

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

February 7, 2021

Saints Commemorated today: Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus; Luke of Mount Stirion; Theopemptos the Martyr & his Companions; George the New Martyr of Crete; Afterfeast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple; and Richard, King of Wessex

EPISTLE READING

II Corinthians 6:1-10

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:14-30

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'" As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

ENTRANCE HYMN: 2ND TONE

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the netherworld, all the powers of the heavens were crying out. O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

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.



AHEPA-DAUGHTERS OF PENLOPE DISTRICT 12 SCHOLARSHIP

The AHEPA-Daughters of Penelope District 12 Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2021 scholarships. All high school seniors and college undergraduates are eligible. Please see their [website](#) for the application.

PHILANTHROPY AT ST ANDREW

As promised, our local Philoptochos chapter is working to bring *Operation Classroom* to life at Saint Andrew. This is a national Philoptochos Initiative aimed at helping local school districts. We have engaged with leadership of the South Bend School Corporation to introduce the project and to offer our parish's assistance through the efforts of Philoptochos. Our offer was very well received, and we were introduced to the Brown Community Learning Center located at 737 Beale Str., in South Bend. It serves as a hub of educational, recreational, cultural, health and civic partnerships which optimize the conditions for learning for children of the South Bend school corporation. This facility is also home to FaCE (Family and Community Engagement). This program offers a variety of courses designed to provide increased opportunities for families to improve their health, professional skills and economic well being. The school corporation identified this program as one that could greatly benefit from our offer and availability to help in a variety of ways - monetary or in kind donations, teaching classes or mentoring students. It is a new facility (approximately 1 year old) and is housed at the former Brown Intermediate School. We toured the facility this week, and were very impressed with its size and upkeep, programs offered and its over-all vision and mission of empowering and enabling students and their families to make the most out of their educational experience within the South Bend school corporation. Look forward to more information regarding this project, but start thinking about how you'd like to participate. The options are many: Donate funds, be a mentor, teach a class on a topic of your passion or expertise, donate books or other items that may be appropriate for a learning center. Taylor Williams, Director of the Brown Learning Center is compiling a wish list that he will share with us so we can better get focused on needed help. Philoptochos is in the process of examining the details of this opportunity, and we will come to you over the next few weeks with a solid plan for this year as we embark on this very needed and gratifying work in partnership with the educational component of our local community. THANK YOU! for supporting Saint Andrew's community outreach.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Stewardship of St. Elizabeth the Wonderworker: It is recorded that St. Elizabeth pledged herself to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with these words: "be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." At a very young age, St. Elizabeth the Wonderworker joined the monastic community of Ss. Kosmas and Damian in Constantinople. Her love for Christ was expressed through the compassion she poured upon all people, especially the less fortunate. The empathy shown by this saint relieved the suffering of the many people to whom she ministered. People from all walks of life heard of her great faith and humility and flocked to her to receive her blessings. The miracles attributed to her through Jesus Christ our Lord are

numerous, but can be summed up in her dedication to serve humankind. It is worthy to note that this saint possessed only one garment her entire life as a monastic. The daily chores expected of her, the changes of weather that would normally bring wear and tear to clothing, never changed the newness of her garment. She would rise from sleep each morning and her clothing would seem as fresh and clean as the day it was made. Even as she aged, the garment remained like new as if the Lord Himself had tailor-made her clothing. St. Elizabeth the Wonderworker provides an excellent example of sharing her Time, Talents, and Treasure with the Church. Having given her possessions, these worldly Treasures to the poor before she entered the monastery, using her Talents to minister to all people, young and old, the sick and the healthy, offering her Time to pray for others and to bless them, made the people acknowledge her as a true instrument of the Lord. We must learn from the life of St. Elizabeth the Wonderworker and realize that there is no greater gift to be shared than our love for Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. In the lives of the saints we see how He has rewarded them and that we, too, may participate in His glory. Faithful and committed stewardship must be a result of this love and faith in our Redeemer. It requires effort that is unconditional and total, literally our whole being...if we do not give ourselves to the Lord first, then the Time, Talents, and Treasure we do offer will never be enough!

The following is an update of our 2021 stewardship pledges: 73 households have pledged \$127,765. So far this year, we have received actual stewardship income totaling \$43,765. Thank you.

PROSFORO COMMITTEE

We are in need of 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 four Sundays during the year (2 every six months) and occasionally making extra for weekday Liturgies. The more who sign up the less often each individual will need to cover a Sunday. Please contact the office if you are able to volunteer. Thank you.

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).

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 John or make donations payable to the Discretionary Fund.

VISITING SAINT ANDREW?

People of different religious affiliation or tradition are always welcome at the liturgical services of our Holy Orthodox Church. If you are interested in learning more about Orthodoxy or have specific questions, please set up a time to speak with Father John.

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: Lynn Whittenberger (home), and Nick Limberopoulos (home).

In nursing homes or home bound: Andrew Manos (home), Aphrodite Pappas (Wellbrooke), Ted Poledor (Grand Emerald), Artemis Hoke (Westgate Garden), and Amelia Morris (Miller's Merry Manor, Walkerton).

Today's **Ushers** are: Manolis Anagnostou, George Mighion, Chris Strafford, Pete Arvan. 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**.

Neovi Karakatsanis prepared the Prosforo for this morning. May our God grant you spiritual joy always.

THIS WEEK

Sat, Feb 6	St. Photius the Great 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Great Vespers 5pm
Sun, Feb 7	16 th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Mon, Feb 8	St. Theodore the Commander 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Tue, Feb 9	Parish Council 7pm
Wed, Feb 10	St. Haralambos 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sat, Feb 13	Great Vespers 5pm Bake Sale Pick-up 10am - 1pm
Sun, Feb 14	Sunday of Canaanite 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy

LOOKING AHEAD

Wed, Feb 17	St. Theodore the Soldier 8:30am Orthros 9:30 Divine Liturgy
Sat, Feb 20	Great Vespers 5pm
Sun, Feb 21	Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee Triodion Begins 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Tue, Feb 23	St. Polycarp the Martyr and Bishop of Smyrna 9:30am Divine Liturgy

Sat, Feb 27

Great Vespers 5pm

Sun, Feb 28

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

8:30am Orthros

9:30am Divine Liturgy