

THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM



○ Lord and Master of my
life, take from me the
spirit of sloth, despondency,
lust for power and idle talk.
But grant unto me, Thy
servant, a spirit of
chastity, humility, patience
and love.
Yea, ○ Lord and King, grant
me to see mine own faults
and not to judge my broth-
ers and sisters. For
blessed art Thou unto ages
of ages.
Amen





Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

V. Rev. Archpriest Andrew Bartek, Rector Parish Council President: Ron Royhab



APRIL Bulletin Sponsor:

Fr. Andrew in memory of my mother Dorothy on the occasion of her birthday

Liturgical & Events Schedule / TWO WEEK EDITION

Saturday, April 3

9:10 am: Hours / Divine Liturgy / Social

Wednesday, April 6

6:00 pm: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

Friday, April 8

6:30 pm: Akathist / Confessions

Saturday, April 9

4:00 pm: Great Vespers / Confessions

Sunday, April 10

9:10 am: Hours/ Divine Liturgy / Memorial Sunday
Swearing in of Officers / Social / Council Meeting

APRIL CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Week of April 3: Susan
Week of April 10: Laura
Week of April 17: Stephanie
Week of April 24: Laura



40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

April 2: Marguerite Bird

April 10: Aijire Dardovski

May 1: Gary Smolk / David Lavalley

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Diane Tryon
109 Joslyn Street
Arcadia, OH 44804

SUNDAY APRIL 3, 2022

Tone: 8

Gospel:

Mark: 9:17-31 / Matthew 4:25-5:12

Epistle:

Hebrews: 6:13-20 / Ephesians 5:9-19

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast. St. John Climacus of the Ladder. Ven. Nicetas (Nikita) the confessor, Abbot of Medikion. Virgin Martyr Theodosia of Tyre, and Martyr Irene. St Illyricus of Mt. Myrsinon in the Peloponnesus. Martyrs Elpidophorus, Dius, Bithonius and Galycus. Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos "The Unfading Bloom".

APRIL BULLETIN / CANDLE SPONSORS

Bulletin: (\$50) From Fr. Andrew for my mother, Dorothy, on the occasion of her birthday

Chandelier: (\$50) From Laura Kovach in Memory of her mother Margaret

Altar Candles: (\$50) From Fr. Andrew for my Godfather Andrew & Grandfather Matthias

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) From Fr. Andrew for His Eminence Archbishop John & Mitred AP Basil(FP)

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (\$25) From Joe & Valerie For the health of AP Andrew on the occasion of his birthday

Candles @ the Cross: From Laura in memory of my mother Margaret & Russ

Candles @ St Tikhon's Icon: For the Health of His Grace Bishop Matthias on the occasion of his birthday; For the Health of Tim & Cami & safety of Nicholas, Tikhon & Gleice



MARCH: MONTHLY TITHE ONLY

Goal Pledged per month: \$5,667
(average of \$1,307 per week)

March 6: \$1,120
March 13: \$ 960
March 20: \$ 800
March 27: \$ 120
TOTAL MONTH TO DATE: \$3,000

MARCH: OTHER INCOME

Goal for the month in this category:
\$4,000 (Average \$923 a week)

MARCH 6: \$15 Vigils; \$500 donations; \$100 Holy Day Donations; \$50 Bulletin; \$50 Chandelier; \$50 Altar Candles
March 13: \$60 Vigils; \$150 Holy Day Donation; \$425 Ukraine Relief (These monies were included in the checks sent. That is why it stays in Other Income and not Restricted Funds)
March 20: \$15 Vigils; \$17 donations; \$50 Holy Day donations; \$15 St Tikhon's Icon
March 27: \$25 Holy Day Donations
Total Month-to-Date: \$1,522

MARCH: RESTRICTED FUND DONATIONS

March 6: \$100 Bookstore; \$125 Food Pantry; \$1,167 Ukraine Relief ; \$25 Tithely
March 13: \$225 Food Pantry; \$1,555 Building Fund
March 20: \$645 Building Fund
March 27: \$1,425 Building Fund

PASCHAL FLOWERS

Paschal Flowers will be \$20 this year. Please help defray the cost and have your loved ones remembered during the Paschal Divine Liturgy.

MARCH LITURGICAL ATTENDANCE

Sunday, Feb. 27: 14 attended Liturgy (3 were guests) / 10 Communicants
Saturday, March 5: 10 attended Vespers
Sunday, March 6: 14 attended Liturgy (1 was a guest) / 11 communicants
Sunday, March 6: 11 attended Forgiveness Vespers (1 being a guest)
Monday, March 7: 9 attended Canon of St Andrew
Tuesday, March 8: 9 attended the Canon of St Andrew
Wednesday, March 9: 10 Attended the Canon of St Andrew
Thursday, March 10: 7 attended Canon of St Andrew
Friday, March 11: 11 attended Pre-Sanctified
Saturday, March 12: 7 attended Vespers
Sunday, March 13: 15 attended Liturgy (2 of which were guests) / 8 Communicants
Wednesday, March 16: 9 attended Pre-sanctified (1 being a guest)
Friday, March 18: 6 attended Akathist & Prayer Service for The Archbishop
Saturday, March 19: 7 attended Vespers
Sunday, March 20: 14 attended Liturgy (3 being guests) / 8 Communicants
Wednesday, March 23: 8 attended Pre-Sanctified
Friday, March 25: 6 attended Liturgy
Saturday, March 26: 9 attended Vespers
Sunday, 27: 14 attended Liturgy / 11 Communicants

VIGILS- MARCH 20

Sandy Martin² In loving memory of Marguerite, special intentions

Natalie Twarek 4 In loving memory of my Godmother, aunt Ella (3/23, 37 years), Birthday remembrance Aunt Anna (3/23), In memory of Gary Smolk, For the health of Amber, Nancy, Tim, Dottie, Joe Schutt, Jamie, Jim, Stephanie, Ron, Ezra, David, Helen Lis and Tina's dad, Earl, Matt, Tom, Loren, Joe, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Betty, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Chuck, Bohdi, Diane, Stella, Jake, Cheryl, Pat and Karen

125TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEES

If you would be interested in serving on a committee, please speak to Fr. Andrew

Parishioner Committee Members: Fr. Andrew, Bobbie & Ron Royhab, Wayne Golob

Village Committee Members: Pat & John Englebeck, Heidi & Holly Gast, Tod Kelly, Terrie Petroff

*****NEXT MEETING: April 27 @ 7:00 pm at Marblehead VFW*****

Advertising / Program Book

Fr. Andrew, Holly Gast

Billboards

Fr. Andrew

History of the Parish

Fr. Andrew, Wayne Golob, Bobbie Royhab

Tent / Chair/ Table Rental

Fr. Andrew, Natalie Twarek

Catering / Centrepieces

Fr. Andrew, Terrie Petroff, Bobbie Royhab

Hotel / Escort

Fr. Andrew, Tod Kelly

Ref Fern Inn Activities

Fr. Andrew, Terrie Petroff

Promotional Advertising

Fr. Andrew, Wayne Golob, Holly Gast

Newspaper Articles and Ad

Fr. Andrew, Tod Kelly, Bobbie & Ron Royhab

Entertainment / PA System

Fr. Andrew, Wayne Golob

Raffle Committee

Fr. Andrew, Heidi Gast, Holly Gast, John & Pat Engelbeck

Party Favors / Lighthouse Theme

Fr. Andrew, Tod Kelly

Banner

Fr. Andrew, John Englebeck

Invitations

Fr. Andrew, Terrie Petroff

Runners / Goffers

John & Pat Englebeck, Heidi Gast

Setup / Tear down

Danbury Football Team (??)

Friday Night Social

Fr. Andrew, Heidi Gast, Terrie Petroff



VIGILS- MARCH 27

Sandy Martin² In loving memory of Marguerite, special intentions

Natalie Twarek⁴ For God's grace for the health and recovery of Archbishop Paul, For the health and recovery of Nancy, For the health of Amber, Tim, Dottie, Joe Schutt, Jamie, Jim, Stephanie, Ron, Ezra, David, Helen Lis and Tina's dad, Earl, Matt, Tom, Loren, Joe, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Betty, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Chuck, Bohdi, Diane, Stella, Jake, Cheryl, Pat and Karen, special intentions

**Archpastoral Message of
His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon
March 25, 2022**

To the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,

Dear Beloved Children in the Lord,

I greet you on this Feast of the Annunciation!

Today we celebrate “the revelation of the eternal mystery” as “the Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin” (Festal Troparion). With deep thankfulness, we look to God for our salvation, which begins this day. We also give thanks to the Mother of God, because if she had not accepted the Archangel Gabriel’s message, she could not have played her critical part in Christ’s redemption of mankind from the tyranny of sin and death.

Today, then, is a feast of the victory of the cooperation between the human will and the will of God Himself. The Most Holy Theotokos achieved this victory not through the exercise of power or by clinging to worldly desires. Rather, the Lord’s victory came through her pious consent to the providential will of God and His loving care for all of humanity. In her humility, she chose to lay down all her own desires, her own plans, and her own will. She consistently “has chosen the good portion” (Lk 10:42) and found freedom in relinquishing her own autonomy to the limitless love of God. And so, through her, we now see revealed “the mystery hidden from all eternity” (cf. Col 1:26).

She gives us all hope that we too can make the choice to follow our Lord even into difficult, uncomfortable places. She is our inspiration to do the will of God in all circumstances: by turning the other cheek to an angry coworker, caring for a family member with a disability, or living faithfully in the countless other situations we find ourselves in every day.

Sometimes Christ asks us to do hard, even terrifying, things, like facing the reality of an addiction or refusing an abortion in the face of an unplanned pregnancy. Yet, even then, we can take comfort in abandoning our own will to the incomparable depths of the will of God, trusting ourselves to His compassionate mercy.

The Theotokos emptied herself and became overflowing with the Holy Spirit—all because of her words, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word” (Lk 1:38). May she inspire us all to greater depths of love and faith in God, as we sing on this day, “Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee!”

I remain sincerely yours in Christ,

+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada

The Orthodox Church in America has always believed, upheld, preached, and defended the sanctity of human life from the time of conception in the womb.

**Statement on Ukraine From
Holy Synod Of Bishops**

Witnessing the war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation against Ukraine and the consequent humanitarian crisis developing there, no Christian can remain impartial or lukewarm in the face of the suffering or remain silent when confronted with such evils as are being perpetrated. As such, we, the bishops of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America, condemn the war which is causing death and devastation affecting millions of innocent people. We particularly grieve the killing and violence committed by Orthodox Christians against other Orthodox Christians.

Orthodox Christians abhor all forms of aggression, repeating the condemnation of the holy prophets against all those who “make haste to shed innocent blood” (Is. 59:7). Joining our voice to that of other Christian leaders, who also decry the invasion of Ukraine, we call on the Russian authorities to end the hostilities. Furthermore, we exhort the international community to condemn the war against Ukraine and use all diplomatic means to achieve an expeditious resolution.

We proclaim our solidarity with the suffering Orthodox Christian brethren of Ukraine, with the entire Ukrainian people, and the civil and religious leaders who bear the responsibility of caring for their people at this time. In particular, we express our continuing support for His Beatitude Metropolitan *Con’t Pg 8*

PRAYER LIST- UPDATED MARCH 28

HIERARCH'S / CLERGY: His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman; Archbishop Paul; Archbishop Benjamin from San Fransico; John Duranko (Father's home pastor); James Gleason (Father's Spiritual Father); Moses Berry; Gregory Grivna; Emilian Hutnyan; Joseph Von Klarr; Michael Kuzara; John Zabinko / Deacon Paul Gansle, Deacon Peter Rentsch, Deacon Michael Wison / Sub-deacon Wylie Meath

MATUSHKII: Pani Patricia Duranko; Susan Dank; Virginia Lecko; Maura McCarnthey; Roberta Spengler; Margaret Zabinko

PARISHIONERS & THEIR FAMILIES: James Bargdill (Schutt); John Beadle (Elchisco); Maryann Cook (Twarek); Michael Glovinsky; Heidi Golob; Shirley Gresh (Glovinsky); Joseph Habegger (Kovach); Betty Kovach; Helen Lis; David Mazurik; Child Stella Miller (Elchisco); Nancy Naiser (Royhab); William Pipenur (Hileman); Pat Rentz; Earl Rindfleisch; Helen Jean Rofkar (Elchisco); Joe Rose; Sonya Rose; Ron Royhab; Maryann Royhab; Stephanie Royhab; Joe Schutt; Diane Tryon; Greg Tyron; Tom Twarek; Child Bodhi (Cassell); Kathryn Tryon & her unborn child

OTHER REQUESTS: Mary Dank (ABL); Layne Demkosy (Fr); Paul Demkosky (Fr.); Marge Dziama; Child Ezra; Baby Finn (Cassell); Zoe Finley (ABL); Ruthe Flewelling; Ben Franklin (Kovach); Dorothy Goldman (Twarek); Donald Gresh (Glovinsky); Natalie Henning (Twarek); Andrea Joy (Kovach); Ann Marie Krynock (Timko); Maria (ABL); Jake Lipstraw (Twarek); Mark Ludvik (Guzy); Mark Masica (Kovach); Pauline Meath (Fr); Karen Muzyka (fr); Noah (ABL); Jamie Philpot (Twarek); William Romanchak (Fr); Andrew Rydgig (ABL); Sandy Scafaria (Hileman); Nancy Sitzler (Twarek) Chuck Wiedenhoft (Twarek); Sara (Jake); Chris Quotap (Fr); Zoland Zile (Fr.); Molly and her unborn child (Fr.)

MILITARY: Alex, Nathan Brown, Craig Cassell, Cory Deaton , Jake Ellithorpe, Jordan Fulton, Alena Grabavoy, Justin Issler; Nicholas & Tikhon, Cory Deaton, Alex Zarnow

CAPTIVES: Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo), Archbishop John Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo, The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria; Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world



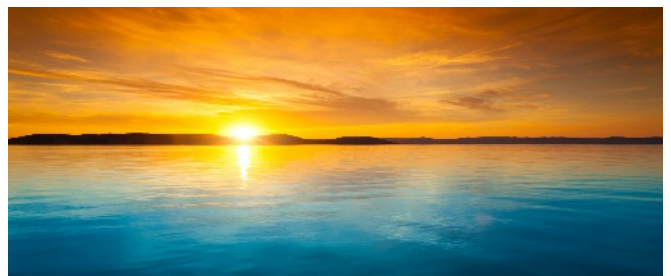
NOTE: ABL (Archbishop's request) / Please let Fr. Andrew know who can come off the list or be put on.



Hebrews 6:13-20 (Epistle)

For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for

refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek



APRIL Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES	BIRTHDAYS	
17- Matt & Brittany 20- Ron & Bobbie Royhab 4-30-2011: Retired Bishop Matthias of Chicago <p style="text-align: center;">NAMESDAY</p> 4-22: Archbishop Nathaniel of Detroit 4-25: Archbishop Mark of Philadelphia	1-Shawn Lariccia 2- AP Andrew Bartek 4- His Grace Bishop Matthias 5-Fr. Herman Kincaid 5- Nicholas Weisend 6-His Grace Bishop Paul 10- Jean Hileman 11- Christopher Mihaly 13- Jennifer Heffernan 13-Margarita Leso 17- Natalie Twarek	18- Nancy Bunge 18- Diane Tryon 20- Nectarios Mihaly 22- Greg Tryon 23- Paul Demkosky Jr 24-Matt Lariccia III 27- William Jerome 27- Katie Cassell 28- Serena Byngton 29- Katie Twarek

4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus (of the Ladder) Commemorated on April 3

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John of the Ladder (Climacus), the author of the work, The Ladder of Divine Ascent. The abbot of Saint Catherine’s Monastery on Mount Sinai (6th century) stands as a witness to the violent effort needed for entrance into God’s Kingdom (Mt.10: 12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is a real one, “not against flesh and blood, but against ... the rulers of the present darkness ... the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places ...” (Eph 6:12). Saint John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, according to the Lord, only “he who endures to the end will be saved” (Mt.24:13).



APRIL Reposed

1-Andy Basala (1982) 1-Andreas Basala (1923) 1-Larry Twarek (2019) 4- Sophia Jump (2012) 4- Rose Bartek (1986) 4- Harry Flewelling (2018) 4- Matthew Kollar 6- John Sabol (2017) 7- Louis M. Benya (1976) 7- Mitered Archbishop Basil Dziama (1969) Former Pastor 7- Bob Mazur (2018) 9- Julia Guzy (2021) 11- Archbishop John (1982) 11- LaVerne Schutt (2014) 12- Helen Tomko (1989) 14- Paul Glovinsky (1978) 15- Stephen Brooks (2005) 16- Mary Wright (2005)	17- Lois Mazurik (1999) 22- Olga Belenky (1971) 22- John Beadle (1988) 22- Fred Millie (1996) 23- Anna Basala (1994) 24- Demasthony Ballan (1968) 24- Fr. Stephen Dutko (2009) 26- Margaret Mazur (1987) 26- Russell Kovach (1981) 28-Ann Kovalick (2018) 29- Olga Kollmeier (1972) 30- Anthony Hubicki (1977) Dolores Martin (1974) Herb Hobson (2004) Charles Rose (2015) Michael Elchisco (1913) Andrew Kopchock (1914) Anna Onyock (1916)
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Statement on Ukraine Con't from Pg 5

Onufriy of Kyiv and the entire Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

We call the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to join us in interceding on behalf of Ukraine, praying to our merciful God for an end to bloodshed, beseeching Him to comfort the afflicted, the displaced and wounded. We also beseech Him to bless Ukraine with peace, healing, and rebuilding. We are mindful of the hardships being borne by the people of Russia, many of whom oppose this war, and who are suffering the loss of loved ones sent to the front, economic ruin, and social damage.

The Holy Synod of Bishops affirms the letter sent by Metropolitan Tikhon to Patriarch Kirill, imploring His Holiness to do whatever possible to end the war in Ukraine and the suffering and death of countless victims.

As we celebrate this Third Sunday of Great Lent, the Sunday of the Exaltation of the Cross, which is the only weapon of peace, we beseech our flock and all people of goodwill to do whatever lies within their power to aid the suffering and war-displaced. Those to whom God has given the means: we urge you to make material contributions to assist those affected by the war, especially refugees, who now number in the millions. Finally, we remind all of the words of the Lord who tells us that, though we may have tribulation, we always find our peace in him who has overcome the world (John 16:33).

In the love of Jesus Christ, who is the Peace and Power of God,

The Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America

READERS

April 3:	Tim
April 10:	Joe
April 17	Tim
April 24	Joe

The Angel of the Lord By Fr. Lawrence Farley

In our last post we looked at the long process whereby angelology developed in the Bible. Now we will look at one particular aspect of this: the mal'ak Yahweh, "Yahweh's messenger", usually translated "the Angel of the Lord".

We have seen that the Hebrew word mal'ak could mean several things. In Genesis 32:3 it meant the human messengers that Jacob sent on ahead to meet Esau. In Psalm 104:4 it referred to the winds and lightnings that Yahweh used as the messengers of His wrath and power. Later on in Zechariah 1:9 it referred to a heavenly being created by God which functioned as His messenger and which had a particular task (such as revealing things to the prophet Zechariah, or patrolling the earth). Later still in the Book of Daniel (according to some scholars' dating) these angelic beings would have not just their own tasks, but their own names, such as "Michael" or "Gabriel". So we see not only some development in angelology, but also some fluidity in the meaning of the word mal'ak/ messenger/ angel.

This should be kept in mind when we read about the mysterious mal'ak Yahweh in the Pentateuch. In some places in the Pentateuch the phrase mal'ak Yahweh refers to a member of a class of beings created by God, angels in the classic sense. Thus in Genesis 28:12 we read of Jacob's dream wherein he saw a stairway connecting heaven with earth and God's mal'akim were going up and down on it. But in other places the term mal'ak Yahweh seems to refer to God Himself.

Thus in Genesis 16 we read of the flight of Hagar from Sarai, and of how the mal'ak Yahweh found her by a spring in the wilderness (verse 7). The messenger told her to return to her mistress and submit to her. But then the messenger said to her further, "Behold, you are with child and you shall bear a son and you shall call his name Ishmael". This sounds as if the person speaking to Hagar is Yahweh, and this is confirmed in verse 13, which says, "Then she called the name of Yahweh who spoke to her, 'El-roi' [i.e. the God who sees], for she said 'Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?'"

This is not the only time in the Pentateuch that we encounter someone called the mal'ak *Con't Next PG*

Angels con't from previous Pg

Yahweh or the “angel of Yahweh” who seems to have been Yahweh Himself. In Exodus 3:2f we read how the mal’ak Yahweh appeared to Moses in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush...and when Yahweh saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush”. Later on, after Israel left Egypt, we read in Exodus 14:19f how “the angel of God, who had been going before the camp of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them...and it came about at the morning watch, that Yahweh looked down on the camp of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud and brought the camp of the Egyptians into confusion”. Once again we see how the God’s angel seemed to have been identified with Yahweh.

Some examples, though less clear, also point toward the same identification. In Genesis 48:16 Jacob referred to the Lord who redeemed him from all evil and danger as “the angel who has redeemed me” when he invoked God’s blessing on his grandchildren. In Exodus 23:20-21 we read that Yahweh said to Moses and Israel, “Behold, I am going to send a mal’ak before you to guard you along the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. Be on your guard before him and obey his voice; do not be rebellious towards him, for he will not pardon your transgression, since My name is in him”. We note that in all other places of the Pentateuch God says that He is the One who will bring Israel into the Promised Land. We note too the significance of the “name”. God’s Name represented Himself, His power, the might He manifested on the earth (thus Psalm 54:1—“save me, O God, by Your name, and vindicate me by Your power”). By saying that Yahweh’s “name” was in the angel, it seems as if God meant that the mal’ak would carry His presence.

Then there is the (to us) somewhat perplexing dialogue of Yahweh with Moses in Exodus 33:1f. After Israel sinned with the golden calf, Yahweh said to Moses, “Depart, go up from here, to the land which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. And I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanite, for I will not go up in your midst, because you are an obstinate people, lest I destroy you on the way.” Moses then intercedes with Yahweh, and He relents, promising Moses, “My presence

shall go with you, and I will give you rest” (verse 14). Here we see a distinction: God sending an angel to clear out the Canaanites from the land versus God Himself going with them and being present in the Tabernacle shrine.

What are we to make of all this? I suggest that the term mal’ak originally meant any manifestation of God’s power on earth. When men saw someone manifesting divine power, the person doing the powerful work was a messenger, a mal’ak.

Yahweh could speak to men from heaven (such as when He spoke to the prophets), or alternately, He could send messengers from heaven, and those on earth would experience the divine power that He sent, such as when God said in Exodus 33 that He would send His angel before disobedient Israel. When God used this latter form of communication He was called the mal’ak Yahweh—the angel of Yahweh.

The confusion arose for later exegetes because (as we saw in our last blog post) the term mal’ak underwent some considerable development. At an earlier stage of this development a mal’ak could mean either a being sent from God (such as those using the staircase in Jacob’s dream) or it could mean anyone manifesting on earth of God’s presence and power. Later on the term mal’ak was confined to this former usage and was only used to designate a particular kind of created being, a holy bodiless power like the ones using Jacob’s staircase.

That is how the confusion arose—along with later debates about the possibility of “two powers in heaven” and the status of the angel Metatron. Exegetes were a bit perplexed about how God could be described as a mal’ak when a mal’ak clearly meant a being who was not God, but a created being who functioned as His messenger. Recognition of some development in the use of the term mal’ak would have helped clear up some of the confusion. It is significant that the term mal’ak Yahweh as a description of Yahweh’s earthly manifestation is mostly confined to the earlier books and chapters of the Bible. In the later books, the term mal’ak had developed so as to make this term unsuitable for describing God.

Given that the Bible is not a single book but a library of books written over centuries, such development was to be expected as God continued to lead His people and reveal more truth to them. The Church is the beneficiary of this long process.

Mark 9:17-31 (Gospel)

Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not." He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."



DOM Administration Meets, Offers Prayers for Archbishop Paul

On Tuesday, March 22, with the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Paul, and under the chairmanship of His Grace Bishop Daniel of Santa Rosa, Diocesan Administrator, the Diocesan Administration met to continue the ongoing work of the diocese.

The meeting began with the singing of "O Heavenly King" and then Bishop Daniel lead a prayer for the health of Archbishop Paul. Archpriest Paul Jannakos, Diocesan Chancellor, welcomed His Grace to the diocese and thanked him for his assistance during this difficult time.

Various topics were discussed, including the continued care for Archbishop Paul and the good work that he has started.

The council includes: Archpriest Paul Jannakos, Chancellor, Archpriest Herman Kincaid, Secretary, Priest Alexander Koranda, Communications Director, Reader Philp Sokolov, Secretary to the Archbishop, Mr. Robert Koncel, Diocesan Treasurer.

Metropolitan Tikhon Visits Archbishop Paul

On Tuesday, March 22, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon traveled to Chicago to pray and visit His Eminence Archbishop Paul who has been diagnosed with a terminal illness.

His Beatitude arrived in Chicago late afternoon and met with members of the diocesan administration and was taken to see Archbishop Paul. Metropolitan Tikhon offered prayers and spent some time speaking with Archbishop Paul offering words of love and encouragement.

Archbishop Paul continues to receive support and visits from local hierarchs and clergy. His Eminence is also the beneficiary of many cards and prayers from his spiritual children from around the country.