

SUNDAY BEFORE HOLY CROSS

September 10, 2017

Saints Commemorated today: Sts. Mendora, Mettrodora & Nymphodora the Martyrs and St. Poulcheria the Empress

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

ENTRANCE HYMN: PLAGAL OF THE FIRST MODE

Let us worship the Word who is unoriginate with the Father and the Spirit and from a Virgin was born for our Salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. For in His goodness He was pleased to ascend to the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, and to raise up those who had died, by His glorious Resurrection.

FOURTH MODE

As the first-called of the Apostles, and brother of their leader O Andrew, entreat the Master of all that peace be granted unto the world and great mercy to our souls.



PROSFORO COMMITTEE

We would like to thank all the committee members for their service over the years and God's Blessings to those who have retired this year: Penny Poulos, Artemis Hoke, Joan Prathaftakis, Rose Rorres, and Janice Lampos.

Jesus is the Bread of Life Who offers Himself for our salvation. "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood you have no life in you; he who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:53-54). **We NEED parishioners willing to join the Prosforo Committee.** If needed, we will do an instructional class for anyone who would like to join but is not sure how to prepare the Prosforo. **Generally it means making the Prosforo for two Sundays during the year and occasionally making extra for weekday Liturgies. Please contact the office if you are able to volunteer. Thank you.**

CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 17

Catechetical Classes begin on **Sunday, September 17.** There will be a Blessing of the Waters service for the beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year. The children will stay in Church for the Blessing and then will go to their classrooms. We look forward to seeing everyone!

PLEASE NOTE: All students need to fill out an enrollment form. The form is available in the fellowship hall. Please return the form to the Church School office or coordinators (Anna Bush and Danielle Wiegel). Thank you!

Coordinators: We are happy to inform you that Father George has appointed Anna Bush and Danielle Wiegel as Church School Coordinators. We are blessed to have them and look forward to working with them.

COFFEE HOUR

Please note that the coffee helpers, *at Father George's direction*, do not start brewing the coffee until Father begins passing out the Antidoron. We thank you for your patience and cooperation.

DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Discretionary Fund is to assist families that face financial crisis, students that need financial aid, single moms, philanthropic institutions in this city and overseas, people with catastrophic illnesses, and missions for the Archdiocese, etc. Thank you for your support. If you would like to help please contact Father George or make donations payable to the Discretionary Fund.

BULLETIN FLYERS

We will no longer be including flyers in the weekly bulletin. They are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. This week there are flyers for: **Church School Enrollment Forms, Women's Business Bazaar, Direct (Auto) Debit forms.** Please take what you need.

REQUEST FOR TRANSFERRING PARISHIONERS

We are blessed to welcome new parishioners to Saint Andrews. We ask that you pick up a welcome packet from the table in the Fellowship Hall. You should call the office and schedule an appointment with Father prior to beginning to receive the Sacraments. *We also ask transferring parishioners to follow the Uniform Parish Regulations, Art 18, Sec 2: "A parishioner wishing to move from one Parish to another must present a letter of transfer from the Priest of the Parish from which he or she is moving stating that he or she is in good standing."*

CHURCH ETIQUETTE

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.

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.

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.

REMINDER FOR PARENTS

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!**

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*: Artemis Hoke (home), Anna Efthimiou (home), Jim Zeinis (home), and Nick Limberopoulos (home).

In nursing homes or home bound: Diana Katsanis (Golden View), Esther Magrames (Waterford), Mary Manos (Wellbrooke), Amelia Morris (Miller's Merry Manor, Walkerton), and Joan Rekos (Signature)

Today's **Ushers** are: 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**.

Maria Giannakakis prepared Prosforo for this morning. May our God grant you spiritual joy always.

The Coffee Hour was lovingly prepared for our entire community by. We thank you for your love and generosity.

THIS WEEK

Monday, September 11	Orthros 9am Vespers 4:30pm Church School meeting 6pm Good Samaritans 6:30pm
Tuesday, September 12	Orthros 9am Vespers 4:30pm
Wednesday, September 13	Orthros 9am Vesper s4:30pm
Thursday, September 14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy
Friday, September 15	Paraklesis to Theotokos 10am at Holy Dormition Vespers 4:30pm
Saturday, September 16	Great Vespers 5pm
Sunday, September 17	Sunday After Holy Cross 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Church School classes begin

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, September 18	Orthros 9am Vespers 4:30pm Parish Council 7pm
Tuesday, September 19	Orthros 9am Vespers 4:30pm
Wednesday, September 20	Paraklesis to St Nektarios 9am Vespers 4:30pm
Friday, September 22	Paraklesis to Theotokos 10am at Holy Dormition Vespers 4:30pm
Saturday, September 23	Conception of St. John the Baptist at Holy Dormition 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Great Vespers 5pm
Sunday, September 24	First Sunday of Luke 9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, October 14	Women's Business Bazaar
June 8-10, 2018	43 rd Annual Greek Festival

2017 Financial Report
(Does not include Festival)

Sep 17 Income	Sep 17 Expenses	Monthly Balance	Sep 16 Income	Sep 16 Expenses	Sep 16 Balance
\$1058.00	\$7,479.47	--\$6,421.47	\$14,978.00	\$39,886.60	--\$24,908.60

YTD Income	YTD Expense	YTD Balance	16 YTD Inc	16 YTD Ex	16 YTD Bal
\$200,472.48	\$245,069.51	--\$44,597.03	\$192,318.86	\$257,078.63	--\$64,759.77

Stewardship Report

Sep Pledge Income	Sep Pledge Goal	Difference goal/income	YTD Pledge Inc	YTD Pledge Goal	Difference goal/income
\$1,015.00	\$15,500.00	--\$14,485.00	\$119,660.00	\$194,500.00	--\$74,840.00

*Year-to-date as of September 8, 2017

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!