



Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
THE WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

Κυριακή 29η Σεπτεμβρίου 2019
ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Β' ΛΟΥΚΑ
Αποσ: Β' Κορινθίους 4:6-15
Ευαγγ: Λουκα 6: 31-36

2nd Sunday of Luke
Today's Readings
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15
Gospel: Luke 6: 31-36

THE NEW COMMANDMENT: LOVE YOUR ENEMIES (Luke 6:31-36)

The true acid test of love is not whether we love our friends, but whether we love our enemies. If you love your enemies, God is with you. That is the great test of whether or not we are in harmony with God; for that is what God Himself does. He sends His rain on the just and the unjust. The great writer G.K. Chesterton once said, "Love means to love that which is unlovable, or it is no virtue at all." But how do we do this? In a world like ours, this seems highly impractical and nearly impossible. To love our enemy - some would say - is to allow them to take advantage of us. To love our enemy is to let them step all over us. But love always has a better destination in mind.

Does God expect us to love the sin and what the sinful people do? No, of course not. As Fr. Byron would always tell us: We have to hate the sin and love the sinner. How can we separate the sin and the sinner? Our own emotions get in the way. Yet with ourselves, we make this same distinction every single day. We do sin, sometimes we do terrible things and commit big mistakes. We hate the mistakes we make, but we continue to love ourselves. In today's Gospel lesson, Jesus tells us "Do the same with others, love your neighbor as yourself." Hate the sin; love the sinner. Someone summed it up very nicely, "To love your enemy does not mean to love the mud where the pearl lies, but to love the pearl that lies in the mud."

We can ask ourselves: Why do we have to do this? The answer is simple. We all need love! It's a requirement in our lives. It's like food and air, it is a must for us to live. And that is why Jesus told His disciples: "A new commandment I give unto you; that you love one another, as I have loved you." The person who makes you miserable, the one who twists your words, and the one who is never happier than when they are trying to ruin your day; your enemy, love them. Love them for My sake, says Jesus. Love them "even as I have loved you."

Once we bring ourselves to accomplishing it, with God's help, we can see a miracle occur, because love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend. Failure to doing so brings us to a sad reality that we see in our world: returning hate with hate, multiplies hate. Only love can break the vicious circle.

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Overcoming evil with good means that we must take the first step; we must love and pray for the entire world – not just those who are on our side of the shore. A wise physician once said, "I have been practicing medicine for 30 years, and I have prescribed many things. But in the long run I have learned that for most human ailments, the best medicine is love." Someone asked him "What if it doesn't work?" He replied "Double the dose!" May we fill our lives with the love that we share and receive and may our hearts be inspired with our Lord's lesson "But love your enemies and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High"

ATTENTION!!!

Parents with Young Adults in College

In our ongoing mission to keep in touch and continue building a relationship with our Young Adults, we are asking for some information. If you have a son or daughter who is going away to college, please let us know the school they are attending, their school mailing address and email address. If your son or daughter may be commuting or staying local, please let us know this as well. Please email Fr. Chris at cpavro@aol.com or contact the main office at (708) 974-3400 with the information.

***Learn Greek
At Koraes***

Afternoon Greek School Begins
October 1

Classes are held from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays
October – April

For more information:
(708) 974-3402
or
www.koraes.org

IV ON THE GO

*(modeled after the typical Ionian Village
day at camp experience)*

Saturday, October 5

9:30 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Held at:

Holy Apostles Church, Westchester

Free to Grades 6-12 of the entire Metropolis

For more information go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/y4f9w3rv>

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Let us all do our Best for Our Church...

The needs of our Parish are many!
Please make your commitment now
to our Stewardship 2019 Campaign.

**You may do so in person,
by mail or online at:**
www.stconstantinehelen.org



ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Γ' ΛΟΥΚΑ

(Λουκά κεφ. Ζ' στίχοι 11-18)

Η ανάσταση του υιού της χήρας στη Ναϊν

Ο ευαγγελιστής Λουκάς είναι ο μόνος από τους ιερούς ευαγγελιστές που μας διηγείται, πως ο Χριστός ανήστησε θαυματουργικά το μοναχογιό της χήρας μητέρας στη Ναϊν. Η Ναϊν είναι μια κομμόπολη και βρίσκεται στα νότια του όρους Θαβώρ, στη Γαλιλαία.

Η Εκκλησία με τη σημερινή περικοπή θέλει να μας παρουσιάσει δυο βασικές αλήθειες: α) Ο Ιησούς Χριστός είναι ο αληθινός Κύριος και Θεός μας. Με τη θεία ζωή και δύναμη Του νικάει το θάνατο και β) Ο Κύριος είναι η ελπίδα και η ζωή μας. Με την ένδοξη Ανάσταση Του μας άνοιξε το δρόμο για την αιώνια ζωή.

Στο σημερινό θαύμα ο Κύριος ανασταίνει το μοναχογιό μιας πονεμένης χήρας μητέρας. Ο Κύριος νιώθει τον πόνο της δύστυχης μάνας, γι' αυτό και βρίσκεται πολύ κοντά της. Η παρηγοριά που της πρόσφερε ήταν η θαυματουργική ανάσταση του γιου της. Με το θαύμα αυτό ο Κύριος λέγει στη μητέρα και σ' όλους εμάς που διαβάζουμε την περικοπή, πως ο θάνατος νικήθηκε και μετατράπηκε σε ύπνο. Αυτό το χαρούμενο μήνυμα μας μεταφέρουν όλα τα θαύματα της αναστάσεως των νεκρών που έκαμε ο Κύριος. έτσι έγινε με το σημερινό θαύμα, με τη θυγατέρα του Ιάειρου (Βλέπε Λουκά η' 41-56) και το Λάζαρο (Βλέπε Ιωάννη ια' 1-44).

Ο θάνατος είναι το αποτέλεσμα της αμαρτίας του ανθρώπου. Οι Πρωτόπλαστοι, με την παρακοή τους, περιφρόνησαν την εντολή του Θεού κι εφάγαν απο το δέντρο του καλού και του κακού. έτσι έδειξε ο άνθρωπος, πως δε χρειάζεται στη ζωή του το Θεό. Ο Θεός όμως είναι η ζωή μας και το αληθινό φως του κόσμου. Αφού ο άνθρωπος αρνήθηκε με την αμαρτία του το Θεό, βρέθηκε αναγκαστικά στο θάνατο. έχασε το φως, που είναι ο Χριστός και βρήκε το σκοτάδι.

«Ο Μονογενής Υιός και Λόγος του Θεού» ήρθε στον κόσμο για να μας λυτρώσει απ ο το σατανά και το θάνατο. Ο Κύριος με το σταυρικό θάνατο Του και την ένδοξη Ανάσταση Του κατέργησε το θάνατο και μας χάρισε την αγάπη και την αιώνια ζωή. Το χαρμόσυνο αυτο μήνυμα του Ευαγγελίου αποτελεί την πίστη και τη ζωή της Εκκλησίας μας, που αδιάκοπα ψάλλει: « Ο Σταυρός Σου, Κύριε, ζωή και Ανάστασις υπάρχει τω λαώ Σου (= στο λα ο σου)».

Η Εκκλησία μας καλεί όλους να πάρουμε μέρος στη θεία Λειτουργία και να δεχτούμε μέσα μας τη ζωή του Χριστού με το μυστήριο της θείας Ευχαριστίας. Όταν κοινωνάμε το Σώμα και το Αίμα του Κυρίου, παίρνουμε μέσα μας τη ζωή του Θεού και έτσι νικάμε το θάνατο. Ο Μέγας Αθανάσιος ονομάζει τη Θεία Ευχαριστία «φάρμακο αθανασίας».

<http://paroutsas.jmc.gr>

Τρίτη 1η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

ΠΡΩΤΗ ΗΜΕΡΑ
ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΓΕΥΜΑΤΙΝΟΥ
ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟΥ

Α Β Γ Δ Ε
Ζ Η Θ Ι Κ
Λ Μ Ν Ξ Ο
Π Ρ Σ Τ Τ
Φ Χ Ψ Ω



Κυριακή 6 'Οκτωβρίου

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Γ' ΛΟΥΚΑ

" Ωρα 8·30 π.μ. - 11·15 π.μ.

"Ορθρος καί Θεία Λειτουργία

ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

Monday, September 30:

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Greek Folk Dance Practice
(8th – 12th Grade & Young Adults)
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. G.O.Y.A.

Tuesday, October 1:

8:45 a.m. Koraes Prayer – Agiasmos
(East Room)
4:30-6:30 p.m. Afternoon Greek School Begins
6:30-8:00 p.m. G.O.A.L. 3rd/4th; 5th/6th; 7th/8th
Grade Practices
8:00-9:30 p.m. G.O.A.L. High School Boys Practice

Wednesday, October 2:

6:30-8:00 p.m. G.O.A.L. Girls Practice

Saturday, October 5:

9 a.m.-4 p.m. St. Helen Women's Philoptochos
Greek Food, Pastries & Craft Fair

Sunday, October 6:

8:30-11:15 a.m. Orthros and Divine Liturgy
11:30 am-3 pm St. Helen Women's Philoptochos
Greek Food, Pastries & Craft Fair

✝ MEMORIALS ✝

40 Days Panagiota Palivos
1 Year Peter Petropulos
†May their memory be eternal†

✝ FUNERALS ✝

The following funerals were held this week:
Dr. A. Tom Petropulos Tuesday, September 24th
Helen Fotopoulos Thursday, September 26th
† May their memory be eternal †

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP/BAKE SALE

Today's Bake Sale is hosted by our
Sunday Church School.
Please support them.

SACRAMENT

WEDDING

We congratulate the following who have
joined their lives
together and we pray that God grant them
many years of Christian happiness and love!

Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.

Panagiota Zorbas & John Avtzis

Sponsor: Vasili and Vasiliki Cacis

St Helen Women's Philoptochos
Greek Food and Pastry
And Craft Fair

Saturday October 5: 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sunday October 6: 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

See you...



...Next Sunday

SAVE *the*
DATE

NOVEMBER 9, 2019

THE ODYSSEY VENUE
TINLEY PARK
6pm

Celebrating
110 Years

SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Invitation to Follow