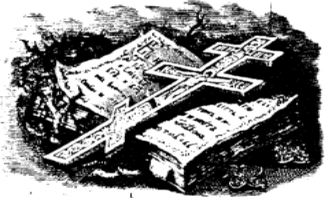


GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF TORONTO (CANADA)
YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Των Αποστόλων Πρωτόκλητος: St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle



November 30
+St. Andrew the
First-Called Apostle

VESPERAL READINGS

- † 1 Peter 1:1-2, 10-25; 2:1-6
- † 1 Peter 2:21-35; 3:1-9
- † 1 Peter 4:1-11

See opposite for
readings of Orthros and
Divine Liturgy.

GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF
TORONTO (CANADA)
YOUTH
DEPARTMENT

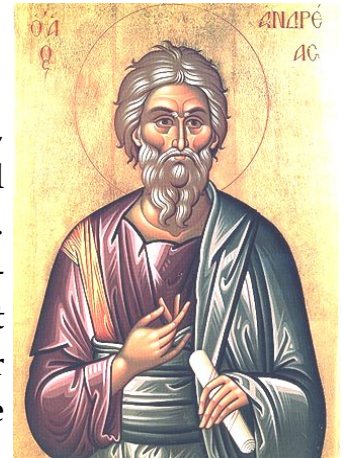
1 Patriarch Bartholomew Way
Toronto, Ontario
M4H 1C6

Website:
www.greekorthodoxyouth.com

E-mail: ydcanada@bellnet.ca

«Ευρήκαμεν τον Μεσσίαν!»

With less than a month to go until Christmas, many people will be going to the malls and specialty stores for their Christmas shopping. From the latest clothes and games, to the jewelry and more, we're all looking for that great gift to give to those whom we have close to our hearts. We give them gifts to remind us of the greatest Gift that God gave all of us: His Son, Jesus Christ. This Great Gift was not revealed to everyone at once, but slowly to everyone who chose to listen to His message. On November 30th every year, we commemorate a Saint who was awaiting this Great Gift, and would be overjoyed when he found Him.



St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle was a fisherman from Bethsaida. He lived in the first century, was brother of St. Peter the Apostle and a disciple of St. John the Baptist. Following St. John, he awaited the coming of the Messiah. The Messiah (or "Anointed One") was the Person that God promised He would send to save the world and bring all of humanity back to Paradise and His loving embrace.

When St. John the Baptist saw Christ, he announced that Jesus was the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29) St. Andrew was the first disciple to be called from Christ (hence his title, "First-called", or Πρωτόκλητος). After his calling, he went right to his brother Peter and said, "we have found the Messiah!" (John 1:41) From that moment, St. Andrew followed Christ wherever He went. He saw Christ after His Resurrection and accepted the Holy Spirit's blessing during Pentecost.

(Continued on page 2)

The Hymn (Apolytikion) of St. Andrew in Greek and English

Ὡς τῶν Ἀποστόλων Πρωτόκλητος, καί τοῦ
Κορυφαίου ἀγαθέλφου, τὸν Δεσπότην τῶν ὅλων
Ἀνδρέα ἰκέτευε, εἰρήνην τῇ οἰκουμένην δωρήσασθαι,
καὶ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν τό μέγα ἔλεος.

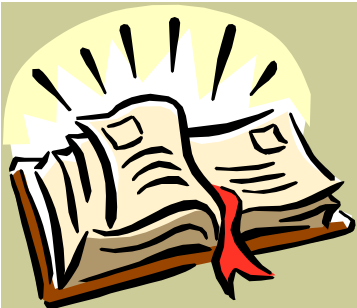
Τὸν τῆς ἀνδρείας ἐπώνυμον θεηγόρον, καὶ μαθητῶν
τὸν πρωτόκλητον τοῦ Σωτήρος, Πέτρου τὸν
σύγγονον εὐφημήσωμεν, ὅτι ὡς πάλαι τούτῳ καὶ
νῦν ἡμῖν ἐκέκραγεν, Εὐρήκαμεν δεῦτε τὸν
ποθούμενον.

As first of the Apostles to be called, O Andrew,
brother of him (Peter) who was foremost, beseech
the Master of all to grant the world peace and our
souls great mercy.

Let us praise the namesake of bravery, the divinely
eloquent and first to be called of the Disciples of
Christ, the kinsman of Peter. As he called out to him
in days of old, so now he calls to us, "Come, we
have found Him for whom we yearned."



After Pentecost, St. Andrew went to the eastern lands preaching the Word of God. He went to Asia Minor, Thrace, Macedonia, all the way to the Black Sea and Kiev. Along with these cities, St. Andrew (together with St. Stachys the Apostle) founded the Church of Constantinople. St. Andrew is the first in the line of Bishops of the Church of Constantinople. Our Ecumenical Patriarch is the 270th successor of St. Andrew.



Throughout all of these journeys, St. Andrew suffered many torments from pagans. After converting so many citizens into Christians, he martyred for the Name of Christ by being crucified on a cross that looked as an "X" (hence why his icon always has him holding this cross). Centuries later, St. Constantine the Great brought his relics back to Constantinople.

St. Andrew Made a Difference! You Can Too!

ORTHROS READING

† Matthew 4:18-23

DIVINE LITURGY READINGS

† 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

† John 1:36-52

† St. Andrew found out that Jesus was the Messiah, and spread the Word of God to everyone who would listen. We should spread the Gospel to all who are willing to listen, not keep the truth to ourselves, and live the Gospel.

† His love for Christ was so great, not even death would stop him in believing in the Truth. We should never let anything get in our way, if we want to be together with Christ.

† St. Andrew founded many churches across the world. Let's do whatever we can to help our churches, making them places where we grow in Faith.

Ἀπόστολε τοῦ Θεοῦ, πρέσβευε υπέρ ἡμῶν!