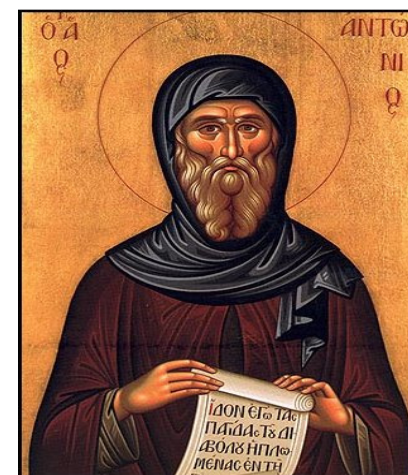


ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT ORTHODOX CHURCH  
6046 FM 2920 – Box 309  
SPRING, TX 77379



## St. Anthony's Scroll

A publication of  
St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church

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### So What's Next?

Fr. Anthony Baba

So there's a new priest in town, our building project is making significant progress, and all seems to be going well in Spring, Texas. We can now say, "Soul, you have done well for yourself now, take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." We all know how the parable concludes so we must be mindful of where this train of thought can lead us.

By the grace of God, we have been blessed to undertake a project that only this generation will experience. As the founders of this Holy Church, the generations to follow us, our children, grandchildren, and their grandchildren will be praying for us. So what's next?

What's next is what is *NOW!* If we wish to have our church be a place of worship in this greater Northwest Houston area, it is up to us, right now, to make sure it happens. It is not enough for us to build a beautiful church and then say, "We've done our duty." There are hundreds of people living in the development behind our Church, thousands of people across the neighborhood across the street, and a great number of other families surrounding us who have no place to worship.

All of this matters to us because of what we're called to do as Christians. If we build a beautiful church and that's all it is, a building that just looks nice, then we would be just like the man who stretched his barns because he couldn't store any more of his goods. We too are stretching our barns, or trailer, in the hope and prayer of storing more souls, but in order for us to do this, we must work together as a family.

This "scroll" is one way for us to do that; to communicate to our parish family the events, activities and upcoming opportunities. The quarterly newsletter will include various types of articles and lives of the saints. Some of the articles will be written by me, and some will be written by theologians, professionals and even from our own teens about some of the things they experience and would like to share, for instance summer camp or a retreat of some type.

This edition includes a section on ways you can get involved within our parish, take a look at the next page and see how you might be able to use the talents God has given to you to help serve His people. Please contact me if you have any ideas or would like to contribute to this quarterly newsletter.

# Mediterranean Night Gala

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER & BANQUET

Saturday, September 18 @ 7:00p

*The Woodlands Resort & Conference Center*

Live Entertainment ~ Dinner & Dance ~ Silent Auction

**\$100/Ticket or Sponsor a table** to Benefit *The St. Anthony Building Fund*

Table Sponsor: "Sultan" \$2,000 – "Amire" \$1,500 – "Phares" \$1,250

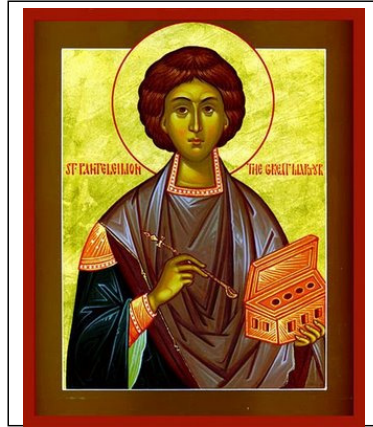
For more information or to purchase your ticket or table,

contact Faten Ashrawi (281-367-0932) or Eve Lapp (281-252-9995)

Reverend Anthony Baba ~ St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church  
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## Panteleimon the Great Martyr & Healer

July 27



This Saint, who had Nicomedia as his homeland, was the son of Eustorgius and Eubula. His father was an idolater, but his mother was a Christian from her ancestors. It was through her that he was instructed in piety, and still later, he was catechized in the Faith of Christ by St. Hermolaus and baptized by him. Being proficient in the physician's vocation, he practiced it in a philanthropic manner, healing every illness more by the grace of Christ than by medicines. Thus, although his parents had named him Pantoleon ("in all things a lion"), because of the compassion he showed for the souls and bodies of all, he was worthily renamed Panteleimon, meaning "all-merciful". On one occasion, when he restored the sight of a certain blind man by calling on the Divine Name, he enlightened also the eyes of this man's soul to the knowledge of the truth.

This also became the cause for the martyrdom of him who had been blind, since when he was asked by whom and in what manner his eyes had been opened, in imitation of that blind man of the Gospel he confessed with boldness both who the physician was and the manner of his healing. For this he was put to death immediately. Panteleimon was arrested also, and having endured many wounds, he was finally beheaded in the year 305, during the reign of Maximian. St. Panteleimon is one of the Holy Unmercenaries, and is held in special honor among them.

### The Statement Issued by the Episcopal Assembly

Visit [www.antiochian.org](http://www.antiochian.org) for the complete text

We glorify the name of the Triune God for gathering us at this first Episcopal Assembly of this region in New York City on May 26-28, 2010 in response to the decisions of the Fourth Pre-Conciliar Pan-Orthodox Conference held at the Orthodox Center of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Chambésy, Switzerland, from June 6-12, 2009, at the invitation of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew.

We honor and express gratitude to the Primates and Representatives of the Orthodox Autocephalous Churches who assembled at the Ecumenical Patriarchate from October 10-12, 2008 to affirm their "unswerving position and obligation to safeguard the unity of the Orthodox Church" (Chambésy Rules of Operation, Article 5.1a) and emphasized their will and "desire for the swift healing of every canonical anomaly that has arisen from historical circumstances and pastoral requirements" (Message of the Primates 13.1-2) We call to mind those who envisioned this unity in this region and strove to transcend the canonical irregularities resulting for many reasons, including geographically overlapping jurisdictions.

We are grateful for the gift of the doctrinal and liturgical unity that we already share, and we are inspired by our leaders, the Heads of all the Orthodox Churches throughout the world, who proposed that which we painfully yearn for in this region, i.e., the "swift healing of every canonical anomaly" (Message of the Primates 13.2). We are also grateful that they established a fundamental process toward a canonical direction and resolution.

During our gathering, and in accordance with the rules of operation of Episcopal Assemblies promulgated by the Fourth Pan-Orthodox Pre-Conciliar Conference, we established:

1. A registry of canonical bishops
2. A committee to determine the canonical status of local communities in the region that have no reference to the Most Holy Autocephalous Churches (Article 6.2)
3. A registry of canonical clergy (Article 6.3)
4. Committees to undertake the work of the Assembly, among others including liturgical, pastoral, financial, educational, ecumenical, and legal issues.
5. A committee to plan for the organization of the Orthodox of the region on a canonical basis (Article 5.1).

In addition to the above, we agreed that a directory would be created and maintained by the Assembly of all canonical congregations in our region.

We as Episcopal Assembly understand ourselves as being the successors of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (SCOBA), assuming its agencies, dialogues, and other ministries.

As Orthodox Hierarchs in this blessed region, we express our resolve to adhere to and adopt the regulations proposed by the Pan-Orthodox Conferences and approved by the Autocephalous Orthodox Churches, and to do everything in our power by the grace of God to advance actions that facilitate canonical order in our region.

We confess our fidelity to the Apostolic Orthodox faith and pledge to promote "common action to address the pastoral needs of Orthodox living in our region" (Chambésy, Decision 2c). We call upon our clergy and faithful to join us in these efforts "to safeguard and contribute to the unity of the Orthodox Church of the region in its theological, ecclesiological, canonical, spiritual, philanthropic, educational and missionary obligations" (Article 5.1) as we eagerly anticipate the Holy and Great Council.

The Assembly concluded with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on Friday, May 28, 2010 at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral in New York City.

## Get Involved!

St. Anthony Ministry Teams

- **PARISH COUNCIL** - meets once a month and meetings are open for the entire parish, however votes are reserved for members of the council. For more information, please contact Stuart Lapp ([slapp@petroleumwholesale.com](mailto:slapp@petroleumwholesale.com)).
- **M.A.M.** an acronym for Martha And Mary; a ministry team for the women of our church. This group serves our parish in a variety of ways. If you wish to learn more about this team, please contact Randa Nassif ([rdnassif@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rdnassif@sbcglobal.net)).
- **CHURCH SCHOOL** - meets between the months of September thru May and is reserved for children up to 4 years old to high school. If you would like to get more involved in this area, contact Youth Advisor Jab Tannous ([jabtannous@yahoo.com](mailto:jabtannous@yahoo.com)).
  - **JOY** (Junior Orthodox Youth) an age group for children in grades Pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - **Pre-Teen** an age group for children in grades 4-6
  - **TEEN SOYO** an age group for teenagers in grades 7-12
- **ALTAR SERVERS** - if your son, grandson, Godson, or nephew is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade or older, he is invited to serve in the Altar. Fr. Anthony or Kandelift, Elias Selah may be contacted at 832-797-1939 for more information.
- **CHOIR** is open for everyone, whether you can sing or not, it's for you! Please contact Missy Galagaza ([azagalag@sbcglobal.net](mailto:azagalag@sbcglobal.net)) to learn more about how you can join.
- **YOUNG AT HEART** a ministry geared specifically for the elders of our community; hosting B.I.N.G.O. & Lunch, visiting shut-ins, taking senior trips, etc. If you're interested in helping formulate this ministry team, please get in touch with Fr. Anthony.
- **THE "A.G." TEAM** "Anthony the Great" - a ministry team which focuses on the beautification of our church; contact Samir Ashrawi ([SamirAshrawi@aol.com](mailto:SamirAshrawi@aol.com)) or Chip Galagaza ([galagazj@jacksonlewis.com](mailto:galagazj@jacksonlewis.com)) to learn how you can get involved.
- **ST. ANTHONY BOOKSTORE** Although our church building has yet to be completed and a bookstore isn't much of a store, work is being done by Jonathan Companik to reestablish this area. If you want to learn more or even have books to offer, get in touch with him ([jcpremierclaims@gmail.com](mailto:jcpremierclaims@gmail.com)).
- **COMMUNITY SUPPORT** an outreach team which includes and extends beyond the aforementioned ministry teams. This is our call as Christians, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and visit the sick, and this ministry team is our chance to fulfill our calling. More information forthcoming. Contact person: Jennifer Frangos ([jenniferfrangos@consolidated.net](mailto:jenniferfrangos@consolidated.net))