

TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

December 8, 2013

Saints Commemorated today: St. Patapios of Thebes, and Sts. Apollo, Tychikos, Sosthenes, Cephas, Epaphroditos, Caesar & Onesiphoros, Apostles of the Seventy

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 2:14-22

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

ENTRANCE HYMN: GRAVE TONE

(Page 46 in "The Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom")

Thou hast Destroyed Death by Thy Cross; Thou hast opened Paradise to the thief; Thou hast changed the lamentation of the Myrrh-bearers; into joy; and Thou hast commanded Thine Apostles to proclaim that Thou, O Christ our God, hast arisen, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

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WELCOME LADIES FROM SAINT JOHN MONASTERY

The ladies from Saint John Monastery are with us today with Lenten food and Christmas items. Thank you.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The elections for the 2014/2015 Parish Council will take place following Liturgy today. According to the St. Andrew By-laws: Section 5:

For the purpose of determining a parishioner's entitlement to notice, or to vote at any Parish Assembly, or to make a determination of good standing for any other purpose, the parishioner must meet the following standards:

- B. A parishioner who has paid his/her stewardship pledge in full for the previous year and who has paid seventy-five (75%) percent of his/her stewardship for the current year is eligible to vote at the Fall Parish Assembly and in the election of Parish Council membes.
- C. A new parishioner of the Parish may vote in a Parish Assembly or Election of Parish Council if he/she has been enrolled at least three (3) months prior thereto. His/her stewardship pledge must be seventy-five percent (75%) paid to be eligible to vote at the Fall Parish Assembly and the Election of Parish Council members.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT/LUNCHEON

The Christmas pageant is fast approaching, and the children are working hard learning the music that they will be performing as a group for the event. However, we are also asking that any child who

would like to perform a solo and share their talent at the end of the pageant to sign up with Eleni Owens ASAP. We are looking for vocal solos or group performances, instrumental solos or group performances, dances, or anything else that the children would like to share. Sign up by either seeing Eleni on Sunday, or emailing her at Hellenicutie@hotmail.com. The pageant will be held after Liturgy on Sunday, December 15th. If any parent would like to help with any setup (costumes, luncheon, etc), please see Eleni, Billie Limberopoulos or Cindy Katris.

ST. ANDREW AND CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to make a donation towards the flowers for Saint Andrew Feastday or Christmas, please contact the office. St. Andrew Icon Frame (\$85), St. Andrew vase arrangements (\$90 each), Nativity Icon Frame (\$70). Thank you.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS/HOSTESSES

We are in need of Coffee Hour hosts/hostesses for many Sundays throughout the year. Please take a minute to sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. All parishioners of Saint Andrew are welcome to sign up. Thank you.

FREE WI-FI IS NOW AVAILABLE

Wi-fi is now available. Please see Father George, a Council Member, the church office or Joseph for access information.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Please remember to check the ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR when scheduling activities. They should ***not*** be scheduled during service times. This is disrespectful to God and unacceptable. Thank you.

PROSFORO COMMITTEE

We are in need of Prosforo bakers, please contact the office to sign up!!!

Please note that without the Prosforo, Divine Liturgy cannot be conducted. Recently, we have had several members of this committee that are unable to continue to be a part of the committee. If you would be willing to sign up to make Prosforo twice a year (once every six months), please contact the office or Artemis Hoke. If you are currently a member of the committee and unable to provide it on your scheduled Sunday please contact the office, so that we may make arrangements. Thank you.

Current Members: Maria Angelos, Arlene Batalis, Marina Carlin, Cindy Crawford, Maria Giannakakis, Artemis Hoke, Athina Kamiotis, Anthoula Kanalos, Pres. Elaine, Mary Koucouthakis, Ted Poledor, Penny Poulos, Joan Prathaftakis, Nick Proicou, Rose Rorres, Sigrid Thanos, Mary Jo Tirikos, Neovi Karakatsanis, Ioanna Bilonis and Janice Lampos.

REMINDER FOR PARISHIONERS

There should be NO talking in the Narthex during the Divine Liturgy. (No one should be congregating in the hallways or Fellowship Hall). It is completely disrespectful to God and to the worship service of our Church.

REMINDER FOR PARENTS

The Little Lamb bags, located in the coat room, are available for your child(ren) to use during church service. Please, follow the instructions. Thank you. **Please** keep the numbered books in the correct bags. We also have had a few books destroyed. Let's try to be gentle.

For the convenience of parents with crying children, a "cry room" is located off the Narthex for your use. **ATTENTION PARENTS: PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDREN ARE NOT WANDERING AROUND THE CHURCH DURING SERVICES. THIS IS VERY DISRUPTIVE TO EVERYONE. THANK YOU!**

PARKING

PLEASE NOTE: Many people are parking in the 'No Parking' and 'Handicap' parking areas. We have many parishioners who have a legitimate need to park there. Please do not use the handicap spaces unless you have a tag or plate. Please **do not** park in the **NO PARKING AREAS** at all. We appreciate your cooperation in this. Thank you.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE

Please remember to dress appropriately and modestly for church services. There is no chewing gum, talking or crossing your legs in church. Everyone should arrive on time for the Liturgy. Do not leave trash (bulletins, paper, etc) in the pews. It is considered disrespectful for anyone attending Orthodox Christian services to cross their legs during service, chew gum or come in late. Also women who are planning on taking Communion should not wear lipstick or should remove it before going up for Communion. **TURN OFF CELL PHONES.** Thank you.

A NOTE TO OUR VISITORS

People of different religious affiliation or tradition who behave in a respectful manner are always welcome at the liturgical services of our Holy Orthodox Church but **ONLY MEMBERS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH who share a common faith and practice a specific spiritual discipline may participate in the Church's sacraments and receive Holy Communion at the Orthodox Divine Liturgy. The Greek Orthodox Church has a closed communion and no intercommunion with any other Christian body.** We are blessed by your presence with us and thank you for your understanding. May God bless you always.

A NOTE TO ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS

ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS PLEASE NOTE: The proper preparation for receiving Holy Communion is: 1) prayer; 2) keeping the fast throughout the year (Wednesdays, Fridays, Great Lent, fast of the Holy Apostles, fast of the Dormition and the Christmas Fast, etc); and 3) most important, participating in the Sacrament of Holy Confession and Repentance. **ALSO follow these guidelines as you approach for Holy Communion: Take the red cloth from the person before you and place it under your chin. Say your baptismal name. Open your mouth wide and receive the Holy Spoon in your mouth, lower your lips on the Holy Communion spoon and carefully remove the Holy Eucharist so that there is nothing left. After partaking of the Sacrament blot your lips and hand the red cloth to the person behind you. Receive one piece of antidoron, return to your seat and read the post communion prayer. Lipstick, lip gloss, lip balm, etc, should be removed prior to approaching the chalice. Receiving the precious Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ should not be treated like a fast food service. You should come on time for the Divine Liturgy (that means at the beginning) and not leave until the completion of the service.** *This means that every time you eat this bread and drink from this cup you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. It follows that if anyone eats the Lord's bread or drinks from his cup in a way that dishonors him, he is guilty of sin against the Lord's body and blood. So then, everyone should examine himself first, and then eat the bread and drink from the cup. For if he does not recognize the meaning of the Lord's body when he eats the bread and drinks from the cup, he brings judgment on himself as he eats and drinks. That is why many of you are sick and weak, and several have died. If we would examine ourselves first, we would not come under God's judgment. But we are judged and punished by the Lord, so that we shall not be condemned together with the world. (1 Corinthians 11:26-32).*
At the time of communion, please allow families with infants to approach first, followed by the children and then the adults. Thank you.

The Communion Prayer is located in the Divine Liturgy Books on page 40 (old edition) and 66 (new edition). Everyone is encouraged to participate in the reciting of the Communion Prayer together.

YOUR PRAYERS HELP...

“...I was sick and you visited Me...” St. Matthew 25:36. “Holy Father, Physician of our souls and bodies have mercy, forgive and heal thy servants.” The following brothers and sisters in Christ need your constant prayers and love, *recovering at home or ill at home/hospital*: Mary Verongos (St. Joseph Rehab), and John Magrames (home).

In nursing homes or home bound: Esther Magrames (St. Joseph Nursing home), Mary Manos (home), Bill and Betty Kanalos (Hearth at Juday Creek), Amelia Morris (Miller's Merry Manor, Walkerton), Joan Rekos (Signature), Helen Kaldis, Mary Rudhman (home), and Telesila Yustwan (Home).

Today's **Ushers** are: Andy Manos, Manolis Anagnostou, George Mighion, Chris Strafford, Pete Arvan, Mike Chronopoulos. If you are not serving in the pangari today, you should join everyone in the Sanctuary. Thank you.

Today's **Epistle Lesson** will be read by an **Altar Boy**.

Mary Koucouthakise prepared the **Prosforo** for this morning. May our God grant you spiritual joy always.

The Coffee Hour was lovingly prepared for our entire community by **the Giannakakis, Samoilis, Skotadis, Limberopoulos and Giannakakis families**. We thank you for your love and generosity.

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 9 th	Conception of the Theotokos 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Vespers 4:30pm
Tuesday, December 10 th	Orthros 9am Vespers 4:30pm Parish Council 7pm
Wednesday, December 11 th	Paraklesis to St. Nektarios 9a Vespers 4:30pm
Thursday, December 12 th	St. Spyridon 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Vespers 4:30pm
Friday, December 13 th	Paraklesis to Theotokos 9a at Holy Dormition Chapel Vespers 4:30pm
Saturday, December 14 th	Great Vespers 5pm
Sunday, December 15 th	11 th Sunday of Luke 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Christmas Program/Luncheon

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, December 16 th	Orthros 9am Vespers 4:30pm
Tuesday, December 17 th	St. Daniel & the Three Holy Youths 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Vespers 4:30pm
Wednesday, December 18 th	Paraklesis St. Nektarios 9a Vespers 4:30pm
Friday, December 20 th	Paraklesis to Theotokos 9a at Holy Dormition Chapel Vespers 4:30pm
Saturday, December 21 st	Great Vespers 4:30pm
Sunday, December 22 nd	Sunday Before Nativity 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 6-8-, 2014	Grecian Festival
June 12-14, 2015	Grecian Festival

2013 Financial Report

Nov 13 Income	Nov 13 Expenses	Monthly Balance	Nov 12 Income	Nov 12 Expenses	Nov 12 Balance
\$26,519.00	\$23,092.40	\$3,426.00	\$18,948.25	\$34,936.37	--\$15,988.09

YTD Income	YTD Expense	YTD Balance	12 YTD Inc	12 YTD Ex	12 YTD Bal
\$370,550.20	\$357,300.75	\$13,249.45	\$516,040.67	\$501,425.41	\$14,615.26

Stewardship Report

Nov Pledge Income	Nov Pledge Goal	Difference goal/income	YTD Pledge Inc	YTD Pledge Goal	Difference goal/income
\$17,746.00	\$16,500.00	\$1,246.00	\$133,693.00	\$158,500.00	--\$24,807.00

*Year-to-date as of Dec 6, 2013

Our monthly stewardship goal in November is \$16,500.00; we have received \$17,746.00

Our current bank balance is \$2,939.89 (As of 12-6-13).

OUR HOLY MISSION

St. Andrew’s Greek Orthodox Church of South Bend, IN is a Christian Community committed to serving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit, and united in faith and in love with God, and called to make that love real to others through...

- WORSHIP (the Divine Liturgy) and the reception of the Sacrament of Holy Communion by which we achieve union with Jesus Christ and with each other.
- PHILANTHROPIC DIAKONIA (service) to those people in need of our love and compassion. In teaching His disciples the Lord said, “...as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:40)
- EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES which enable Orthodox Christians to grow in Christ and be faithful disciples and prepares them to strengthen their personal commitment to our Lord, His Church and the holy Gospel.
- NATIONAL AND PARISH MINISTRIES of our Holy Orthodox Church which provide opportunities for Parish Outreach and to live as an integral and vital part of the community. The prime objective is to encourage a greater participation in the life of the Church and the world.
- TEACHING the commandment of the New Life, imparting a clear knowledge of the doctrines, traditions, canons and disciplines of the Church and guiding the growth, progress and enlightenment of all Orthodox Christians.

Rev. Father George Konstantopoulos, Protopresbyter
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SAINT ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS CARD
SPONSORED BY THE PHILOPTOCHOS



It is time to put your name in the Saint Andrew's Annual Christmas Card. For \$15.00, you will be able to reach the entire parish; a value, considering the price of postage and cards if you were to send individual ones. You may forward your form to mjtirikos@msn.com or mary@apolloprinting.com or fax to **574-217-8284**

Please sign the form below and return, with payment, to the Church office by December 8th, 2013.

Make checks payable to **St. Andrew Philoptochos**
and mark outside of the envelope: *Christmas Card*.

CHRISTMAS CARD ORDER FORM

Method of Payment: _____ Check _____ Cash

Your full name: _____

Name(s) as you want them to appear on the card: _____

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

St. Andrew's Philoptochos would like to express gratitude for all the generous donations of food, money and time that have been given throughout the year.

One of our methods of fundraising to serve the needs of many is the annual Christmas card. Please, forward the attached flyer to Mary Koucouthakis or Mary Jo Tirikos by fax, e-mail or phone. Your \$15.00 donation may be made at the Church office specifying the Philoptochos Christmas Card.

Thank you, St. Andrew Philoptochos



St. Andrew's Philoptochos Food Drive

The thanksgiving and Christmas season is upon us. It is time to open our hearts and give to those in need. Giving to those in need is just like giving to Christ.

Matthew 25:35 *"for I was hungry and you gave Me food..."*

Matthew 25:40 *"and the King will answer them, truly, I say to you as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me"*

Each year, Philoptochos and those willing to help have assembled baskets of food and other necessities to give to families in need in the name of St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church.

We are changing the way we collect for the food drive. Rather than purchase the food items, we have decided to give grocery store gift certificates, that way the recipients can choose the food items that they like and that meet their dietary needs.

Please consider giving a generous monetary contribution that can be used by the Ladies Philoptochos Society to purchase grocery store gift certificates. Monetary contributions can be given to Kelly Popyk (Philoptochos treasurer) or to the Parish office marked food drive. Any donation will be accepted.

And as always, if you know of anyone who could use a grocery store gift certificate please notify Philoptochos or the Church office secretary. Please, let us know how many are in the family that could use a gift of food for Christmas. We will also give to the local food bank, so please give generously.

With sincere gratitude,

St. Andrew Ladies Philoptochos