

Sunday, November 26, 2017

13th Sunday of Luke

Alypios the Stylite

HYMNS FOR THE DAY: 8, 134, 221 (Found in red hymnal book)

READINGS: **Orthros Gospel:** Mark 16:9-20
Epistle: Ephesians 4:1-7
Gospel: Luke 18:18-27

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.** Elizabeth Foster
Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. All Parish Council Members

MEMORIALS

40 days Mary Starkey	40 yrs. John Galanos
5 yrs. Goldie Cruz	40 yrs. Steve Tsarnas
19 yrs. Nicholas J. Pangere	47 yrs. Anthony Peller
24 yrs. Maria Tsarnas	58 yrs. Catherine Pangere
24 yrs. Helen Galanos	59 yrs. Vasilias M. Pangere
25 yrs. George Tsarnas	71 yrs. John T. Pangere
29 yrs. Georgia Peller	

"MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL"

TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR is in memory of Mary Starkey in the Great Hall. All are welcome to attend.

SERVICE SCHEDULE: Thursday, November 30th – *Feast Day of St. Andrew*, ONLY Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

ΘΡΗΣΥΕΤΙΚΟΝ ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ: Πέμπτη, 30 Νοεμβρίου – *Ο Αποστολός Ανδρέας* – Μονο Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

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.

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 ΝΕΩΚΟΠΟΣ: Μηπως υπαρχει ανθρωπος στην Κοινοτητα μας που θα ηθελε να εργασθη ως νεωκοπος στην Εκκλησια μας; Αν ναι, παρακαλουμεν να τηλεφωνησετε στο γραφειο της Εκκλησιας και να μιλησετε με το Πατερα Θεοδωρο.

PRAYERS can't be answered unless they are prayed.

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 MINISTRY: Please take a few minutes to review your 2018 Stewardship Commitment in support of our Parish Ministries. We have taught the importance of including the entire family in your stewardship pledge. Including everyone underscores the importance of the Stewardship Program and everyone plays a significant role. Discussing the Program will teach everyone about stewardship and the importance of their participation.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves, and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Be prepared to make your Pledge for 2018 to help us reach our goal of raising \$500,000.

Also, as we are coming to a close for this year, please make sure your 2017 pledge is current or paid in full. To date there is still over \$55,000 in unpaid stewardship pledges for 2017. Your support and cooperation in this matter is deeply appreciated.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Parish Council Elections – December 3rd

Philoptochos Christmas Party – December 3rd

Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale & Christmas Bazaar – December 9th & 10th

Youth Family Christmas Night – December 14th

Sunday School Christmas Pageant – December 24th (Rehearsals Dec. 3rd, 10th & 17th)

Christmas Worship Services – December 24th (morning) & December 25th (morning)

Eve of Epiphany Service – January 5th (Evening)

Theophany Service – January 6th (Morning)

Vasilopita Celebration – January 14th

CHUCKLE: There is a story about a woman who had been trying for years to persuade her egotistical husband to put an end to the idea that he and he alone was number one.

He never stopped talking about being first in sales at the office, and first on the list for the next promotion. He enjoyed playing tennis and golf, but only when he won. He had to be first in line to buy tickets for a big game or event.

In any case. This man's long suffering wife watched with interest one day when he stepped on one of those fortune-telling scales. He dropped a coin into the slot and out came a little "fortune-telling card," which read: "You are a born leader, with super intelligence, quick wit and a charming manner, a magnetic personality and attractive to the opposite sex."

"Read that!" the man said to his wife triumphantly. She did. Then she turned it over and said, "It has your weight wrong too!"

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS: Classes will be Friday, December 1st, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

PTO Meeting: Friday, December 1st, 5:30 p. m. in the library.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS: The **Philoptochos Christmas Party** will be held on Sunday, December 3rd 6:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. Cost is \$35 per person. Today is the last day for reservation, see the ladies in the lobby after service or call Vicki Dovellos at 219-670-9700.

Holiday Bake Sale: This event is open to the public. Today is the last day for pre orders (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.

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.

GOYA NEWS: Our GOYANS will be going Christmas Caroling to individual homes this year on Sunday, December 10th from 2-6pm. If you are interested in them coming to carol at your house, please sign up at the table in the lobby after church, or call Lena Gardner at 219-775-0991 or Gini Mojica at 219-671-0366.

CHION SOCIETY NEWS: 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 will be on Wednesday, November 29th with the 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 or check the Hellenic Dancers Facebook page.

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.

BOOKSTORE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Visit our Books Store Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 9th, in the Great Hall from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. See the new items available such as Christmas CD's, ornaments, Christmas cards, as well as a new selection of books, icons and other items. Children's books make excellent gifts and stocking stuffers. A wide variety of specially priced books, will bring lasting joy to many on your gift list!

OLIVE OIL FOR SALE: We still have 8 cases (96 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

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.

FROM GOD'S WORD: Christ came not to be served but to serve. He is the good Shepherd Who willingly laid down His life for His friends. Christ was a **GIVER** and He **DESIRES** that His **FOLLOWERS ALSO BE GIVERS**. Christians are not only to refrain from doing evil but also seek eagerly to do good whenever possible and insofar as it is in their hands. Christians strive to imitate God's perfect love. In the words of the Sermon on the Mount: **"You must be perfect – just as your Father in heaven is perfect"** (Matthew 4:49).

It is in this spiritual perspective that Jesus challenges the rich young man in today's Gospel to follow, just as Jesus Himself did, the highest example of self-giving by devoting himself completely to God's work, leading a celibate life and practicing poverty for the sake of the Kingdom. Jesus did not usually ask people to sell their material possessions but only to share them with those in need. But this man, who was probably unmarried and initially showed a desire for the highest perfection, suddenly turned away from Christ for it seemed that Jesus' challenge was impossible.

Do we not also want to turn away when we realize how demanding Christ's teachings are? Do we not silently think to ourselves: **"Who then can be saved?"** (Luke 18:26).

We may not be called by Christ to a life of celibacy or poverty but all of us are called to a life of Christian perfection. Christian life involves a creative tension between what we now are and what we can be tomorrow. The road to Christian perfection is endless. What seems impossible to us is possible by the grace of God. Christians can follow the road to a more perfect obedience when they prayerfully seek a **DEEPER COMMUNION WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CONTINUE TO GROW IN THEIR LOVE FOR JESUS CHRIST.**

ST. ANDREW, FIRST CALLED OF THE APOSTLES: Andrew was given this designation by the Church because he along with his brother Peter were the first who received the call from Jesus of **"Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men"** (Matthew 4:19).

Following the day of Pentecost, Andrew began in earnest to fish for men's souls for Christ. At first his apostolic mission took him to Asia Minor. Two high points of this mission are Sinope, where he suffered greatly at the hands of the pagan citizens of that city and Byzantium where he ordained the first bishop. Thus he is considered the founder of the See of Constantinople. Eventually, his travels led him to Greece and specifically to Patras. There he converted to Christianity Maximilla, wife of the Proconsul Aigeatis. When the proconsul learned of his wife's conversion, he ordered that Andrew be crucified. The Apostle was crucified on an X shaped cross. Thus, he offered the highest sacrifice for the Lord he loved so much. The Orthodox Church commemorates St. Andrew's memory on November 30th. Divine Liturgy for the Feast St. Andrew will be celebrated this Thursday, November 30th at 9:00 a.m. in the chapel. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

SERVICE is the rent we pay for the space we occupy in this world.

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 today. If you would like to help serve dinner on Thanksgiving Day, please contact Bill Logothetis at 219-743-7117. 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 10th.

Kids 4 Kids Toy Drive: We will be collecting new toys for the disadvantage children and teens in our local area until Sunday, December 10th. 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: Double Match Days at Meijer's will take place on December 8th and 9th. For every \$10 donation card purchased, Meijer's will donate \$20 to the program, resulting in a total of a \$30 donation. 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 holiday foods that are needed. 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.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Elections will take place on Sunday, December 3rd immediately following worship from 10:30-11:30 a.m. The following people have been nominated for Parish Council for the 2018-2019 term. Absentee ballots are available in the church office and must be returned back to the church office by Friday, December 1st, 3:00 p.m.

Bill Batalis	Roberta Korfias	Dr. John Spores
Andrew Campbell	William Logothetis	Justin Tillich
Nicolette Droza	JoAnn Massow	Paul Turpa
Arte Emmanoilidis	John Nikolaras	Taki Zarakas
Elizabeth Foster	Tom Papadopoulos	Demetri Zembillas
Maria Georgiadis	John Petalas	
Nick Kavadas	Elias Ploutis	
Pete Kavadas	Dr. James Siatris	

CHURCH FATHERS SPEAK: It is clear to everyone that the advice of the Apostle is not carried out merely by the practice of established prayers at certain hours, but requires a permanent walking before God, a dedication of all one's activities to Him who is all-seeing and omni-present.

-St. Theophan the Recluse