



Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
THE WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

Κυριακή 1η Σεπτεμβρίου 2019
ΑΡΧΗ ΤΗΣ ΙΝΔΙΚΤΟΥ
Αποστ: Α' Τιμοθέου 2:1-7.
Ευαγγ: Λουκα 4·16-22

Feast of the Indiction
Today's Readings
Epistle: 1 Timothy: 2:1-7
Gospel: Luke 4:16-22

THE INDICTION – LET TIME BEGIN

On the feast of the Indiction, we celebrate the first day of the new Church year. The word "indiction" means "a proclamation," and its origins can be found in the Roman Empire. September 1st in the Roman Empire marked the beginning of the fiscal year, and the Emperor would make a proclamation on that day with the aim of facilitating the tax collections.

But even earlier than this, the beginning of September was seen as the beginning of a New Year for the Hebrew tribes. It was a time when harvests for the year were collected and stored, and trumpets were sounded and prayers given in thanksgiving to God for the past year's harvest, and they prayed to God to bless the winter months ahead. So, the Hebrew civil year, as we read in the Book of Exodus, begins in September.

There is, however, a deeper spiritual meaning to the feast of the Indiction. On this feast, the Church, through the hymns, the prayers, and the Scripture readings of today, draws us to reflect on how we, as Orthodox Christians, view time in relation to our spiritual life and our salvation.

Before the coming of Christ, most of humanity saw time as something cyclical. Certainly the Greeks saw the world this way. The seasons change in a round of cycles, people are born, grow old, and pass away. The sun rises and sets. And all of this in perpetuity, with no necessary beginning and no necessary end. It was not generally thought that history *had* an end – that it was going somewhere. Yet with the coming of Christ and the spread of Christianity, the world began to see things differently. Indeed, time *does* have a beginning, and history certainly *does* have an end. And not only does history have an end, but it has a *purpose* as well! Time has a purpose, as well as a meaning. As Christians, we know that all will end in the Last Judgment and the Resurrection. Jesus will return, the dead will be raised, and we will enter into a new existence. We will enter into eternity. This is the End.

God sent His Son in time *to redeem the time*, and to bring us to salvation. And so time matters, and has been given to us for our salvation – to make use of it in order that we might draw closer to God. It is for this reason why we have times and seasons for feasts and fasts, so that we may redeem the time and participate in "this acceptable year of the Lord." And each moment, and each minute, is important and not to be wasted. This moment has meaning because time has meaning. This moment has purpose because time has purpose. Will I use this moment to draw closer to God, and thus draw closer to eternal life in Christ? And when our time is up, will we find ourselves in the Kingdom? Or will we find ourselves in the outer darkness due to our own choosing.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

In our modern days, we have more and more of *everything*, yet we always complain that we have don't have enough time. Do we really use our time wisely? Do we "redeem the time," sanctifying it and offering it to the Lord in thanksgiving and gratitude? Do we do good works, help our friends and family, or work on sorting out our differences? Or do we waste our time in mindless distractions, which many times are no further than an arms length away? Is our time eaten away by cares of this world, with no thought of our real intended eternity – the Kingdom of Heaven. Let us not waste time, and today, let us make a good beginning. Let us consider the words of Solomon in the book of Ecclesiastes (3:11): "God has made everything beautiful in its time, and He put eternity in our hearts in such a way that we cannot understand all He has done from beginning to end." May we all strive every minute to love God and to fulfill His Will.

ATTENTION!!!

Parents with Young Adults attending 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.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Sunday School Begins
September 15

G.O.Y.A. Returns
(8th Grade and High School)
September 16 (7:00 – 8:30 p.m.)

Greek Folk Dance Practice
(8th Grade and High School)
September 9 (6:00 -7:00 p.m.)

Afternoon Greek School Begins
October 1

Please call the Church Office at
(708) 974-3400

With any address, phone number or
e-mail changes
so that we can keep you informed of
Church Services and other events.

SEPTEMBER FESTIVALS

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|-----------------------------------|---------|
| All Saints, Joliet | 6 – 8 |
| SS. Constantine & Helen, Rockford | 6 – 8 |
| St. Iakovos, Valparaiso, IN | 20 – 22 |



Κυριακή 8η Σεπτεμβρίου
Κυριακή προ τῆς Ὑψώσεως
Γενέθλιον τῆς Θεοτόκου
Ὡρα 8:30 π.μ. - 11:15 π.μ.
Ὁρθρος καὶ Θεία Λειτουργία



ΠΡΩΤΕΣ ΗΜΕΡΕΣ
ΤΟΥ ΚΑΤΗΧΗΤΙΚΟΥ
15η ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ
ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΓΕΥΜΑΤΙΝΟΥ
ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟΥ
Τρίτη 1η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ



Ἡ Κοινότητα μας
προσκαλεῖ οὖλους
τοὺς Ἑλληνορθοδόξους
ἠλικιωμένους των
νοτιῶν προαστίων του
Σικάγου στή
Χριστιανική Φιλοξενία
τὴν Τρίτη 10η Σεπτεμβρίου
Ὡρα 9.30 π.μ.
Θεία Λειτουργία καὶ
Επιμνημόσυνες Δεήσεις
Θά ἀκολουθήσει γεύμα

Εἴσοδος ΔΩΡΕΑΝ

Γιά κλείσεις θέσεων
τηλεφωνήστε στο
708-974-3400



« Το μέτρο τῆς ζωῆς
εἶναι ἡ ἀγάπη. »

ΑΡΧΗ ΤΟΥ ΝΕΟΥ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣΤΙΚΟΥ ΕΤΟΥΣ



Ἴνδικτον 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, ἀδελφοί, ὅτι ἡ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἀγία Εκκλησία εορτάζει σήμερον τὴν Ἰνδικτιῶνα, διὰ τρία αἴτια. Πρῶτον, ἐπειδὴ καὶ αὐτὴ εἶναι ἀρχὴ τοῦ χρόνου. Διὰ τοῦτο καὶ κοντὰ εἰς τοὺς παλαιούς Ρωμάνους πολλά ἐτιμάτο αὐτὴ ἐξ ἀρχαίων χρόνων. Ἰνδικτιῶν δε κατὰ τὴν ρωμαϊκὴν, ἤτοι λατινικὴν γλώσσαν, θέλει να εἰπῆ ὀρισμός. Καὶ δεῦτερον εορτάζει ταύτην ἡ Εκκλησία, ἐπειδὴ καὶ κατὰ τὴν σημερινὴν ἡμέραν, ἐπῆγεν ὁ Κύριος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦς Χριστός μέσα εἰς τὴν Συναγωγὴν των Ἰουδαίων, καὶ ἐδόθη εἰς αὐτὸν τὸ Βιβλίον τοῦ Προφήτου Ἡσαΐου, καθὼς γράφει ὁ Ευαγγελιστὴς Λουκάς (Λουκ. δ'). Το ὁποῖον Βιβλίον ἀνοίξας ὁ Κύριος, ὦ τοῦ θαύματος! εὐθὺς εὔρε τον τόπον ἐκεῖνον, ἤτοι τὴν ἀρχὴν τοῦ ἐξηκοστοῦ πρώτου κεφαλαίου τοῦ Ἡσαΐου, εἰς τὸ ὁποῖον εἶναι γεγραμμένον διὰ λόγου τοῦ τα λόγια ταῦτα: «Πνεῦμα Κυρίου ἐπ' ἐμέ, οὐ ἔνεκεν ἔχρισέ με, ευαγγελίσασθαι πτωχοῖς ἀπέσταλκέ με, ἰάσασθαι τοὺς συντετριμμένους τὴν καρδίαν, κηρῦξαι αἰχμαλώτοις ἀφῆσιν καὶ τυφλοῖς ἀνάβλεψιν, ἀποστεῖλαι τεθραυσμένους ἐν ἀφέσει, κηρῦξαι ἐνιαυτὸν Κυρίου δεκτόν». Ἀφ' οὐ δε ἀνέγνωσεν ὁ Κύριος τα περὶ αὐτοῦ λόγια ταῦτα, ἐσφάλισε τὸ Βιβλίον καὶ τὸ ἔδωκεν εἰς τὸν υπηρέτην. Ἐπειτα καθίσας, εἶπεν εἰς τὸν λαόν «ὅτι σήμερον ἐτελειώθησαν οἱ λόγοι τῆς Προφητείας ταύτης εἰς τα ἐδικά σας αὐτία». Ὅθεν ὁ λαός ταῦτα ἀκούων, ἐθαύμαζε διὰ τα χαριτωμένα λόγια, ὁποῦ εὐγαινον ἐκ τοῦ στόματός του, ὡς τοῦτο γράφει ὁ αὐτός Ευαγγελιστὴς Λουκάς (αὐτόθι).

Εἶναι δε καὶ τρίτη αἰτία, διὰ τὴν ὁποῖαν ἡ Εκκλησία τοῦ Χριστοῦ κάμνει σήμερον ἐνθύμησιν τῆς Ἰνδίκτου, καὶ εορτάζει τὴν ἀρχὴν τοῦ νέου χρόνου: ἡγοῦν, ἵνα διὰ μέσου τῆς ὑμνωδίας καὶ ἱκεσίας, ὁποῦ προσφέρομεν εἰς τὸν Θεόν ἐν τῇ εορτῇ ταύτῃ, γένη ὁ Θεός ἰλεως εἰς ἡμᾶς, καὶ εὐλογῆσιν τὸν νέον χρόνον, καὶ χάριση τούτον εἰς ἡμᾶς εὐτυχὴ καὶ γεμάτον ἀπὸ ὅλα τα σωματικά ἀγαθά. Καὶ ἵνα φωτίση τὰς διανοίας μας, εἰς τὸ να περάσωμεν ὅλον τὸν χρόνον καθαρῶς καὶ με ἀγαθὴν συνείδησιν, καὶ εἰς τὸ να εὐαρεστήσωμεν τῷ Θεῷ, με τὴν φύλαξιν των ἐντολῶν του. Καὶ οὕτω να τύχωμεν των ἐν Οὐρανοῖς αἰωνίων ἀγαθῶν».

Πηγή: www.saint.gr

ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

Monday, September 2: *Labor Day*

Church and School Offices Closed

Wednesday, September 4:

2:45 p.m. Koraes School Prayer Service

Thursday, September 5:

6:00 p.m. Koraes Open House

Sunday, September 8: *Sunday Before Holy Cross / Nativity of the Theotokos*

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

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

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

† MEMORIALS †

1 Year Aggeliki (Angie) Konidaris
4 Years Panagiotis Ventouris
12 Years Stavroula Kalogiannis
May their memory be eternal †

† FUNERALS †

The following funerals were held this week:

Panagiota Palivos Monday, August 26th.

Mary Munson Thursday, August 29th.

† May their memory be eternal †

SACRAMENTS

WEDDINGS

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

Sunday, September 1, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

Eleni Arestis and Michael Perovanovic

Sponsor: Steve Demogerontas

Saturday, August 31, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Valerie Georgelos and Peter Kotsiovos

Sponsor: Christina Mihalos



See you...

...Next SUNDAY!