Sunday Bulletin
February 21, 2021

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee
Triodion Begins

Timothy the Righteous
John III, Patriarch of Constantinople
Eustathius, Bishop of Antioch
Zachariah, Patriarch of Jerusalem

4th Mode + Eothinon 4

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE
Orthros 7:45 am + Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

In-Person Sunday Church School
following Divine Liturgy until 12:00 pm

Welcome to all our visitors worshipping with us today!

We welcome today Fr. Louise J. Christopulos
Chancellor, Metropolis of Denver

Please silence all mobile devices while in the Holy Sanctuary. Thank you.
Special Hymns at Liturgy:

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode
Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Απολυτικίων τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐν τοῦ Ἁγγείου μαθοῦσα αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τῆν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀποφήμασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχῶμεναι ἔλεγον Ἑσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἡμέρῃ Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Apolytikion of the Church
On this day when our salvation is crowned for eternity and the revelation of the mystery of the ages.
The Son of God becomes on this day the Virgin’s Son, with Gabriel proclaiming the tidings of God’s Grace. And we also join in the cry unto the Theotokos singing: Hail to You who are filled with grace; the Lord is with You.

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τὸν Ἁπ’ αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν κύτῳ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν, Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode
Let us flee from the boasting of the Pharisee and learn through our own sighs of sorrow the humility of the Publican. Let us cry out to the Savior, "Have mercy on us, for through You alone are we reconciled."

Φαρισαίου φύγωμεν ψηγορίαν, καὶ Τελῶνος μάθωμεν, τὸ ταπεινὸν ἐν στεναγμῷ, πρὸς τὸν Σωτῆρα χρυσαγάζοντες Ὡλαθ! μόνε ἡμῖν εὐδιάλλαξτε.

Matins (Orthros) Gospel
Luke 24:1-12

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women went to the tomb, taking the spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel; and as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of man must be delivered in to the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and
returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told this to the apostles; but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home wondering at what had happened.

**Epistle Reading**


TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Reading**

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today

Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."
Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today

Katâ Λουκᾶν 18:10-14

Ἐπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην ἦν ὁ Κύριος τὸ ιερὸν προσεύξασθαι, ὁ Κύριος τὸ ιερὸν προσεύξασθαι, ὁ ἐν Φαρισαῖος καὶ ὁ ἔτερος τελώνης, ὁ Φαρισαῖος σταθεὶς πρὸς ἐκατόν ταύτα προσηχηθεὶς: ὁ Θεὸς, εὐχαριστῷ σοι ὅτι οὐκ εἰμὶ ὅσπερ οἱ λοιποὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἄσπαγες, ἄδικοι, μοιχοί, ἢ καὶ ὡς οὗτος ὁ τελώνης νηστεύω διὸς τοῦ σαββάτου, ἀποδεκατῶν πάντα ὅσα κτίσμα, καὶ ὁ τελώνης μακρόθεν ἔστώς οὐκ ἔθελεν οὐδὲ τοὺς ὑσθαλμοὺς εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν ἐπάθαι, ἀλλ᾽ ἔτυπτεν εἰς τὸ στήθος αὐτοῦ λέγων ὁ Θεὸς, ἱλασθήτι μοι τῷ ἀμαρτωλῷ λέγων ὑμῖν, κατέβη οὗτος δεδικαιωμένος εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ ἡ γὰρ ἐκείνος ὅτι πᾶς ὁ υψὸν ἐκατὸν ταπεινωθῆσεται, ὁ δὲ ταπεινῶν ἐκατὸν ψωθῆσεται

Eustathius, Bishop of Antioch (February 21)

Saint Eustathius, the great defender of piety and illustrious opponent of Arianism, was from Side in Pamphylia. He became Bishop of Beroea (the present-day Aleppo), and in 325 was present at the First Ecumenical Council. From thence he was transferred to the throne of Antioch. But Saint Constantine the Great, led astray by the slanders directed against the Saint by the Arians, banished him to Trajanopolis in Thrace, where he reposed in 337, according to some. Others say he lived until 360.

Altar Group for February 21 – Saint Savas

Altar Group for February 28 – Saint Gerasimos
Parish News and Events

Sunday Church School (22) Orthodoxy 101/Adult Class:
Facilitators: Greg Halvatzis, Kosta Georgeton, Topic: Open Q&A Session

Since September, we have been skimming the surface of many different topics to help introduce the Orthodox Church. Because of the breadth of our formal classes, there are likely many questions and comments that have been raised but put aside to be discussed at a later time. This week we will have a more relaxed and informal session to answer your questions on Orthodoxy in general, as well as on any specific topics related to the Church.

Philoptochos Needs You!
Why join Philoptochos? Philoptochos is an army of women, established in 1931 as the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Church, whose compassion, dedication, and drive make a difference in the lives of others. Working together we can accomplish much. Stop by our table at the coffee hour to learn more about your Philoptochos Society and how you can be a part of this dynamic group. Did you know that a membership in Philoptochos makes a meaningful gift for a young woman (age 18 and up) to guide her on the path to a lifelong dedication to service to others? Members whose stewardship is $125 or more will receive an embroidered Philoptochos face mask. Membership commitments can now be made at agocphilohouston.org as well as in person or by mail.
AGOC Adult Bible Studies

“For God did not call us to uncleanliness, but to holiness” (1Thess 4:7)

Since the weather forecast for this coming Wednesday is favorable, we will meet Wednesday, February, 24, 2021 IN-PERSON, in the Council Room (219) for BOTH the 1:00PM and the evening sessions. The evening session will be simulcast by ZOOM—sign up at 6:45 for a prompt start at 7:00pm.

In both sessions we will first briefly finish Romans Chapter 15 before starting on our transitional endeavor as we approach Great Lent—the combined study of St. Paul’s Epistles to the Thessalonians.

Both of these epistles have to do with our always keeping our focus on attaining and maintaining Holiness because leading a holy life leads to eternal life. Moreover, this is great preparation to meet our Lord at Pascha, and ultimately, our Lord’s Second Coming— for we know neither the time or place when that will be. We will be addressing the topics below this coming week Wednesday, culminating on March 3, 2021 with a ZOOM session on the Second Coming.

Theme: Holiness Leads to Eternal Life

Topics:
1. Introduction to the Epistles of St. Paul to the Thessalonians
2. Always Pursue Holiness (1 & 2 Thess)
3. Stand fast in the Faith Following Apostolic Teaching (2Thess)

Readings: Rom 15:1-33 (including a very short discussion on did St Paul reach Spain); 1Thess 1:1-4:12; 2 Thess 2:13-3:18; Lev 11:44; Is 35: 1-8; Mark 4:20; Galatians 4:14; Ephesians 1:4, 5; 2:13-17; Farley’s on Thessalonian (scanned copies will be sent out if needed)

Please join us for some interesting and fruitful discussions.

+Fr. Demetri

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS:
If you already have ZOOM Meeting installed, open the Zoom program on your computer and enter this meeting ID: 444 959 3149 when prompted. Password is agoc.

If you are new to ZOOM Meetings, follow these instructions:
From your computer, please click on the “Join Zoom Meeting” link below.
1. Next, click on “Open Zoom Meetings.” This will immediately open the program in your web browser and begin to download it to your computer so you can use it as a stand-alone program later.
2. Click on the EXE program that is indicated by the orange "Click Zoom“ arrow. This will install the program on your computer.
3. After the program is installed, enter your name and click the “Join Meeting” Button.
4. Click either the "Join with Video” button or the "Join without Video” button, depending on if you want to use your computer camera or not.
5. The next screen should be the phone and video setup screen. Click the “Join with Computer Audio” Button.
6. The meeting password: agoc will never change.

--- MEETING INFO BELOW ---

Topic: AGOC Bible Study  
Time: This is a recurring meeting. Use the same Meeting ID# every time.

Join Zoom Meeting  
https://zoom.us/j/4449593149?pwd=MXg0VjZYSWEzcDNRZHVaTB0dG1EUT09

Meeting ID: 444 959 3149  
Passcode: agoc  
One tap mobile  
+13462487799,,4449593149#,,,,0#,419920# US (Houston)  
+16699009128,,4449593149#,,,,0#,419920# US (San Jose)  
Dial by your location  
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)  
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 444 959 3149

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting via Zoom – Mondays at 12:00 pm  
Please refer to the online meeting guide or Intergroup Houston to join the meeting. This meeting will remain virtual until March 1st.
THE ELEMENTARY DIVISION OF THE ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL WILL NOT BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 21 DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS. IT WILL BE HELD THE FOLLOWING WEEK ON FEBRUARY 28.

The 2021 Elementary Division of the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival IS HERE! Students in Grades, 4, 5, and 6 have been working with their teachers in the classrooms and on-line (Grade 5) on their topics.

This is your opportunity to express your feelings about your Faith and Church while gaining confidence and self-esteem.

PLEASE PARTICIPATE! This is something you can do from home if you’re not quite ready to come to in-house Sunday Church School. Your teachers and parents will assist you. Bring your paper to the Cathedral on February 28th, where everyone will be spread out.

Choose a topic that corresponds with your Sunday Church School curriculum. Write 1-2 pages on the topic and present it to your friends and family.

Suggested topics:
1. Why is the CROSS one of the symbols of the Christian faith?
2. In the Holy Bible Jesus spoke in PARABLES. Why?
3. Tells us about your PATRON SAINT.
4. Why is Jesus' Mother the most important saint in the Church?
5. Tell us about your favorite FEAST DAY.
6. How do you PRAY?
7. How does the Holy Bible help us learn more about God?

PARENTS, FRIENDS, AUNTS AND UNCLEs, COME HEAR OUR KIDS SHARE THEIR FAITH, February 28, 11-12pm IN THE CATHEDRAL.
Stewardship 2021 – Frequently Asked Questions

Will the Church automatically renew my pledge from 2020?  No. To be considered a steward in 2021, a parishioner needs to make a 2021 stewardship commitment by going online, returning a pledge card, or calling the Church office.

What is a Sustaining Steward?  A sustaining steward pledges a minimum of $1,800. While we encourage those who are able to increase their pledge to become sustaining stewards, every stewardship commitment is greatly appreciated.

What is the Full Day sponsorship amount in 2021?  The full day sponsorship level remains at $5,500. Please consider becoming a Full Day or multi-day sponsor.

Does the Church keep my credit card information from last year?  No, prior year credit card information is not retained. Please provide this when you make your 2021 pledge if you wish to pay by credit card.

How do I make my stewardship pledge?  Making a 2021 stewardship commitment is easy. You can pledge online, complete and return a pledge card, or call Administrator Myka Evans at 832-242-9256. You decide how to pay your pledge – monthly, quarterly, all at once, etc.

Go to www.agoc.org/donate/stewardship to make your pledge today!

Thank you to all who have made their 2021 pledge!

John and Seva Anaipakos
2021 Stewardship Chairs
SENIOR GOYA SMALL GROUP

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP, DISCUSSIONS, AND BASKETBALL, OPEN TO ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

MASKS ARE NOT REQUIRED, HOWEVER HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED.

SMALL GROUP SESSIONS WILL BE HOSTED IN THE CALOUDAS GYM AT AGOC FROM 6:30-8:00PM.

FEB 25
Only A Pebble?
Some of you remember Aesop's great fable about an old crow who was out in the wilderness and very thirsty. He had not had anything to drink in a long time. He came to a jug that had a little water in the bottom of it. The old crow reached his beak into the jug to get some of that water, but his beak wouldn't quite touch the water. So what did he do? He started picking up pebbles, one at a time, and dropping them into the jug. And as more and more pebbles accumulated in the bottom of the jug, the water rose in the bottle until finally the old crow was able to drink all that he desired.

That's a parable of the way God has chosen to work out his plan in our world. Each of us dropping in our own little pebble-teaching that Sunday School class, serving on a committee, providing transportation for the youth, visiting our lonely neighbor. Utilizing the gifts that are ours to serve in the ways we can may not seem all that important at the time, but just as the pebbles accumulate in the bottom of the jug, and the water rises, God builds His kingdom and brings His plan to fruition. You are important!

ILLUSTRATIONS UNLIMITED - James S. Howett, Editor

Appeared In The Annunciation October, 1991
**Today at the Cathedral**

**Coffee** will be served in the Martel Hall after the Divine Liturgy. The AGOC Bookstore and Trophy Room will also be open. As a reminder, please continue to observe social distancing guidelines; face masks are optional and encouraged, but not required per state guidelines.

**SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL**

**In-Person Classes, following Divine Liturgy**

Grades Preschool - 12

Adult Orthodoxy 101 Class

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**This week at the Cathedral**

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<tr>
<th>Day, Month</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, February</td>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, via ZOOM only</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Greek School Adults – Beginners I, Beginners II, Intermediate I, Online</td>
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<td>Wednesday,</td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Bible Study, In-Person, Room 219</td>
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<td>February 24</td>
<td>6:45 pm</td>
<td>Bible Study, In Person, Room 219 &amp; Zoom 7pm</td>
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<td>Thursday,</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Greek School Advanced Conversation, Online</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Senior GOYA Small Group, Caloudas Gym, AGOC</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Ellinomathia for Teens &amp; Adults, Level B2 and C1, Online</td>
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<td>Friday, February</td>
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<td>Greek School Children – Grades pre-K to 6, Online</td>
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<td>26</td>
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