



Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
THE WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2019

Κυριακή 26η Μαΐου 2019
ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΣΑΜΑΡΕΙΤΙΔΟΣ
Αποστ: Πραξ. 11:19-30
Ευαγγ: Ιωαν. 4:5-42

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Today's Readings
Epistle: Acts: 11:19-30
Gospel: John 4:5-42

Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen!

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN - THE SPIRIT OF THE TRUTH

In today's Gospel, we see clearly how Our Lord combines within His Person two natures, the human and the divine.

On the one hand, we see that as a human-being, like all of us, He is wearied, thirsty and hungry. The Gospel tells us, for example, that when midday, the sixth hour, had come, His disciples left him to obtain food in the city and that Christ, thirsty, asked the Samaritan Woman for drink.

On the other hand, we see that He is also divine. Living as God in eternity, He knows the present, past and future of everyone. It is for that reason that He knows that the Samaritan Woman has already been many times and that at present she is living with another man. He also tells her that He can give her 'living water' from an Eternal Well, and He tells the disciples that His 'food is to do the will of Him that sent Me'.

As a man, Christ was a Jew, and as the Apostle John says in his Gospel, 'the Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans'. His disciples are surprised to find Him talking not only with a woman, but especially with a Samaritan Woman. As God, however, Christ doesn't hesitate to talk to someone who is able to accept Him as the Messiah.

We know that the Jews had rejected Christ. The Jews turned the truths and revelations of the Old Testament into laws and rules and they could never accept that Christ, as a man a Jew, could come to save the whole world. For the Jews had kept the letter of the Law but had rejected the spirit of the Law. And without the Spirit they were unable to recognize Christ.

The Samaritans, on the other hand, had rejected the letter of the Law, but some of them opened their minds to the spirit, for they were open to Christ, the one who inspired the Law. Even though the Jews had rejected Christ, the Samaritans kept Him with them for two days and many believed in Him. As Our Lord said on His return from Samaria to Judea, 'a prophet has no honor in his own country'.

Why does the Church commemorate the Samaritan Woman today? At Easter the great truths of the Church are revealed — that Christ is both God and man, that He is crucified and risen from the dead. However, these truths will become much clearer at the time of Pentecost, where we understand their inner meaning

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and their implications for our daily life. By the Coming of the Holy Spirit, these truths become living, and we worship Christ in spirit and in truth. Thus the Church reads to us the words that, 'the hour is coming when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth'.

And this is the message of our Lord, that the Gospel of Christ must be preached in spirit and in truth, in all lands and throughout the world. For as long as there are new Samaritans, new peoples who are listening to hear the Truth there will still be a harvest to be reaped in the vineyard of our Lord.



Camp St. Constantine Vacation Church Camp

Monday – Friday: June 10 - 14

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Pre-Kindergarten to 7th Grade

*** Prayer services * Catechism * Music *
* Crafts * Athletics * Snacks ***

We are in need of lead camp counselors
(from our adult and parent community).

We also need assistant camp counselors
(from our teenagers, college students,
and young adults).

To apply or for more information, please contact
Fr. Tom at tomdemed@aol.com or call the
Church office at (708) 974-3400.

DOES YOUR COMPANY OFFER MATCHING GIFTS?

Many companies offer matching gifts to their employee's donations, if your business does, please contact Fr. Tom for more information or to prepare any paperwork that is required.

**Sign
up
today!**



GOLF

The Annual Fr. Byron Golf Open and Dinner

will take place on
Thursday, June 20, 2019
at the
Odyssey Country Club

Registration and Continental
Breakfast: 10:00 a.m.
Shotgun Start: 12:00 p.m.
Cocktails: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

frbyrongolf@gmail.com
**More information
to come!**

SOMETHING NEW AND EXCITING ON OUR WEBSITE

"We are excited to announce something new for our parish. If you have pictures from events that take place in our church and school, please email them to sschphotos@gmail.com and you just might find them on our website soon!"

We have begun posting pictures to our website, come take a look.

HANDY PEOPLE NEEDED

Our parish is always looking for people with skills in the areas of plumbing, electrical or carpentry. Please consider volunteering your time and talents to help us reduce our facility expenses. Please contact the church office at 708-974-3400 if you can help us.

Χριστός 'Ανέστη! - 'Αληθῶς 'Ανέστη!

ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΟΙ ΑΓΩΝΕΣ



Αυτό τό Σαββατοκύριακο
ή ένορία μας
φιλοξενή τούς ετησίους
'Ολυμπριακούς αγώνες τῆς
Μητροπολεῶς μας.
Καλωσορίζουμε τους αθλητες,
μαζί με τους Ιερείς
και προπονητές

<<Εάν δε και συμμετέχη κανείς εις
αθλητικούς αγώνας,
δεν παίρνει ως βραβείον
τον στέφανον, εάν δεν αγωνισθή
κατά τρόπον νόμιμον.>>

-Προς Τιμοθεον Β' 2,5

Δευτέρα 27η Μαΐου

Θα τελέσωμε κοινό μνημόσυνο στο
EVERGREEN CEMETERY

Ωρα - 8:00 π.μ.

Να φέρετε τα κόλυβα
πριν την ώραν αυτήν.

Τρισάγια στους τάφους
αμέσως μετά από το μνημόσυνο

Κυριακή 2η Ιουνίου

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΤΥΦΛΟΥ

Ωρα 8:30 - 11:15 π.μ.

Όρθρος καί Θεία Λειτουργία

<<Χωρίς κόπο τίποτε τό ωραιο
δέν μπορεί νά γίνη.>>

-Σοφοκλῆς



ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΣΑΜΑΡΕΙΤΙΔΟΣ

«Ούτος εστίν αληθῶς ο
Σωτήρ του κόσμου,
ο Χριστός».
(Ιωάννη κεφ. δ' στίχος 42)

Την προηγούμενη Τετάρτη η Εκκλησία μας είχε τη γιορτή της Μεσοπεντηκοστής, δηλαδή τις μισές μέρες για την Πεντηκοστή. Η γιορτή αυτή των Ισραηλιτών μας θυμίζει, πως αντλούσαν νερό από την κολυμπήθρα του Σιλωάμ και το έχουναν στο θυσιαστήριο που πρόσφεραν θυσίες στο Θεό. Ο Κύριος παίρνει αφορμή απ' αυτό για να μας διακηρύξει, ότι αυτός είναι «το ύδωρ της ζωής». Το Ευαγγέλιο με τη Σαμαρείτισσα έχει να μας διδάξει σπουδαίες αλήθειες για τη ζωή μας.

Ο Κύριος λέγει στη Σαμαρείτισσα, πως έχει το ζωντανό νερό, που άμα ο άνθρωπος το πει δε θα διψάσει ποτέ. Το νερό αυτό είναι, όπως μας λέγει ο ευαγγελιστής Ιωάννης, το Άγιο Πνεύμα, που οι άνθρωποι θα λάβουν την ημέρα της Πεντηκοστής. Το Άγιο Πνεύμα μας ενώνει με τη ζωή του Χριστού, όταν μεταβάλλει στη θεία Λειτουργία τον Άρτο και τον Οίνο σε Σώμα και Αίμα του Κυρίου μας. Όποιος κοινωνεί των Αχράντων Μυστηρίων παίρνει τη ζωή του Χριστού μέσα του.

Η Σαμαρείτισσα εκεί που δεν το περίμενε άκουσε τον Κύριο να της φανερώνει τα μυστικά της ζωής της. Ποιος άνθρωπος από μας μπορεί να κρυφτεί από το μάτι του Θεού; Την ώρα που ο άνθρωπος κάνει την αμαρτία, πρέπει να ξέρει πως τον βλέπει ο Θεός. Δεν υπάρχει τρόπος να κρυφτούμε από τον παντογνώστη Κύριο. Στους ανθρώπους μπορεί να υποκρινόμαστε, δηλαδή άλλα πράγματα να σκεφτόμαστε και άλλα να δείχνουμε με τις πράξεις μας. Αλλά το Θεό μήτε να τον γελάσουμε μπορούμε, μήτε να του κρυφτούμε. Ο Κύριος φανερώνει στη Σαμαρείτισσα και σε όλους μας ότι ο Θεός είναι Πνεύμα και πρέπει να τον λατρεύουμε πνευματικά και αληθινά. Αν αγαπάμε το Θεό, θέλουμε να βρισκόμαστε πάντα κοντά του. Να προσευχόμαστε, να μιλάμε μαζί του, να τον λατρεύουμε στην εκκλησία και να μετέχουμε στα μυστήρια της Εκκλησίας μας.

Η Σαμαρείτισσα είχε ειλικρίνεια στην καρδιά της. Αναγνώρισε τις αμαρτίες της χωρίς δικαιολογία. Και ρώτησε τον Κύριο για τον ερχόμενο Μεσσία. Ήθελε να συνδεθεί μαζί του με την πίστη και την αγάπη. Γι' αυτό και ο Κύριος της αποκαλύπτει: «Εγώ είμαι, της λέγει, που σου μιλώ». Μεγαλύτερη τιμή και ευεργεσία από αυτή δεν μπορούσε να βρει η Σαμαρείτισσα. Έγινε μάρτυρας του Χριστού στους συμπατριώτες της, γιατί τον είχε ζήσει πια μέσα στην καρδιά της. Έγινε η πρώτη ιεραπόστολος, που μάζεψε στο Χριστό πολλούς Σαμαρείτες, που ομολογούσαν με αξιοθαύμαστη πίστη: «Αυτός είναι ο αληθινός σωτήρας του κόσμου, ο Χριστός».

Πηγη' <http://paroutsas.jmc.gr>

ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

Monday, May 27: Memorial Day

Church and School Offices Closed

8:00 a.m. Memorial Service (at Evergreen Cemetery) with Memorial prayers Offered over graves to follow

Wednesday, May 29:

4:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Soccer (Mighty Mighty)

5:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Soccer (Minors)

6:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Soccer (Majors)

8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Friday, May 31:

9:30 a.m. Toddler Play Group

4:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Soccer (Mighty Mighty)

5:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Soccer (Minors)

6:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Soccer (Majors)

Sunday, June 2:

Sunday of the Blind Man

8:30-11:15 a.m. Orthros and Divine Liturgy

Graduate Sunday Sunday, June 2



We are honoring all our graduates from Koraes, High School and College/University. Please submit name(s) of your graduates and school they attended by calling the church office at
(708) 974-3400.

KORAES SCHOOL

Orthodox Christian Preschool – Elementary –
Middle School ENROLL TODAY!

www.koraes.org or call (708) 974-3402

† MEMORIALS †

1 Year	Phil Lauria
4 Years	Cleopatra Akathiotis
6 Years	Kyriakoula Symeonides
27 Years	Sam Symeonides
28 Years	George Akathiotis
38 Years	Andreas Symeonides

† May their memory be eternal †

† FUNERAL †

The funeral of *Georgia Pronoitis* was held on
Thursday, May 23rd.

† May her memory be eternal †

OLYMPIC VILLAGE CAFÉ

Come taste the delicacies today at our Olympic Village Café (East Room) immediately after Liturgy!
All proceeds benefit Koraes School.
Please support them!

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



See you...

...Next SUNDAY!