

September 6, 2015

Epistle Reading: **St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 1:21-24; 2:1-4**

BRETHREN, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

But I call God to witness against me - it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Gospel Reading:

14th Sunday of Matthew The Gospel of Matthew 22:2-14

The Lord said this parable, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.' But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

September 6, 2015

*Coffee hour the Lamprinakos, Christulides and Mitsos families
in loving memory of +Joan Lamprinakos.*

Memorials	+Karen (Kyriaki) Callas	1 year
	+Yvonne (Brecky) Rameas	2 years
	+Joan Lamprinakos	4 years
	+Polyxeni (Jane) Tsironas	5 years
	+Polyxeni Brincka	6 years
	+Sam Rameas	10 years
	+Harry Tsironas	18 years
	+Paraskevi (Vivi) Kalas	19 years
	+Constantine Callas	32 years

Monday	Labor Day ~ Office closed
Tuesday	Nativity of the Theotokos 9am Divine Liturgy @ Monastery in Saxonburg
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	Monastery Walk "Steps to Heaven" 5pm Vespers 6pm GOYA Kickoff

Please join us for our Feast Day Luncheon on Monday, September 14 following Liturgy. Menu: shrimp, rice, salad, bread & dessert. Adults \$12; children \$6. Fasting food donations to share are welcome! ~Elaine Sofis, Philoptochos President

Autumn Food Fair yard signs are available in the vestibule and community center. Please place the signs in residential yards or approved businesses. Mt. Lebanon has been removing the signs from public spaces!

Yiayia Joan's Attic will accept jewelry, toys, books CLEAN linens, household goods and collectibles beginning Sunday, September 20 Please NO broken items and NO clothing. Please contact Pam Lagios at 412 276-4614 or JoAnna Asvestas at 412 519-0403 with questions.

GOLDEN CLUB: On Tuesday, September 15, 2015, a trip is planned to the Laurel Highlands to tour the Kentuck Knob home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in the early 1950's. We will continue to Stone House Restaurant for lunch. Cost for the tour is \$18.50. (Does not include lunch). Please reserve your space by contacting Rene or Cynthia; deadline for payment is September 7. Please make check payable to GOLDEN CLUB OF HOLY CROSS.

Moussaka will be prepared on Monday and Tuesday, September 21&22 at 9:30AM for the Autumn Food Fair. Late arrivals are always welcome! Thank you to ALL who have volunteered in preparing the variety of foods for next month!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2015



Steps to Heaven

Walk ~ Volunteer ~ Donate

To find out how you can be part of the Steps to Heaven walk benefiting the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery, visit www.stepstoheavenwalk.org. For more information, contact us at info@stepstoheavenwalk.org

Greek school: First day/registration Sept. 16 @4:15pm
Contact Dena: dymalis@comcast.net or 412-343-8355.

2nd Annual Michael Megaludis Memorial Golf Outing will be **Monday, October 5** Brochures are in the narthex or register online at www.HolyCrossPgh.org

Finding the balance of time... As we enter a new Church year and a new academic year we are challenged with the many demands placed upon our families. In order to help our families and maximize our time at Church on Sunday morning we are keeping our "summer hours" year round.

The Sunday Schedule will be as follows:

8:15am Matins begins

9:30am Divine Liturgy begins--**Please note that if Matins ends 5 minutes earlier, we will go right into the Div. Lit. so please be prompt at 9:20am**

10:30am (*this is an approximate time*) – following Holy Communion, the children will proceed to Sunday School

11am –Divine Liturgy will conclude (*SEE BELOW*)

11:30am - conclusion of Sunday School lessons

When the Divine Liturgy concludes, we invite all members of the community to coffee hour. **We ask that you DO NOT congregate in the hallway** where the Sunday School lessons are taking place. This is disruptive to the teachers and children who are working diligently to benefit from a lesson that has been prepared for their spiritual edification. Our intention of keeping the 9:30am Divine Liturgy start is to allow our children to experience both the Liturgy and Sunday School and not have to leave class early. Please help us in our mission to educate our children in the Orthodox Faith and please join us for some fellowship in the community center.

WELCOME – AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION

We warmly welcome all visitors and seekers in our midst today, trusting that your experience here will be an uplifting and enriching one. The Greek Orthodox Churches are the ancient and native Christian communities of the biblical world, with centers in the Holy Lands, Syria, Egypt and Asia Minor, and by extension in Greece, Cyprus and throughout the world. Like the ancient Christians, we engage the whole person, heart, mind and all senses in Divine Worship. This experience has been so powerful to seekers in the past that it was often said "We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth. We knew only that there God dwelt among human beings." (*Russian Primary Chronicle*) That communion experience of heaven on earth and God in our midst forms the heart of all Orthodox worship. It culminates in the sharing of Holy Communion, which not only unites us with the Divine, but also expresses the deep unity in faith and life between all Orthodox believers. Since Holy Communion expresses that deep unity in belief and practice alike, it is reserved for observant Orthodox Christians. This does not mean, however, that non-Orthodox are 'excluded' - rather, the Orthodox choose not to make an external display of unity when actual unity does not exist. While working to restore the full communion that did exist in antiquity, today we offer the sign of the blessed bread at the service's conclusion as a symbolic gift of hospitality and growing unity that is offered to all present. If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox way of life, or have any questions about worship or *Holy Communion*, please approach Fr. Michael or one of the clergy following services. *Thank you for joining us, and again, we welcome you all.*

Philoptochos Autumn Food Fair and Yiayia Joan's Attic, October 7-9, is quickly approaching! Set up, **October 4-6** Volunteers needed: **Thursday, October 8 & Friday, October 9**, Dinner food lines anytime from 4-8PM. Contact Elaine Sofis 412 344-7046. **Friday, October 9**, Lunch food line, anytime from 11:15-3PM. Contact Terpsie Katsafanas 412 831-2248. Help needed in the prep room to make salads & gyro sauce, pan dolmathes, cashier, serve refreshments, and carry food to the line. Please call Elaine Sofis 412 344-7046. ALL welcome to volunteer to help Philoptochos assist those in need!

St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic church is hosting free seminars: Issues Facing the Modern Family, a series on timely topics of Relationship Violence and Addictions. *Sessions will be presented by Holly Lassila, DrPH, MSED, RPh and Gail Hague, MSED, NCC, LPC of Allegheny Medical Integrated Health Services.* Session on Relationship Violence Thursday, September 17 at 7pm and sessions on Addictions will be at 7pm on Tuesdays, October 6th & 20th in their Church hall, 2005 Mohawk Road, Brookside Farms, Upper St. Clair 15241 Admission is free. For more info, call (412) 835-7800

First Day of Class & Church School

Registration: September 13th

Registration will take place on Sunday, September 13th in the classrooms.

Parents please take the time to update your child's personal information and alert us to any special needs your child may have.

- ♥ **Children entering the Pre-School class must be 3 years of age by September 1st.**
- ♥ **Children entering our Kindergarten class must be entering Kindergarten in public/parochial school.**
- ♥ **Our Pre-School and Pre-K classes are available for children not yet entering Kindergarten.**

**It is preferable that each child attend the same Church School Grade Level in which they are in public/parochial school. Please make every effort to place your child in their proper class.*

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS GREEK ORTHODOX MONASTERY

Με τὴν εὐλογία τοῦ Σεβασμιωτάτου Μητροπολίτου κ.κ. Σεββα
καὶ τοῦ Πνευματικοῦ Πατρός Γεροντοῦ Ἐφραίμ,
ἡ ἱερά Μονή τῆς Γεννήσεως τῆς Θεοτόκου προσκαλεῖ τὴν ἀγάπη σα
διὰ τὴν εὐλοβικὴ συμμετοχὴ
σα" στὴν μεγάλη λατρευτικὴ πανηγυρὶ τῆς"

**Υπεραγία" Θεοτόκου
στὶ" 7 καὶ 8 Σεπτεμβρίου, 2015**

With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Sava and
their Spiritual Father Elder Ephraim,
Gerontissa Theophano and the Sisters of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Monastery invite you with abundant love to join them for the feast of the

Feast day of the Nativity of the Theotokos:

*Monday, September 7th
Great Vespers begins at
5pm followed by Orthros*

*Tuesday, September 8th
Divine Liturgy at 9am*



A variety of pastries as well as hand-crafts will be available for purchase.

121 St. Elias Lane; Saxonburg, PA 16056 Phone: 724-352-3999

Please call in advance if you anticipate bringing a bus.
We ask all pilgrims to please dress modestly. Thank you.

VISIT US ON ONLINE: <http://www.nativityofthetheotokosmonastery.org>

YOU ARE INVITED...On Sundays September 13th & 20th immediately following Divine Liturgy – Holy Cross is hosting a **MINISTRY EXTRAVAGANZA!!!**

You are invited to meet the members of our community that are doing the ministries of our beloved Church. Please come and find a ministry that you feel called to support and offer your time and talents!

Here is a list of the ministries that you will find:

Parish Council
Philoptochos
GOYA
JOY
Stewardship
Garden of Love
Golden Club
Building Committee
Acolytes
Sunday School
Greek School
Choir
Chanters
Food Festival
Coffee Hour

Vacation Church School
Missions and Outreach (FOCUS
Pittsburgh/MISSIONS)
Circle of Angels
Sts. Mary & Martha
First Steps of Christ
Arts and Letters
Christmas Pageant
Greek Dance
Bible Study
Young Adults
Prosphora Baking
Sandwiches for the homeless
Walk for Missions

Find out what you are missing, ask questions, figure out how you would like to participate in the life of our beloved Holy Cross. Want to start a new ministry, talk to Fr. Michael. We are always looking for ways to serve the Lord!

Holy Cross Sunday School students are being asked to donate much needed "back to school" personal hygiene supplies for the 2,000 children being helped by FOCUS. The items include toothpaste, toothbrush, mouthwash, dental floss, shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, comb, hair brush and socks. Please bring your donations on September 20th & 27th, and October 4th, and place in the collection box in the vestibule. Although these are simple items we have readily available for our daily use, they are things most of the FOCUS children do not have at all. All parishioners are encouraged to participate. Your donations will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.