March 17, 2024
Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday)
Orthros 8:45/Liturgy 9:30 AM.

Epistle Reading

Gospel Reading
The Reading is from Matthew 6:14-21

Memorial
40 day - Victoria Michaelidis
1 year – Maria Markakis

Trisagion
48 year - Demetrios Magos

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η Μνήμη!

WEEKDAY SERVICES - Καθημερινές Λειτουργίες:
Paraklesis to the Panagia Gorgoipikoos - Every Thurs., 6PM.
Presanctified Liturgy - Wed., March 20, 27, April 3, 10, and 17, from 6:00 - 7:30PM. followed by a Family Potluck Dinner.
1st Salutation to the Theotokos - Friday, 3/22, at 7:00PM.
Saturday of Souls - March 23, Orthros 8:30/Liturgy 9 AM.
Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

O Merciful One, You came from on high, and condescended to Your three day burial to save us from suffering. You are our Life and our Resurrection. Glory to You.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατῆλθες ὁ εὔσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν καταδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ήμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωή καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ήμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Second Mode

O Master, Prudence, Guide of Wisdom, Instruction to the foolish and Defender of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it discernment. Give me words, Word of the Father, for behold, I shall not keep my lips from crying out to You, "O Merciful One, have mercy on me who has fallen."

Τῆς σοφίας ὁδηγέ, φρονήσεως χορηγέ, τῶν ἀφρόνων παιδευτά, καὶ πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστά, στήριξον, συνέτισον τὴν καρδίαν μου Δέσποτα. Σὺ δίδου μοι λόγον, ὁ τοῦ Πατρός Λόγος· ἰδοὺ γὰρ τὰ χείλη μου, οὐ μὴ κωλύσω ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι· Ἐλεῆμον, ἔλεησόν με τὸν παραπέσοντα.

Receiving Holy Communion - We welcome to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy those Christians who are from other Christian Denominations and who are not fully united with us. Sadly, it is a consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend to you an invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is the work or action of the celebrating Community signifying a oneness of faith, life, and worship of the believing Community. Reception of Holy Communion by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, and for which we must pray. However, all present are welcome to partake of the Antidoron (blessed bread) which is distributed at the end of the Liturgy.
Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Plagal Fourth Mode. Psalm 75.11,1.
Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.


Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Epistle Reading

Προκείμενον. Πλαγαλ Γεύσιμον. ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 75.11,1.
Εὐξασθε καὶ ἀπόδοτε Κυρίῳ τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν.
Στίχ. Γνωστὸς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ὁ Θεός, ἐν τῷ Ἱσραήλ μέγα τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ.


Ἄδελφοι, νῦν ἐγγύτερον ἡμῶν ἢ σωτηρία ἢ ὅτε ἐπιστεύσαμεν. Ἡ νῦν προέκοψα, ἢ δὲ ἡμέρα ἤγγικεν· ἀποθώμεθα οὖν τὰ ἔργα τοῦ σκότους, καὶ ἐνδυσώμεθα τὰ ὅπλα τοῦ φωτός. Ὄς ἐγὼ ἡμέρα, εὐσχημόνως περιπατήσωμεν, μὴ κώμοις καὶ μέθαις, μὴ κοίταις καὶ ἀσελγείαις, μὴ ἐρίδι καὶ ἐθλιῶ. Αλλ’ ἐνδύσασθε τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν, καὶ τῆς σαρκὸς πρόνοιαν μὴ ποιεῖσθε, εἰς ἐπιθυμίας. Τὸν δὲ ἀσθενοῦντα τῇ πίστει προσλάβασθε, μὴ εἰς διακρίσεις διαλογισμῶν. Ὅσον μὲν πιστεύει φαγεῖν πάντα, ὁ δὲ ἀσθενῶν λάχανα ἐσθίει. Ο ἐθλιῶν τὸν μὴ ἐσθίοντα μὴ ἐξουθενεῖτω, καὶ ὁ μὴ ἐσθίων τὸν ἐσθίοντα μὴ κρίνετο· ὁ θεὸς γὰρ αὐτὸν προσελάβησε. Τῷ τις εἰ, ὁ κρίνων ἀλλότριον οἰκέτην; Ὅδιω κυρίῳ στήκει ἢ πίπτει. Σταθήσεται δὲ δυνάτος γὰρ ἔστιν ὁ θεὸς στήσαι αὐτὸν.
The Reading is from Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Katâ Ματθαίου 6:14-21

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ἂν γὰρ ἀφητε τοῖς ἀνθρώποις τὰ παραπτώματα αὐτῶν, ἀφῆσει καί ὑμῖν ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ὁ οὐράνιος· ἐὰν δὲ μὴ ἀφητε τοῖς ἀνθρώποις τὰ παραπτώματα αὐτῶν, οὐδὲ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ἀφησεῖ τὰ παραπτώματα ὑμῶν. Ὅταν δὲ νηστεύητε, μὴ γίνεσθε ὥσπερ οἱ ὑποκριταὶ σκυθρωποί· ἀφανίζουσι γὰρ τὰ πρόσωπα αὐτῶν ὅπως φανῶσι τοῖς ἀνθρώποις νηστεύοντες· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ἀπέχουσι τὸν μισθὸν αὐτῶν. σὺ δὲ νηστεύων ἄλειψαί σου τὴν κεφαλήν καὶ τὸ πρόσωπόν σου νιψαί,ὅπως μὴ φανῇς τοῖς ἀνθρώποις νηστευόντος, ἀλλὰ τῷ πατρὶ σου τῷ ὑπὲρ τῷ κρυπτῷ, καὶ ὁ πατὴρ σου ὁ βλέπων ἐν τῷ κρυπτῷ ἀθέτωσεν σοι ἐν τῷ φανερῷ. Μὴ θησαυρίζετε υἱῶν θησαυροὺς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ὅπου ςης καὶ βρῶσις ἀφανίζει, καὶ ὅπου κλέπται διορύσσουσι καὶ κλέπτουν· ὁθαυρίζετε δὲ υἱῶν θησαυροὺς ἐπὶ τοῦ οὐράνιου, ὅπου οὔτε σης οὔτε βρῶσις ἀφανίζει, καὶ ὅπου κλέπται οὐ διορύσσουσιν. οὐδὲ κλέπτουσιν· ὅπου γὰρ ἐστιν ὁ θησαυρὸς υἱῶν, ἐκεῖ ἐσται καὶ ἡ καρδίᾳ υἱῶν.
Saints and Feasts

March 17
Forgiveness Sunday

The Holy Fathers have appointed the commemoration of Adam's exile from the Paradise of delight here, on the eve of the holy Forty-day Fast, demonstrating to us not by simple words, but by actual deeds, how beneficial fasting is for man, and how harmful and destructive are insatiety and the transgressing of the divine commandments. For the first commandment that God gave to man was that of fasting, which the first-fashioned received but did not keep; and not only did they not become gods, as they had imagined, but they lost even that blessed life which they had, and they fell into corruption and death, and transmitted these and innumerable other evils to all of mankind. The God-bearing Fathers set these things before us today, that by bringing to mind what we have fallen from, and what we have suffered because of the insatiety and disobedience of the first-fashioned, we might be diligent to return again to that ancient bliss and glory by means of fasting and obedience to all the divine commands. Taking occasion from today's Gospel (Matt. 6:14-21) to begin the Fast unencumbered by enmity, we also ask forgiveness this day, first from God, then from one another and all creation.

March 17
Patrick the Enlightener of Ireland

Saint Patrick, the Apostle of the Irish, was seized from his native Britain by Irish marauders when he was sixteen years old. Though the son of a deacon and a grandson of a priest, it was not until his captivity that he sought out the Lord with his whole heart. In his Confession, the testament he wrote towards the end of his life, he says, "After I came to Ireland - every day I had to tend sheep, and many times a day I prayed - the love of God and His fear came to me more and more, and my faith was strengthened. And my spirit was so moved that in a single day I would say as many as a hundred prayers, and almost as many at night, and this even when I was staying in the woods and on the mountain; and I would rise for prayer before daylight, through snow, through frost, through rain, and I felt no harm." After six years of slavery in Ireland, he was guided by God to make his escape, and afterwards struggled in the monastic life at Auxerre in Gaul, under the guidance of the holy Bishop Germanus. Many years later he was ordained bishop and sent to Ireland once again, about the year 432, to convert the Irish to Christ. His arduous labours bore so much fruit that within seven years, three bishops were sent from Gaul to help him shepherd his flock, "my brethren and sons whom I have baptized in the Lord - so many thousands of people," he says in his Confession. His apostolic work was not accomplished without much "weariness and painfulness," long journeys through difficult country, and many perils; he says his very life was in danger twelve times. When he came to Ireland as its enlightener, it was a pagan country; when he ended his earthly life some thirty years later, about 461, the Faith of Christ was established in every corner.
FOR-GIVING WITH GOD THE BROTHERS ALSO

"Strange things! A man abhors his brother, while the Lord forgives us for everything, He forgives us everything. Unfortunately now, people strayed from the right path and people became uncompassionate. Their hearts hardened and love froze, and thus they do not feel God's love and lose their faith as well" (Saint Silouan). This saying of Saint Silouan the Athonite is directly connected with the Gospel passage of Cheesefare Sunday, which exhorts us to forgive our fellow human beings, if we want God to forgive us. The experience of forgiveness, which God offers to man, creates in us the self-evident obligation for us to treat our fellow man with the same lenience.

The Love of God

This reality, which the Gospel calls us to experience, we live every day in the Divine Liturgy. In the Divine Eucharist, we remember what we must forget, by forgiving everything that keeps one away from the other with hatred. In the ancient text of the Apostolic Commands, when the Deacon calls for the embrace of love, in the Divine Liturgy, with his exclamation he poses three conditions, with which the embrace must take place. Which are these? Let there not be in our hearts: a) malice, b) hypocrisy, c) slyness.

All this is not easy. Therefore, only the God of forgiveness can make us more and more stable in our disposition and in our decision to forgive, remit and forgive. To give us His peace, to remove enmity and to lead us to divine and infinite affection.

Do We Love Christ?

However, things do not always work to their full potential. Most of us feel like leftovers, like "one unable to love". There are times when we hold a grudge and even want to take revenge. "Let him find it from someone else", "may God forgive him". At other times, we forgive, we don't hold it. "However, let's not hang out though, and not have too many dealings". And yet we come to the Divine Liturgy, we chant the "Let us love one another, so that in one mind we may confess", we eat at the same spiritual table, we both say that we love Christ, but we feel like strangers, like enemies, we try to avoid each other. Upon finishing the Divine Liturgy and leaving the church, let us essentially make a beginning to love one another, to forgive one another, to understand one another and not forget that the way to the Kingdom of God passes through the life of our neighbor.

Our Entry Into the Arena of Virtues

With the Vespers of Forgiveness on Cheesefare Sunday, the Church of Christ opens for us the arena of the virtues of Great Lent. This compunctionate period of repentance is offered as a way of life.

Let's forgive each other. Forgiveness begins at the moment when we take on our shoulders "one another's burdens" and the first and heaviest burden is the personality of the other, what he is, and not only what he does or doesn't do. If necessary, let us carry the other in the way that Christ carried his Cross, as a type of torture and pain and death, however, let us in no way leave the other behind, without our forgiveness.
We Welcome all who worship with us today.

Memorials

40 day - Victoria Michaelidis
1 year – Maria Markakis

Trisagion

48 year - Demetrios Magos

May their memory be eternal. Αἰωνία ἡ Μνήμη!

Coffee Fellowship is sponsored by the Makakis family in memory of their loved one.
If you would like to sponsor a Coffee Fellowship, please contact the Office.

**Announcements**

Philotimo Chat - will be meeting on Thursday, March 21st.

*The National Hellenic Society's Heritage Greece Program is a complementary, 2-week cultural immersion* odyssey for accomplished Greek American college students who share their experiences with a peer group of exceptional students from the American College of Greece (ACG) in Athens, Greece or the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT) in Thessaloniki, Greece. The Heritage Greece Program® goal is to connect the participants with their faith, heritage, roots, and Greek identity. For more information visit: National Hellenic Society | Heritage Greece

**Criteria for Eligibility:**

- Enrolled college/university students aged 18-26 (undergraduate/graduate)
- Hellenic descent
- Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0
- Preference for 1st time visitors to Greece (non-mandatory criteria)
2023-2024 Capital Improvement Campaign Fund

- $150,000
- $75,000
- $0

Church Capital Improvement Campaign update. To date we have raised $43,000 of the $150,000 we need to raise for much needed improvements to our Church. We used approved monies from the operations account for the parking lot improvement but need to repay the operations account once we have raised the money. Thank you to those that have donated! If you would like to donate please visit the Church website, click on Donate, then Capital Improvement Campaign.
PLEASE SUPPORT TAXIARCHAE GREEK SCHOOL

50/50 RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED DURING FELLOWSHIP FROM 2/17 TO 3/24 OR VIA VENMO FOR

5 for $5

Contact ckourkoula@poarchangels.org with any questions

Save The Date: Monday, May 13, 2024

33rd Annual St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Memorial Golf Tournament

Join us for a day of golf and fellowship.

Contact: Sophia Likatis (251) 667-8544

Register now to reserve your spot. We look forward to seeing you on the course!
Taxiarchae Oratorical Date: April 21, at the conclusion of the Liturgy
Parish Chairperson: Costas Karageorgis
Contact Information: Ckarageorgis@goarchangel.com

Please contact Costas or Fr. Nenes if interested.

JOIN THOUSANDS OF YOUTH ACROSS THE NATION AND SHARE YOUR FAITH!

2024 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL
Junior Division (Grades 7-9) | Senior Division (Grades 10-12)

AWARDS
National finalists are eligible to receive the following:
St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Scholarship: $500 to $2,000
FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism to be announced

SCHOLARSHIPS
Finalists at any level are eligible to receive the following:
Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College: $2,500 up to $30,000 per year

LOCAL INFORMATION
Parish Festival Date & Time: ________________________________
Parish Chairperson: ______________________________________
Contact Information: ______________________________________

Find topics, tips, manual, & award info at
www.religioused.goarch.org
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Department of Religious Education (DRD)
REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 4 AT 7PM  
Ages 8 - Grade 12  
SPACE IS LIMITED

STAFF APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 1st  
SEE BELOW FOR MORE

Are you a high school junior or senior?

Fill your summer with what counts

Join one of our four sessions:
SESSION 1 | Boston June 9-18
SESSION 2 | Northern California June 19-28
SESSION 3 | Boston June 22-July 2
SESSION 4 | Chicago July 6-16

APPLICATION DEADLINES
Priority: January 16, 2024
Regular: February 20, 2024
Youth Ministries are collecting "Gently Used" Prom Dresses for the Belle Ball program! Donate Prom Dresses to Local Students in Need.

Deadline for donations - Thursday, March 28th.

Please leave your donations on the COAT RACK in the LOBBY.

Thank you.

Collecting Prom Dresses ONLY!
"Save the Day"
AHEPA Day Luncheon
Sunday, May 19th
Immediately following the Liturgy in Metaxas Hall.
Food, Music, & Prize. More info to come.
Please join us for the viewing of the 2004 film

The Passion of the Christ

Thursday, April 18th
7:00pm
in Metaxas Hall

We will be serving coffee and light Lenten refreshments
## Holy Week Flowers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Amounts</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy</strong></td>
<td>Icon for Palm Sunday flowers</td>
<td>$125.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Palms</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Palm Sunday Evening</strong></td>
<td>Nymphios Icon Flowers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Altar Table flowers</td>
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<td><strong>Holy Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Icon of the Crucifixion flowers</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Wreath for the Cross (Estavromenos)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(2 sm.) Wreaths for the Cross</td>
<td>$100 each</td>
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### Holy Friday

- (All) Epitaphio flowers - $1,000.00

### Holy Saturday & Pascha

- (10) Easter Lilies - $25 each
- (2) Holy Gates - $100 each
- Lavro Icon - $125 each
- Lavro Flowers - $200
- Altar Table flowers - $75

### Contact Information

TAXIARCHAE/ARCHANGELS, 25 BIGELOW AVE., WATERTOWN, MA 02472

TO DONATE FLOWERS, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 617.924.8182

Name:_____________________________________________________________________

Adress:________________________________________________Phone:______________

Donation Item: ____________________________ Donatıon Amount: _________________

Or In Memory of: ___________________________________________________________________


Grecian Festival 2024
Watertown

June 21, 22, 23
Taxiarchae-Archangels
Greek Orthodox Church
25 Bigelow Ave | Watertown, MA

Friday
11am-11pm
Greek Music All Day
Featuring Orfeas Band, 7-11pm
Bar 5-11pm

Saturday
12pm-11pm
Greek Music All Day
Featuring Enosis Band, 7-11pm
Dance Performance, 8pm
by Sons and Daughters of
Alexander the Great
Bar Noon-11pm

Sunday
12pm-8pm
Greek Music All Day
Featuring Orfeas Band, 4-8pm
Bar Noon-8pm

3 Days of Food and Fun!
Rain or Shine!

Greek Cuisine
Greek Pastries
Loukoumades
Gyros

Church Tours
Bookstore
Souvenirs
Kafenio

@taxiarchae
www.goarchangels.org
Youth Ministry

Ongoing FOOD DRIVE - Collecting for the Watertown Food Pantry
Your donation of food items can be put on the table, located in the Lobby. We will deliver them to the Watertown Food Pantry every Tuesday.
Thank you for helping your local community!

ESPECIALLY NEEDED - CANS OF TUNA & BREAKFAST CEREAL.
As always, the Food Pantry is still in need of school snacks.

LOVE DOES NOT HURT.
INCREASED STATISTICS ON INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

A pandemic within a pandemic: There are more cases of violence in the home than ever before. This means more families living in crisis.
We are collecting for monthly drop-offs each second Monday of the month, beginning with December 14th.

Items requested are:
- Sanitary napkins
- Shampoo
- Vaseline
- Cocoa butter
- Baby shampoo
- Baby lotion
- Deodorant
- Tooth brushes
- Tooth paste

With any questions, please contact Christina Kourkoulis at CKourkoulis@goarchangels.org

RECOGNIZE.
REPORT.
PREVENT.

FINEX HOUSE
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PO Box 300670
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
https://www.finexhouse.org
Taxiarchae Hellenic Cultural Center

Planning a party or reception? Our beautiful venues are now updated and ready for any & all of your event needs, up to 500 people.

For information and assistance in planning your future event, please call Irene Apostolou Cobb at the Church Office at 617-924-8182 or email: functionmanager@goarchangels.com

DREAM IT AND IT CAN COME TRUE!
YOUR EVENT CAN BE EVERYTHING YOU WISHED.