



Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
THE WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020

Κυριακή 30η Αύγουστου 2020

ΙΒ΄ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ

Αποστ: Α΄ Κορ: 15:1-11

Ευαγγ: Ματθαιου: 19:16-26

12th Sunday of Matthew

Today's Readings

Epistle: 1 Corinthians: 15:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26

THE INVITATION TO FOLLOW

In today's Gospel lesson, a rich, young man, one who had all the material possessions he ever needed and was conscientious with his religious beliefs according to the Law - approaches Jesus with a question: "What must I do to have eternal life." In his mind, he thought he knew the answer he would get. As a response, the Lord goes down a short list of the Ten Commandments. The young man was well aware of those and was compliant. He was educated in the Law and was quite diligent in doing what he should.

But the young man's advanced knowledge did not allow him to come to Christ with an open mind for what was to follow. This points to the concept of "beginner's mind." In the beginner's mind there is flexibility and room for growth. In the expert's mind, there is not. As one of the Desert Fathers who had spent all his life in prayer, said "Lord, help me to make a good beginning." That's what is a "beginner's mind." To be humble, open, flexible, teachable, curious, and childlike. When Christ speaks, this is how we must learn to listen.

The rich man's mind appeared to be full already, knowing all the answers and having all he needed in life. But still he asked, "What then do I lack?" Evidently, he felt something was missing; perhaps he had begun to recognize that in spite of his riches, he was poor. Then Jesus gets to the point, "Sell your possessions, give to the poor and come follow me."

What stood in the way of the young man's eternal life was his attachment to his possessions. An attachment is something we believe we cannot live without and be secure and happy. But there is not one attachment that lasts beyond death. If we place our faith in a relationship or wealth or ideology or false idea, there will inevitably be a day that they will end. The happiness they offer is fleeting. The security they offer is a delusion. To have eternal life, we must let go of these types of attachments and place our faith in things that are eternal. "Follow me," is an invitation for the young man to do this.

Jesus asked him to let go of his riches and leap into the unknown - an act that seems foolish, especially to our modern minds. We like to attach ourselves to the false idea to the sense of security in this world. But all of our possessions are subject to "moth and rust", we need to accept the fact that they will not last forever.

In today's lesson, Christ is calling us for a rebirth. Jesus wants the Rich Young Man to be reborn, to put his attachments aside and follow him. He wants to show him a new way of life as He does for each one of us.

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

Letting go of riches is like a spiritual baptism, from death to life, from slavery to freedom, from darkness to light. The young man could not and went away disappointed, just as we often do. It is necessary for us to look honestly at what we treasure the most, what we think we cannot live without and what we think is the source of our security and happiness. The young man is in all of us, let us pray that we may release ourselves from the dependence on our perceived treasures and embrace the eternal, running towards Christ and accepting His call to Follow Him into His Heavenly Kingdom. AMEN.



KORAES SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you, thank you for all of your prayers and well wishes for the new school year! Our beloved school was extremely blessed to start the school year with 154 students on campus on Wednesday. Our distance learners will begin on Monday. God has surely blessed Koraes by bringing us 22 new families. God is good. We have received generous donations for our classrooms and we will reveal a grand renovation this week. A huge shout out to our School Board and families for all of the support they have provided to get us all back together under one roof! We had several youth workers this summer that helped get our school prepared for safe students' safe return. They enjoyed giving back to their school just as much as we enjoyed their hard work. We couldn't have opened our school without so many of our supporters and their gifts of time and talents. While we are missing many of our families who were unable to return, we pray they have a successful year and are thankful for the time they spent at Koraes. We are fully staffed with talented and dedicated teachers. Words can't describe the feeling of excitement and joy that was present this week when our children and teachers were reunited. We were able to brave the extreme heat and unique circumstances of the new year. Praise God we have had a super first week of school! Thank you to all who have recommended our beloved school and for making Koraes an outstanding place to educate our youth!

Beth Lind, Principal

THANK YOU FROM OUR PRESIDENT...

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I write this letter in awe. A few days have passed since our Greek Fest To-Go 2020 Event and all I can still say is "WOW." The support from our parishioners and the local community was overwhelming.

A few months ago, members of the Parish Council discussed ideas on how to reconnect with the community. A drive-thru festival idea was planted and began to grow. We never envisioned this small idea to flourish like it did this weekend.

As you know, we were strictly restricted with the number of volunteers the Village of Palos Hills allotted on the premises. I thank the volunteers for the hard work they did this past weekend. Most worked 15 hours each day to make this happen. If it wasn't for them we wouldn't of been able to pull this great event off.

Everyone was so patient while waiting in their cars to be served. We know the lines were long, but your smiles, waves, and support was completely overwhelming. I cannot find the words to express my gratitude, so I will just say THANK YOU TO ALL!

Thank you to all the donors of food, equipment, and time. Our Greek Fest To-Go 2020 event was a huge success due to the generosity of our donors, but also because of our community who placed online orders, bought raffle tickets, and waited in long lines for the delicious food!

Again, all I can say is a simple, but heartfelt THANK YOU.

Make sure to mark your calendar for our Greek Fest 2021: August 20th, 21st, and 22nd!

Thank you again for your continuous support.

Jim Stavrou
Parish Council President



Κυριακή 6η Σεπτεμβρίου
ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΙΓ' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ

Ώρα 9:00 π.μ.- Θεία Λειτουργία



ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟ ΜΑΣ...

Αγαπητοί συνάδελφοι ενοριίτες,

Γράφω αυτήν την επιστολή με δέος. Έχουν περάσει λίγες μέρες από το Greek Fest To-Go 2020 Event και το μόνο που μπορώ να πω είναι το "WOW". Η υποστήριξη από τους ενοριίτες μας και την τοπική κοινότητα ήταν τεράστια.

Πριν από λίγους μήνες, τα μέλη του Κοινοτικού Συμβουλίου συζήτησαν ιδέες για το πώς να επανασυνδεθούν με την κοινότητα. Φτιάχτηκε μια ιδέα για το φεστιβάλ drive-thru και άρχισε να μεγαλώνει. Ποτέ δεν φανταζόμασταν αυτήν την μικρή ιδέα να ανθίσει όπως έκανε αυτό το Σαββατοκύριακο. αυτήν την μικρή ιδέα να ανθίσει όπως έκανε αυτό το Σαββατοκύριακο.

Ευχαριστώ τους εθελοντές για τη σκληρή δουλειά που έκαναν αυτό το περασμένο Σαββατοκύριακο. Οι περισσότεροι εργάστηκαν 15 ώρες κάθε μέρα για να συμβεί αυτό. Αν δεν ήταν για αυτούς δεν θα μπορούσαμε να βγάλουμε αυτό το υπέροχο γεγονός.

Όλοι ήταν τόσο υπομονετικοί, περιμένοντας στα αυτοκίνητά τους να εξυπηρετηθούν. Γνωρίζουμε ότι οι γραμμές ήταν μεγάλες, αλλά τα χαμόγελα, τα κύματα και η υποστήριξή σας ήταν εντελώς συντριπτική. Δεν μπορώ να βρω τις λέξεις για να εκφράσω την ευγνωμοσύνη μου, γι' αυτό θα πω απλώς ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ ΣΕ ΟΛΟΥΣ!

Ευχαριστώ όλους τους δωρητές τροφίμων, εξοπλισμού και χρόνου. Η εκδήλωσή μας στο Greek Fest To-Go 2020 σημείωσε τεράστια επιτυχία λόγω της γενναιοδωρίας των δωρητών μας, αλλά και λόγω της κοινότητάς μας που πραγματοποίησε διαδίκτυακές παραγγελίες, αγόρασε εισιτήρια λοταρίας και περίμενε σε μεγάλες γραμμές για το νόστιμο φαγητό! Και πάλι, το μόνο που μπορώ να πω είναι ένα απλό, αλλά εγκάρδιο ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ!

Φροντίστε να σημειώσετε το ημερολόγιό σας για το Greek Fest 2021 - 20 Αυγούστου, 21 και 22.

Σας ευχαριστούμε και πάλι για τη συνεχή υποστήριξή σας

Δημήτριος Σταύρου

Πρόεδρος του Κοινοτικού Συμβουλίου

ΤΡΙΤΗ 1η Σεπτεμβρίου

ΑΡΧΗ ΤΟΥ ΝΕΟΥ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣΤΙΚΟΥ ΕΤΟΥΣ



**Ἰνδίκτον ἡμῖν εὐλόγει νέου Χρόνου,
Ὡ καὶ Παλαιέ, καὶ δι' ἀνθρώπους Νέε.**

Σήμερα η Εκκλησία μας εορτάζει την Αρχή της Ινδίκτου, δηλαδή αρχή του νέου Εκκλησιαστικού έτους. Για την περίπτωση αυτή, ο Άγιος Νικόδημος ο Αγιορείτης γράφει στον Συναξαριστή του:

«Πρέπει να ηξεύρωμεν, αδελφοί, ότι η του Θεού αγία Εκκλησία εορτάζει σήμερα την Ινδικτιώνα, διά τρία αίτια. Πρώτον, επειδή και αυτή είναι αρχή του χρόνου. Διά τούτο και κοντά εις τους παλαιούς Ρωμάνους πολλά ετιμάτο αυτή εξ αρχαίων χρόνων. Ινδικτιών δε κατά την ρωμαϊκήν, ήτοι λατινικήν γλώσσαν, θέλει να ειπή ορισμός. Και δεύτερον εορτάζει ταύτην η Εκκλησία, επειδή και κατά την σημερινήν ημέραν, επήγεν ο Κύριος ημών Ιησούς Χριστός μέσα εις την Συναγωγήν των Ιουδαίων, και εδόθη εις αυτόν το Βιβλίον του Προφήτου Ησαΐου, καθώς γράφει ο Ευαγγελιστής Λουκάς (Λουκ. δ'). Το οποίον Βιβλίον ανοίξας ο Κύριος, ω του θαύματος! ευθύς εύρε τον τόπον εκείνον, ήτοι την αρχήν του εξηκοστού πρώτου κεφαλαίου του Ησαΐου, εις το οποίον είναι γεγραμμένον διά λόγου του τα λόγια ταύτα: «Πνεύμα Κυρίου επ' εμέ, ου ένεκεν έχρισέ με, ευαγγελίσασθαι πτωχοίς απέσταλκέ με, ιάσασθαι τους συντετριμμένους την καρδίαν, κηρύξαι αιχμαλώτοις άφεςιν και τυφλοίς ανάβλεψιν, αποστείλαι τεθραυσμένους εν αφέσει, κηρύξαι ενιαυτόν Κυρίου δεκτόν». Αφ' ου δε ανέγνωσεν ο Κύριος τα περί αυτού λόγια ταύτα, εσφάλισε το Βιβλίον και το έδωκεν εις τον υπηρέτην. Έπειτα καθίσας, είπεν εις τον λαόν «ότι σήμεραν ετελειώθησαν οι λόγοι της Προφητείας ταύτης εις τα εδικά σας αυτία». Όθεν ο λαός ταύτα ακούων, εθαύμαζε διά τα χαριτωμένα λόγια, οπού εύγαινον εκ του στόματός του, ως τούτο γράφει ο αυτός Ευαγγελιστής Λουκάς (αυτόθι).

Είναι δε και τρίτη αιτία, διά την οποίαν η Εκκλησία του Χριστού κάμνει σήμεραν ενθύμησιν της Ινδίκτου, και εορτάζει την αρχήν του νέου χρόνου: ήγουν, ίνα διά μέσου της υμνωδίας και ικεσίας, οπού προσφέρομεν εις τον Θεόν εν τη εορτή ταύτη, γένη ο Θεός ίλεως εις ημάς, και ευλογήση τον νέον χρόνον, και χαρίση τούτον εις ημάς ευτυχή και γεμάτον από όλα τα σωματικά αγαθά. Και ίνα φωτίση τας διανοίας μας, εις το να περάσωμεν όλον τον χρόνον καθαρώς και με αγαθήν συνείδησιν, και εις το να ευαρεστήσωμεν τω Θεώ, με την φύλαξιν των εντολών του. Και ούτω να τύχωμεν των εν Ουρανοίς αιωνίων αγαθών».

Πηγη: www.saint.gr

ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, September 6th:
13th Sunday of Matthew
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

2020 Stewardship Campaign

To make a One-Time Gift:

Online Giving: Go to
www.stconstantinehelen.org

In Person: Stop into the Church Office and you may pay by Cash, Check or Credit Card;

By mail: Mail your check or credit information to the Church office (do not mail cash!)

By phone: Call (708) 974-3400 and provide the necessary information

To set up Recurring Giving:

Online Giving: Set up recurring contributions online on our website. Options include monthly intervals and selection of days of giving.



23rd Annual Father Byron Open

STs. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH

23rd Annual
Father Byron Open
September 15th, 2020

Location

Odyssey Country Club
19110 Ridgeland Ave
Tinley Park, IL 60477

Event Times & Pricing

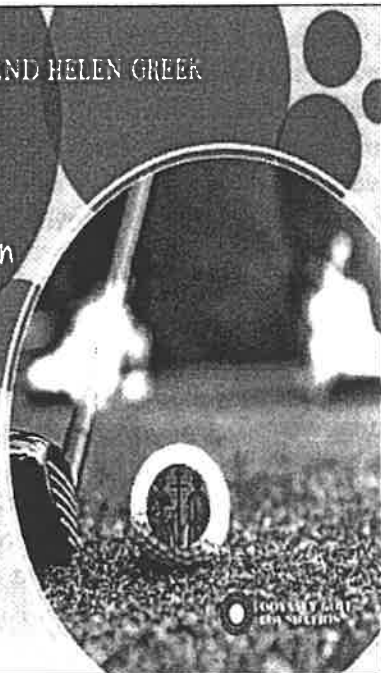
125\$ Per Player / 500\$ Per Foursome
Registration: 10:00-10:45 AM
Shotgun Event Start: 11:00 AM

Prizes & Games

18 Hole Skins Game
50/50 Split the Pot
Raffle

Food & More

Full Lunch Served On The Course
NO Post Round Dinner



† MEMORIALS †

40 Day Aristotle Sarlas
40 Day Nick Akis

† May their memory be eternal †

† FUNERALS †

The following funerals
were recently held

Vasiliki Kotsogiannis – August 27th
Frances (Fotini) Goritz – August 28th

† May their memory be eternal †

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

We welcome the following into the
Orthodox Faith and we pray that God grant
her many, many years!

Sunday, August 30, 2020 at 12:30 p.m.

Alexandra, daughter of
Alex and Maria Polymenakos

Sponsors: Bill and Gloria Lalezas



“Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty
will a rich person enter the kingdom of
heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier
for a camel to go through the eye of a needle
than for a rich person to enter
the Kingdom of God.”

Matthew 19:23-24



See you...



...Next Sunday