



Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church  
**THE WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN**

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019**

Κυριακή 2η Ιουνίου 2019  
ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΤΥΦΛΟΥ  
Αποστ: Πραξ. 16:16-34  
Ευαγγ: Ιωαν. 9:1-38

Sunday of the Blind Man  
Today's Readings  
Epistle: Acts: 16:16-34  
Gospel: John 9:1-38

*Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen!*

**LORD, HELP US SEE**

In our very own city of Chicago, there was once a man, Dr. Jacob Bolotin, although his name that may not be known by the masses, he holds a very special place in medical history. He was born in 1888 and came from a Polish family who lived in poverty. Unfortunately, blindness was genetic in his family, and three out of the seven children in his family were born blind, including Jacob. Due to his disability, he quickly developed his other senses. After graduating from a school for the blind, Jacob worked as a salesman, selling brushes and typewriters on Chicago streetcars. His big dream was to become a doctor, but most colleges weren't willing to accept a blind student. After much persistence, he was finally accepted into the Chicago College of Medicine. When he graduated at the age of 24, he became the first blind person to become a licensed physician. Bolotin's specialty was studying diseases of the heart and lungs. Since he couldn't see his patients, he relied on his fingers and ears to diagnose a patient's ailments. One of many examples was his diagnosis of a young woman with an obstructed heart valve. He did it just by feeling her skin and listening to her heartbeat. In addition to his medical work, he traveled across the Midwest giving lectures on blindness and started the first all-blind Boy Scout troop. He passed away at a very young age of 36, but gave us an inspiration and an example for all of us to follow.

In today's Gospel of John, we read about the blindness of a man who was also blind from birth. Just like the Doctor, he had never been able to see anything. But on this day, he was to see, and his first image in life would be to meet the Lord. Jesus told to His disciples, "I am the light of the world." He would bring light to this blind man—because all he had seen his whole life was darkness. Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud and He put it on the man's eyes. The man could now see! This man who had never seen anything could now see it all. But what did he see? To this point, we only consider physical blindness - not being able to see to see objects. The most important kind of blindness, is spiritual blindness - where we see with our eyes - but we can't see God, His love, His forgiveness, and His blessings. If a person has this kind of blindness, one may get lost and never find the way.

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***Today is Graduate Sunday***

Today we are honoring all our graduates from  
Koraes, High School and College / University.  
Congratulations Graduates!

In this passage, the Pharisees, the religious leaders of the day, were missing the bigger picture as many of us do. They didn't see the work of Christ in this man. We can find many instances in our world of spiritual blindness. Many people do not believe that Christ is the Saviour of the world, even though Jesus healed so many, just like this man. These healings were not tricks. The Pharisees admit that the miracles were real. Something very fresh in our minds is the Resurrection. Then there were the disciples, who turned from uneducated workers into strong and inspired Apostles. They may have started with spiritual blindness, in time, they would be able to see very clearly. Christ came so that we can find and truly see the way to salvation.



**Camp St. Constantine  
Vacation Church Camp**

**Monday – Friday: June 10 - 14**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Pre-Kindergarten to 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

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

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

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

To apply or for more information, please contact  
Fr. Tom at [tomdemed@aol.com](mailto: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!**



**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.

**To register or become a sponsor  
please go to:  
[birdeasepro.com/frbyron](http://birdeasepro.com/frbyron)**

**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](mailto: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!

### Δευτέρα 3η Ιουνίου **ΧΡΙΣΤΙΑΝΙΚΗ ΦΙΛΟΞΕΝΙΑ**

εις τόν 'Ιερόν Ναόν του  
'Αγίου Σπυριδωνος, Palos Heights  
8·00 π.μ. Ορθρος, Θεία  
Λειτουργία καί Αρτοκλασία  
Θα ακολουθησει γεύμα εις τήν  
αιθουσα τῆς εκκλησίας.

### Τρίτη 4η Ιουνίου "Ωρα 6·00 μ.μ. - Ορθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία **ΑΠΟΔΟΣΙΣ ΠΑΣΧΑ**

### Τετάρτη 5η Ιουνίου

"Ωρα 9·30 π.μ.  
Εξετάσεις τοῦ  
Προ-Νηπιαγωγείου μας

"Ωρα 11·00 π.μ.  
Εξετάσεις τοῦ  
Νηπιαγωγείου μας

### Πέμπτη 6η Ιουνίου **ΑΝΑΛΗΨΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ** **ΗΜΩΝ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ**

"Ωρα 8·00 π.μ.  
"Ορθρος καί Θεία Λειτουργία

"Ωρα 5·00 μ.μ. Τελετή τῶν  
τελειοφοίτων τοῦ ἡμερησίου  
μας Σχολείου ὁ ΚΟΡΑΗΣ  
'Απονομή διπλωμάτων



### Παρασκευή 7η Ιουνίου

'Τελευταία ἡμέρα τοῦ  
ἡμερησίου μας Σχολείου  
ὁ ΚΟΡΑΗΣ  
Καλό Καλοκαίρη!

### Κυριακή 9η Ιουνίου **ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ**

"Ωρα 8·30 - 11·15 π.μ.  
"Ορθρος καί Θεία Λειτουργία

## ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΤΥΦΛΟΥ

### **ΦΩΣ ΚΑΙ ΣΚΟΤΑΔΙ: ΔΥΟ ΠΡΑΓΜΑΤΙΚΟΤΗΤΕΣ** «Φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου»

**Προόμιον:** Φῶς καί σκοτάδι: δύο πραγματικότητες. 'Ο Χριστός, «τό φῶς τοῦ κόσμου» νίκησε τό σκοτάδι στό πρόσωπο τοῦ ἐκ γενετῆς τυφλοῦ, τόν ὁποῖο θεράπευσε μέ τή θαυματουργική του ἐνέργεια.

**α.** Ἡ πραγματικότητα τοῦ φωτός: Ὑπάρχει τό φῶς τοῦ ἡλίου, τό ἠλεκτρικό καί τεχνητό φῶς. Ὑπάρχει ὁμοίως καί τό ἀληθινό φῶς πού δέν ἔχει καμιά σχέση μέ τά φυσικά ἢ τεχνητά φῶτα. Ἡ θεία Ἀποκάλυψη μᾶς πληροφορεῖ πῶς τό φῶς αὐτό εἶναι ὁ Θεός! Ἀλλά καί ὅταν ὁ Υἱός τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐγίνε ἀνθρώπος, διεκήρυξε καί εἶπε: «Φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου». Ὅταν γεννήθηκε, πραγματοποιήθηκε ἡ προφητεία τοῦ προφήτη Ἡσαΐα πού εἶχε διακηρύξει γι' αὐτόν: «'Ο λαός ὁ κατήμενος ἐν σκότει εἶδε φῶς μέγα» (Ματθ. δ' 16). Καί πραγματικά, μέ τόν λόγο καί τό ἔργο του, ὅπως λ.χ. μέ τό θαῦμα τῆς θεραπείας τοῦ ἐκ γενετῆς τυφλοῦ, ὁ Χριστός ἀπέδειξε πῶς ἦταν ὄντως «τό φῶς τοῦ κόσμου» ('Ιωάν. ἡ' 12). Ὅσοι ἀνθρώποι δέχονται τόν λόγο τοῦ Χριστοῦ βρίσκουν τήν ἀλήθεια, τό «φῶς τῆς ἀληθινῆς» ('Ιωάν. α' 9) καί γίνονται «υἱοί φωτός» ('Ιωάν. ιβ' 36).

**β.** Ἡ πραγματικότητα τοῦ σκότους: Ὑπάρχει ὁμοίως καί ἡ ἄλλη, ἡ ἀντίθετη πραγματικότητα: τό σκοτάδι. Ὅχι μόνο τό φυσικό, πού ἄλλωστε διακόπτεται ἀπό τό φῶς τῆς μέρας ἢ τό σκοτάδι τῆς τύφλωσης πού λίγο-πολύ ὑπερνικᾶται ἀπό τίς ἄλλες αἰσθήσεις. Ἀλλά τό μόνιμο καί ἀδιάκοπο σκοτάδι. Πρόκειται γιά τό σκοτάδι τοῦ Κακοῦ, πηγῆ καί ἀρχηγός τοῦ ὁποῦ εἶναι ὁ διάβολος, «ὁ κοσμοκράτωρ τοῦ σκότους» ('Εφεσ. σ' 12). Ὅπου κυριαρχεῖ τό κακό καί ἡ ἀμαρτία ἐκεῖ ἀπλώνεται βαθύ τό σκοτάδι, ὁ θάνατος. Ὅσοι ἀνθρώποι τελοῦν καί ὑποστασιάζουν τό κακό, γίνονται ὄργανα τοῦ σκότους, τό σκοτάδι κυριαρχεῖ στή ζωῆ καί τά ἔργα τους, πού εἶναι «ἔργα τοῦ σκότους» (Ρωμ. ιγ' 12). Καί ὄχι μόνο αὐτό. Τό σκοτάδι μάχεται κατά τοῦ φωτός. Μέ μανία, μέ μίσος, μέ σύστημα ἐξορμάει γιά νά σβῆσει τό φῶς. Ἄν γιά μιά ψυχή, ὅταν μπαίνει στό βασίλειο τοῦ φωτός «χαρά γίνεται ἐν οὐρανῶ» (Λουκ. ιε' 10), ἄλλη τόση χαρά, δαιμονική χαρά, γίνεται, ὅταν μιά ὑπαρξή κερδίζεται στό βασίλειο τοῦ σκότους... Αὐτή ἡ πάλη μεταξὺ φωτός καί σκότους ἄρχισε μέσα στόν Παράδεισο καί θά τελειώσει στή Βασιλεία τοῦ Θεοῦ, μέ τήν ὀριστική νίκη τοῦ φωτός πάνω στό σκοτάδι.

**Ἐπίλογος:** Νά ζητᾶμε νά ἔλθει τό φῶς μέσα μας: «Ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου» (Ματθ. σ' 10). Καί νά ἀγωνιζόμαστε νά ἀπλωθεῖ τό φῶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ γύρω μας. Νά κρατᾶμε ἀναμμένη τήν λαμπάδα τῆς πίστεως μέχρις ὅτου ἔλθει ὁ Νυμφίος, «ἐν τῷ μέσῳ τῆς νυκτός», νά μᾶς παραλάβει στό Βασίλειο τοῦ αἰωνίου φωτός.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

### Monday, June 3:

8:00 a.m. Orthros / Divine Liturgy / Artoclasia followed by Philoxenia Sr. Luncheon at St. Spyridon Church

### J.O.Y. Soccer Playoffs

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

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

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

### Tuesday, June 4:

6:00 p.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy for Apodosis of Pascha

### Wednesday, June 5:

9:30 a.m. Koraes Pre-School Farewell

11:00 a.m. Koraes Kindergarten Graduation

2:30 p.m. Koraes Prayer Service / Farewell to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates

### J.O.Y. Soccer Championships / Awards Party

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

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

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

7:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Awards Party

8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

### Thursday, June 6: Ascension of our Lord

8:00 a.m. Orthros / Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Koraes 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

### Sunday, June 9:

#### *Sunday of the Holy Fathers*

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

## ✠ MEMORIALS ✠

2 Years His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos

6 Months Andreas Livieratos

1 Year Theodora Ntanos

✠ May their memory be eternal ✠

## COFFEE FELLOWSHIP / BAKE SALE

Today's Coffee Fellowship is hosted by our *Parish Outreach Committee.*

Please join them.

### Would you like to host Fellowship/Coffee Hour?

...a time to gather with our Parish Family

As it has been our tradition for many years, each week, following the Divine Liturgy, we gather in our East Room for coffee and snacks. If you would like to host the Fellowship Hour, please contact the church office at (708) 974-3400 or email Fr Tom at Tomdemed@aol.com

### 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](http://www.stconstantinehelen.org)

### KORAES SCHOOL

Orthodox Christian

Preschool – Elementary – Middle School

ENROLL TODAY!

[www.koraes.org](http://www.koraes.org) or call (708) 974-3402

See you...



...Next SUNDAY!