

Sunday, November 12, 2017

8th Sunday of Luke

John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria

HYMNS FOR THE DAY: 6, 52, 134, 219 (Found in red hymnal book)

READINGS: **Orthros Gospel:** Matthew 28:16-20
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

THE NICENE CREED & LORD'S PRAYER are found on pages 52-54 and 71 of your blue service book. Everyone is encouraged to recite them out loud in both Greek & English.

PRE & POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS: The Pre-Communion prayers are found on pages 76-80 in your blue service book. The first four will be read in Greek and the next four in English. **Please recite them out loud as a congregation.** The Post-Communion prayers are found on pages 98-100 in Greek and pages 101-102 in English. These should be read by those who have received Holy Communion when they return to their seats.

COUNCIL DUTY: **Orthros: 8:00 a.m.** John Petalas
Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. All Parish Council Members

MEMORIALS

40 days Sotiris (Sam) Kyres	9 yrs. Athanasios Papadopoulos
40 days Nick John Gallaitis	20 yrs. Eraklis Kirittopoulos
3 mons. Eleni Kirittopoulos	22 yrs. Victoria Nonos
9 mons. Anggerou Levidi	27 yrs. Angeline Sakes
4 yrs. Ioannis (John) Sakes	33 yrs. Vasilios (William) Sakes
8 yrs. Maria Skoufara	41 yrs. Michael Nonos

"MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL"

FELLOWSHIP HOUR in memory of Sotiris (Sam) Kyres in the Great Hall, sponsored by AHEPA 78 Housing. All our welcome!

SERVICE SCHEDULE: Tuesday, November 14th – *Holy Unction Service* – 6:30 p.m. in the Cathedral.

ΘΗΣΕΚΕΥΤΙΚΟ ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΟ: Τριτη , 14 Νοεμβριου – *Αγιον Ευχελαιον* – 6:30 μ.μ. στον Καθεδρικο Ναο.

HOLY UNCTION SERVICE: To commemorate the start of Advent Season (Nativity Fast), we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Unction this Tuesday, November 14th, 6:30 p.m. in the Cathedral. We encourage all the faithful of our community to attend this service on this day, so that we may all receive the blessings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the anointing of the Holy Oil for both physical and spiritual ailments. Holy Oil from the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem will be used in the service.

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATE: Due to Thanksgiving Holiday the church office will be closed on November 23rd & 24th. Memorial lists must be turned in by Monday, November 20th by 4:00 p.m.

COOPERATION IS NEEDED! We remind our faithful that the Orthros Service begins at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday in the Cathedral and is followed immediately by the Divine Liturgy. **Please be prompt and on time!** Please turn off cell phones before entering church. No conversation should take place during worship. During the reading of the Gospel people in the narthex should not be purchasing or lighting candles but stand reverently and listen to the reading. If possible avoid using the center aisle during high points of Divine Liturgy. Lipstick and lip-gloss should be removed before kissing icons, receiving Holy Communion and kissing the hand of the priest. Only Orthodox Christians in good standing with the Church may receive Holy Communion. Parents with children who cannot sit quietly during services should use the cry room. Please avoid using cell phones, I-Pads or other electronic devices to entertain or amuse children during worship. This delivers the wrong message of why we are in church and allows the child to pick up bad habits. When receiving antidoron, please use both hands and do not allow the crumbs to fall.

STEWARDSHIP MONTH: Now that it is November, our parish once again has entered Stewardship Month. But before we can look to the year 2018, we must put our house in order for 2017. We ask all our members to please be current with their pledges. Currently there is still an outstanding balance of \$66,800 to be paid this year (basically in six weeks). Also, if you haven't pledged or paid anything for 2017, we ask you do so immediately! Only with everyone's support can our parish continue to grow and minister to the needs of God's people. If there is a problem making or meeting your pledge commitment, please see Fr. Ted.

SEXTON NEEDED: The position of church sexton is still open. Anyone wishing to submit their name for this paid position is asked to see Fr. Ted.

ΖΗΤΕΙΤΑΙ ΝΕΩΚΟΡΟΣ: Μηπως υπαρχει ανθρωπος στην Κοινότητα μας που θα ηθελε να εργασθη ως νεωκορος στην Εκκλησια μας; Αν ναι, παρακαλουμεν να τηλεφωνησετε στο γραφειο της Εκκλησιας και να μιλησετε με το Πατερα Θεοδορο.

PROSFORON NEEDED: Our parish is in great need for prosforon (offering bread) for Sundays. If you can be of an assistance, please see our sexton, Mr. George Sgouroudis.

OLIVE OIL FOR SALE: We still have 9 cases (108 bottles) of olive oil to sell. Please help us make Metropolitan Iakovos' last request to help fight Turkish aggression in the Aegean Sea, especially for the Dodecanese a reality. Bottles are available for \$12.00 each at the candle stands in the Narthex of the Cathedral, the church office, or the bookstore. Your support in this effort is welcomed and appreciated!

TRUTH IN HUMOR: A police officer had just arrived on the scene where a fellow patrol officer had stopped a motorist for a traffic violation. Standing outside his expensive foreign car, the red-faced driver was frantically waving his hands and jumping up and down. "I'll have your job for this!" he shouted at the top of his lungs.

"Sir, you wouldn't want my job," replied the unfazed officer as he wrote out the citation. "The hours are long, the pay is low and you meet some of the nastiest people."

SCRIPTURE SPEAKS: "Hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good" (Romans 12:9).

KALYMNIAN SOCIETY BAKE SALE today after worship in the lobby.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS: The Philoptochos Society would like to *"Thank"* everyone who donated to the special tray last week. \$500 was collected and will be sent to support the hospitals, nursing homes, and philanthropic agencies of our Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Monthly Meeting: Monday, November 13th, 6:30 p.m. in the Gold Room.

The Philoptochos Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 3rd 6:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. Cost is \$35 per person. For more details and/or reservation, call Vicki Dovellos at 219-670-9700.

Holiday Bake Sale: This event is open to the public and orders are being taken in advance (see enclosed form). Orders can be picked up on Saturday, December 9th, 9:00am-1:00pm or Sunday, December 10th, 11:00am-12:00pm, in the Gold Room. Let the ladies of the Philoptochos do your holiday baking for you this year. Come and get your Greek sweets and other goodies for the holidays, as well as supporting Philoptochos' philanthropic endeavors.

GOYA NEWS: **GOYA Service Project:** The GOYA will be bagging groceries for the Harvest for the Hungry Project on Monday, November 13th, in the Great Hall. For specific details, see Lena Gardner or Eva Kostides.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE Holiday "*Ambiance*", Wednesday, November 15th, at 6:30 p.m. Donation is \$30. Contact Vicky Halkias at 219-322-8511 for details.

SENIOR CITIZENS: Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the next lunch/meeting is Thursday, November 16th, at 12:30 p.m. in the Gold Room.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next meeting is Thursday, November 16th, 7:00 p.m. in the Gold Room.

GREEK SCHOOL this Friday, November 17th at 5:30 p.m.

JR. GOYA PILLOW AND BLANKET DRIVE has begun. New pillows and blankets will be collected and distributed to local shelters for the needy. For details, see Susan Tsagris.

JR. GOYA NATIVITY ICON RAFFLE will take place on Sunday, December 3rd. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each. Please stop by the table in the lobby after service and buy your ticket.

CHION SOCIETY NEWS: The semi-annual Chion Society Bake Sale will be Sunday, November 19th. In addition the society is sponsoring a 50/50 Raffle that day. The winner will split the pot with the society. The more that donate, the bigger the winnings!

Annual Christmas Luncheon will be on Sunday, December 17th after service in the Great Hall. A family style luncheon will be served. Cost is \$25 for adults, and \$12.50 for children 5-12 years old. Everyone is welcome! Please RSVP to Drosula Vlisides 219-226-4272 or Jennifer Agoris 219-718-2759.

HELLENIC DANCERS NEWS: Practice for the dancers will be on Wednesday, November 15th with Junior group from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and the Senior group from 7:30-8:30 p.m. For details or to check on schedule changes, contact Taki Zarakas.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY WORKSHOP will be on Thursday, December 14th, in the Great Hall. Looking for singers and musicians to perform a Christmas Carol that evening! All ages are welcome! This is a beautiful evening for young families to come together and celebrate the season. Anyone interested in performing or helping that evening, call Susan Tsagris at 219-617-4483.

WELCOME VISITORS: We welcome you to worship with us today. Whether you are an Orthodox Christian or this is your first visit to the Orthodox Church, we are pleased to have you with us. Although Holy Communion is offered only to the baptized and Chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians, in good standing with the Church, all are invited to receive the antidoron (blessed bread) from the priest at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The antidoron is not sacramental but is reminiscent of the agape feast that followed worship in the ancient Christian Church. After the Divine Liturgy this morning, please join us in the church hall for fellowship, refreshments and visit with our Clergy, our Parish Council and the Stewards of our Parish.

SAINT OF THE DAY – JOHN THE MERCIFUL, PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA: Born in the mid sixth century, John, a Christian, was the only son of the governor of the island of Cyprus. He married and had children, but he lost his entire family to disease. He created hospitals, orphanages, and gave food to the poor. Because of John's charity, the emperor insisted that he become the next patriarch. When famine hit the British Isles, John went himself with a ship of supplies. He returned to care for hundreds of other refugees from Syria. He once said, "If you seek nobility, seek it not in blood, but in virtue, for in virtue lies true nobility." He once left the altar when he remembered that another priest had a grudge against him. He fell at the priest's feet and begged his forgiveness. When Jerusalem was invaded by Persia, he cared for 7500 of their refugees. When Persia overran Alexandria, John fled aboard ship to Cyprus. An angel of God appeared to him and told him to prepare for his death. He died in Cyprus in the year 620. Out of his compassion, he had given all and was left with only a few pennies.

THREE PERSPECTIVES: In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus illustrated three perspectives on life. First, there were the thieves who robbed the traveler on the road to Jericho. Like those who deliberately exploit the poor, their attitude was, "What's yours is mine, I'll take it." Secondly, there was the priest and the Levite who passed by, refusing to get involved with the bleeding man in the ditch. Like those today that are so busy that they ignore the poor, their attitude was, "What's mine is mine. I'll keep it." Thirdly, there was the Good Samaritan who stopped, looked, and acted; who picked up the wounded man, bound up his wounds, took him to the inn, paid the bills, and even promised to come back and take a continuing interest. His concern, his love is what our attitude as Christians should always be, "What's mine; my time, my talents, my possessions are not really mine, but God's. I will share them."

THE CHRISTMAS ADVENT: On Wednesday, November 15th, the 40 day Lenten period for the Nativity of our Lord begins. During this period we as Orthodox Christians are to fast, pray, read the Scriptures more, follow our Lord's ways, participate in the Sacrament of Holy Unction, Holy Confession and receive Holy Communion as often as possible.

This period of Advent is a joyous one for we prepare to receive our Lord as a man into this world. This is why our preparations should be done with great feeling and joy as we come closer to our Lord. Let us all follow very closely the teaching given to us by Jesus through His Holy Church. Let us feel the great spirit within us as we come closer to the day of our Savior's birth, knowing we have followed the Lenten period for our benefit. Be sure that you make this Lenten time a period of self-examination and preparation to receive the King of Kings into your heart and soul.

SAYINGS OF THE DESERT FATHERS: Life and death depend on our neighbor. If we gain our brother, we gain God. But if we scandalize our brother we are sinning against Christ.

PHILANTHROPY MONTH: Each year, our Cathedral continues to advance the cause of outreach programs to our local community. We as individuals and as a church have the capabilities to continue making a difference in the lives of others. Acts of love, mercy, and compassion really those who are in need move toward physical, emotional, and spiritual wholeness in such a broken world. Here's how we can help:

Harvest for the Hungry: Once again our parish is reaching out to assist those less fortunate during the holiday season by providing meals for Thanksgiving. Won't you step up and offer your help? Monetary donations are being accepted through November 15th. If you would like to help serve dinner on Thanksgiving Day, please contact Bill Logothetis at 219-743-7117, before November 15th. For additional information, contact Eva Kostides at 219-662-8370.

Love & Care Drive: Our Sunday Church School is collecting mittens, gloves, hats, and scarfs for the needy children of our area. Let us show others our love and care by bringing in something warm to wear. Donated items may be brought to the Sunday School office from Sunday, November 5th to Sunday, December 17th.

Kids 4 Kids Toy Drive: We will begin collecting new toys for the disadvantage children and teens in our local area on Sunday, November 12th. Once again, we are requesting new, clean, non-violent toys. Please **NO** Stuffed Animals. The toys may be brought on Sundays and placed in the bin, which is located in the entrance of the Cathedral or dropped off at the church office during the week. Any questions, please call Eva Kostides at 662-8370.

Food Pantry Update: Along with our usual needs of canned goods, boxed foods, cleaning items, along with personal hygiene items, our Food Pantry is preparing for the upcoming holiday season. Once again, we ask our parishioners, societies and organizations to please assist the Food Pantry in collecting turkeys, hams and other holiday foods that are needed. Deadline for turkey and ham donations for Thanksgiving is Monday, November 6th. Thank you in advance for your support and God Bless!

Helping Hand Appeal: For those who would like to help those less fortunate from our parish and the needy of our area the solution is easy! Give a monetary donation to our Helping Hand Fund. Through your generosity we hope to assist those less fortunate with their various needs. For details on how you can help, see Fr. Ted.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY: Today following worship, our Cathedral of Ss. Constantine and Helen will hold its Fall General Assembly. To participate in the General Assembly, one must be in Good Standings with the Parish. Good Standing is determined by both your canonical status in the Church (spiritual) as well as your financial commitment.

AGENDA

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| 1. Call to Order and Invocation | 9. Committee Reports |
| 2. Verification of Quorum | 10. Election of Three Audit Committee |
| 3. Election of Presiding Officer | 11. Election Committee Appointments |
| 4. Minutes of Previous Assembly | 12. Nominations for Parish Council |
| 5. Pastor's Report | for 2017-2018 |
| 6. President's Report | 13. Old Business |
| 7. Treasurer's Report | 14. New Business |
| 8. Proposed Budget for 2016 | 15. Closing and Benediction |

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Holy Unction for the Start of the Nativity Fast – November 14th

Stewardship Sunday – November 19th

Harvest 4 the Hungry – November 23rd

Parish Council Elections – December 3rd