SYNAXARION: Cyrus & John the Unmercenaries; Holy Women martyrs Theodote, Theoktiste, and Eudoxia; Our Righteous Father Arsenius of Parus; Elias Ardounis the New Righteous-Martyr of Mount Athos; Aed from Ferns

Resurrectional Apolytikion (1st Mode): The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Judeans and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body. O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the Giver of Life: Glory unto our Resurrected Christ; Glory unto Your Kingdom; Glory to Your dispensation, O You Who alone loves all.

Apolytikion For the Saints (Pl. 1st Mode): You have given us the miracles of Your holy Martyrs as an impregnable fortress, O Christ our God. At their entreaties, frustrate the plots of foreign enemies, and strengthen our nation, for You alone are good and love humanity.

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: O You Who sanctified by Your birth a Virgin womb, and blessed the hands of Simeon as seemed most appropriate, You came indeed to save us all, O Christ our God. Wherefore bring peace to our nation in time of hostility, and secure in strength, the rulers You have truly loved, as the only one Who loves mankind.

Trisagion Service: Margaret Nester & Sergius Chwastiak (1 Week);
Epistle Reading is from 1 Timothy 4:9-15

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and suffer reproach, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

Gospel Reading is from Luke 19:1-10

At that time, Jesus was passing through Jericho. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

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
Nina L’Hommedieu - Feb 1
Walter L’Hommedieu - Feb 1
Nicholas Reddie - Feb 1
Paraskevas Serbanos - Feb 1
Sophia Crassas - Feb 2
Peter Hanhan - Feb 3
Max Malatin - Feb 3
John Kolovos - Feb 4
Taylor Parker - Feb 4
Andrew Findlay - Feb 5
Louis Mantzanas - Feb 5
Pheobe Sengouvanna - Feb 5

Namedays
Evdokia, Kyros - Jan 31
Bridget, Filikita, Tryfon - Feb 1
Ipapanti - Feb 2
Asimakis, Asimina, Simeon, Stamatis, Stamatis - Feb 3
Iasimos, Isidoros - Feb 4
Agathi - Feb 5
Photis - Feb 6
Stewardship 2021 Update

As of Thursday, January 28, we have received 211 stewardship forms, with a pledged amount of $358,713.00 for 2021.

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

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 Scarfoliero 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

January 31 - February 6

*But as for me, my prayer is to Thee, O Lord. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of Thy steadfast love answer me.*

Psalm 69:13

When is the acceptable time for our wishes to come true? When will we find someone to marry, or land our dream job, or get out of this pandemic? God gives us all answers at the time that He deems acceptable. That is not necessarily on our schedule. As we continue to mark this time of the pandemic, my prayer increasingly moves away from God swiftly ending our anxiety, but instead, I pray for help in coping with whatever comes our way. The ultimate goal in life cannot just be being able to be together without wearing masks. It’s got to be more than that. As I reflect on this verse, it brings to mind the thought that my prayer to God is for Him to answer my questions in a way that will lead me to salvation, to give me only the things that I ask for that lead to salvation. In fact, I don’t want God to give me all the things I ask for, because in my hu-man frailty, I may ask for something that will not get me to salvation. Rather than demand God answer my requests, I pray for discernment and joy as I answer His requests for my life.
Update and Announcements

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

Click here for the lesson and challenge for today!

GOYA this Sunday — GOYA will take place this Sunday, January 31, at 5:00 p.m. We will have dinner, a shot presentation, and then a bonfire. You are encouraged to wear Tampa Bay Buccaneers attire.

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 firstav@gmail.com.

Women’s Bible Study on Monday, February 1 — We will have Women’s Bible Study on Monday instead of Tuesday this week, because of the Divine Liturgy scheduled for Tuesday morning.

Monday Night Bible Study — with Charlie will be held on Mondays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Bible study is held via Zoom. If you are not part of the Monday night Bible study and would like to join in, please contact Charlie at chambos@stjohntpa.org and he will add you.

Tuesday, February 2, The Presentation of Our Lord into the Temple — The Presentation of Christ is a major feastday of the Church and commemorates the day, 40 days after the Nativity, when Christ was brought to the temple when He was 40 days old. According to the Law of Moses, every male child was brought to the temple on its 40th day, together with a sacrifice of pigeons or turtle doves by the parents, and the child was “consecrated Holy to the Lord.” Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the temple on His 40th day, because it was the law to do so. In the temple was a priest named Simeon, who was an older man, who had been promised by God that he would not die until he saw the Christ. When Simeon saw the baby Jesus, he knew in his heart that this was the Lord’s Messiah. He took the child in his arms and prayed “Lord, now let your servant depart in peace according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light to enlighten the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel.” (Luke 2:29-32) This prayer is recited over every child in the Orthodox Church when they are brought to church for the first time when they are 40 days old. That’s where this beautiful tradition comes from.

When God Is Not There, a Book Study on Suffering, Continues — The Tuesday Night Book Study continues on Zoom at 6:30 p.m. Be sure to read the next two chapters that we will be discussing and contact Alex Limberatos for any questions.

Paraklesis Services Resuming each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. — We are going to resume our weekly Paraklesis Service this Wednesday (and on 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.

Saturday, February 6, St Photios the Great—Saint Photios was the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople from 858-867 and form 877-886. He is regarded as the most powerful and influential church leader subsequent to St. John Chrysostom. He led a renaissance in the spread of Christianity, helped quell a schism, and was instrumental in missionary work. St. Photios is the patron saint of the shrine of the Christ. When Simeon saw the baby Jesus, he knew in his heart that this was the Lord’s Messiah. He took the child in his arms and prayed “Lord, now let your servant depart in peace according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light to enlighten the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel.” (Luke 2:29-32) This prayer is recited over every child in the Orthodox Church when they are brought to church for the first time when they are 40 days old. That’s where this beautiful tradition comes from.

Young At Heart, Meeting Saturday, February 6 — The Young At Heart will be meeting after Divine Liturgy on Saturday, February 6. We will have our socially distant IN PERSON YAH meeting with masks in the Church Hall and continue to use Zoom for those who cannot attend. For those whom had not spoken, we encourage you to bring your thoughts on “CHURCHES THAT TOUCHED YOUR LIFE”

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Dora Kallas, Gilda Parascandola, Kathy & Andrew Bouzinekis; 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, Adrianna Martinez, Aaron Martinez, Christina Noel Krouzes Houch, Evangeline Xeroteres, Nichole Ross, Daniel Ross, Daniella Ross, Ashley Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Chris, Debbie, James, Avery, Lily, Jacob, Jesse, Ann, Rosario, Antonia Caffentzis, Alissa, John, Angelo, Joe, Christine Scourtes, Steven, Matthew & Family, Phyllis, John Zelatis, Reigan, Peter Zaharis, Alexandra Ferrarolis, Lea & Despina Botham, Cindy Xenick, Mary Ellen Evdemon, Marie Sofia Panagopoulos, Maria Hurser, Chris Vanvakias, John Myer, Mike Trinis, Robert and Alice Stoccardo, John Alexander, Michael Romero, George Hambos, Dean Kondulis and Family, Bill and Nancy Manikas, Patricia Costello, Anastasia Smyrnakis, Ekatierina & Anna Shwashalyova, Dora Koudouna, Ana Mourer, Debbie Phelps, Mary Voykin, David Voykin, Anne Sekellaris, 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 are unaware.
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
University of Florida, Centre for Greek Studies
Polopolus Lecture Series 2021

Professor Mike Edwards
Honorary Research Fellow, Royal Holloway University of London

‘Isaeus in the Forest of Rhetoric and the Cosmos of Law’

Thursday 4 February at 12 noon ET

Please register in advance for attending this lecture:
https://ufl.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEmf-qspz4jG9HTVChhX-8V59L8fSdlw3WW

Summary: Isaeus (c. 415-c. 340 BCE) was a member of the classical Canon of Ten Attic Orators, a professional speechwriter who in the ancient tradition was the teacher of Demosthenes. His eleven surviving speeches concern inheritance disputes, a complicated area of Athenian law in which he was clearly an expert and for which he is one of our most important, but controversial sources. In this lecture, I will examine various aspects of Isaeus’ rhetorical technique, and how he uses – and perhaps abuses – the law to secure victory for his clients.

Info: giannadaki.if [at] ufl.edu
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 PASCHALIS
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://ufl.zoom.us/j/99528129666?pwd=ZXVBZEthQm5oTHJhUHN4UjIySXFUUT09
Meeting ID: 995 2812 9666
Passcode: 248349