

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

March 3, 2024

Saints Commemorated today: Holy Martyrs Eutropius, Cleonicus & Basiliscus; Theodoretos the Holy Martyr of Antioch; Nonnita, Mother of Saint David

EPISTLE READING

I Corinthians 6:12-20

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

ENTRANCE HYMN: PLAGAL SECOND MODE

When the angelic powers were at Thy tomb, then they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood beside the grave seeking Thine immaculate body. Thou has despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant life to us. O Thou who art risen from the dead, Lord glory be to Thee!

APOLYTIKION OF ST. ANDREW

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SAFETY POLICY

As a safety precaution: Please note that as of Sunday Feb. 25, Fr. John and the Sunday School have implemented a policy wherein **only** the Sunday School students, staff and teachers will be in the Sunday School hallway during class time. Obviously, the bathrooms and water fountain will be accessible, but please do not go past the bathroom area. The Sunday School staff has been instructed to inform wandering parishioners of this policy. This is for the safety of our children so please help us with this!

MEATFARE (APOKREATIKO) GLENDI - TODAY

Let's celebrate Apokries (Meatfare Sunday) together today, immediately after liturgy. If you were not able to reserve your spot for our celebration ahead of time, please note there may not be tickets available for purchase at the door. Thank you for your understanding!

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

The March Philoptochos meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17, following Divine Liturgy in the Good Samaritan Cultural Center. All Philoptochos members are kindly requested to attend.

Philoptochos has four trays of Spanakopita for sale, \$15 per tray. If you are interested in purchasing a tray, please see Neovi Karakatsanis after church or call her at 574-323-0835.

STEWARDSHIP 2024

In what has been a longstanding custom here at St. Andrew, there is a list published of all the stewards for the current year. The list simply writes the names of our stewards and whether or not these stewards have submitted a pledge card. Several of you have offered critiques of the list suggesting that it's a form of shame and pressure. This is a fair critique.

With that said, seeing the progress we've made with our Giving efforts, the Stewardship Committee and Fr. John are **hoping** to permanently get rid of this list in order to create a more wholesome, habitual, and loving way of offering God our first fruits. However, we need your help! Please submit your pledge card and offering!

WEDDING INVITATION

On Sunday, March 10 at 12:30 pm, Nahid and Alex Himonas Alexandrou invite the St. Andrew community to join for the wedding of their daughter, Eirene Alexandrou, to André Souza Moreira. There will be light refreshments following the ceremony. They look forward to sharing this special day with each and every one of you.

ZOE FOR LIFE

Please consider grabbing a baby bottle from the basket in the Fellowship Hall to support the pan-Orthodox ministry, *Zoe for Life!* Drop spare change into your bottle. When it's full, you may give the change to a Philoptochos member. Philoptochos will write a check in the amount collected and send it to the agency whose ministry supports women who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy by maximizing the birth mother's options. *Zoe for Life!* provides pregnancy testing, emotional support, referrals for professional counseling, Orthodox Christian adoption options, baby clothing, layette items, spiritual support, peer mentoring, post abortion recovery, and much more. To learn more about *Zoe for Life!*, visit their [website](#).

KOLLYVA FOR SATURDAY OF SOULS

Philoptochos will make kollyva for parishioners who would like to commemorate a loved one who has fallen asleep in the Lord. Because quantities are smaller for Saturday of Souls than they are for Memorial Services that follow Divine Liturgy, the cost is only \$35.00. The kollyva will be brought to church on one large tray for the commemoration. If you would like kollyva made for your loved one, please call Anthoula Kanalos at (574) 220-9915.

ST. ANDREW TEXT MESSAGING COMMUNICATION

We're excited to announce a new way to communicate with you all! To subscribe to SMS notifications from St. Andrew, text CHURCH to 888-310-2605. For now, we're only planning to use this for schedule changes and urgent announcements. Once parishioners sign up and become comfortable, we'll seek feedback on perhaps expanding the use of this service. Please remember everyone must text CHURCH to the number above to receive these messages!

NEW TO ST ANDREW?

New or visiting St. Andrew? To get on our email list, to contact the Office, to learn more about our faith or to have Fr. John reach out to you, scan this QR code ([or go to this link](#)) and fill out the form.



FEED THE HUNGRY

We will be serving dinner at Hope Ministries on Tuesday, March 26, 5:30 - 7 pm. If you'd like to participate, contact Spyro at 574-404-1184 or corfu1000@gmail.com. Hope Ministries is located in downtown South Bend and helps many people who without many material means to turn their lives around and thrive. Dates for the remainder of the year are: Apr 23, May 28, Jun 25, Jul 23, Aug 27, Sep 24, Oct 22, Nov 26, Dec 24 (4th Tuesday of the month). Each volunteer is asked to bring 30 cookies to contribute to the kitchen's dessert supply. Thank you to everyone supporting this new and very important community outreach effort by Saint Andrew.

"Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me" Matthew 25-40

DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Discretionary Fund is to assist local parishioners (individuals and families) who have encountered financial hardship. If you would like to help please contact Father John or make donations payable to the Discretionary Fund.

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: Janice Lampos (home), Chester Kozyra (home), Vasilios Spentzos (home), Elizabeth.

Today's **Ushers** are: Manolis Anagnostou, Anna Napoleon, George Mighion; Chris Strafford, Pete Arvan.. If you are not serving in the pangari today, please join everyone in the Nave.

Today's Epistle Lesson will be read by an Acolyte.

Cindy Crawford prepared the Prosforo for this morning. May God grant you spiritual joy always.

No Coffee Hour. Please join us downstairs for Apokreatiko Glendi.

THIS WEEK

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| Sat Mar 2 | Great Vespers | 5pm |
| Sun Mar 3 | Sunday of the Prodigal Son | 8:15 Matins 9:30 Divine Liturgy following Liturgy |
| Sun Mar 3 | Meatfare (Aprokreatiko) Glendi | |
| Tue Mar 5 | SAREF Meeting | 6:30pm |
| Sat Mar 9 | Saturday of Souls | 8:30 Matins 9:30 Divine Liturgy |
| Sat Mar 9 | Great Vespers | 5pm |
| Sun Mar 10 | Sunday of the Prodigal Son | 8:15 Matins 9:30 Divine Liturgy following Liturgy |
| Sun Mar 10 | Good Samaritans meeting | |

LOOKING AHEAD

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| Sat Mar 16 | Cheesefare Saturday | 9:30 Liturgy |
| Sat Mar 16 | Great Vespers | 5pm |
| Sun Mar 17 | Forgiveness Sunday | 8:15 Matins 9:30 Divine Liturgy following Liturgy |
| Sun Mar 17 | Philoptochos Meeting | 5pm |
| Sun Mar 17 | Forgiveness Vespers followed by Ice Cream Social | 9:30am |
| Mon Mar 18 | Clean Monday-Lenten Hours | 6:30pm |
| Wed Mar 20 | Presanctified Liturgy | following service |
| Wed Mar 20 | Potluck Dinner hosted by Sunday School families | 6:30pm |
| Fri Mar 22 | Small Compline with Akathist Hymn | 9:30am Divine Liturgy |
| Sat Mar 23 | The Commemoration of the Miracle of Kollyva | 5pm |
| Sat Mar 23 | Great Vespers | 8:15 Matins 9:30 Divine Liturgy |
| Sun Mar 24 | Sunday of Orthodoxy | 8:30 Matins |
| Mon Mar 25 | Annunciation of the Theotokos | |

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| Wed Mar 27 | Presanctified Liturgy | 9:30 Divine Liturgy |
| Wed Mar 27 | Potluck Dinner hosted by Good Samaritans | 6:30pm |
| Fri Mar 29 | Small Compline with Akathist Hymn | following service |
| Sat Mar 30 | Great Vespers | 6:30pm |
| Sun Mar 31 | Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas | 5pm |
| | | 8:15 Matins |
| | | 9:30 Divine Liturgy |

Ionian Village/Crossroad

Two life changing programs that our youth should know about and have an opportunity to participate in are Ionian Village and CrossRoad. Here is some information on registering for both for parents and teens to pursue. Please help us spread the word. Ionian Village is a Summer Camp and CrossRoad is an Institute. Both are also so much more so, please take a moment to learn about them.

Important Note: From past experience when registering for Ionian Village it is important to be at the computer and ready the moment registration opens. It has been known to fill all openings for campers within moments of opening registration. If you are not registering at the very moment it opens, you may not make it in.

Registration for all summer programs of the Ionian Village will open on Thursday, February 1st at 11:00 am ET. Ionian Village will once again offer three programs, catering to high school students and young adults. Registration will be available online at ionianvillage.org. Need-based scholarships are available through contacting the office at ionainvillage@goarch.org. Spots are limited and fill quickly, and are offered on a first-come first-served basis. Don't miss your chance to participate in this life-changing ministry!

Summer 2024

IV Next: June 6 - June 17

- Young adults who have completed one year of college or vocational school until 25 years of age

Session One: June 25 - July 14

- Students who are currently in grades 9 - 12

Session Two: July 23 - August 11

- Students who are currently in grades 9 - 12

For more information or to read about our programs, visit: ionianvillage.org, or the Frequently Asked Questions page at ionianvillage.org/faq.

Greece's Guilty Secret:

The FORGOTTEN CHILDREN of GREECE and Their Search for Roots, Reunion, and Identity



Linda Carol Trotter
The Eftychia Project

Linda Carol Trotter, a Greek-born adoptee, is the President of The Eftychia Project, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance and support, free of charge, to Greek-born adoptees searching for their roots and Greek families searching for their children lost to adoption. The Eftychia Project places a special emphasis on the thousands of Greek children adopted to the United States in the 1950s and 1960s. In addition to helping adoptees search for and reunite with their biological families, The Eftychia Project, in collaboration with MyHeritage, provides free DNA kits to Greek adoptees and Greek biological families. The Eftychia Project is also a fierce advocate on behalf of all Greek adoptees with the Greek state for their birth and identity rights, including transparency, unfettered access to birth and adoption records, and restoration of their Greek citizenship. Join us as Linda Carol Trotter sheds light on this sad period of Greek American history and South Bend's own connections to the forgotten children of Greece.

Saturday, April 6, 2024
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church
52455 N Ironwood Rd
South Bend, IN 46635

Sponsored by St. Andrew
Philoptochos

Refreshments will be served.



Questions? Please contact Tina Assimios at tinaassimos@att.net or 574-250-6621.