

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Epistle reading is from St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15 Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel According to Luke 8: 5-15 The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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Fr. Michael Kallaur
Fr. Dan Korba
Dn. Frank Dickos
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Altar flowers are sponsored today in loving memory of †Ponny Conomos by her family.

Coffee Hour is sponsored today by the family of †William B. and †Ponny Conomos.

Memorials: †Mary Gianoutsos Trilivas 40 days
†Ponny Conomos 20 years
†Father George Christulides 28 years
†William B. Conomos 32 years

This Week at Holy Cross

Monday 6:30pm Paraclesis
Tuesday
Wednesday St. Luke 8:30am Matins/9:30m Divine Liturgy
4:30pm Greek School
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

In case of emergency while
Fr. Michael is away,
you can contact:

Fr. Dan Korba
(412) 262-4589

or

Fr. John Chakos
(412) 215-4829

There will be table at coffee hour **today** and next **Sunday, October 22** and to sign up for those interested in participating in **JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth) for children 6-12**. We are looking forward to planning some great activities (*once a month after church*) for the JOY kids. If you have any suggestions for a fun youth group activity or are willing to plan or host an activity, please let us know. Thank you, Annika Geanopoulos, Christine Chapas, and Stacey Chakos

Financial update: September Stewardship \$32,087 / September Expenses \$43,955

Men's group will meet on **Saturday, October 28th** at 7:30am in the community center. Breakfast will be provided. Voluntary donation of \$5 to cover the cost of breakfast would be appreciated.

Thank you to ALL the special "soup" ladies who prepared the three types of soups for the Autumn Food Fair! We sold over 300 containers! Thank you to our fantastic senior Greek dancers. Your dancing was an enticement to attend the Fair and stay for the entertainment. Thank you, again, to ALL the volunteers who made this Autumn Food Fair the most successful ever! Save the dates for next year's Fair-October 3, 4, 5, 2018!

~Elaine Sofis & Marica Mitsos, Autumn Food Fair Co-Chairs

There are a just few frozen pans of pastitsio left over from the Autumn Food Fair. Please see Elaine Sofis or Marica Mitsos at coffee hour if you wish to purchase a pan.

Philoptochos Cooking News: SAVE the Date - *CHANGE of Date (announced at meeting)* Chicken rolls will NOW be prepared on Thursday, November 2 at 10am to be frozen and sold to our parishioners for the holidays in December. Please join us for the fellowship! Leftover food fair chicken is being put to good use!

Saints Mary & Martha Women's Fellowship

Psalms in Orthodox Worship ~Topic: Proimiakos: Opening Psalm of Vespers, Psalm 103

Metropolitan Savas, Speaker on Tuesday, October 24 7pm - 9pm at the home of

Mary Halkias, 208 Lemoyne Ave, Mt. Lebanon 15228

RSVP 412-531-8625 or mzhalkias@verizon.net

AS ALWAYS, PLEASE RSVP SO OUR HOSTESS CAN PLAN!

Veterans Day Celebration: On Sunday, November 5, 2017, Philoptochos will sponsor a coffee hour honoring all our veterans, as well as all our men and women still on active duty in the armed services. It is our wish to say "thank you" to all veterans and active duty personnel. We would like to once again display military memorabilia or mementos such as a photo or photos, letters, stories, tributes, uniforms and military awards in the social hall during coffee hour. We'll collect these cherished items in the narthex on November 5th until communion. Upon leaving coffee hour, you may take the items with you.

Father Michael will conduct a memorial service for our veterans who have passed away and an artoclasia for the health and well-being of those still on active duty.

If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Henry (412-561-5682) or Dina Petrakis (412-341-8509) Co-chairs.

Holy Cross Community Night

Thursday, November 9th, 6-8:30pm

All Ages from
3—103+

Spend Time
With Your
Church Family



Free
Dinner

ADULTS: COUPLES, SINGLES
YOUNG ADULTS
GOYANS
JOYANS
3—5 YEAR OLDS

SPEAKERS
DISCUSSION GROUPS
CHANTING
CRAFTS
GAMES
AND MORE!

*Philoptochos Annual Christmas Party at LeMont
Tuesday, November 28 @ 6:30pm*

Call Mary Zotis (412)835-2381 for reservations

Choices are: Chicken \$32/Salmon \$35/Filet or Rack of Lamb \$40

LEARNING ABOUT BREAST CANCER

Daughters of Penelope

And

St. Nicholas Philoptochos

present:

A lecture given by Dr. Gordon
Abrams, Radiologist, Magee,
UPMC

Tuesday, October 17th

7:00 PM

St. Nicholas Cathedral

Light Refreshments following lecture

RSVP: JLM563@aol.com by October 10th



All Saints Ladies
Philoptochos Society,
IN MEMORY OF
ELAINE VELISARIS MANNINA
Presents...

Trending into Fashion

Luncheon & Fashion Show

SUN. OCTOBER 29 AT NOON

Hilton Garden Inn - Southpointe

Guest Mistress of Ceremonies WPXI's Melanie Gillespie

Fashions by Trendy Trousseau
Children's fashions by Chic Chateau
Jewelry by Chloe's Adornments

Ticket Price: \$40

For information & tickets please contact Renie Pihou
724-746-2646 or Becky Loutsion 412-217-7183

Proceeds benefit local families in need &
Neuroendocrine Cancer Foundation.

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.

THE CHURCH ~ A HOLY PLACE

When you enter the church building as the "House of Worship," you are entering into the Great Throne Room of the "King of Kings" as His subjects and His soldiers. The "King of Kings," Jesus Christ, is enthroned on the Holy Altar and all the angels, prophets, saints and the Most Holy Mother of God are present. His soldiers should be attentive and standing at attention. No one in the presence of the "king of Kings" would sit with his legs crossed, or his hands in his pockets, or chewing gum, or looking at his watch because to do any of these things would be disrespectful. The only proper disposition a soldier can have before his commander is that of reverence which is indicated by a bowed head, a submissive heart and prayer.