

St. Gregory Palamas Festival of Light Lenten Retreat March 10-12, 2017

Normal Orthodox—Healthy Church
Knowing the True Faith in Order to Practice it Truly
Guest Speaker: Fr. Barnabas Powell

Friday, March 10

6:00PM Akathistos/Salutations Service 7:30PM Lenten Meal

8:00PM **Why Orthodoxy?**

Knowing why a former Pentecostal pastor would become an Orthodox Christian will help you understand why so many spiritually hungry people are looking for and finding the Orthodox Church. And it just may help you understand why your Orthodox Faith is so valuable and worth sharing. Come listen to Fr. Barnabas share his personal faith journey into Orthodoxy.

Saturday, March 11

10:00AM Coffee and Fellowship

10:30AM **Why Normal Orthodox Works**

What is normal Orthodox Christianity? What is abnormal? Understanding the central message of Orthodoxy helps you understand just why Orthodoxy does the Faith the way we do. From liturgical worship services to the calendar of fasts and feasts to the spiritual disciplines; all of it is meant to undo what keeps us disconnected from the Life of God.

12:00PM Lenten Potluck Luncheon

1:00PM **Why a Normal, Healthy Orthodox Church Grows**

The Church is called "The Body of Christ." All through the New Testament St. Paul describes the Church as a body. So how do we know we are a healthy body? What are the signs that a church is healthy? And how do we keep our church healthy by being spiritually healthy and mature ourselves? All of this will show that a healthy parish is a growing parish. When a parish isn't growing, it is necessary to diagnose why, so we can get healthy again.

3:00PM Great Vespers Service

Sunday, March 12

8:15AM Orthros Service 9:30AM Divine Liturgy

4:00PM Pan Orthodox Lenten Vespers

Fr. Barnabas Powell, M.Div. is the priest of Saints Raphael, Nicholas & Irene Greek Orthodox Church in Cummings Georgia. He graduated from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Masters of Divinity) and was ordained to the priesthood by Metropolitan Alexios in 2010. He attended Toccoa Falls College in Georgia. Before this he was in Law Enforcement in Metro Atlanta from 1981–1992 and served the State of Georgia as a probation officer. In the early 1990's Fr. Barnabas planted the Church of the First Born in Woodstock, GA, and worked in radio and television with some of the largest Evangelical Protestant Media ministries in the country. Fr. Barnabas, along with 20 families of the church he pastored, converted to Orthodoxy in November 2001. Fr. Barnabas is the founder of *Faith Encouraged Ministries*, dedicated to using media to share the Orthodox Faith (FaithEncouraged.com). Fr. Barnabas is married to Connie (Demas), and they have two daughters, Alexandra and Katerina.



St. Gregory Palamas, an articulate defender of Orthodoxy and true prayer in the 14th century, is commemorated the second Sunday of Great Lent each year. He is the inspiration for this weekend festival featuring lectures, worship and fellowship.

For directions to Saint George Greek Orthodox Church visit our website at stgeorgegoc.org or call 651-222-6220 1111 Summit Ave. St Paul, MN 55105

Saint George Greek Orthodox Church 12th Annual

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BIOGRAPHY

Fr. Barnabas Powell, M.Div.



Education

Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Studies, Toccoa Falls College (1988)
Masters of Theology, Holy Cross Seminary (2010)

Background

Fr. Barnabas was born and raised in Atlanta, GA. His journey to Orthodoxy came as a result of many years searching for a "lifestyle" that would be truly Christian. After years in Evangelical Protestant ministry and serving in Christian media, both radio and television, he launched Faith Encouraged Ministries to use what he learned in sharing faith through media for the Orthodox Faith. Fr. Barnabas is an author, pastor, podcaster, and teacher committed to offering a credible witness of the timeless Orthodox faith for this culture. His daily devotional, *Faith Encouraged Daily*, reaches over 5000 people a week. His weekly homilies, *Faith Encouraged*, have been watched over 150,000 times on YouTube. And his twice a month live call-in show, *Faith Encouraged LIVE*, is one of the most popular shows on Ancient Faith Radio.

Podcasts, Blog, and Social Media

Faith Encouraged - Weekly Homilies, both Video and Audio—AncientFaith.com

Faith Encouraged Daily - Daily Devotionals from the daily Scripture readings - FaithEncouraged.org

Faith Encouraged LIVE - 90 minute Live radio show on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month - AncientFaith.com

Faith Encouraged LIVE Facebook Page - www.facebook.com/faithencouragedlive

Orthodox On Purpose Facebook Page - www.facebook.com/OrthodoxOnPurpose

A Journey to Fullness - web page about the 16 part video series - <http://journeytofullness.com/>

Some of Fr. Barnabas' Topics & Presentations

Being Orthodox On Purpose: The Key to Orthodox Joy

Using Media And Welcoming Guests - 1st National Evangelism Conference, Portland OR.

Overcoming Despondency

Training Your Welcome Ministry Team

How to Speak "Evangelicaleze" to Share the Orthodox Faith

Keeping Our Youth Connected to Faith - When Basketball, Dances, and Yia Yia's Baklava aren't Enough

Books and Training Videos

A Faith Encouraged - Ancient Faith Publishing

A Journey to Fullness - 16 part video outreach tool and workbook designed to introduce the Faith to average people

Other notables about Fr. Barnabas:

His work in Christian Media has informed and inspired him to use modern communication tools to share the Orthodox Faith with the many spiritual seekers in our society. *Faith Encouraged Ministries*, his non-profit media production ministry, has produced a 16 part video series called *A Journey to Fullness* (JourneytoFullness.org) to assist parishes in outreach and inreach in their local communities. His speaking engagements around the country continue to grow and influence the increasing demand for quality media and training materials for our Orthodox Faith.

For more about of Fr. Barnabas: www.faiithencouraged.org