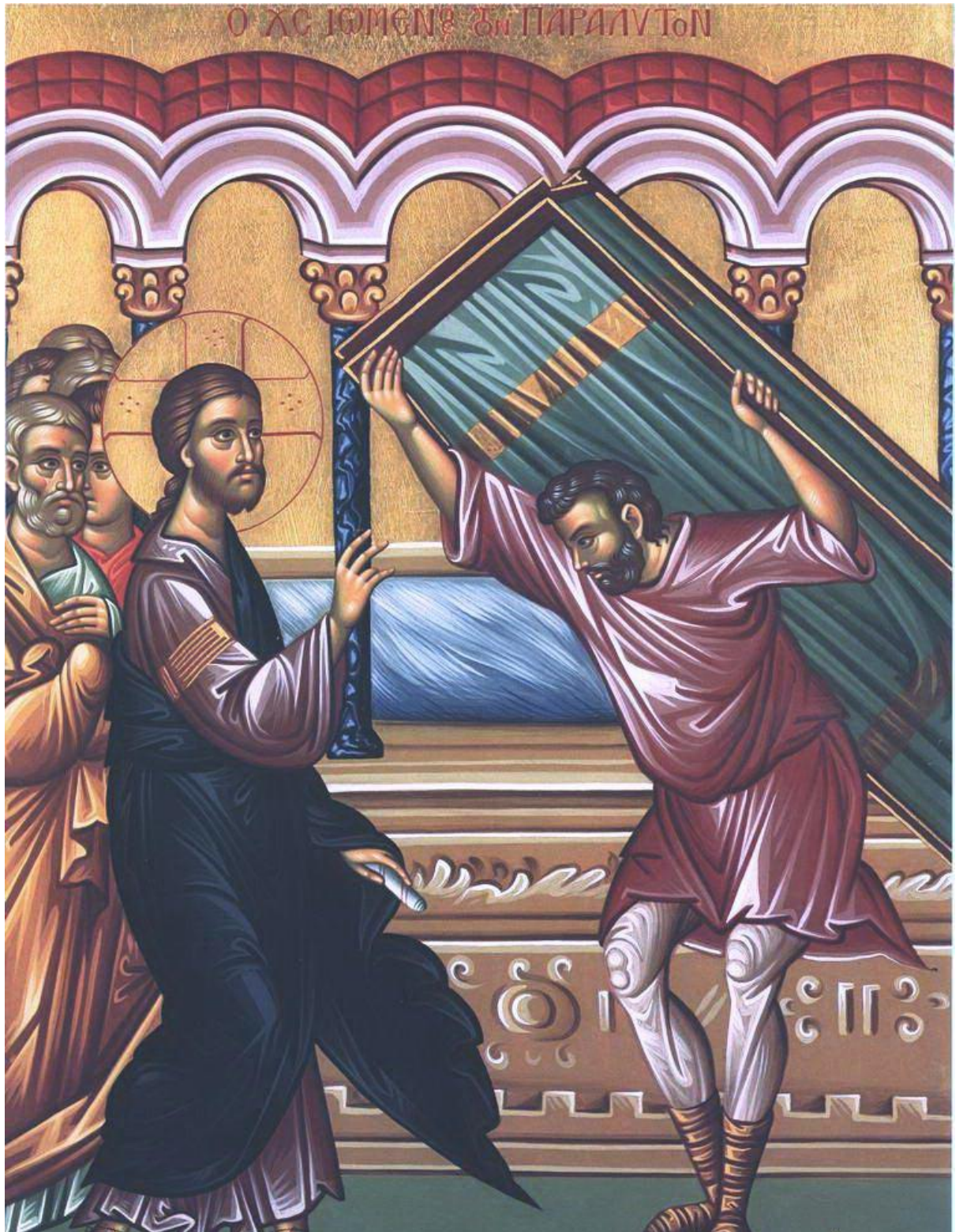


MAY 2020



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey



Saint Andrew Family News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF MORRIS COUNTY

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC – MAY 10TH

MOTHER'S DAY – MAY 10TH

Saint Andrew Family News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF MORRIS COUNTY

On Sundays we celebrate

Orthros @ 8:45 AM & Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM

For other services please check our website or call the office

OFFICE HOURS

Mon – Fri 10am-4pm

☎: 973-584-0388

Fax: 973-584-3573

E-mail info@standrewgonj.org

Web site <https://www.standrewgonj.org/>

NJ Metropolis Web: www.njgoarch.org G.O. Archdioceses Web: www.goarch.org

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Online Giving System

WeShare click on link and follow instructions

<https://standrewgonj.churchgiving.com> or call the office

Father John Theodosion, *Editor in Chief*

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The Saint Andrew Family News is published monthly except in July and August and is distributed free of charge to all members. Submissions for the magazine are accepted **only as electronic files, (via e-mail attachment)**. Pending availability of space and permission from Editor-in-chief, your submission will be in the next month's issue.

*Please submit your articles and information on time to
Vasiliki (Bessie) Petrakos info@standrewgonj.org*

*Deadline for the **JUNE 2020 ISSUE** is May18th*

DIVINE SERVICES

LOOK FOR UPDATES ON OUR WEBSITE

MAY

Friday	1	+ JEREMIAH THE PROPHET
Sunday	3	SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN + ST. XENIA OF KALAMATA
Tuesday	5	+ST. IRENE THE GREAT MARTYR +ST. EPHRAIM THE HOLY MARTYR
Friday	8	+ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
Saturday	9	+ST. ISAIAH THE PROPHET
Sunday	10	SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC <i>MOTHER'S DAY</i>
Wednesday	13	MID PENTECOST (4 TH WEDNESDAY AFTER PASCHA)
Friday	16	+THEODORE THE SANCTIFIED / <i>RELICS*</i>
Sunday	17	SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN
Thursday	21	+ STS CONSTANTINE & HELEN, EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES
Sunday	24	SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN
Thursday	28	HOLY ASCENSION
Sunday	31	Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

JUNE

Saturday	6	SATURDAY OF SOULS <i>conditions permitting. John visits the LOCUST HILL CEMETERY to pray for our +Loved ones after service</i>
Sunday	7	HOLY PENTECOST – TBD: Sunday school Graduation Program
Monday	8	MONDAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
Sunday	14	SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS <i>FAST OF THE HOLY APOSTLES + BEGINS ON 6/15 ENDS 6/28</i>
Sunday	21	2ND SUNDAY OF MATTHEW <i>FATHER'S DAY</i>
Wednesday	24	THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Sunday	28	3RD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
Monday	29	STS. PETER AND PAUL
Tuesday	30	SYNAXIS OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

We will be Live-streaming the services on the church's [Facebook page](#) and we will do our best to follow the schedule of Services as listed above..

Please know that we are praying for you and for all people throughout the world who are suffering during this crisis. We will update you on any changes as they become available to us.

Sundays: Orthros @ 8:45AM & Divine Liturgy @ 10AM | **Weekdays:** Orthros @ 8AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9AM

ΙΕΡΕΣ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΕΙΕΣ

ΑΝΑΖΗΤΗΣΤΕ ΕΝΗΜΕΡΩΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΙΣΤΟΣΕΛΙΔΑ ΜΑΣ

ΜΑΙΟΣ

Παρασκευή	1	ΊΕΡΕΜΙΑΣ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΗΣ
Κυριακή	3	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Γ' ΤΩΝ ΜΥΡΟΦΟΡΟΝ +ΞΕΝΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΑΥΜΑΤΟΥΡΓΟΥ
Τρίτη	5	+ΑΓΙΑΣ ΕΙΡΗΝΗΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ, +ΑΓΙΟΥ ΕΦΡΑΪΜ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ
Τετάρτη	8	ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΥ, ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ
Πέμπτη	9	ΉΣΑΪΑΣ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΗΣ
Κυριακή	10	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Δ' ΤΟΥ ΠΑΡΑΛΥΤΟΥ <i>ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΗΣ ΜΗΤΕΡΑΣ</i>
Τετάρτη	13	ΤΗ ΤΕΤΑΡΤΗ ΤΗΣ ΜΕΣΟΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ
Παρασκευή	16	+ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ Ο ΗΓΙΑΣΜΕΝΟΣ* (ΛΕΙΨΑΝΑ)
Κυριακή	17	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Ε' ΤΗΣ ΣΑΜΑΡΕΪΤΙΔΟΣ
Πέμπτη	21	ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΈΛΕΝΗ ΊΣΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΙ
Κυριακή	24	Κυριακή ΣΤ' του Τυφλού;
Πέμπτη	28	Η ΠΕΜΠΤΗ ΤΗΣ ΑΝΑΛΗΨΕΩΣ
Κυριακή	31	Κυριακή Ζ' των 318 Αγίων Πατέρων τής Α' Οικομ. Συνόδου

ΙΟΥΝΙΟΣ

Σάββατο	6	ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ <i>Εάν μας επιτρέπουν π. Ιωάννης θα επισκεφτεί το Νεκροταφείο στο Ντόβερ μετά την Λειτουργία</i>
Κυριακή	7	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Η' ΤΗΣ ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ <i>Πρόγραμμα Αποφοίτησης Κατηχητικού σχολείου</i>
Δευτέρα	8	ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ
Κυριακή	14	Α' Ματθαίου των Αγίων Πάντων <i>ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΩΝ 15/6 -28/6</i>
Κυριακή	21	Β' ΜΑΤΘΑΪΟΥ <i>ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΤΕΡΑ</i>
Τετάρτη	24	ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ;
Κυριακή	28	Γ' ΜΑΤΘΑΪΟΥ
Δευτέρα	29	ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΙ ΠΕΤΡΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΥΛΟΣ
Τρίτη	30	ΣΥΝΑΞΙΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΔΩΔΕΚΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΩΝ

Θα είμαστε Live-streaming τις υπηρεσίες στη σελίδα της εκκλησίας στο **Facebook** και θα κάνουμε το καλύτερό μας για να ακολουθήσει το πρόγραμμα των Υπηρεσιών, όπως αναφέρεται παραπάνω.. ..Να ξέρετε ότι προσευχόμαστε για εσάς και για όλους τους ανθρώπους σε όλο τον κόσμο που υποφέρουν κατά τη διάρκεια αυτής της κρίσης. Θα σας ενημερώσουμε για τυχόν αλλαγές καθώς θα γίνουν διαθέσιμες σε εμάς.

Κυριακή: Όρθρος ώρα 8:45πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 10πμ | **καθημερινές:** Όρθρος ώρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 9πμ

IN THE NAME OF HEALTH AND SAFETY

By Fr John Theodosion

Χριστός Ανέστη,

As I sit down write this article, I have been listening to many of the daily press conferences of Governor Murphy. Over the past few days, there has been discussion of reopening the economy and what is going to open, and when things will be reopened. I have to say, that I found it odd, that along with food stores, hardware stores and drug stores, that liquor stores were considered essential. However, churches were not considered essential. I know that churches are places where large groups of people tend to gather in close proximity, but it did seem odd to me that liquor stores were more essential than churches.

I also learned that one of the first nonessential places to reopen will be golf courses. Again, I find it odd. I also heard that in Greece the hair salons will open before the churches. In my opinion, another oddity.

When times are uncertain people need their faith more than ever. When we think about it, all the best doctors and researchers have not been able to find a cure for this yet. All of the government officials have not been able to stop or even slow down the spread of the virus.

We, of course, have been obedient to our leaders and have followed all of the social distancing regulations and we have closed out the faithful and kept them away from church except for online services. We have done our best to



maintain our relationships with our people even with all of these limitations. In fact, I believe that we had more participation in our services because of our online presence this year than we would have if the churches had not been closed.

Having said all this, I have been sheltering in place and following all the protocols in order to be safe and keep my family and all those around me safe. In fact, I think I may buy stock in the hand lotion company since my hands are so dry from washing them so much.

In all seriousness, when I look at all the things our leaders have been telling us it seems that faith in God and His dominion over all of creation has been left out of all the provisions that have been put in place. It seems that now the churches are closed and the people are not supposed to gather, but why can't the people come in to light a candle and pray? Would that be bad for them or for society? The mentality which is being conveyed here is that our faith and the sacramental life of the church is somehow optional and unnecessary. That communion is unnecessary, marriage, unction, confession, and baptism are all unnecessary. If they can be adapted or changed to somehow fit our health and safety protocols then we can allow our people to have them but otherwise, participation in the church and faith and sacraments is bad for you and those around you.

It has happened many times in the life of the church that Christians have been driven “underground” because of persecutions by governments or other entities. What we are hearing now is not that we are being outlawed as a faith but that it seems that what we do and our way of conveying our faith and living our faith has been temporarily outlawed. This concerns me because I don’t know what our church will look like when all this is in the past. We may have to contend with legislation that dictates how we express and live our faith in the name of protecting us from our faith which has been practiced for 2000 years. We may have to go “underground” to engage in and live our faith.

I am certainly not suggesting that we should rebel against our civil leaders who I believe are doing their best to protect us and keep us safe. I am however, reminding our people to think critically about what we are being told and to remember that our church is a sacramental church which means we have contact with God through Holy Communion, Holy Confession, Holy

Unction, Holy Water, etc. If we cease to have contact with God and each other for the long run because we are practicing social distancing, then we will cease to be the Orthodox Church. We could wind up being a people who are trying to live our faith without our church, but that is an oxymoron. It cannot be. The sacramental life of the church is essential to living our Orthodox Faith. Without the sacraments and without the gathering of the people we change our faith and we cease to be the Orthodox Church.

Friends, I bring this to your attention because we are in danger of unwittingly giving up our Orthodox Faith in the name of safety or health. As if being an Orthodox Christian and living our faith was something dangerous or unhealthy. It is my prayer that the pandemic passes and that we go back to life as it was before all this happened, but I think it will be like things were after the 9/11 attacks in 2004. The world will be altered our lives will be altered but we should not allow our Orthodox Faith or the way we live it to be altered.

REFLECTION

As long as you are on earth, consider yourself a **guest in the household of Christ**. If you are at table, it is He who honors you. If you breathe air, it is His air you breathe. If you bathe, it is in His water you bathe. If you travel, it is over His land that you travel. If you amass goods, it is His goods you amass. If you squander them, it is His goods that you squander.

If you are powerful, it is because He allows you to be strong. If you are in the company of men, you and the others are His guests. If you are out in nature, you are in His garden. If you are alone, He is present. If you set out somewhere, He sees you. If you do anything, He remembers it.

He is the most considerate Householder Who ever hosted you. Be considerate then toward Him. In a good household, the guest is required to behave. These are all simple words, but they convey to you a great truth. All the saints knew this truth, and they governed their lives by it. That is why the Eternal Householder rewarded them with eternal life in heaven and with glory on earth.

[From The Prologue of Ohrid, Saint Nikolai Velimirovic for March 6th](#)



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS ^{OF} NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Great and Holy Pascha 2020

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council, Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood, Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools, Directors and Participants of all Youth Organizations, and all devout Orthodox Christians of the Communities of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen!

The Light of the world has been transmitted to our hearts and souls today and we have been promised new life in Christ through His Holy Resurrection. The ancient curse that had been placed over the human race was lifted as we received the opportunity to inherit eternal life. Although our Lord is all-powerful and the Light and Life of the world, He had to endure the Cross in order for us to experience His Resurrection as well. He had to withstand the mocking, the scourging, the suffering, the pain, the agony, the nails, the piercing, and the crown of thorns. Though our Lord endured this multitude of sufferings, we know that *“through the Cross, joy has come to the whole world”*. He endured the darkness of the tomb for three days before rising from the dead and granting us the hope and joy of His Resurrection. It is the Resurrection where we find our peace and hope. Our Lord’s triumph over death and His defeat of the power of Hades gives us hope not only in the common Resurrection of all humanity and in the Kingdom to come, but it gives us hope and encouragement as we endure our own difficulties in these present times.

Much like the darkness of Christ’s tomb prior to the Resurrection, we have experienced profound darkness these past several weeks as family, friends, kinsmen, and neighbors have become afflicted with the deadly Coronavirus. These events have brought many people to the brink of despair and they have tested the spiritual fortitude of countless persons. As we continue to endure the viciousness of this virus, we must remember that, though we may currently be in darkness, we also see before us the Light of the Resurrection.

The Psalmist tells us, *“Weeping may endure for the night, but joy comes in the morning”* (Ps. 30:5). There is no doubt that our hearts and souls have been aching and weeping these past few weeks, but let us not forget that the morning is now coming with the unwaning Light of Christ. Therefore, let us be renewed in our faith and emboldened in our commitment because Christ, having risen from the dead, has offered us our own resurrection and new life. As Orthodox Christians who believe in the physical Resurrection of Christ, let us express this joy not only in words, but in actions. Let us express our hope so that we can inspire those who have lost hope. Let us express our faith to encourage those whose faith may have been shaken. Let us bolster our commitment to God and to the Church so that we may motivate others to develop a deeper relationship with Him.

My beloved in the Lord, as we celebrate Great and Holy Pascha, I implore you to gather with your families in prayer and to give thanks to God, celebrating the Resurrection of Christ with unfettered joy since it is through His Resurrection that we have the possibility to attain eternal life. Let the hope of the Resurrection be our rock and our strength each and every day of our lives as we exclaim and proclaim the Risen Christ and His Gospel. Praying that Christ, our King and God, blesses you and your families with good health and every good and perfect gift from above I remain,

With Paternal Love and Blessings in the Risen Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'M'.

† E V A N G E L O S
Metropolitan of New Jersey

Πρός τόν εὐλαβέστατον Ἱερόν Κληρόν,
Τούς Ἐντιμοτάτους Ἀρχοντας τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου,
Τούς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Ἐκκλησιαστικῶν Συμβουλίων,
Τάς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Φιλοπτώχων Ἀδελφοτήτων,
Τούς διδάσκοντας καί διδασκομένους τῶν Κατηχητικῶν καί Ἑλληνικῶν Σχολείων, Τάς
Ὁργανώσεις τῆς Νεολαίας καί ἅπαν τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῶν εὐσεβῶν
Ὁρθόδοξων Χριστιανῶν τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ἱερσής.

*«Χθές συνεθαπτόμην σοι, Χριστέ, συνεγείρομαι σήμερον ἀναστάντι σοι συνεσταυρούμην
σοι χθές· αὐτός με συνδόξασον, Σωτήρ, ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου»*

(Τροπάριον Κανόνος Ἀναστάσεως)

Ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί,

Μέ αὐτά τά θεσπέσια λόγια τοῦ Ἁγίου Γρηγορίου τοῦ Θεολόγου, πού ἀποτυπώνονται καί στόν Ἀναστάσιμο Κανόνα, περιγράφεται χαρακτηριστικά τό νόημα τῆς Ἀναστάσεως τοῦ Κυρίου.

Χθές, Μεγάλη Παρασκευή, ὁ Χριστός μας εἰσῆλθε στόν Θεοδόχο Τάφο καί μαζί Του εἰσῆλθαμε καί ἐμεῖς, οἱ πιστοί καί ἀφοσιωμένοι Ὁρθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί. Ἄλλωστε, ὅλη τήν Μεγάλη ἐβδομάδα ἀκολουθήσαμε τόν Κύριο σέ ὅλα τά γεγονότα πού ἔλαβαν χώρα: ἀπό τήν Εἴσοδό Του στήν Ἁγία Πόλη Ἱερουσαλήμ, στήν ἀγωνία τῆς Γεσθημανῆς, στήν Προδοσία, στήν Σύλληψη, στά φρικτά βασανιστήρια καί τά Θεία Πάθη, στήν ἄνοδο στόν Γολγοθά, κουβαλώντας τόν βαρῦ Σταυρό, στό Θεοδόχο Μνήμα καί σήμερα καλούμαστε ὅλοι νά συν-ἀναστηθοῦμε μαζί Του.

Χθές, συσταυρωθήκαμε μέ τόν Χριστό καί σήμερα συνεγειρόμεθα. Συν-ἀνασταίνομαστε. Αὐτή εἶναι ἀδελφοί μου ἡ ἀλήθεια τῆς ζωῆς αὐτῆς. Ὁ Σταυρός καί ἡ Ἀνάσταση. Ὁ Γολγοθάς καί τό κενό μνημεῖο. Αὐτές τίς ἡμέρες βιώνουμε ὅλοι μας μιά καινούρια πραγματικότητα, πού δέν εἶναι καθόλου εὐχάριστη οὔτε γιά τήν ἀνθρωπότητα, οὔτε γιά τούς πιστούς μας. Ἡ ἐξάπλωση τῆς πανδημίας τοῦ κορονοϊοῦ ἄλλαξε τήν καθημερινότητά μας, μᾶς περιορίσε, μᾶς ἔδειξε τήν ἀδυναμία τοῦ ἀνθρωπίνου γένους, τήν μικρότητά μας καί συνάμα τήν ἀνικανότητα τῶν ἰσχυρῶν τῆς γῆς καί τῶν διανοουμένων νά ἀντιμετωπίσουν ἕναν ἀόρατο μικροσκοπικό ἐχθρό. Χιλιάδες συνάνθρωποί μας προσβλήθηκαν ἀπό τόν ἴο καί ἀπό αὐτούς πολλοί ἔχασαν τήν ζωή τους. Οἱ δημόσιες συγκεντρώσεις ἀπαγορεύτηκαν ἀπό τίς Ἀρχές καί οἱ ἀγαπημένες μας Ἐκκλησίες σταμάτησαν νά δέχονται τούς πιστούς ἐν σώματι. Ὅμως ἡ Ἐκκλησία μας

δέν θά σταμάτησει ποτέ νά λειτουργεῖ καί νά διακονεῖ τόν πιστό λαό Της. Ἡ Ἐκκλησία μας ποτέ δέν θά πάψει νά μᾶς μεταδίδει τό μήνυμα τῆς ἐλπίδας καί τῆς ἐλευθερίας πού εἶναι ὁ Χριστός! Αὐτό σημαίνει Ἀνάσταση. Ἡ νίκη τῆς ζωῆς ἐπὶ τοῦ θανάτου καί τῆς φθορᾶς. Ὁ θάνατος καί ἡ φθορά εἰσηλθάν στήν ζωή μας ἐξαιτίας τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν μας. Οἱ ἀρρώστειες ἤρθαν ἐξαιτίας τῶν λαθῶν μας. Τό κακό βασιλεύει ἐξαιτίας τῶν ἐπιλογῶν μας. Ὁ Χριστός μας ὅμως ἀναστήθηκε τότε, καί ἀνασταίνεται σήμερα, καί ἀνασταίνεται καθημερινά γιά νά μᾶς δείξει ὅτι Ἐκεῖνος εἶναι ὁ Βασιλεύς τοῦ κόσμου, Ἐκεῖνος διακυβερνᾷ τά σύμπαντα καί ἐμεῖς, ὅση δύναμη κοσμική καί νά ἔχουμε, δέν εἴμαστε τίποτε ἄλλο ἀπό διαχειριστές τοῦ πανέμορφου κόσμου πού ἔπλασε ὁ Δημιουργός τοῦ Σύμπαντος, ὁ Θεός.

Ἐπιπλέον, ὡς πιστοί Ὁρθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί καλούμαστε νά σταυρώνουμε τόν ἑαυτό μας καθημερινά, μιμούμενοι τό παράδειγμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ μας, καί νά μὴν ξεχνοῦμε νά ἀνασταινόμαστε μαζί Του. Νά σταυρώνουμε τά πάθη μας καί τίς ἀδυναμίες μας, νά μετανοοῦμε, καί νά σηκωνόμαστε ἀπό τήν πτώση καί τόν λήθαργο. Αὐτή ἡ συν-ἀνάσταση ἀγαπητοί μου θά ἔλθει σύντομα καί γιά τόν κόσμο μας, μέ τήν ἀπαλλαγὴ μας ἀπό τήν μάστιγα τῆς ἀσθενείας καί τήν ἐπιστροφή μας στήν κανονικότητα τῆς καθημερινότητας καί τοῦ ἀγῶνα τῆς ζωῆς.

Ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί,

Σήμερα πού ἐορτάζουμε τήν Ἀνάσταση, ἀς προσευχηθοῦμε θερμά καί πιστά, ἀπ' ὅπου καί ἂν βρισκόμαστε, γιά τήν ἀποκατάσταση τῆς ἀσφάλειας στόν κόσμο μας. Ἀς εὐχαριστήσουμε τόν Θεό γιά τίς δωρεές του καί ἀς λάβουμε ἕνα καλό μάθημα ἀπό τήν κατάσταση αὐτή. Ἀς ἐπιστρέψουμε στόν Θεό καί τήν Ἐκκλησία. Ἀς ἐπιστρέψουμε ὄχι μόνο σωματικά ἀλλά οὐσιαστικά. Μέ ἀφοσίωση, μετάνοια, εὐχαριστία καί ἀγάπη ὁ ἕνας γιά τόν ἄλλον. Τότε καί μόνο τότε θά ἐορτάσουμε ἀληθινὴ ἀνάσταση.

Αὐτὴ τήν φετινὴ ιδιαίτερη Ἀνάσταση, χωρισμένοι σωματικά μεταξύ μας, εὐχομαι σέ ὅλους νά νιώσουμε περισσότερο τήν παρουσία τοῦ Χριστοῦ στην ζωή μας καί ἡ Ἀνάστασή Του νά γίνεῖ ἀφορμὴ νά ἀναστηθοῦμε ὅλοι πνευματικά καί σωματικά. Σᾶς εὐχομαι ὑγεία καί μακροημέρευση, σᾶς ἐκφράζω τήν εἰλικρινῆ μου ἀγάπη καί σᾶς διαβεβαιώνω ὅλους γιά τίς προσευχές μου.

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΠΟΛΛΑ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΛΟΓΗΜΕΝΑ!

Μετά πατρικῆς ἀγάπης καί ἀναστασίμων εὐχῶν,

Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ



+ Ὁ Νέας Ἱερσέης ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ

PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to all our community members who took the time to complete the parish survey last spring. The Parish Council has taken time to review and evaluate the responses to determine how we can better serve you, our community. Below is a summary of the results and the action plan developed by the Parish Council.

Impressions:

The overall survey did not provide any remarkable results. The respondents are overall happy with St. Andrew and Father John and our community. There seems to be an overall willingness to get involved (giving time and talent). However, concerning was that the respondents recognize the church is not in a strong financial position, yet the answers indicate they are not willing to increase stewardship. Why is that?

Based on the comments provided the following themes emerged:

Pros

- A strong sense of community
- A good variety of programs centered around faith and cultural outreach
- Fr. John's spiritual guidance
- A faith centered community

Cons

- Services are too lengthy
- Enhance the Cantor/Choir
- Need to be more welcoming
- Eliminate both Greek and English during the services and sermon and opt for one language (English)
- Need for activities to bring young college age students into the community
- Need for more widespread participation from parishioners

Action Plan

The Parish Council has discussed the concerns presented in the survey and are working to address each of the common themes presented:

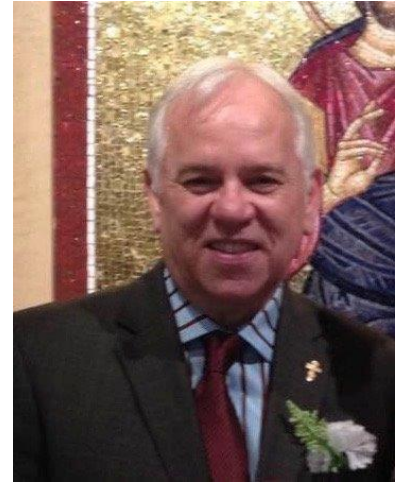
- Lengthy Sunday Liturgy (currently implemented by Fr. John)
 - Eliminate the sermon in Greek
 - Have choir hymns sung more efficiently
- Cantor/Choir
 - A new cantor was hired
 - Ongoing efforts to enhance the choir
- Eliminate both Greek and English during the services and sermon and opt for one language (English)
 - Evaluate the use of Greek and English during liturgy and fine tune
- A subcommittee of the Parish Council is working to address the following:
 - Need to be more welcoming
 - Need to provide activities to bring young college age students into the community
 - Need for more widespread participation from parishioners

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact Athena Borzeka at aborzeka@gmail.com.

DISCOVERING THE ORTHODOX CHURCH AT HOME:

Due to the extraordinary circumstances requiring everyone to stay indoors and not be able to attend Divine Liturgy on Sundays, many Orthodox Christians discovered how much our homes have become mini Churches. That being true, our faith has always been part of our home because we celebrate our faith in Church that has always been said to be an extension of our home. This year this rang true. We discovered that the icons we have aren't just wall decorations but Holy relics that help us communicate our prayers, reflect with our Patron Saint, and focus on Panagia and Christ. We venerate our icons, and our homes with incense. Many of sprinkled holy water around our homes and all of us were able to watch through YouTube or online the Divine Liturgy and all Holy Week services. However I think the greatest realization is although we were able to do some things at home we realized how much we miss our Church, our Priest, hearing the Choir, hearing the Psaltis and being a member of the community of Faith. We all need to cherish our

Church and spiritual life. When the right time comes for us to return to our Church we should return with tears of humility, appreciation, and gratitude for having the opportunity to practice, share, and celebrate our Faith. I pray that almighty God bless, protect, and watch over all the families of St Andrew.



In His Service, Tony Bosco

CHANTER AT SAINT ANDREW - *PSALTIS ΨΑΛΤΗΣ*



Fotinis Panagiotis (Takis)

Panagiotis (Takis) came to the United States in 1983 from the village of Agios Isidoros on the island of Rhodes. He attended Rutgers University and received his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark. He joined the community of Saint Andrew in 1989 and since 1999 lives in Succasunna with his wife Vasiliki and their two children Spyridoula and Emmanuel. He started learning Byzantine chant at Saint Andrew's in 1994 and joined the Romeiko Ensemble and the New Jersey Metropolis Byzantine choir. He served as a chanter at Saints Nicholas, Constantine and Helen in Orange from 2007 to 2019 and at Saint Demetrios in Union from 2019 to 2020. As of April 1st he has returned back to Saint Andrew to fulfil the position of Chanter.

Welcome back Taki!

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL UPDATE

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ
CHISTOS ANESTI

ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ
ALITHOS ANESTI

I pray that this message finds you all well! I'd like to update you on Greek School. My thanks to all of you for your involvement with your children's studying these last few weeks under sometimes trying circumstances. As per our original schedule, teachers did **not** hold online or teleconference classes on Holy Thursday. This service, along with most others, was being broadcasted on the St. Andrew Facebook page and I know many of you and your children tuned in so that we were able to observe our holidays in a virtual but still collective manner.

As for classes, we will continue virtual lessons until otherwise instructed by the state and Diocese. Report cards that were scheduled for last month have been postponed until the end of the year. Teachers continue to take class attendance however, and it would benefit all the children to check in weekly.

As we are forced to make these changes to deal with the current global situation, we need your full



cooperation to keep your kids learning! Our teachers are anxious to ensure they can relate their lessons and keep their students engaged. New lessons are being conducted weekly and all classes will be involved in an end of the year project. We have tried to get lessons out to everyone but, if you have not made contact with your teacher, now is the time to do so.

We are striving to make sure your kids get the best experience we can possibly provide.

On that note, several teachers have suggested pursuing a supplementary summer Greek School program. You will receive a separate email with a short Survey Monkey to complete. Please submit it so we can decide if we have adequate interest to develop a program. The focus will be on conversation, grammar skills, and review of thematic material from the yearlong curriculum. We are proposing to conduct it during the month of July. Please let us know if you may be interested.

Salomi Massaras

SPECIAL FESTIVAL FUND.

The Church needs a commitment from all of us to **fulfill** our **Stewardship**, continue our normal **weekly contributions** and **donate** to the special **Festival Fund**.

Pay Pal and **WeShare** are available on our **Saint Andrew Website**: <https://www.standrewgonj.org>

Η Εκκλησία χρειάζεται δέσμευση από όλους ότι θα **εκπληρώσουμε** την Οικονομία μας, θα συνεχίσουμε τις **εβδομαδιαίες συνεισφορές** μας και θα κάνουμε **δωρεά** στον ειδικό **Έρανο** του **Φέστιβαλ**.



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

PHILOPTOCHOS



CHISTOS ANESTI Update April 20, 2020

PHILOPTOCHOS

MISSION

To promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach

to preserve the sanctity of life and family and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions.

The Executive Board

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Mary Michailidis

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2nd Vice President

Maria Daniskas

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Irene Karoly

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Jeanie Kalas

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Salomi Massaras

Advisor to Board

Eleni Constantinides

Writing this Philoptochos update took a great deal of contemplation as so many of us are struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After watching Archbishop Elpidophoros' webinar on April 11th, I was inspired with the idea that the good from this evil will be that we will have moved closer to God and to the church as we search for understanding. Streaming services of Father John has helped us stay connected to our church and gives us an opportunity to study are faith through a different medium.

At this time, I wanted to inform the Saint Andrew community of the Ministry's Outreach. Below is a list of how the Saint Andrew Philoptochos is helping those in need during this time. If you know of anyone or any organization that should be considered for our support, please contact me at mmichailidis@yahoo.com or 203-249-9390.

- \$500 donation to the Interfaith food pantry to support feeding the needy.
- \$500 donation to Family Promise for housing or food for the homeless.
- \$1,300 in grocery gift cards donations to 11 needy families from Sandshore school.
- \$250 donated to Mount Olive High School to offset cost of materials to produce 3D masks to donate to local hospitals as part of their PPE.
- \$1000 donated to National Philoptochos Emergency fund/COVID-19 Pandemic crisis.

Also, I am proud to say that our Philoptochos team of "Calling Angels" is reaching out again to our Saint Andrew Parishioners to check in on them and their families. The parishioners have only voiced their pleasure and sincere thanks for another caring Saint Andrew Parishioner taking the time to reach out to them.

Lastly summarized below are the major April and May Philoptochos events that have occurred, been updated or postponed:

April 2020

Easter Tsoureki Sale-SOLD OUT: Thank you to all that purchased a Tsoureki and to Betty Kelly for her Herculean efforts to make sure the nuns of Agia Skepi were supported during this time.

Bake Sale: Baklava, Koulourakia, Kourambiedes, Melomakarona are available for purchase due to the cancelation of the June Festival.

General Philoptochos Meeting: Tuesday, April 28th: will be a combination of Zoom and Teleconference. Check your emails for further updates.

May 2020

Tricky Tray- POSTPONED: from May 8th to October 9th.

Philoptochos Scholarship application: Maria Daniskas, midaez@aol.com by May 15th

May God bless you and your families during these trying times and always.

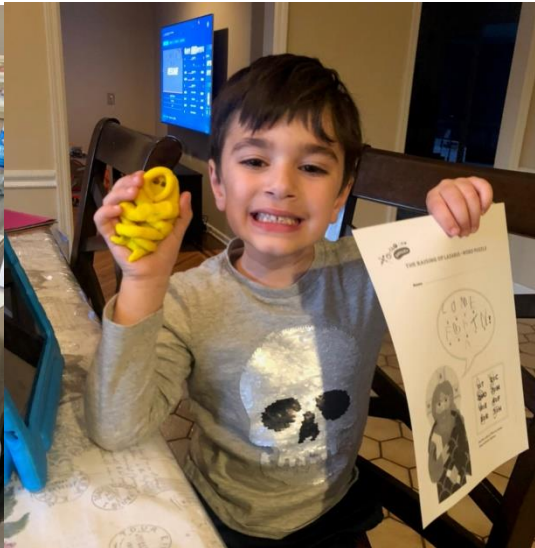
Mary H. Michailidis

Mary H. Michailidis, President
Saint Andrew Philoptochos

SAINT ANDREW PTA

Χριστός Ανέστη! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Despite being home in quarantine, the children of St. Andrew found creative ways to uphold Orthodox Easter traditions such as making Koulourakia, and dying Easter eggs; while making some new traditions such as creating their very own Epitafio's, and Palm crosses out of construction paper. Even though our Saturday of Lazarus celebration was canceled, the children still celebrated the day by making Lazarakia, and Lazarus puppets. It may seem that our lives are on pause, but our faith is growing more and more each day! We cannot wait to come back to Saint Andrew to see our friends, teachers, and loved ones again!



Αληθώς Ανέστη!

TRULY HE IS RISEN



FAITH KITCHEN IN THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

The need for food is greater than it has ever been and the Saint Andrew Feed the Hungry Ministry is continuing with its mission to help feed the homeless and food insecure. Even during this time of chaos, volunteers donned their masks and gloves and took time to cook, package and distribute food to those who are even more vulnerable.

I wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you to John Paxos, Irene and John Laoudis and Irene Sergonis for volunteering, without hesitation, their help in March. It was the beginning of the period of quarantine and there were plenty of unknowns and a great deal of fear. I wanted to extend an equally sincere thank you to John Paxos, Eleni Boyadjis, Chrissy Borzeka and Betty Kelly for all of their help in April. Despite the fact that we were appropriately socially distanced and our faces were covered with masks, we prepared and packaged the food with smiles and welcome conversation. Additionally, for the first time, we made meals for distribution to several Saint Andrew community families. Mary Michailides and Dr. Nicholas Sauter delivered the meals to our own parishioners. Thanks, Mary and Nick! We hope to continue these community distribution efforts in the coming months.

Our next Faith Kitchen is scheduled for May 23rd. We are able to continue to



provide our services because of the generosity of the other ministries. Each month Philoptochos, Parish Council, Daughters of Penelope/AHEPA or GOYA sponsors Faith Kitchen. Faith Kitchen also receives donations in the form of money or food and paper goods from our very generous parishioners -- a warm thank you to Chris and Jim Paxos of the Plaza Restaurant in Boonton for donating the bread rolls needed to make the sandwiches in April.

You also can help by donating to the cost of the meal, donating food items, sponsoring the meal in memory of a loved one, and/or volunteering to serve.

If you are interested in helping this important ministry, please contact Georgia Haglund at thehaglundfamily@comcast.net.



THIS DAY - REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

COVID-19 has become the single focus in each of our lives. This virus, in its short time, has up-ended how we live each day. We have all lived through numerous threats of war and natural disasters, but nothing has been as humbling as this little life form. We have been forced to re-learn, to do routines out of our homes, to get re-acquainted with family members, and to be inventive. Sadly, many struggle with job loss, food availabilities, psychological reactions, and spiritual matters. Never have Churches been closed and the Eucharist denied. Many questions arise and faith is called to examining itself. People interpret without adequate knowledge and many false teachings abound. Eschatological scenarios are born out of

fear rather than sound Scriptural and Traditional knowledge. Fears empower false teachings and insufficient knowledge concerning spiritual matters compounds these fears. This needs to stop.

God always calls us to respond out of our context. We live in the presence of God in a very real present time and place. God has never been allotted Sunday as the only day of worship. And is it worship if done one day of the week? Try to recall the effort you may have made getting ready for that first very important date with someone you so anxiously wanted to meet. How much time was spent in preparation, making sure that you were bringing your best to that occasion. Why this much

effort? Because of the value given to the person you were about to meet and to the significance of the meeting for your life. Do we come before God this way? Is there this anticipation of being in God's presence that causes extra preparation? And when that moment in the Eucharist arrives, when we are about to embrace Christ in His Body and Blood, are we lost in Him? Do we leave as if walking on air because we have been accepted by Him, that He truly loves "Me"? Who will wait for another Sunday to meet Christ once more when each day, each moment, you are in His presence because He loves you continuously even when you falter?

The Body and Blood of Christ are the transformed substances of this world. Each of us is in constant need of nourishment. We need to see the privilege of food; we need to honor it. The virus is making us aware of food because there are now limits, even shortages. The comfortable excess that has led to enormous waste has been threatened. We may not get the things we want. How do we receive the things we get? "Give us THIS day our Daily Bread" is living fully in this moment, this only day, because tomorrow is not yet. God provided Manna to the liberated Jews, lost in the wilderness, only for the day and warned against storing up for tomorrow. Those who disregarded the warning found all that they stored had become moldy and inedible. Scripture gives us only THIS day, and we are called to "rejoice, for THIS is the day the Lord has made".

To rejoice in this way is to get ourselves out of the way. Excessive focus on yourself diminishes God's presence, and this leads to less worship and less prayer and usually considerably more complaining. The usual question "Why God?" begins to vex us away from God. There is this insane notion that somehow God has to make sense to us, that God needs to meet our commandments. Again,



Christ adamantly calls us to His commandments, not ours.

The reason for all of this is simple, yet hidden, because we live in denial. Sin, the separation from God who is life, makes the soul sick. This is a sickness unto death and ought to be recognized for its urgency. But the world distracts us from seeing the soul's illness and pretends that we are perfectly fine. Until we begin to recognize the signs of the soul's illness, we will continue to live in this false sense of fineness. Sadly, each THIS day of neglect only deepens the soul's illness. Then something happens and suddenly we realize the inadequacies of our denials. Such a crisis is upon us. Our self-sufficiency has been shattered by an imperceptible life form. Fear of death has become very real. How do we stand in our spiritual life? Have we any right to cry out to God whom we have ignored in all of our excessive living?

Here is where we discover that God is the Father waiting in the road for our return, a Father who is not embarrassed to run to us and embrace us in our condition. God restores, covers every scar of lostness with redemption, and offers the "fatted calf" in order to rejoice because what was "lost is found!". What can be more wonderful? But you have to return, repent, seek forgiveness, and allow God to be God.

This virus will change us all. Which direction will you take? Will you "curse God and die" or yield yourself up to God? The Cross will never be removed from anyone. You cannot follow Christ and live pain free. Maybe you don't like that but if you could understand who you are and what it means to stand THIS day before God's presence out of your context, don't you think God is there to meet you and make THIS date one in which you can rejoice?

Christos anesti!

Submitted by bHerb Schuster

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

05-10-2020 All day

The life of the Paralytic, who waited at the sheep pool, which in Hebrew is called Bethesda, was dramatic. For thirty eight years he was paralyzed and abandoned. Alone, amongst so many ill people and fellow country men, waited with patiently the miraculous movement of the waters, which cured the first person to fall in. In this environment Christ meets with the paralytic. God meets with His creation. The God-man with man.



Christ approached with philanthropic intentions the Paralytic and asks him: “Do you want to be sound?” The Lord with discretion asks, in order to cure; with love He seeks, in order to save.

The Paralytic waited patiently for thirty eight whole years and his hopes were never wear down, he never disbelieved, he never drew back. He awaited, although all his friends and relatives had abandoned him. Everyone returned back to their homes, works, families, because they saw that nothing is happening. In vain they were trying to help their relative, to throw him in the pool. Meanwhile others, more advanced, were healed and he remained ill. Their faith and hopes had wear away and they abandon him. The paralytic expressed his complain to Christ by saying, Lord, I have no one to assist me”.

Lord, I have no one! I have no relatives! I have no friends! I haven't any fellow man, who would like to stay with me! I remained alone, in the loneliness

of my illness and my sufferings, and no one is found to offer me help!

Every day, the five galleries of the pool of Bethesda were full of crowds and invalid, but nevertheless no one was willing to share the Paralytic's sufferings. As, today, millions of people suffer from different bodily or spiritual diseases, and all with one voice cry out: “Lord, we have no one”! Diseases, which torment man and deliver him to depression and affliction; to isolation and

loneliness; and man cries out with a loud voice: “Lord, we have no one”!

Affliction and pain are interwoven with our life. Wealth and material goods do not prevent their invasion into our life. They are brought in by the malaises and sicknesses of our beloved ones. They are brought in by the ingratitude of friends and relatives. They are brought in by the slanders and mucks. They are brought in by suspiciousness and misunderstandings. They are brought in, when our work and services are not recognized; by feelings, which were reputed and hopes, which were never fulfilled. Affliction and pain stand before man's life and knock the door of all. They do not know anyone or any society, conditions or positions. They do not distinguish between poor and rich, learned or illiterate.

The Paralytic of today's Gospel reading, followed a program of a sinful way of life. The Lord, is not satisfied to cure him. The sins of the paralytic had

ruined him. It would be worthy to cure him, but under the precondition, that he will sin no more.

Sin and the prodigal way of life are the reasons of man's different tribulations. Our moral and family sufferings have their roots in our own desires. We cause them with our own foolish behavior and sinful deeds. And because of this reason, our Lord commended the Paralytic, "You have become well; sin no more, so that nothing worse happens to you" in other words, now you have been healed, be careful not to practice a sinful life, in order that nothing worse happens to you.

Unfortunately, although all of us know that this advice is so logical and true, we tend to violate it. We allow our pride to overrule our logic. We run the risk of participating in mischievously amusements, irrational alcoholism, paranoid smoking, unnecessary vigils when playing cards, unlawfully sexual relationships, and calamitous companies with evil men.

How many times, although we had promise, that we shall not sin, we had found ourselves in the mortal tentacles of sin? How many times, although we had the will to withstand to our sinful desires, we had from the first moments surrendered to the

passions of the flesh? How many times we felt strong, but have been proven weak?

If the soul is not under God's Grace, sin will always prevail. Sin drags and humiliates man. The Prophet David says, "If the Lord has not built the city, in vain the builders labor. If the Lord has not protected the city, in vain the guards watched all night".

When man sins, he sins with an ill will, without moral strength. Thus man, who becomes a slave to sin, is compared to an ungovernable ship, which has no helm, neither compass nor anchor. This condition makes man paralytic spiritually and bodily. At the end he is dragged to death itself. St. Paul, the Great Apostle of the Nations, says, "The bread of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). "How miserable am I' who will deliver me from this body of death?" and he answers, "through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 7:24-25), because "the grace of God is eternal life" (Rom. 6:23).

And truly, my beloved friends, sin can be overcome only with the assistance of God's Grace. Our Lord has assured us saying, "that without Me you can achieve nothing" (John 15:5).

info@greekorthodox.org.au

GREEK Orthodox
ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA 

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΡΑΛΥΤΟΥ

(Ιω. 5,1-15) | Μιχαήλ Χούλη | Θεολόγος

Κοντά στην προβατική πύλη του φρουρίου των Ιεροσολύμων, απ' όπου οδηγούσαν τα πρόβατα για τις θυσίες, υπήρχε (και σώζεται μέχρι σήμερα) μια δεξαμενή που στα Εβραϊκά λέγεται Βηθεσδά, δηλαδή «σπίτι αγάπης» ή «οίκος ευσπλαχνίας» και είχε πέντε στοές (υπόστεγα με καμάρες). Σ' αυτές κείτονταν πολλοί άρρωστοι, τυφλοί, κουτσοί,

παράλυτοι, που περίμεναν να αναταραχθεί το νερό. Γιατί κάπου-κάπου ένας άγγελος κατέβαινε στη δεξαμενή κι ανατάραζε το νερό. Ο πρώτος λοιπόν που έμπαινε μετά την ταραχή του νερού γινόταν καλά, απ' οποιαδήποτε αρρώστια και αν υπέφερε. Δεν επρόκειτο δηλαδή για ιαματικά λουτρά, αλλά για ευεργεσία και έλεος από το Θεό,

αφού μόνο ο πρώτος κάθε φορά εισερχόμενος θεραπευόταν και μάλιστα από κάθε ασθένεια.

Εκεί υπήρχε ένας άνθρωπος που υπέφερε 38 χρόνια απ' την ασθένειά του. Δηλαδή όλοι τον γνώριζαν, ήξεραν την πάθησή του και πόσο ταλαιπωρημένος ήταν. Επομένως και η θεραπεία του από τον Χριστό, που θα φανεί στη συνέχεια, δεν ήταν παρά ένα ακόμη θαύμα από την πηγή της Χάριτος, τον Θεάνθρωπο Κύριο. Όταν τον είδε ο Ιησούς κατάκοιτο, και ξέροντας ότι πολύ καιρό ήδη βρισκόταν εκεί, του λέει: «Θέλεις να γίνεις καλά;». Του απάντησε ο άρρωστος: «Κύριε, δεν έχω κανέναν άνθρωπο για να με βάλει στη δεξαμενή, όταν παραχθεί το νερό. ενώ δε εγώ πλησιάζω, άλλος κατεβαίνει πριν από μένα». Ο Χριστός, αν και γνωρίζει τα βάθη των ανθρώπων, ρώτησε τον παραλυτικό για να προκαλέσει σ' αυτόν υπαρξιακή κίνηση επιστροφής και αγάπης προς τον Θεό. Ήθελε να ξυπνήσει την κοιμισμένη πνευματικότητα του αρρώστου και να την προσανατολίσει και πάλι προς μετάνοια και ζήτηση του απείρου ελέους του Κυρίου. Ιδιαίτερα ο σύγχρονος άνθρωπος ξεχνά τον Θεό και το νόημα της ζωής του, βουτηγμένος σε επίπλαστες πολλές φορές έγνοιες της καταναλωτικής κοινωνίας μας, ενώ «ενός έστι χρεία» (Λουκ. 10,42), όπως τονίζει ο Ιησούς. Δηλαδή, ένα πράγμα είναι κυρίως αναγκαίο: Η στροφή προς Αυτόν τον ίδιο, η σύναψη σχέσεων μαζί Του, η συνάντηση μετά του προσώπου Του, αφού είναι ο δοτήρ απάντων των αγαθών.

Του λέει ο Ιησούς: «Σήκω, πάρε το κρεβάτι σου και περπάτα». Κι αμέσως έγινε υγιής ο άνθρωπος και πήρε το κρεβάτι του και περπατούσε. Εμφανής είναι λοιπόν η παντοδυναμία του Θεού, με πλήθος θεραπειών που προσέφερε, όχι μόνο όσο ζούσε σωματικά εν μέσω των ανθρώπων, αλλά και δια των αμέτρητων θαυμάτων Του, που δια των αγίων επενεργούνται στο διάβα της ιστορίας.

Μα ήταν Σάββατο εκείνη την ημέρα. Έλεγαν λοιπόν οι Ιουδαίοι στον θεραπευμένο: «Είναι Σάββατο. δεν σου επιτρέπεται να σηκώνεις το κρεβάτι». Εδώ φαίνεται η σκληροκαρδία ορισμένων ανθρώπων, οι οποίοι δεν ενδιαφέρονται πραγματικά για τα προβλήματα και τις ανάγκες των άλλων, αλλά κυρίως για το γράμμα του νόμου και τους τύπους. Η γνήσια αγάπη όμως δεν μένει στα φαινόμενα, αλλά συναντά τα πρόσωπα και εφευρίσκει λύσεις, ελκύνοντας έτσι και την χάρη του Θεού. Για μας τους χριστιανούς η Κυριακή -το Σάββατο για τους Ιουδαίους- ανήκει πράγματι στο Θεό και τη λατρεία Του, εν παραλλήλω όμως με την υπηρεσία και προσφορά προς τους άλλους και όχι μονόπλευρα. Ο Χριστός είναι ο Κύριος του Σαββάτου. καί ως δημιουργός του κόσμου καί ως αρχηγός της Εκκλησίας. Γι' αυτό και θαυματουργούσε τα Σάββατα ώστε να καταλάβουν οι Ισραηλίτες πως έχουν μπροστά τους τον ίδιο τον Κύριο της δόξης και όχι έναν απλό άνθρωπο.

Μετά απ' αυτά, βρήκε ο Ιησούς στο ναό τον άλλοτε παραλυτικό και του είπε: «Δες, έγινες καλά. μην αμαρτάνεις πια, για να μην σου συμβεί τίποτα χειρότερο». Ο πρώην κατάκοιτος πήγε δηλαδή στο ναό για να ευχαριστήσει το Θεό για την υγεία που απέκτησε, πράγμα που διδάσκει και εμάς να μην ξεχνάμε το Θεό, αλλά να αποδίδουμε ευγνωμοσύνη και όχι αχαριστία. Ο Χριστός τον πληροφορεί ότι ο Θεός δεν αρέσκεται στην αμαρτία (αστοχία, αποτυχία ως προς την τελειοποίηση του προσώπου και το καθ' ομοίωση) και ότι αποσύρει την χάρη και το έλεος Του σε όσους δεν μετανοούν. Όχι γιατί δεν τους αγαπάει ο Θεός (είναι αλήθεια ότι δεν κάνει διακρίσεις ο Θεός), αλλά διότι εκ φύσεως είναι άγιος και δεν αναπαύεται στο κακό, την διαφθορά, την δουλεία στα πάθη. Και προσφέρει την προστασία του, την αγάπη και το φως του προσώπου Του σε εκείνους που οικειοθελώς τα δέχονται, τα αναζητούν και βαδίζουν εν ελευθερία στο θέλημά Του και όχι σε

εκείνους που τα αρνούνται, διότι δεν παραβιάζει ποτέ την θέληση των ανθρώπων. Έφυγε αμέσως μετά ο πρώην παράλυτος και ανάγγειλε στους Ιουδαίους (όχι από φθόνο, αλλά από ευγνωμοσύνη) την ευεργεσία του Θεού, αναγνωρίζοντας έτσι τον Ιησού ως σωτήρα και Θεό του. Η πράξη του επισημαίνει και σε μας να μην ξεχνάμε, αλλά και στους άλλους να μιλάμε για την αγάπη του Θεού, εκεί που υπάρχουν ευνοϊκές συνθήκες και μας ζητείται λόγος.

Ο παραλυτικός ήταν ολομόναχος. «Νεκρός» από οικογένεια, φίλους, συγγενείς, γνωστούς. Το φαινόμενο παρατηρείται ιδιαίτερα στις μεγαλουπόλεις όπου, αν και σφύζουν από ζωή, πολλοί άνθρωποι υποφέρουν από μοναξιά, δεν έχουν καμία παρηγοριά ή χωλαίνει η υγιής κοινωνικότητα. Όταν έχεις όμως τον Χριστό, έχεις τα πάντα. Ο ίδιος είναι δηλαδή το πλήρωμα της ζωής, η αφθονία του Πνεύματος. Όταν προσεύχεσαι σ' Αυτόν δεν σου αρνείται την απάντησή Του. Και δεν εγκαταλείπει το ποίμνιό Του, όπως η Εκκλησία –που είναι η συνέχειά Του επί της γης- συνδράμει ψυχοσωματικά τους ανθρώπους, χωρίς διακρίσεις. Αυτόν τον «νεκρό» οργανικά και κοινωνικά άνθρωπο, ο Χριστός «ανέστησε». Είναι ο χορηγός της Ζωής και της ψυχοσωματικής υγείας. Τον επανέφερε στο κοινωνικοθρησκευτικό πρότερο περιβάλλον του. Του προσέφερε τη δυνατότητα εργασίας, σύναψης συναισθηματικών σχέσεων, χαράς και ψυχαγωγίας. Δεν φτάνει όμως αυτό για να ζήσει κανείς εν τελειότητα ζωής. Απαιτείται η δωρεά του Παρακλήτου, της οποίας μόνο ο Ιησούς Χριστός είναι χορηγός

Ο παραλυτικός ήταν όπως φαίνεται άνθρωπος της υπομονής και της κατανόησης. Τον είχε οδηγήσει εκεί η βαριά ασθένειά του. Αποδεχόταν τους συνανθρώπους του όπως είναι. Με τα χαρίσματα και τις ατέλειές τους. Με τα μικρά και τα μεγάλα

ελαττώματά τους. Η αρρώστια, του προσέφερε ύψιστο μάθημα ζωής και ανθρωπιάς. Το μήνυμα προς όλους εμάς σήμερα είναι να μην αποθαρρυνόμαστε από την άδικη ενδεχομένως στάση ορισμένων εναντίον μας, αλλά να αφήνουμε την λύση στο Θεό και στο θέλημά Του, με την προσευχή και την ταπείνωσή μας. Εκεί που εμείς δεν μπορούμε να αλλάξουμε τον κόσμο, ας αφήνουμε με υπομονή την κτίση στα χέρια του Δημιουργού της. Εκείνος γνωρίζει και μεριμνά για όλα. Κυρίως να αντιληφθούμε ακόμη ότι, σε πολλές περιπτώσεις αρνητικών σχέσεων και σύγκρουσης με τους γύρω μας, στην ουσία, και αν ψάξουμε στο βάθος, ίσως να φταίμε εμείς και όχι οι άλλοι. Ο εγωισμός όμως δεν μας αφήνει να το διαπιστώσουμε.

Είναι αλήθεια πως αυτούς που έχουν εγκαταλείψει οι άνθρωποι επισκέπτεται ο Θεός. Ο Θεός δεν αφήνει μόνο και αβοήθητο τον άνθρωπο που υποφέρει. Κανένας δεν πρέπει να απελπίζεται. Όταν παρακαλάμε τον Θεό, εκείνος εκχέει την αγάπη του, **ΌΧΙ ΟΜΩΣ ΌΠΟΤΕ ΘΕΛΟΥΜΕ ΕΜΕΙΣ, ΑΛΛΑ ΌΠΟΤΕ ΕΚΕΙΝΟΣ ΚΡΙΝΕΙ ΣΩΣΤΟ**. Δεν πρέπει ποτέ ως χριστιανοί να ξεχνάμε ότι ανώτερη κατάσταση και από αυτήν την ψυχοσωματική υγεία είναι **Η ΣΧΕΣΗ ΚΑΙ ΣΥΝΑΝΤΗΣΗ ΜΕΣΩ ΤΗΣ ΠΙΣΤΗΣ, ΠΡΟΣΕΥΧΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΕΙΑΣ ΜΕΤΑΛΛΗΨΗΣ ΜΕ ΤΟ ΘΕΟ**. Αυτή σώζει και όχι η οργανική μόνο υγεία μας. Ο Χριστός με τις θεραπείες που πραγματοποίησε, και η Εκκλησία με το μυστήριο του Ευχελαίου και την αγιαστική Χάρη που εκείνος της χορήγησε, μάς δείχνουν ότι ο καινούργιος κόσμος του Θεού είναι απελευθέρωση από τη φθορά και το θάνατο και ζωή εν αγάπη και αδελφσύνη. Απαραίτητη προϋπόθεση είναι η μετάνοια και η ταπείνωση. Αυτός είναι ο υγιής δρόμος επανένωσης του ανθρώπου με τον Θεό και τους συνανθρώπους μας.

<https://www.impantokratoros.gr/DE98C309.el.aspx>

CAREGIVER'S WORKSHOP

Catherine Rabidis has permission from Father John to start a course to help caregivers and those that are given care because of their temporary or permanent disability. Both Father John and Catherine were very enthusiastic about starting the program.

Catherine went to the Ohio State University where she completed her Bachelor's Degree. She attended graduate school at the College of Charleston in South Carolina. She has two sons and has been teaching Sunday School for 10 years (she is currently one of the 5th Grade teachers). She spent 10 years in the Middle East while working for the US Government prior to moving to the private sector.

The Caregiver's Workshop covers a variety of issues and Catherine is extremely thorough in covering the many aspects of each topic. If one does not plan for his/her senior years when young and healthy enough to do so effectively, it could be too late to be able to plan at all. Catherine is a very warm and enthusiastic teacher about each topic presented. She often has guest speakers, specialists in their respective fields, who attend the workshop to provide expertise and answer questions. Nothing is off limits. They encourage open and frank discussion of issues that matter to the participants. In fact, if there is a topic you would like the Workshop to cover, please let Catherine know.

The topics covered in the Caregiver's Workshop include:

Signs of normal aging vs. dementia

Estate Planning

Grief and Bereavement

Extended Care Planning

The Care Continuum from independent living to

facility care

Reverse mortgages

Hospice Care

Medicare and Medicaid

Financial Preparedness

Caring for the Caregiver

Resources for seniors

At the end of the year, Catherine hopes to give a Resource Notebook containing valuable information regarding the key points of each topic along with the contact information for the speaker of the day. The topic I attended was fully informative and every aspect was fully covered. Every question one can possibly ask was answered correctly. The workshop is scheduled for the first Sunday of every month, however, one can check the bulletin or contact the office if there are any changes with the date. It is well worth your time and will put you on the right path to help you and your loved one. If you have a topic that is not scheduled on the list, I am sure Catherine could include it in the program. If you are a child caring for your elderly parent or grandparent, this is definitely well worth your time. We are very fortunate to have someone like Catherine to give up her time and talent for St. Andrew. God bless her always.



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THE REBUILDING OF THE CHURCH DESTROYED ON 9/11

The St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church sat at the foot of the World Trade Center before it was destroyed in the terrorist attacks that brought down the twin towers. Nearly 20 years later, it's rising again. 60 Minutes reported..

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/rebuilding-st-nicholas-greek-orthodox-church-destroyed-on-911-60-minutes-2020-04-09/>

After nearly 80 years, St. Nicholas was gone. Sitting in the shadows of the World Trade Center, the small Greek Orthodox church became the only house of worship destroyed on 9/11. What took minutes to fall, has taken years to rebuild, with challenges faced along the way testing the faith and perseverance of its parish. Scott Pelley reports on the efforts of the faithful in the U.S. and around the world, to remake a church and national shrine on the next edition of 60 Minutes, Sunday, April 12, at 7 p.m. ET/PT on CBS.

The new St. Nicholas is scheduled to open its doors on the 20th anniversary of 9/11 in 2021. For years the church stood its ground in the heart of downtown Manhattan even as developers pressured the congregation to sell. Jimmy Maniatis served as the president of the church for 34 years. His daughter, Regina Katopodis, told us that at one point they were offered \$15 million, yet her father refused. "There was absolutely no hesitation about it. My father spoke for all... There was not to be any compromise."

The congregation's resilience was even stronger after 9/11. The parish knew they had to rebuild. There was a lawsuit, disagreements over the site and a budget that exploded from its original estimate of \$20 million to \$85 million. It took years to get the project, near the 9/11 Memorial, off the ground; in 2016, a dome rose on the site. In 2017, money dried up and construction came to a halt. Funds meant for St. Nicholas had been diverted and mismanaged by the Archdiocese. The money



was eventually restored to the church fund, but two years later the Archbishop resigned and an independent board was installed to raise an additional \$45 million to finish the project.

Perhaps even more valuable than the real estate was the iconography that graced the old church's walls. Paintings depicting the lives of Jesus, Mary and the saints are the heart of the Greek Orthodox Church. Pelley traveled with 60 Minutes to Mount Athos, Greece's "Holy Mountain," where monks in centuries-old monasteries still practice the ancient tradition of iconography. The new church will find renewed life through the icons created by Father Lukas, one of Mt. Athos' master iconographers. 60 Minutes watched Father Lukas at work in his studio where he is crafting these modern masterpieces using traditional techniques that incorporate egg yolks into pigments.

Father Lukas believes the work is the most important of his life. "I personally want this church, through the iconography, to open up a new horizon for people," he tells Pelley. "That they will be helped to feel that 'communion...' and come away with hope. If this happens, the icons will have fulfilled their purpose."

With the new St. Nicholas scheduled to open its doors next year, Regina Katopodis maintains her father's determination, "There's been a lot of disappointment, a lot of rhetoric. But we still keep our eye on the prize," she says. In 100 years, she says, St. Nicholas church will remind us "that the good of mankind can conquer evil no matter what."

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A REFLECTION FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Who Else Will Raise the Next Generation of Orthodox Christians?

BY FR. GEORGE H. SHALHOUB

This Sunday, people throughout the United States and many places around the world will gather to honor their mothers. Many mothers will receive flowers, breakfast in bed, dinners and other acts of affection. For those who may be away from their children, they will have to be content with a phone call or a card in the mail. But, no matter how admirable this day has become for us in today's society, honoring one's mother should not be reduced to a one day activity, because mothers provide the foundation upon which we build our lives.

God gives every created human being a mother here on earth because He loves us. And even after our earthy mother precede us to Heaven, we still have our eternal mother (the Virgin Mary) who always keeps us in the shelter of her wings. As the late Mikhail Naimy stated, "Love is the law of God. You live that you may learn to love. You love that you may learn to live. No other lesson is required of Man."

It is a well-known fact that Christian scripture states that the role of instructing children belongs to their father. (Eph. 6:4) However, for many of us, especially those of us who come from the Middle East, this duty belongs to the mother.

What do mothers contribute to their children? Since God is the founder of the first family and every family on the face of this earth, the family is obligated to worship, praise and honor Him and keep His commandments. Therefore, the mother and father are an image of God to their children, and each has a different function, role and duty within the life of the family.



St. Paul stated in Ephesians, Chapter 5, that women are to be like the Holy Church: blameless and without reproach; and husbands are to be the image of Christ: serving and giving of his life to the Church. We do not enter into a debate of who is more important, more educated or makes more money. No one is greater than the other. Both were crowned, in the Sacrament of Marriage, with glory and honor and are, in God's eyes, equal in creation.

Women of faith, in Holy Scripture, are considered to be "pillars of support" (Proverbs 9:1) and "faithful". (I Tim 3:11) This equality is well put in the mouth of St. Paul, when he said, "Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God." (I Cor. 11:11-12) Since St. Paul gives this profound image of husbands and wives to be like Christ and the Church and the wife is to be like the Holy Church without distinction, Blessed Augustine once wrote, "He who does not have the church as his mother, does not have God as his father."

I can only speak to what my own mother contributed to my life and the lives of my siblings. I vividly recall that by the age of two, any time the church bells rang to signal a service, my mother would take me to church with her. I confess that being so young, I didn't understand what the worship was all about, and despite being disruptive during the service, as young children are apt to be, I still felt secure and happy within the boundaries of the church. This experience left a longstanding impression on me that caused me to learn a lifetime of lessons as a son, a young man, a husband, a father, a grandfather and of course as a priest.

The lessons instilled by a mother are those emphasized in 2 Peter that says that the seeds which are implanted in our hearts, minds and souls can produce virtues or thorns. A mother's words can either heal or scar her children. They can encourage or defeat. They can raise up, or put down. These virtues, whether good or bad determine what a child will be like as an adult, as unique individuals. We are a reflection of our parents' attitudes, yet we bear on ourselves God's image and likeness. Though we inherit genetics from our parents, we are original and individual in God's eyes. All the schooling we acquire and the careers we undertake hinge on the lessons we received from our mother. She is the scale which balances life's experiences. We either love or hate, are generous or greedy based on lessons we learn as children. Even though my mother was illiterate, she taught me the prayers of the Church which she knew by heart. I could summarize what the gospel teaches, what St. Peter insists makes a good life, and about being dedicated as a Christian based on things I learned from my mother, not through her words, but through her actions. She personified this idea from 2 Peter 1:5 "But also, for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue,

to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, godliness to brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love."

The calling of mothers is of self-giving for the sake of the family. St. John Chrysostom states, "A mother experiences more than one death, even though she herself will only die once. She fears for her husband; she fears for her children; again she fears for the women and children who belong to her children....For each of these, whether for loss of possessions, bodily illness or undesired misfortune, she mourns and grieves no less than those who suffer." Our image of mothers in the Holy Church is the Virgin Mary. John of Damascus describes her calling to motherhood, "O Mother of God! If I place my confidence in thee, I shall be saved; if I am under thy protection, I have nothing to fear; for the fact of being thy client is a possession of a certainty of salvation which God grants only to those whom He intends to save." This should be the mission of every mother.

The Bible, and especially Proverbs 6:20-23, advises us in this way, "My child, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you. For this command is a lamp, this teaching is a light and correction and instruction are the way to life." An old Arab proverb says that "Heaven bows before a mother's feet. The Book of Proverbs 31:1 also states, "Who can find a virtuous mother, she is more precious than jewels." As Henry Ward Beecher stated, "The mother's heart is the child's first school room."

Today, we are in need of the Church to raise women of faith. Who would take a bullet for you? Or catch a hand grenade? Or step in front of a train

for you? Or pray that God will take her instead of her child, but a mother? “A mother’s love is something that no one can explain. It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain. It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may, for nothing can destroy it or take that love away.” (Helen Steiner Rice)

As an adult, a man learns how to love his wife and children through the way he loves his mother and the way his mother loves him. A woman learns from the sacrifices of her mother. No one can teach decency, character and dignity but a mother. As children, our bodies are nourished through our mother’s milk and as we grow, our souls are nourished in the same way through the kindness, compassion and generosity she feeds us.

We are dealing with a new reality of moms and dads both working to meet life’s demands and

needs. The question to be asked, “Who can teach decency and respect, form character and dignity, but a mother?

A virtuous mother is so needed to instill in her children the faith we received from the saints. As Gibran Kahlil Gibran wrote, “The mother is everything - she is our consolation in sorrow, our hope in misery, and our strength in weakness. She is the source of love, mercy, sympathy, and forgiveness. He who loses his mother loses a pure soul who blesses and guards him constantly.”

On this Mother’s Day, we salute all mothers and those who are in heaven, we ask for their intercession. For those still on earth, we pray that God gives them a long and healthy life. If your mother has blessed you much, thank her. And if your mother has failed you, the best Mother’s Day gift you can give is to forgive her.

FATHER GEORGE SHALHOUB IS PRIEST AT [The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary](#) IN LIVONIA, MICHIGAN.

A MOTHER’S BEATITUDES

Blessed is the mother who understands her child, for she shall inherit a kingdom of memories.

Blessed is the mother who knows how to comfort, for she shall possess a child’s devotion.

Blessed is the mother who guides by the path of righteousness, for she shall be proud of her children.

Blessed is the mother who is never shocked, for she shall receive and know confidence and security.

Blessed is the mother who teaches respect, for she shall be respected.

Blessed is the mother who emphasizes the good and minimizes the bad, for her children shall follow her example.

Blessed is the mother who answers questions honestly, for she shall always be trusted.

Blessed is the mother who treats her children as she would like to be treated, for her home shall always be filled with happiness.



SAINT ANDREW PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP

The St Andrew Philoptochos invites you to submit an application for scholarship consideration. The students whose parents are Stewards of St Andrew Greek Orthodox Church are eligible. Please find Scholarship Application (additional requirements listed)

<https://www.standrewgonj.org/>

Applications and all supporting documents must be postmarked on or before May 15, 2020

PARENTS CORNER

BY Alexandra Protopapas

MAY 2020, COVID-19 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The LORD'S PRAYER – "Alexandra's Style"

In 2007 I did an article on the Lord's Prayer and I thought it was appropriate to bring it back now, **but differently**.

We all have been affected by COVID-19 and need some spiritual humor with a touch of prayer at all times. Easter celebrations came in a virtual way, spring and summer activities that we were all looking forward to will not be the same.

Here is the interpretation of "The Lord's Prayer" "Alexandra's virtual style – socially distancing too!" Enjoy!

The LORD'S PRAYER (with a Greek parent's point of view)

(Greek parent): 'Our Father who art in heaven...'

(God): Yes?

(Greek parent): Don't interrupt me. I'm praying.

(God): But you called me.

(Greek parent): Called you? I didn't call you. I'm praying. "Our Father which art in heaven..."

(God): There you did it again.

(Greek parent): Did what?

(God): Called me. You said, "Our Father which art in heaven." Here I am...What's on your mind?

(Greek parent): But I didn't mean anything by it. I was, you know, just saying my prayers for the day. I always say the **Lord's Prayer**. (Easter time I say Christos Anesti), It makes me feel good, kind of like getting a duty done.

(God): All right. Go on.

(Greek parent): "Hallowed be thy name..."

(God): Hold it. What do you mean by that?

(Greek parent): By what?

(God): By "hallowed be thy name"?

(Greek parent): It means... it means... Good grief, I don't know what it means. How should I know? I say the **Lord's Prayer** in Greek mostly; I just learned it in English! It's just a part of the prayer. By the way, what does it mean?

(God): It means honored, holy, and wonderful.

(Greek parent): Hey, that makes sense. I never thought about what "hallowed" meant before. "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

(God): Do you really mean that?

(Greek parent): Sure, why not?

(God): What are you doing about it?

(Greek parent): Doing? Nothing, I guess. I just think it would be kind of neat if you got control of everything down here like you have up there.

(God): Have I got control of you?

(Greek parent): Well, I go to church, sometimes, during these times of COVID-19 I go virtually every Sunday and virtually light a candle, at least—but I encourage my children to reach out to their Sunday School and Greek School teachers, and GOYA friends to communicate virtually with them so they keep in touch! I pray daily. I will follow Father John virtually in church!

(God): That isn't what I asked you. What about your temper? You've really got a problem there, you know. And then there's the way you spend your money--all on yourself. And what about the kind of books you read? ...and the children in school— you yell many times! The children say you say you are always right, but you never listen to them!

(Greek parent): Stop picking on me! I'm just as good as some of the rest of those people at the church. I am a teacher and counselor! I read appropriate books all the



time! Ok, in the summer I like to read those entertainment gossip magazines. Hey, I am involved in a lot of causes you don't know about! Didn't you say do something good for someone, but if you get caught, it doesn't count? I write a Parent's Corner article monthly! Give me a chance already!

(God): Excuse me. I thought you were praying for My will to be done. If that is to happen, it will have to start with the ones who are praying for it. Like you, for example.

(Greek parent): Oh, all right. I guess I do have some hang-ups. Now that you mention it, I could probably name some others.

(God): So could I.

(Greek parent): I haven't thought about it very much until now, but I really would like to cut out some of those things. I would like to, you know, be really free.

(God): Good. Now we're getting somewhere. We'll work together, you and me. Some victories can truly be won. I'm proud of you.

(Greek parent): Look, Lord, I need to finish up here. This is taking a lot longer than it usually does. *"Give us this day, our daily bread."*

(God): You need to cut out the bread. You're overweight as it is.

(Greek parent): Hey, wait a minute! What is this, "Criticize me day"? We are in the house all the time these days. MENOME SPITI. Here I was doing my religious duty, and all of a sudden you break in and remind me of all my hang-ups! I am also social distancing!

(God): Praying is a dangerous thing. You could wind up changed, you know. That's what I'm trying to get across to you. You called me, and here I am. It's too late to stop now. Keep praying, I'm interested in the next part of your prayer... (pause). Well, go on.

(Greek parent): I'm scared to.

(God): Scared? Of what?

(Greek parent): I know what you'll say.

(God): Try me and see.

(Greek parent): *"Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us."*

(God): What about Ann?

(Greek parent): See? I knew it! I knew you would bring her up! Why, Lord, she's told lies about me, spread stories about my family. She never paid back the debt she owes me. I've sworn to get even with her!

(God): But your prayer? What about your prayer?

(Greek parent): I didn't mean it.

(God): Well, at least you're admitting it. But it's not much fun carrying that load of bitterness around inside, is it?

(Greek parent): No. But I'll feel better as soon as I get even. Boy, have I got some plans for that neighbor. She'll wish she had never moved into this neighborhood. Who is she to criticize my family about the soccer ball in her yard!

(God): You won't feel any better. You'll feel worse. Revenge isn't sweet. Think of how unhappy you already are. But I can change all that.

(Greek parent): You can? How?

(God): Forgive Ann. Then I'll forgive you. Then the hate and sin will be Ann's problem and not yours. You will have settled your heart.

(Greek parent): Oh, you're right. You always are. And more than I want to get revenge on Ann, I want to be right with you....(pause)...(sigh). All right. All right. I forgive her. Help her to find the right road in life, Lord. She's bound to be awfully miserable now that I think about it. Anybody who goes around doing the things she does to others has to be out of it. She cut the soccer balls. (Sigh) Some way, somehow, someone will show her the right way.

(God) There now! Wonderful! How do you feel?

(Greek parent): Hmmm. Well, not bad. Not bad at all. In fact, I feel pretty great! You know, I don't think I'll have to go to bed uptight tonight for the first time since I can remember. Maybe I won't be so tired from now on because I'm not getting enough rest. (Maybe too much rest from staying home all the time- don't tell...)

(God): You're not through with your prayer. Go on.

(Greek parent): Oh, all right. *"And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."*

(God): Good! Good! I'll do that. Just don't put yourself in a place where you can be tempted.

(Greek parent): What do you mean by that?

(God): Don't turn on the TV when you know the laundry needs to be done and the house needs to be picked up. Also, about the time you spend coffee-ing with your friends, if you can't influence the conversation to positive things, perhaps you should rethink the value of those friendships. Another thing, your neighbors and friends shouldn't be your standard for "keeping up". And please don't use me for an escape hatch.

(Greek parent): I don't understand the last part.

(God): Sure you do. You've done it a lot of times. You get caught in a bad situation. You get into trouble and then you come running to me, "Lord, help me out of this mess and I promise you I'll never do it again." You remember some of those bargains you tried to make with me?

(Greek parent): Yes, and I'm ashamed, Lord. I really am. (Sigh).

(God): Which bargain are you remembering?

(Greek parent): Well, there was the night that Mike was already on the island fixing the house for us, and the children and I were on a boat going to the island alone in Greece. The wind was blowing so hard I thought the boat would sink and go any minute, tornado warnings were out the kids were screaming. I remember praying, "Oh, God, if you spare us, I'll never skip my devotions again."

(God): did you?

(Greek parent): I'm sorry, Lord, I really am. Up until now I thought that if I just prayed the **Lord's Prayer** every day, then I could do what I liked. I didn't expect anything to happen like it did.

(God): Go ahead and finish your prayer.

(Greek parent): "For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever." Amen.

(God): Do you know what would bring me glory? What would really make me happy?

(Greek parent): No, but I'd like to know. I want now to please you. I can see what a mess I've made with some

things. And I can see how great it would be to really be one of your followers. I've had some bad times, medical issues, loss of a child, you know, you've kept me strong because of prayer. Now with the Corona Virus, I want everyone to be safe. We did lose some friends. (Sigh). I promise, I will try to bring your message across to all parents!

(God): You just answered the question.

(Greek parent): I did?

(God): Yes. The thing that would bring me glory is to have people like you truly love me. And I see that happening between us. Now that some of these old sins are exposed and out of the way, well, there is no telling what we can do together.

(Alexandra) What is it that God wants? What message should we give our children?

The message for May 2020 is – especially during this COVID-19 crisis: LOVE GOD AND PRAY!

My Table Prayer Guide prayer today is from a **Prayer for Special Occasions: Lent**

Oh Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of laziness, despair, love of power and idle talk. But give rather, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Your servant. O Lord and King, grant that I may see my own transgressions and not judge my brother, for blessed are You unto the ages of ages. AMEN

"Christ is Risen" - "Christ is risen, from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs granting life."

"Christos Anesti" - "Christos Anesti ek nekron thanato, thanaton patisas, ke tis en tis mni-ma-si zo-in cha-ri-sa-me-nos"

PS...

Common Sense action when enjoying the outdoors, traveling, & bonding with large groups to avoid any viruses. (From American Red Cross)

- "Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health workers](#) and [people who are taking care of someone in close settings](#) (at home or in a health care facility).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses.

CDC does have [specific guidance for travelers.](#)"

Feel free to e-mail me with your comments and suggestions for our "Parents' Corner" at: alexandraproto@gmail.com

(You can also find me on FACEBOOK under my name Alexandra Alex Protopapas) | Alexandra Protopapas MEd

Certified Teacher of the Handicapped & Social Sciences – Retired

Educational Services of Morris County (ESC) (currently at Academy of St Elizabeth, Arrow Academy, Parsippany Schools)

(Information, Teaching, Tutoring, Counseling, Homebound Instruction (973-214-2583)

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Contact the church office if you would like information on becoming a Community Partner.
There are various levels and opportunities that you and your business can participate in



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Please remember the Late ✝ _____ in the prayers of the Divine Liturgy.
Kindly accept the memorial gift as a token of Love and Respect in his/her memory.

The deceased was the beloved _____ (husband, wife, father, mother, other) of bereaved*
Please ACKNOWLEDGE my/our gift to a member of the family.

NAME & ADDRESS OF BEREAVED* _____

NAME & ADDRESS OF DONOR(S) _____

MEMORIAL GIFTS PAYABLE TO ST. ANDREW ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

OBIT & FUNERAL – ΝΕΚΡΟΛΟΓΙΕΣ & ΚΗΔΕΙΕΣ

+Zoe Paleocostas, 65, passed away peacefully on March 27 in Rockaway, NJ. She was born February 25, 1955 in Eleftheriani, Greece to Demetrios and Spyridoula (Pexos) Papadopoulos. She is predeceased by her father, Demetrios.

Zoe immigrated with her family to the United States in 1966. She was a graduate of Morris County Community College and worked as an Administrative Assistant for Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson for 15+ years. Zoe was the epitome of what her name in Greek meant—“Life.” She enjoyed spending her time with family and friends and cooking amazing meals. Her greatest joy in life was loving and taking care of her grandchildren. A breast



cancer survivor, Zoe understood hardship, but had the most loving and caring soul. Zoe is survived by her husband of 40 years, Vasilios, and 4 children, Steven and wife Ashley, Vicky and husband Billy, Sandy, and Dimitri; her mother, Spyridoula; grandchildren, Loula, Zoe, Demetra, Alexander, Mila, Christiana and Adriana; her sister, Efthimia and husband Gus; and niece and nephews, Angie, Billy, and Dimitri.

Funeral Services were held privately at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 10am. Internment was at Locust Hill Cemetery in Dover, NJ. A memorial service will be held at a later time and date for all to honor and celebrate her beautiful life. In lieu of flowers, donations in Zoe’s memory can be made to St. Andrew’s Greek Orthodox Church



+George Kavalos 1948-2020 George Kavalos 71, passed away on Saturday, April 4, 2020 with his wife and daughters in their home in Flanders, NJ.

George was born on the island of Crete in Greece on April 27th, 1948 in the village of Honos. He was enlisted in the Greek Navy from 1966 until 1968. He came to the United States in 1971 with nothing in his pocket but hopes of a better future. George resided in Queens, NY where he worked in many different restaurants and made lifelong friends along the way. He was a member of Minos Cretan Fraternity in NY for many years; there he was a founder, a board member and dance teacher. George was also a member of White Mountains Cretan Fraternity and St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church in NJ. He was very proud of his culture and traditions, raising his children in the same way. George met his wife Anna in 1984; they were married for almost 30 years and together they resided in Flanders, NJ. He was a beloved father to three children. He worked extremely hard to build his own business, Kavalos Produce; which he used to provide for his family. George kept his business until February of 2020, when he was then diagnosed with Stage Four Pancreatic Cancer. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, cousin, uncle, and friend. George is survived by his wife Anna, his two daughters Irene and Fotini, and his son Emmanuel.

Funeral Services were held privately at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 11am. Internment was at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Chester, NJ. In lieu of flowers please consider a contribution in George Kavalos’ name to St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church in Randolph, New Jersey.

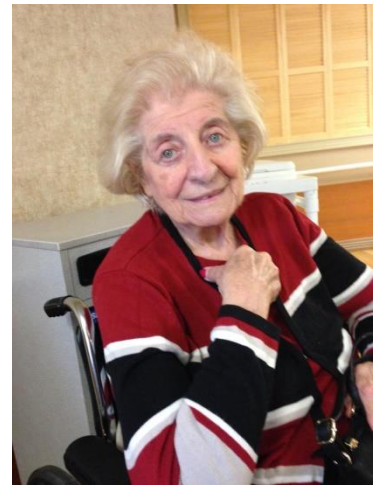
May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η μνήμη αυτών.

Saint Andrew Family News May 2020

+Amalia Mpakarakes, 93 of Denville, New Jersey passed away on April 6, 2020 at Autumn Lake Healthcare in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey due to respiratory illness.

Tuttle Funeral Home in Randolph New Jersey made all arrangements. Funeral service was held at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church on Saturday April 11th at 11 AM, however only immediate family were in attendance due to state law in effect. The funeral service was live streamed on St. Andrew church website: Standrewgonj.org. Private burial followed on April 20th at Cypress Hill cemetery in Brooklyn New York.

Amalia Mpakarakes was born Amalia Pavlides on January 22, 1927 in Brooklyn New York to Aristotle and Angelica Pavlides. After graduating from Girls Commercial High School in 1945 Amalia went on to study accounting. She most recently worked as bookkeeper and office manager for the Center for Women's Care for 16 years. Prior she worked for Sterling drug company in the Accounting department. Amalia Mpakarakes is preceded in death by her husband Thomas Mpakarakes, her brothers James and George Pavlides and her parents Aristotle and Angelica Pavlides. Amalia Mpakarakes is survived by her daughters Regina Kaplan and Angelica Pavoni and her grandchildren Dean Kaplan, Alexander Pavoni, Elena Kaplan, and Nicholas Pavoni.



+Elaine Barrett, 93, of Roseland, died on April 16, 2020 surrounded by her loving family.



Funeral Services were held privately at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church on Tuesday April 21, 2020 at 1:30pm under the direction of Shook-Farmer Funeral Home, Roseland, NJ, shookfarmer.com. Private burial followed the service at the Rest land Memorial Park in East Hanover, NJ.

Elaine was born in Newark, she grew up in West Orange, and settled in Roseland in 1968. Prior to her retirement, she was a contributing editor for the Athens Foreign Press Association. She was a member of the Philoptochos Society and Choir, at Ss. Constantine & Helen Greek Church.

Pre-deceased by her beloved husband, Leonidas Barrett. She is survived by her beloved children, Leslie Barrett, Michael Barrett (Cathy), and Gary Barrett; eight cherished grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

+John Plastoris, 93, a lifelong resident of Dover, passed away on Thursday, April 23, 2020, at Regency Grande Nursing Home, Dover. John served in the US Navy from 1943 to 1955.

He worked as an electrician for Picatinny Arsenal, Rockaway, and retired from there in 1986. He was a member of Saint Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Orange, NJ and Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph, NJ. John was a member of the F. & A. M. at the Acadia Lodge # 20 of Dover. He is survived by his wife are 62 years Estelle; two children Karen and Alice. He is predeceased by his brother George; Sister Barbara and his parents George and Kaliopi. Due to the current Executive order all arrangements are private by Tuttle Funeral Home, Randolph NJ. Private funeral was held at Saint Andrew on Tuesday April 28, 2020at 11am, followed by the burial at the Locust Cemetery, in Dover NJ. Donations may be made in his memory to Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church 1447 Turnpike Randolph, NJ 07869

May their memory be eternal. Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη αὐτῶν.

Saint Andrew Family News May 2020

May their memory be eternal.

Αιωνία η μνήμη αυτών.

DONATIONS RECEIVED +IN MEMORY OF:

+Elaine Barrett

Joanne Varratos Diamantidis
The Caminis Family
Marion Economo
John & Ellen Manetas
Ennette Boyiatgis
Dorothy Fackina
Evangelie Troth
Charlie & Pat Blackford
Mary Papageorgis
Gloria Chamberlin
Michael & Cathy Barrett & Family

+Leonidas (Louis) Demakos

Eleni Demakos

+Athanasios Katsigiannis

Demos & Afrodite Paxos
George Milonas

+George Kavalos

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Mr. & Mrs. Peter Stefos
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Vasilios & Paraskevi Seretis
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The Finaldi Family
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Mixalis Fournarakis Family
John Fiotakis
Michael & Cathy Barrett & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri & Sofia Kavalos
Mr. & Mrs. Langas & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Pervolarakis & Family
Mendham Twp. Middle School
Teachers & Staff

+Vasilios Lekkas

Charles & Angela Aaron

+Amalia Mpakarakes

Angela Pavoni
Aris Pavlides
Tom & Carol Mpakarakes

+Zoe Paleocostas

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Spiro Milonas
George Milonas
Demos & Afrodite Demos
Vicky Kouroumousis
Kostas & Eleni Kouroumousis
Maro & Thomas Kouroumousis
Vasilios & Antonios Seretis
Nikolas & Georgia Staikos
Mark & Barbara Viglietta
Vasilios & Paraskevi Seretis
Mr. & Mrs. Christos Sakkos
Viki & Matt Xenakis
Angeliki Brouard

+Chrysoula Papadakis

Anna Kavalos & Family

+Vasilios Sirakis

Tina Strongilos

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η μνήμη αυτών.

Saint Andrew Family News May 2020

SAINT ANDREW CALENDAR * LOOK FOR UPDATES ON WEEKLY E BULLETIN

WEEKLY SCHEDULE: TBA, TBC, TBD, TBR

TBA COFFEE HOUR HOSTS MAY:

TBR 5/3 @1pm PTA Elections

5/7 @7pm Education meeting

TBR 5/8 @6PM TRICKY TRAY RESCHEDULED

TBR 5/9 @11AM BAPTISM VAKAR

5/10 PTA TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST CANCELED

MAY 2020 PATRIARCHAL VISIT TO THE USA CANCELED

5/15 SCHOLARSHIP GOYA APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO PHILOPTOCHOS

TBD 5/16 @11AM BAPTISM

MAY CLERGY LAITY CONFERENCE IN GARFIELD NJ
RESCHEDULED TENTATIVE DATES 10/18-10/20,

MAY GRAND BANQUET AT THE VENETIAN RESCHEDULED
TENTATIVE DATE 10/19/2020

TBD 5/23 @11AM BAPTISM

MAY GOYA OUTDOOR OLYMPICS CANCELED

5/23 FAITH KITCHEN: PARISH COUNCIL

5/24 - NO CLASSES - FAMILY WORSHIP (MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND)

5/25 @7:30PM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 4TH MONDAY

5/26 @7PM PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING 4TH TUESDAY

5/28 @6:30PM GOYA MEETING 4TH THURSDAY

TBD 5/28 HAS GRADUATION AND FINAL PROGRAM

TBD 5/30 @11AM BAPTISM

TBD 5/30 ~~5/2~~ @3PM Umina_Kritharis Wedding

TBD 5/31 @3PM BAPTISM

TBD COFFEE HOUR HOSTS JUNE:

6/6 SATURDAY OF SOULS

TBD 6/7 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & GRADUATION

~~6/12-13-14~~ BIG GREEK FESTIVAL CANCELED

TBD 6/20 HOPE/JOY CELEBRATION *more TBA*

TBD 6/21 TRIPLE S BEGINS - (STUDENT SUMMER SUNDAYS - GRADES PRE-K3 THROUGH 5TH GRADE)

JUNE SUMMER CAMP AT SA CANCELED

6/27 FAITH KITCHEN - GOYA

~~6/28~~ CAR RAFFLE CANCELED

7/20 +FALLEN CYPRIOTS OF 7/20/74

7/25 FAITH KITCHEN: PHILOPTOCHOS

8/22 FAITH KITCHEN: DOP/AHEPA

8/23 @1PM BAPTISM

9/DATE RUMMAGE SALE CANCELED

9/10 @4:30PM HAS AGIASMOS / 1ST DAY OF CLASSES

~~9/10 6/28~~ @3PM BELMONT_JAGHAB WEDDING

9/13 SUNDAY SCHOOL AGIASMOS / 1ST DAY OF CLASSES

TBC DATE 9/20 SERVICES AT ASBURY PARK

9/26 FAITH KITCHEN: PARISH COUNCIL

10/8 @6PM TRICKY TRAY RESCHEDULED FROM MAY 8

10/10 ~~5/16~~ @3PM WEDDING Melekos_D'Andrea

10/18-10-20 CLERGY LAITY CONFERENCE IN GARFIELD NJ
RESCHEDULED FROM MAY

10/19 GRAND BANQUET AT THE VENETIAN, GARFIELD NJ
RESCHEDULED FROM MAY 19, 2020

10/24 FAITH KITCHEN: GOYA

TBA TO BE ANNOUNCED | TBC-TO BE CONFIRMED | TBD TO BE DETERMINED | TBR TO BE RESCHEDULED
PLEASE SEE SCHEDULE UPDATES IN WEEKLY E-BULLETIN & OR WEB SITE

Reservations for: St. Andrew Community Center Gym, Social Hall or Classrooms must be made with Church Office.
Saint Andrew Family News May 2020



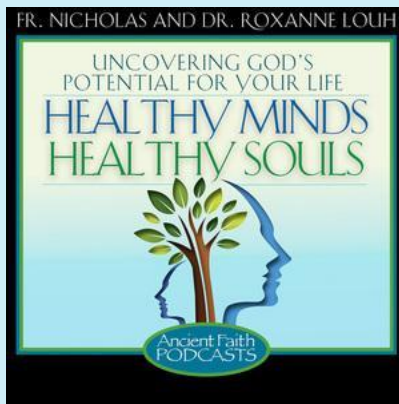
ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Healthy Minds Healthy Souls

is a ministry of St. John the Divine hosted by Rev. Dr. Nicholas and Pres. Dr. Roxanne Louh. This LIVE call-in show airs on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month on ancientfaith.com and starts at 8:00 PM Eastern. You can join the conversation by calling 1-855-AFRADIO (855-237-2346) during the show or join their chat room to ask questions which can be answered on air.

**Mark your calendar's for next Tuesday's
HEALTHY MINDS HEALTHY SOULS Internet radio show at 8 PM (Eastern).
Be sure to tune in and share with your friends and family!**



Archived Episodes

If you would like to listen to any of the archived Healthy Minds Healthy Souls internet radio shows, we encourage you to visit www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/hmhs and take time to listen to our Podcasts.

[Visit our website](#)



Rev. Dr. Nicholas G. Louh

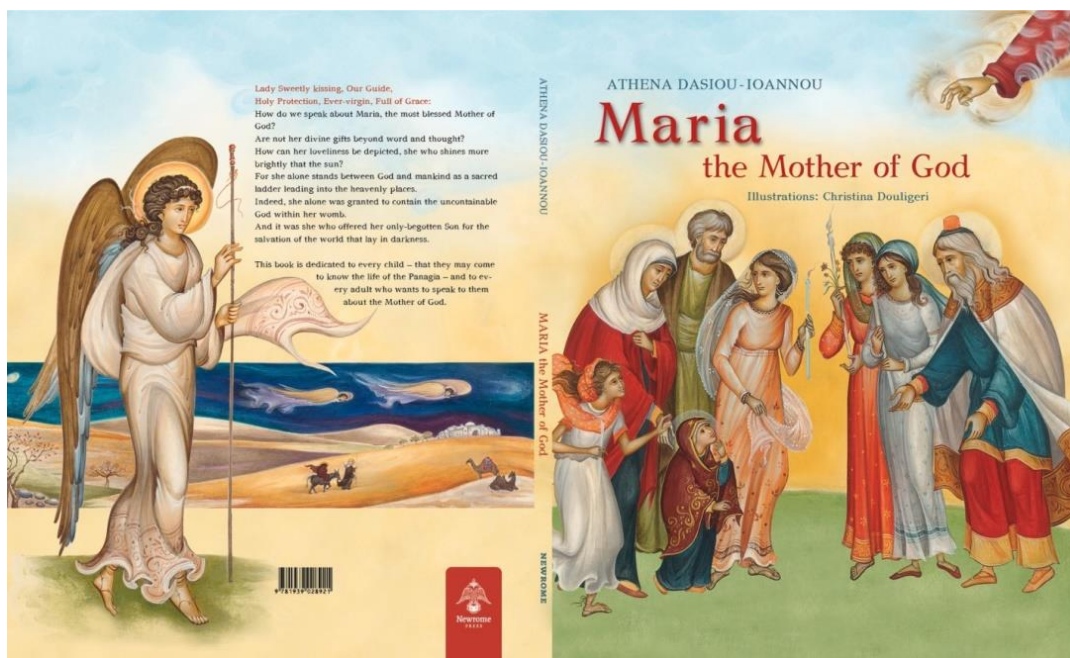


Dr. Roxanne Louh

St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church
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Jacksonville, FL 32207
904-396-5383

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Maria the Mother of God



This youth title tells the wondrous story of Maria, who became the Mother of God by God's grace and her willing assent to His holy will, from her conception to her barren mother St. Anna, to her Falling Asleep. This amazing account of the Theotokos is told through story, hymnology, and captivating illustrations.

This book is dedicated to every child – that they may come to know the life of the Panagia – and to every adult who wants to speak to them about the Mother of God.

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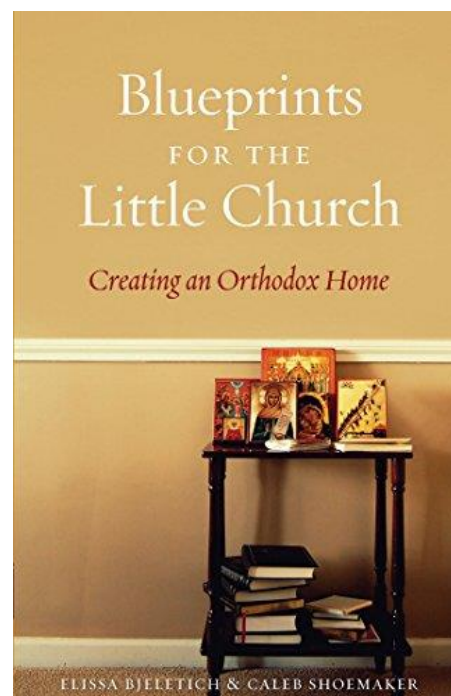
Blueprints for the Little Church:

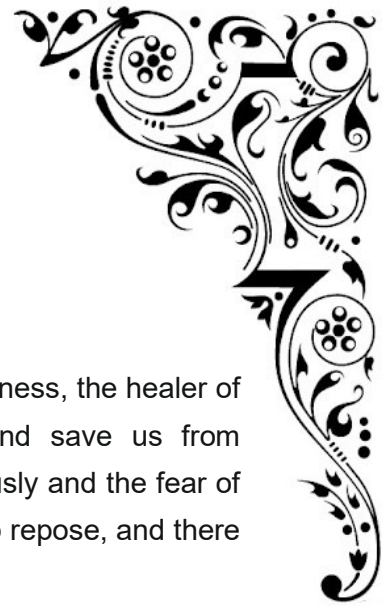
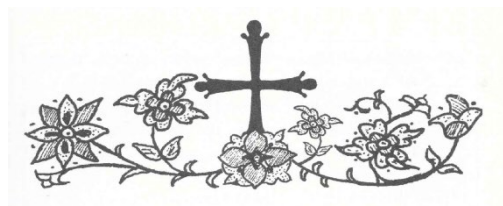
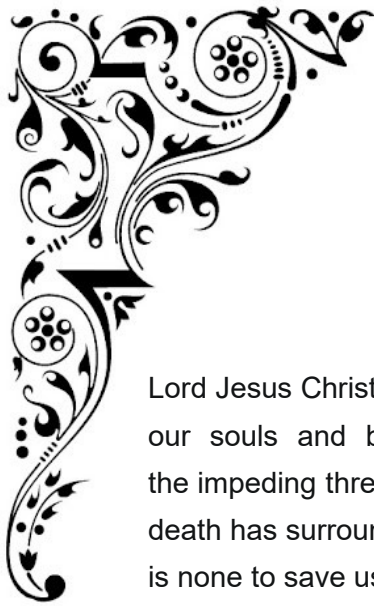
Creating an Orthodox Home

by Elissa Bjeletich, Caleb Shoemaker

How do we as Orthodox parents keep our children in the Church throughout their lives? It all begins with involving them in the life of the Church from birth onward—in the parish and also at home.

Blueprints for the Little Church provides practical ideas and encouragement—without judgment—for incorporating the primary practices of Orthodox spirituality into your family life at every stage of its growth and throughout the church year.





Prayer for Protection against a Pandemic

Lord Jesus Christ our God, You Who created human beings with utter goodness, the healer of our souls and bodies, heed now the supplication of Your children, and save us from the impending threat against the world. For this affliction has spread ferociously and the fear of death has surrounded us. Many have suffered and many have passed on to repose, and there is none to save us, except You, O Lord.

We know, Merciful Lord, that all this will cultivate our faith, as we implore you, crying out in utter repentance. Undo, O Lord, the dangerous effects of the virus and heal all people, as a most Gracious Lord. For those, who repose in peace, give rest in Your heavenly abode. Grant peace to the world, so that all people know that You are the Only God, and your faithful are not bound by death, but live forever.

For You are our hope and our whole life is in Your benevolent hands, and to You we give glory, as well as to the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

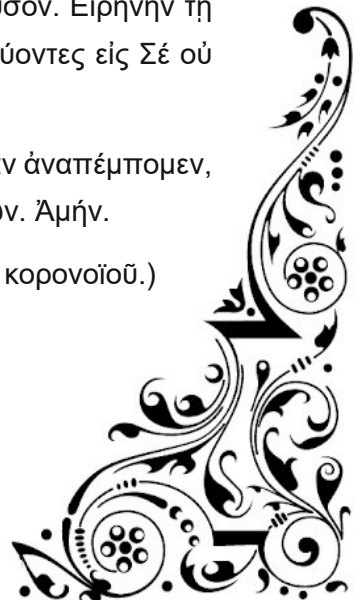
Προσευχή διά πάσαν λοιμικήν νόσον

Κύριε Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ ὁ Θεός ἡμῶν, ὁ διά τήν πολλήν σου ἀγαθότητα ποιήσας τόν ἄνθρωπον, ὁ ἰατρός τῶν ψυχῶν καί τῶν σωμάτων ἡμῶν, πρόσχες νῦν ἐπί τήν δέησιν τῶν τέκνων σου, καί ῥῦσαι ἡμᾶς τῆς ἐπελθούσης τῷ κόσμῳ σου ἀπειλῆς· ὅτι νόσος ἐνέσκηψε δεινή, καί φόβος θανάτου ἐκύκλωσεν ἡμᾶς. Πλεῖστοι ἠσθένησαν, καί ἱκανοί ἐκ τοῦ λοιμοῦ ἐκοιμήθησαν, καί οὐκ ἐστιν ὁ λυτρούμενος μλήν σου, Κύριε.

Οἶδαμεν, Ἀγαθέ, ὅτι πρὸς νοθεσίαν ἡμῶν ἐπήγαγες ταῦτα ἐφ' ἡμᾶς· ἀλλά νῦν ἐπιστρέφοντες, ἐν μετανοία κραυγάζομεν· τήν νομήν τοῦ λοιμοῦ ἀνάστειλον, καί πάντας ὡς οἰκτίρμων θεράπευσον· τοὺς δέ Θανόντας ἀδελφούς ἡμῶν ἐν ταῖς σκηναῖς σου ἀνάπαυσον. Εἰρήνην τῇ οἰκουμένην δώρησαι, καί γνώτωσαν πάντες ὅτι Σύ εἶ Θεός μόνος, καί οἱ πιστεύοντες εἰς Σέ οὐ δεδοίκασι Θάνατον.

Ὅτι σύ εἶ ἡ ἐλπίς ἡμῶν, καί εἰς χεῖρας σου ἡ ζωὴ ἡμῶν ἅπασα, καί σοί τήν δόξαν ἀναπέμπομεν, σὺν τῷ Πατρὶ καί τῷ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, νῦν καί ἀεὶ καί εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

(Ἀφορμὴ διά τήν σύνταξι τῆς ἀνωτέρω προσευχῆς ὑπῆρξε ἡ ἐπιδημία τοῦ κορονοϊοῦ.)



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Panayiotis Fotinis, *Chanter*

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MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Philoptochos Society: Mary Michailidis, *President*

Coffee Hour *need facilitator*

Agape Group: Maryann Brinkley & Betty Kelly *co-chairs*

AHEPA: TJ Borzeka, *President*

Daughters of Penelope: Eleni Boyadjis, *President*

PTA: Maria Pallis, *President*

Little Angels Playgroup (LAP): Athina Vella

HOPE & JOY: Harriet Karkanias, Lynn Axiotes

GOYA

Evagelia Zois, *GOYA President*

Peter Sedereas, Marina Venizelos, Polymnia Crysler, Marlena Karipidis,

Diana Sedereas, Roslyn Monokandilos, *GOYA Advisors*

Hellenic Dance

GOYA Tanya De Boer, *Instructor* & George Clapsis, *Assistant Instructor*

Jr & Sr Groups Angelo Gergatsoulis, *Instructor*



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

SAINT ANDREW

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

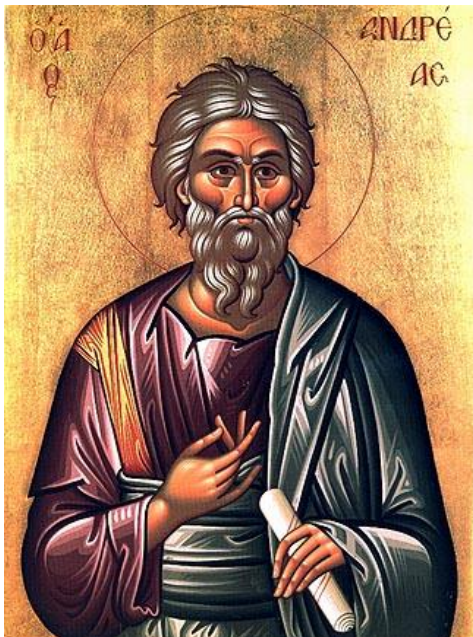
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ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ FOR GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

ΤΡΟΠΑΡΙΟ ΕΟΡΤΗΣ ΠΑΣΧΑ - ΘΡΙΑΜΒΙΚΟΣ ΎΜΝΟΣ

✠ Χριστός Ανέστη εκ νεκρών, θανάτω θάνατον
πατήσας,
και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι, ζωήν χαρισάμενος

✠ *Hristos anestee ek nekron, thanato thanaton
pateesas
ke tis en tis mneemasee, zoin harisamenos*

✠ Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down
upon death, and to those in the tombs he has granted life

HYMN OF THE APOSTLE ST. ANDREW

As first of the Apostles to receive the call,
and very brother of the prince of them,
intercede O Andrew,
with the Master of all of us,
peace to all the world to grant,
and to our souls His great mercy.

ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ

Ως των Αποστόλων πρωτόκλητος,
και του κορυφαίου αυτάδελφος,
τον Δεσπότην των όλων Ανδρέα ικέτευε,
ειρήνην τη οικουμένη δωρήσασθαι,
και ταις ψυχαίς ημών το μέγα έλεο

The Saint Andrew Vision Statement

Our Greek Orthodox Community of Morris County is a welcoming place where the family of Saint Andrew is committed to God, Orthodox worship, Christian education, philanthropy, and Hellenic culture, for the benefit of those whose lives we touch.