

Sunday, September 9, 2018

**Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross
The Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna**

HYMNS FOR THE DAY: 23, 6, 23, 25, 134, 216 (Found in red hymnal book)

READINGS: **Orthros Gospel:** Luke 24:1-12
Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18
Gospel: John 3:13-17

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.** Nicolette Droza
Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. All Parish Council Members

MEMORIALS

3 mons. Haralambos Zairis	21 yrs. George Andreatos
6 mons. Theofanis Sistovaris	23 yrs. Aphrodite Andreatos
5 yrs. John Gus Galanos	41 yrs. Ioannis Vlahos
10 yrs. Spiros Andreatos	45 yrs. Haralambos Galouzis
18 yrs. Constantina Theodorou	81 yrs. Panagoula Vlahos

"MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL"

SERVICE SCHEDULE: Friday, September 14th – *Exaltation of the Holy Cross* – Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. in the Cathedral.

ΟΡΘΟΞΕΥΤΙΚΟΝ ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ: Παρασκευή, 14 Σεπτεμβρίου – *Η Υψωσις του Σταυρου* – Θεία Λειτουργία : 9:00 π.μ. στο Καθεδρικό.

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 (good standing means if you are married your marriage must have been blessed by the Church; if divorced you must have an ecclesiastical divorce as well from 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 worship this morning, please join us in the church hall for fellowship, refreshments and visit with our Clergy, Parish Council and members.

VASILIKO WANTED: We are in need of Vasiliko plants for the celebration of the Litany of the Holy Cross, which will take place this coming Friday, September 14th, the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross.

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: In the verses prior to our epistle lesson today, St. Paul urges the Galatians to "Bear one another's burdens" in order to fulfill the law and standards that have been set by Christ. St. Paul as someone who traveled from community to community was constantly aware of the hardships of the world which Christians faced whether the hardships were spiritual, financial, or even life and limb. We also know that he faced his own personal burdens on a regular basis! We know that we can only face our burdens together with God's help and with the help of the Church. How are we to bear each other's burdens today? In the same manner that Christians have for millennia. We will do this with God's help and with the help of each other.

We are almost three quarters of the way through 2018, yet our Cathedral's Stewardship program is not moving forward as the calendar. Have you submitted a 2018 pledge to the church? If you are one of the 588 that have, thank you! If you are one of the over 190 who haven't, what are you waiting for?

If you have pledged, are you current with your pledge? If you are in the 71% of our membership who are current, we truly appreciate your sacrifice and commitment. If you are in the 29% who are behind or haven't paid anything at all, please make the effort to be current by the end of September.

Be committed and loving in the same way that you have been shown by your fellow Christians. More importantly Christ sacrificed His life for all of you so that you could live your lives for one another, shouldn't you be willing to offer something in return?

YAL ESSENTIAL BACKPACKS: The YAL along with the Street Outreach Team are preparing for their October outreach. Once again, we will be distributing "essential backpacks" for the homeless youth, women and men of Chicago. The following items are needed: socks, wipes, water, mints, Band-Aids, deodorant, granola bars, cheese crackers, and applesauce. You may donate a backpack, essential items, or a backpack full of the essential items. Please keep in mind they are living on the streets; they may be subjected to theft or violence, therefore please no money or gift cards. Backpacks should not be heavy. Your support is greatly appreciated! Collection begins September 9th thru October 14th. A bin will be located in the Narthex or can be dropped off in the church office.

GOYA COAT DRIVE: GOYA will be collecting new and gently used coats for children, teens, young adults, women and men. Collection begins today, September 9th through October 7th. Coats can be dropped off in the church office or in the Narthex.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: The Church prays for all people to be saved. Why? Because Jesus Christ is love and forgiveness, which allows one to repent and be saved.

KICKING-OFF THE NEW CHURCH YEAR: The Novak Family Foundation invites all our parishioners to a luncheon today in the Great Hall following worship services. Serving lamb, pastisio, brats, hot dogs and hamburgers along with various salads and desserts. Drinks will also be provided. Various activities and games will take place for both children and adults. There is no cost. Come, join in the fun and enjoy the food and fellowship.

GOYA BAKE SALE: Will be held today after services in the lobby. All proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund. Please support their efforts.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTE: Sunday School begins today with Divine Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. Following Holy Communion, the children will attend class until 11:00 a.m. Following class today we will take class pictures in the Cathedral. Afterwards everyone is welcome to attend the Novak Family Foundation lunch held in the Great Hall. Please note the Sunday School Agiasmo will be held next Sunday, September 16th following class. All students, teachers, and parents should be in attendance to receive the blessings of the Lord for a new Church year!

YOUTH GROUP ROUND-UP: Today Sunday, September 9th, we will have sign-ups for all youth groups (HOPE, JOY, Jr. GOYA and GOYA), Sunday School and Greek School. Please sign up after services in the lobby.

YOUTH MEETINGS: Jr. GOYA and GOYA will meet on tomorrow, Monday, September 10th, from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

JR GOYA CALLOUT MEETING: What is Jr. GOYA? It is a group for 5th – 7th grade students that will meet two Mondays a month. Our goal is to have a group that can have fun together but also have meetings that focus on relevant middle school topics. We will discuss how to bring their church values into their school and social settings. Our first meeting of the year is tomorrow night, Monday, September 10th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. We are having a GAME NIGHT with minute-to-win-it style games, pizza, and drinks. If you have a 5th – 7th grader that has never been to a meeting before, we encourage them to come! We will pass out calendars for the year and explain what our group is about.

OUR PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY will be welcoming new members at their monthly meeting tomorrow, Monday, September 10th, at 6:30pm in the Great Hall. This year's theme is "South of the Border". All ladies of our community are invited to attend. A "Potluck" dinner will be offered. Philoptochos will offer the main meal, and everyone is asked to bring a side dish, appetizer or dessert. Please call Bobbie Korfias at 322-1949 and let her know what dish you will be bringing. Bring a friend and join us for fun and fellowship.

CHION SOCIETY MEETING: Tuesday, September 11th, 6:30 p.m. in the Gold Room.

HELLENIC DANCERS NEWS: Practice for the dancers will be Wednesday, September 12th. Junior group from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and the Senior group from 7:30-8:30 p.m. For details, contact Takis Zarakas. If you have not yet signed up to be a dancer, you can sign up today in the lobby after service.

GREEK SCHOOL HAS BEGUN! Classes are scheduled for this Friday, September 14th at 5:30-8:00 p.m. If you haven't registered your child, you can do so today or during the week through the church office.

PONDERING: The other person's sins, like the other person's car lights, always seem more glaring than our own,

JESUS CAME NOT TO CONDEMN THE WORLD BUT TO SAVE: One day the religious authorities discovered a woman caught in adultery. They brought her to Jesus, hoping to trip Him up if He did not condemn her. Jesus looked at the woman and knew her sin – the heartbreak of it, the disgrace, the guilt, the shame. He recognized that she had already condemned herself. What she needed was not more condemnation but forgiveness and acceptance.

Jesus turned and said to the religious authorities, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." Man by man, they turned and walked away. Then He looked at the woman and said, "Where are your accusers? Has no man condemned you?" She whispered, "No man, Lord." Then Jesus spoke words to her that He speaks today to every repentant sinner who has stumbled and fallen, "Neither do I condemn you: go, and sin no more" (John 8:1-11).

This leads us to the great verse in today's Gospel lesson on which we shall focus our attention: "**God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him**" (John 3:17).

God is the only One Who has the authority to criticize – and to condemn – but He sent His Son into the world not to condemn, but to save the world. Not condemnation, not criticism, not judgement, but salvation is what He came to offer us. He will come as Judge at the end of the world, but now He comes as Savior. So, make sure you clean up and take care of your life before you criticize and try to control someone else's.

SPIRITUAL INSIGHT: In all that you do at home and at work, do not forget that all strength, all your success, all your light, are in Christ and His Cross. Therefore, be sure to call upon the Lord before beginning any work, saying, "*Jesus help me. Jesus enlighten me.*" The Lord will teach you how to accomplish it. And so, will your heart be supported and warmed by lively faith and hope in Christ.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: His Eminence, Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago is asking for all of us to fill out a Strategic Plan questionnaire. It was emailed to all parishioners on our constant contact list. Hard copies are available at the candle stands or the church office. They need to be completed and returned to the Metropolis by September 20th. For questions, see Fr. Ted.

LISTENING TOUR: His Eminence, Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago will be at our parish Wednesday, September 19th for the Northwest Indiana Listening Tour of our Metropolis. Fellowship hour will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and the meeting with questions and answers will be from 7:00-9:00 p.m. To RSVP and/or submit a question, please visit <https://midwesttour.squarespace.com>. Given that a large attendance is expected, advance RSVP's are highly encouraged. Looking forward to seeing you on September 19th!

HOLY CROSS APPEAL: As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross, we ask you all to share a financial gift with our beloved school, Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology. A special tray to support our seminary in its crucial role of preparing candidates for the priesthood will be passed at dismissal.

CHURCH HUMOR: A businessman who needed millions of dollars to clinch an important deal went to church to pray for the money. By chance he knelt next to a man who was praying \$100 to pay an urgent debt. The businessman took out his wallet and pressed a \$100 bill into the other man's hand. Overjoyed, the man got up and left the church. The business man then closed his eyes and prayed, "And now, Lord, that I have your undivided attention...."

TIME TO TEE IT UP: The 20th Annual Cathedral Golf Classic will be held on Friday, September 28th at Innsbrook Country Club. Hot Breakfast and registration will begin at 8:00am and a shotgun start at 9:00am. Following golf, a lunch will be offered. Proceeds raised from this event will be used to fund many of the ministries of our church.

Be a part of this wonderful event in one or more of the following ways: Donate raffle prizes, be a corporate, drink or hole sponsor, golf, and/or attend the luncheon celebration. Help us make this unique opportunity of fellowship, fun, and charity.

Fees: \$125 for golf, gift bag, breakfast & lunch.

\$150 Hole Sponsor \$300 Drink Sponsor \$500 Corporate Sponsor.

For reservations or other details contact the church office at 219-769-2481 or maureen@ssconstantineandhelen.org

WINE TASTING SOCIAL: District 12 of the Order of AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope will be hosting a Wine Tasting Fundraiser this Saturday, September 15th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Hellenic Cultural Center. For more information or to purchase tickets, see Sam Benjamin following worship today in the Great Hall lobby.

PETER STASSIS MEMORIAL BENEFIT will be held on Sunday September 23rd, immediately following worship. Everyone is invited to the brunch held in the Great Hall to benefit the Peter Stassis Memorial Scholarships for Fanari Camp. This year eleven full or partial scholarships were offered in memory of Peter Stassis for young people from our parish to attend Fanari Camp.

IOCC 5K WALK/RUN: Saturday, September 29th, at 8:00 a.m. at St. Andrews GOC in Chicago. For information or to register for the event go online at www.iocc.org/chicago.

CANVAS PAINTING CLASS: Join us for this new, fun event on Sunday, September 30th, 2:30 p.m. here at the Hellenic Cultural Center. Cost is \$40 per painter and includes everything to create a 16 x 20 "Rainforest Waterfall" painting. No experience necessary! You'll enjoy step-by-step instruction with a local artist. Wine and appetizers will be served. Registrations will be taken in the hall lobby after church. Deadline for registration is September 23rd. For details, contact JoAnn Massow at 219-663-1857.

HELPING HAND APPEAL: During the summer donations for the Helping Hand having fallen, while the need is grew, both within our parish and surrounding community. Please remember those less fortunate and offer your gift of love and assistance through our Helping Hand Fund. To see how you can help see Fr. Ted.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE: The Ross Township and our Cathedral Food Pantry has lost the sponsorship of Costco, Panera and other large corporations over the past year. What we used to receive free we now have to purchase through the Northern Indiana Food Depository. This has put a great burden on us in stocking the shelves for those in need. We are pleading with our parishioners and business partners for donations of canned or dried food items, bread, cereal, 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).

BOOKSTORE NEWS: New items are available in our Cathedral Bookstore. One such item are *Prayer Pillows*, which are perfect for baby cribs, backpacks, Christmas stocking stuffers. The cost is \$10 .00 per pillow. Come check them out and the other items at the Bookstore after worship.