78207
Phone: [\(210\) 433-9365](tel:2104339365)
rramon@icloud.com

Bulletin announcements, Jim Groff 210-269-5610 or sabcc324@gmail.com
Website: www.stanastasiasa.org

Readings for the second week of the Great Fast

3/6 Isaiah 4:2-5:7 Genesis 3:21-4:7 Proverbs 3:34-4:2
3/7 Isaiah 5:7-16 Genesis 4:8-15 Proverbs 5:1-15
3/8 Isaiah 5:16-25 Genesis 4:16-26 Proverbs 5:15-6:3
3/9 Isaiah 6:1-12 Genesis 5:1-24 Proverbs 6:3-20
3/10 Isaiah 7:1-15 Genesis 5:32-6:8 Proverbs 6:20-7:1
3/11 Hebrews 3:12-16 Mark 1:35-44

In the Great Lent in humility and repentance, we can attain deeper communion with God as we receive His forgiveness and He blesses by guiding us to greater spiritual heights.

Remember you are all welcome to stop by the church hall for breakfast after the 11:00 mass

42 Martyrs of Ammoriium Celebrated on March 6

The Holy 42 Martyrs of Aetius (Aetitus), Melissenus, Callistus, with them. During a Byzantine Emperor and the Saracens, the besiege the city of Asia Minor). As a part of the military Ammoria fell, and generals were taken Syria.

During the seven years they tried in vain to renounce Christianity and accept Islam. The captives stubbornly resisted all their seductive offers and bravely held out against terrible threats. After many torments that failed to break the spirit of the Christian soldiers, they condemned them to death, hoping to shake the determination of the saints before executing them. The martyrs remained steadfast, saying that the Old Testament Prophets bore witness to Christ, while Mohammed called himself a prophet without any other witnesses to support his claim.

They said to the soldier Theodore, "We know that you forsook the priestly office, became a soldier and shed blood in battle. You can have no hope in Christ, Whom you abandoned voluntarily, so accept Mohammed." But the martyr replied, "You do not speak truthfully when you say that I abandoned Christ. Moreover, I left the priesthood because of my own unworthiness. Therefore, I must shed my blood for the sake of Christ, so that He might forgive the sins that I have committed against Him."

The executioners took each one separately and led him off to be beheaded, then threw the bodies into the River Euphrates. In the service to them, these holy passion-bearers are glorified as: the "All-Blessed" Theodore, the "Unconquered" Callistus, the "Valliant" Constantine, the "Wondrous" Theophilus and "the Most Strong" Basoes.



Ammoria: Constantine, Theophilus, Theodore, Basoes and the others war between the Theophilus (829-842) Saracens managed to Ammoria (in Galicia in result of treason on the commander Baditses, forty-two of its captive and sent off to

of their imprisonment persuade the captives to