

Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women

April 29, 2012

Saints Commemorated today: Sts. Jason & Sosipater (Apostles of the 70) and their companions; Holy Martyr Cercyra; St. John of Kaloktenos; STs. Theocharus & Apostolus of Arte; St. Basil, Bishop of Montenegro and St. Nektarios, New Martyr of Optina

EPISTLE READING

Acts 6:1-7

Brethren, now in those days, when the number of disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God was spread, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 15:43-16:8

Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

ENTRANCE HYMN: 2ND TONE

(Page 45 in "The Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom")

When Thou, the Deathless Life, didst descend toward Death, then didst Thou put to death Hades through the dazzling brightness of the Godhead; and when Thou didst raise up the dead from the Abyss, all the powers of the Heavens cried aloud: O Christ our God, Giver of Life, glory to Thee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Spring Parish Assembly is today immediately following Liturgy. Please be sure to join us. We need 25 for a quorum. Thank you.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Preparations are underway for a new church directory to be published this year. Thank you to Brittany Verhamme for volunteering to photograph parishioners and to those who availed themselves of this opportunity during the Plaki Dinner. Brittany will hold another photography session following liturgy on **Sunday, May 20, 2012**. (This is the last day of Sunday School.) Please contact the church office to register for this session. The photographs are informal and no fees will be assessed other than the cost of materials utilized to develop the photographs. Parishioners who wish to submit their own photograph may do so provided that the photograph is appropriate for a church directory. The directory planners reserve the right to return any photograph deemed inappropriate. In addition, parishioners are asked to contact the church office to update address, household composition, home telephone number, cell number and email address.

GREEK RELIEF FUND

The Holy Archdiocese of America is conducting a philanthropic aid to assist the people of Greece faced with economic crisis. We ask that all of you respond with generosity and compassion so that we as a Greek Orthodox Parish will do our share to alleviate the pain of our people in Greece and come to their support. God Bless you and thank you. Checks can be made payable to Saint Andrew with the memo line "Greek Relief Fund."

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Please remember, *especially during Great Lent*, 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.

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).*

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*: Phyllis Leonakis (Michiana Rehab), Chris and Peggy Bouris (home), Helen McCormick (home), Leon Andrews (home), Helen Kaldis, Mary Rudhman (home), and Telesila Yustwan (Home).

In nursing homes or home bound., Bill and Betty Kanalos (Brentwood at Niles), Amelia Morris (Southfield Village), Mario Rekos (Morningside), Anna Moskolis (Kindred), John Kouroubetes (Woodridge), and Dina Polezoes (Hubbard Hill).

THIS WEEK

Monday, April 30 th	St. James the Apostle 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Vespers 4:30pm
Tuesday, May 1 st	Orthros 9am Vespers 4:30pm
Wednesday, May 2 nd	Paraklesis to St. Nektarios 9am Vespers 4:30pm
Thursday, May 3 rd	Philoptochos 7pm

Friday, May 4 th	Paraklesis to the Theotokos 9am Vespers 4:30pm
Saturday, May 5 th	Great Vespers 5pm
Sunday, May 6 th	Sunday of the Paralytic 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, May 7 th	Good Samaritans 6:30pm
Tuesday, May 8 th	Parish Council 7pm
Saturday, May 12 th	Great Vespers 5pm
Sunday, May 13 th	Sunday of the Samaritan Woman 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy
June 8 th -10 th	Grecian Festival

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.