

Sunday, October 1, 2017
2nd Sunday of Luke
Protection of the Theotokos
Ananias, Apostle of the 70
Romanos the Melodist

HYMNS FOR THE DAY: 8, #, #, 134, 218 (Found in red hymnal book - # not in book)

READINGS: **Orthros Gospel:** Luke 24:36-53
 Epistle: Acts 9:10-19
 Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

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.** JoAnn Massow
 Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. All Parish Council Members

MEMORIALS

1 yr. Maria S. Fotinos	13 yrs. George M. Politakis
7 yrs. Ann Christakis	15 yrs. Anthony P. Zervos
10 yrs. Victoria Demitroulas	17 yrs. Chrysoula Politakis
11 yrs. Peter Stassis	18 yrs. George Demitroulas

“MAY THIER MEMORY BE ETERNAL”

FELLOWSHIP HOUR in honor of National Church Music Sunday in the Great Hall. All are welcome to attend.

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.

GOD'S WAY: In England they say that a Yorkshire man may bury the hatchet but he always marks the spot. One does not have to come from York to do that. How often we forgive but not fully. We often forgive without forgetting. How different is God who forgives us fully and completely, and remembers our sins against us no more.

FALL FAMILY HAYRIDE: Sunday, October 22nd, 3:00pm, Kregel's Pumpkin Patch, Lowell, IN. Cost is \$6 per person, which includes hayride, small pumpkin and corn maze. For more details or to sign-up contact Fr. George through the church office.

THE ANNUAL FAMILY FUN NIGHT will be held on Saturday, October 28th, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. this year. Admission is \$3 per person (no meal). Games, food and other refreshments are available for additional cost. The theme is *“It's A Small World.”* Let us all come together for a fun evening and support this event that benefits the GOYA Scholarship Fund.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: When attending services, please **DO NOT PARK** in the fire lanes. Also, only those who have handicap permits may park in the handicap spaces. Please don't force the parish council to ticket and tow cars. These are safety issues and we ask for your cooperation. Please be considerate.

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 UPDATE: As of the end of September the church office has received 618 pledges totaling \$378,416. Still owed is just a little over \$100,000. We thank all our members who have met their commitment or have exceeded it. We kindly remind those who still owe to please be current with your payments.

For those who haven't pledged as of yet, we strongly encourage you to do so immediately. Also, there are some members who are contributing but have failed to submit a 2017 pledge from. Please stop by the church office and do so today. Third quarter “Reports of contribution” will be mailed out shortly. Please review them and if you have any questions please direct them to the church office.

FALL MINI GREEK FEST: The Fall Mini Greek Food Fest will be on Friday, November 3rd and Saturday, November 4th from 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help organize, advertise, set up the hall, serve, cook, bake and clean up afterwards. Monetary donations accepted. To offer your assistance and for more details, see John Petalas.

Proceeds raised from this event will go to benefit our parish and help reduce the deficit in the budget caused by unforeseen maintenance and renovation repairs. All parishioners are encouraged to come on out with their families, neighbors, friends and enjoy a delicious meal.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

YOUTH MEETING: The next GOYA meeting will be this Monday, October 2nd, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the school wing.

HELLENIC DANCERS NEWS: Practice for the dancers will be on Wednesday October 4th: 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.

The Second Metropolis of Chicago Hellenic Dance Festival will be held this weekend of October 6th-8th at St. Nicholas GOC at Oaklawn, IL. A group from our parish will be attending.

GREEK SCHOOL this Friday, October 5th at 5:30 p.m. PTO meeting at 5:30 p.m.

CHION SOCIETY MEETING: Tuesday, October 3rd, 6:30 p.m. in the library.

PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING: Monday, October 9th, 6:30 p.m. in the Gold Room.

GOYA COAT DRIVE: Starting September 1st thru November 3rd donations of new or used coats in clean and good condition can be brought into the church office or narthex. Please help those in need during the cold weather. Thank you!

JR. GOYA NEWS: Our Jr. GOYA is sponsoring ***“Pay it Forward/Clean-up Bucket Challenge”*** for our friends and family. The IOCC is asking for more Clean-up Buckets to aid in their disaster response. Due to recent events, their supplies have been depleted and they are looking for more donations. Many of these items can be purchased at the dollar store. You may donate either a complete bucket or donate supplies and we will assemble them. We are also accepting monetary donations, and Jr. GOYA will complete and fill as many buckets as we can. Our Jr. GOYA kids will be available after church September 17th-October 8th passing out information on what we are collecting and answering any questions. Thank you all in advance for your support!

Fall Bonfire, Monday, October 9th, 6:30pm at the Pavilion behind our Cathedral’s soccer field.

Pillow and Blanket Drive for the needy begins October 23rd.

YAL CHICAGO BENEFIT: Tuesday, October 3rd, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Gale Street Inn, Chicago. For details or to register go to YALCHICAGO@gmail.com.

PICK UP YOUR CROSS DAY CAMP for people with special needs and their families, Saturday, October 14, 10am-3pm, St. Iakovos Retreat Center, Kansasville, WI. This year’s theme: *“We Are All God’s Children.”* For details or to sign-up contact Presvytera Toni Mihalopoulos at toni.poteris@gmail.com.

ORTHODOX SPELLING BEE: This new Metropolis ministry will be held on Saturday, October 21st, 2:00 p.m., St. John the Baptist GOC, Des Plaines, IL. For youth ages 10-18. For details or to register call Presvytera Georgia Alikakos 708-715-4584 or go to religiousedmc@chicago.goarch.org.

BEING RESPONSIBLE: Sunday school teacher: “Johnny if you don’t settle down and become more serious you will never grow up to be a very responsible man.” Johnny: “Why, I’m responsible. Every time something happens at home, my mother says I’m responsible.”

“MAKE A JOYFUL SOUND UNTO THE LORD”: St. Romanos is considered to be one of the greatest composers of sacred hymns that the Church has ever known. He composed over 1000 hymns in his lifetime, of which some 80 have been preserved for use in our divine services today. He is the patron saint of singers – and an inspiration for the “musically challenged” as well, for Romanos was not always the “sweet singer” that he ultimately became.

Romanos was born in the 5th century in the Syrian town of Emesa. Although his parents were Jewish, he became a devout follower of Christ and when he moved to Constantinople, Romanos became a church sacristan in the great cathedral of Hagia Sophia. Although he wanted to assist in the reading and chanting of the services, the truth of the matter was Romanos had no musical training and little self-confidence. Once on Christmas Eve, he was given some verses to read during Matins. He read so poorly that the other reader was asked to finish for him, causing him to be the object of great ridicule by the cathedral clergy. The devastated Romanos returned home, vowing never to return to church again.

That night, as Romanos was praying before the icon of the Theotokos, the Virgin appeared to him. She handed him a scroll and commanded him to eat it. By doing so, Romanos was now blessed with the ability to write hymns and to sing them clearly and beautifully. Working feverishly throughout the evening, Romanos composed his first hymn: the Kontakion for the Nativity. The next day, Romanos stood in front of the filled cathedral and angelically sang: “Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One.” St. Romanos was later ordained a deacon, continuing to share his newfound musical gifts with others.

NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY: Today is the day parishes across our Archdiocese honor the gifts and stewardship of the church musicians – our clergy, our choirs, our chanters, and those who teach the hymns of our Church to our youth. Their contributions enhance our worship and assure that the glorious treasury of our hymnography continues to edify us and future generations. We, here at Ss. Constantine and Helen, are truly thankful for our church musicians for all they offer to make our worship so uplifting. A special offering will be collected by our Choir members to assist them with the Choir Federation commitments. Please give generously!

THE ACID TEST: The acid test of love is not whether we love our friends, but whether we love our enemies. A Great Russian Saint asked, “How do we know whether a person abides in God and is sincere in his Christian faith? There is no other way of ascertaining this than by examining the person’s life to see if he loves his enemies. Where there is love for one’s enemy, there also is God.” That is the great test of whether we are in tune with God; for that is what God Himself does. He sends His rain on the just and the unjust. Chesterton said once, “Love means to love that which is unlovable, or it is no virtue at all.”

WISDOM FROM THE CHURCH FATHERS: “If anyone abuses you,” a certain Father says, “Bless him. If he accepts the blessing, it is good for the both of you. If, however, he does not accept it, you receive a blessing from God and the abuse rests on him.”

THOUGHT: People need love, especially when they don’t deserve it.

PHILANTHROPY AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES

IOCC 5K WALK/RUN will take place on Saturday, October 7th, at 8:00 a.m. at St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago. For more information or to register for the event go online at www.iocc.org/chicago.

A MEMORIAL DINNER & BENEFIT in memory of His Eminence, Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago, and in honor of the clergy of our Metropolis who have served the Church for over 20 years, will be hosted by the Metropolis of Chicago Clergy Syndesmos the last week of October - date, time & location to be announced. Cost per person is \$100 and reservations may be made with Fr. Ted. Our Cathedral has 30 tickets to sell and is asking all our organizations, societies and parishioners to please participate. If you cannot attend, but would like to make a donation you may do so through the church office. Proceeds raised to benefit the Clergy Syndesmos' philanthropic endeavors and outreach ministries.

OUR FOOD PANTRY is seeking donations of canned or dried food items, personal hygiene supplies and household cleaning supplies. Donations may be brought to church on Sundays or left at the church office during the week. Monetary donations are also welcome. Let us all heed the Lord's call when He said **"I was hungry and you gave me food....in as much as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me"** (Matthew 25:35-48).

HELPING HAND UPDATE: 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.

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 1st. If you would like to help serve dinner on Thanksgiving Day, please contact Bill Logothetis at 219-743-7117, before November 1st. For additional information, contact Eva Kostides at 219-662-8370.

OLIVE OIL FOR SALE: We still have 12 cases (144 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!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday School Class Pictures – October 15th

Fall Family Hayride – October 22nd

Family Fun Night – October 28th

Fall Food Fest – November 3rd & 4th

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

THE LOVE OF GOD cannot be merited or earned, but it can be spurned.