SYNAXARION: Timothy the Righteous; John III, Patriarch of Constantinople; Eustathius, Bishop of Antioch; Zachariah, Patriarch of Jerusalem

Resurrectional Apolytikion (4th Mode): When the tidings of the Resurrection from the angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the apostles, with boasting did they proclaim: that death is vanquished evermore and Christ our God is risen from the dead, granting to the world His great mercy.

Apolytikion of St. John the Baptist: The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you O Forerunner the witness of the Lord is sufficient. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the prophets. Since you were granted to baptize in the river, the One Whom they proclaimed. Therefore, you strove for truth, proclaiming with joy the Good News, even to those in Hades: that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sins of the world, and grants to us His great mercy.

Kontakion: From the proud speaking of the Pharisee let us flee, and let us learn the Publican’s humility by crying out, with deep sighs, to our Savior: Grant us Your mercy, O only forgiving One.
Epistle Reading is from Timothy 3:10-15

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading is from Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Answer these thought provoking questions about today’s Gospel Reading in the adult and teen Sunday school lesson. Click HERE. 

Click here to Download this Week’s Children’s Word from MyOCN.

Happy Birthday and Happy Nameday!

If you want to make sure we have your birthdate on file, please call the office.

Birthdays
Emory Brewer—Feb 21
Joseph Hambos—Feb 21
Stephanie Owens—Feb 21
Jazmyn Singh—Feb 22
Alex Halikoytakis—Feb 22
Anna Galin—Feb 23
Andrew Mellon-Lynn—Feb 23
Stylianos Sheridan—Feb 23
Alexandra Sheridan—Feb 23
Alexandra Frantsvog—Feb 24
Margarita Kyrn—Feb 24
Melanie Letobarone—Feb 24
Christian Cole—Feb 25
Mia Lenardos—Feb 25
Penelope Markowski—Feb 25
Katie Spries—Feb 26
Kaitlin Zelatis—Feb 26

Namedays
Anthousa, Thalassios—Feb 22
Polychronis, Polykarpou—Feb 23
Riginos, Tarasios, Tarsi—Feb 25
Anatoli, Photini, Porfirios, Sebastianos—Feb 26
Asklipios, Nisios—Feb 27

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Joseph Hambos—Feb 21
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Namedays
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Polychronis, Polykarpou—Feb 23
Riginos, Tarasios, Tarsi—Feb 25
Anatoli, Photini, Porfirios, Sebastianos—Feb 26
Asklipios, Nisios—Feb 27
Sunday, February 21
Beginning of Triodion—Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee
Orthros 8:30 a.m.
Men’s Group
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Monday, February 22
Orthros
Orthodoxy 101—Part III
Teaching Divine Liturgy
5:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23
Women’s Bible Study
10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 24
Paraklesis
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 25
Griefshare
6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 27
Orthros 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 28
Second Sunday of Triodion—Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Orthros 8:30 a.m.
GOYA
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Stewardship 2021 Update
As of Friday, February 19, we have received 232 stewardship forms, with a pledged amount of $403,978.00 for 2021.

Don’t forget to fill out your form and send it into the office!

Orthodoxy 101 Class has started
Fr. Stavros offers this class two times per year, in the spring and in the fall. This will be a Four-week course of study on Monday nights to make people aware of the basics of being an Orthodox Christian. The classes will be part lecture, part discussion, with lots of time for questions and answers.

The four sessions will be done as follows:
Monday, February 22 - The Divine Liturgy, A Teaching Liturgy
Monday, March 1 - Orthodox Traditions

Sunday School Continues In Person!
We are continuing IN PERSON Sunday School for our Toddler 2’s—6th Grade. These classes will be conducted AFTER Holy Communion, every Sunday, for the remainder of the School Year! We will also continue to send out our VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL lessons every week. Students and teachers will wear masks in their classrooms and we will do the best we can to social distance. We will have hand sanitizers in each room and the rooms will be cleaned regularly. We will not have classes for our Middle and High Schoolers, but we do expect them to attend church in person or virtually, complete the weekly lesson on the Gospel Reading provided by Fr. Stavros, and attend GOYA meetings.

The classes will be broken up as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toddler 2’s, Pre-K3, and Pre-K4</td>
<td>Alexis Scarchiiero and Denise Panos</td>
<td>Pre-School Classroom (on the right as you exit Church Side Doors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Graders</td>
<td>Debbie Nicklow and her daughters</td>
<td>Sunday School classroom in the Old Administration Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd through 6th Graders</td>
<td>Vickie Peckham and other teachers</td>
<td>Zahairas/Music Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project
February 21-27

So shun youthful passions and aim at righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call upon the Lord from a pure heart. II Timothy 2:22

We all had youthful passions. And no we aren’t just talking about partying too much in college. In youth, most of us were more hard headed, more impulsive, more likely to bully others, felt like every defeat was the end of the world, and less focused. Unfortunately, some of us brought these things into adult life—some of us are still headstrong, like the fouryear-old who throws a tantrum when he doesn’t get his way. Some of us are still impulsive, we act first and think later. Some of us are still bullying others in order to put ourselves ahead. Some of us still think every defeat is the end of the world. Some of us still can’t focus on our work, or we procrastinate until the last minute. And yes, some of us are still partying too much. In II Timothy 2:22, St. Paul tells us to shun those passions of our youth, and instead aim our energy at righteousness (what is right in the eyes of God), faith (a desire to grow towards God), love (serving God by serving others), and peace (those who bring calm into chaos, rather than those who bring chaos into calm). In doing these thing, we will be able to call upon God from a pure heart.
Update and Announcements

Sunday School Continues — Sunday School continues in person and online! We will continue to offer virtual Sunday School in addition for those unable to participate in person, and encourage everyone to work with the provided materials in each bulletin.

Click here for the lesson for today!

Men’s Fellowship Group Meets Tonight @ 5:00 p.m.—We’ll walk to a restaurant for dinner at 5:00 p.m., and return to the church by 6:15 p.m. for a spiritual discussion, which will finish promptly at 7:30 p.m. All men of our parish are invited.

Looking for Ushers — We are looking for more ushers to help at the Divine Services of our church. If you are interested, please email Fr. Stavros at frstav@gmail.com.

Monday, February 22, Teaching Liturgy in the Evening — As part of the Orthodoxy 101 Class, we will have a teaching Divine Liturgy from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Monday, February 22. The service will be interrupted frequently for explanations and questions. Anyone is welcome to attend the Divine Liturgy, even if you are not taking the Orthodoxy 101 class.

Women’s Bible Study on Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. — We are studying the Epistle of St. James. We meet via ZOOM. Fr. Stavros leads this group. If you would like to join our women’s Bible study group, please contact Fr. Stavros at frstav@gmail.com and he will add you to the Zoom link. At some point, we will be resuming in person, however when we do, there will continue to be a zoom option.

When God Is Not There, a Book Study on Suffering, PAUSES THIS WEEK — The Tuesday Night Book Study will take a break this week. We will resume March 2nd.

Paraklesis Services are held each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. — We offer Paraklesis each Wednesday from 6:00-7:15 p.m. We will continue to pray for each person in our community by name.

GriefShare Ministry Continues — It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you’ve lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you’ve probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions. “Going to GriefShare feels like having warm arms wrapped around you when you’re shivering.” GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each GriefShare session has three distinct elements: Video seminar with experts, support group discussion with focus, and personal study and reflection. We continue to offer hybrid meetings both in person in the Administration Building and via Zoom from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, ending on Thursday, April 22. If you are interested, please contact either the church office (813-876-8830 or office@stjohntpa.org) or Donna Hambos (813-843-8412 or dhambos@msn.com). Books for the program will be provided. Donation for the book suggested but not required. Open to all family and friends. Griefshare remains open enrollment with support towards healing and hope. You can begin at any time. If you attended last semester and missed a day or two, you can come for those days or repeat the whole thing.

GOYA Meeting Sunday February 28 — We will be meeting for GOYA this month in the Kourmolis Center from 5:00-7:30 p.m. Be sure to sign up on Sign Up Genius to let us know you can make it.

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Dora Kallas, Gilda Parascandola, Kathy & Andrew Bouzinikis; Anastasia; Amanda, Andrew, Colton, Miranda, Charlotte Elizabeth, Nuha, Nabeel, Michael, Amal, John, Elaine, Olga, Virginia Georgiou, Ron Myer, Toula Tsaros, Fr. Pat Legato, Nellie Pringle, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Tony Ekonomou, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Tina Chakonas, Ann Demas, Alex Martinez, Adriana Martinez, Aaron Martinez, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, Evangeline Xerotes, Nichole Ross, Daniel Ross, Daniella Ross, Ashley Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Chris, Debbie, James, Avery, Lily, Jacob, Jesse, Ann, Rosario, Antonia Caffentzis, Alissa, John, Angela, Joey, Christine Scourtes, Steven, Matthew & Family, Phyllis, John Zelatis, Reagan, Peter Zaharis, Alexandra Ferraerolis, Leon & Despina Botham, Cindy Xenick, Mary Ellen Evdemon, Marie Sofia Panagopoulos, Maria Hursey, Chris Vamvakias, John Myer, Mike Trimis, Robert and Alice Stoccardo, John Alexander, Michael Romero, George Hambos, Dean Konidis, and Family, Bill and Nancy Manikas, Patricia Costello, Anastasia Smyrnakis, Ekaterina & Anna Shushaklykova, Dora Koukouna, Ana Mourer, Debbie Phelps, Mary Voykin, David Voykin, Anne Sakellaris, Denise Badrane, Sia Blankenship, Don Payne, Zhana Temelkova, Stanislava Terzieva, James, Jude and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

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When God Is Not There, a Book Study on Suffering, PAUSES THIS WEEK — The Tuesday Night Book Study will take a break this week. We will resume March 2nd.
University of Florida
Center for Greek Studies

KARELISA HARTIGAN LECTURE SERIES
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF MODERN GREECE

Werner Riess
University of Hamburg
"Draco the Conciliator. New Thoughts on Old Problems"
Thursday, February 25
12, noon, ET

Dimitris Kokoris
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
The 1821 Revolution of Independence in Modern Greek Poetry
Tuesday, March 23
12, noon, ET

Sergios Paschalidis
Harvard University
Euripides in Havana: José Triana’s Medea in the Mirror (1960)
Thursday, April 1
5.00 PM, ET

ONLINE FORMAT
All lectures will be online, via zoom. The zoom details below are valid for all lectures

Zoom Link:
https://uf.zoom.us/j/99528129666?pwd=ZXVBZEthQm5oTHJhUHN4UjIySXFUUT09
Meeting ID: 995 2812 9666
Passcode: 248349
AHEPA Mother Lodge Chapter No. 1 Educational Fund, Inc.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE for Academic Year 2021-22

Scholarships range from $1000 to $3000
APPLY ONLINE at www.ahepaATLscholarship.org
Application deadline—11:59 p.m., EST, March 31, 2021

ACADEMIC and ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 or 83 out of 100 and be planning to be enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university for the 2021-22 academic year to be eligible.

AREA OF CONSIDERATION and RESIDENCY / OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Note that students attending college in the designated areas listed below but who are not from these locations are considered “out of area” and are ONLY eligible to apply for the Johnny N. Economy Scholarship which has no residency requirement.

- Three scholarships are available for students attending Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. Applicants must reside in the geographical area within the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta and plan to attend Holy Cross School of Theology.
- The Johnny N. Economy Scholarship is available to all students. Applicants must submit an additional essay on a topic of their choosing regarding Hellenism. This scholarship has no residency requirement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: applications@ahepaATLscholarship.org

The mission of the Mother Lodge Chapter No. 1 Educational Fund, Inc. is to provide both scholastic achievement and financial need scholarships to students pursuing post high school education. In addition, the Fund strives to strengthen community and country by promoting education through the development and implementation of various comprehensive programs.

The Foundation is a tax-exempt Charitable Foundation established in Atlanta, Georgia in 1986 to promote, encourage and advance education at the college, university, and graduate and professional school levels. It serves the Cultural and Educational Programs of AHEPA Chapter 1, DOP Chapter 53 & AHEPA Chapter 519. *

* AHEPA: American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association; DOP: Daughters Of Penelope