

SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

1200 Klockner Road, Hamilton, NJ 08619

Tel: 609-586-4448

Email: admin@stgeorgehamilton.com

Pastor: Reverend James Pavlow



Sunday, May 24, 2020

SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

Symeon the Stylite, Vincent of Lerins

Κυριακή 24 Μαΐου 2020

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΤΥΦΛΟΥ

Όσιος Συμεών ο εν τω Θαυμαστώ όρει, Βικέντιος των Λερίνων

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΤΥΦΛΟΥ

SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN



Sunday, May 24, 2020

**CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS TRULY RISEN!
ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!**

Important Notice Regarding Services

**As per the directives from the Metropolis and for the safety of our parishioners,
Church Services will continue to be closed to the faithful until further notice:
only the Priest and the chanter will conduct services.**

**Please visit our Website www.stgeorgehamilton.com
and follow us on Facebook: Saint George Hamilton NJ**



Sunday of the Blind Man

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Κυριακή του Τυφλού

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος πλ. α'.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 11.7,1

Σὸ Κύριε, φυλάζαις ἡμᾶς καὶ διατηρήσαις ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. Σώσον με, Κύριε, ὅτι ἐκέλοιπεν ὁσος.

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 1.

Psalm 11.7,1

You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 16:16-34 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

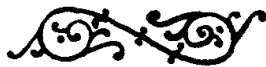
Ἐν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκείναις, ἐγένετο δὲ πορευομένων ἡμῶν εἰς προσευχὴν παιδίσκην τινὰ ἔχουσαν πνεῦμα πύθωνος ἀπαντῆσαι ἡμῖν, ἣτις ἐργασίαν πολλὴν παρείχε τοῖς κυρίοις αὐτῆς μαντευομένη. αὕτη κατακολουθήσασα τῷ Παύλῳ καὶ τῷ Σίλᾳ ἔκραζε λέγουσα· οὗτοι οἱ ἄνθρωποι δοῦλοι τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ὑψίστου εἰσίν, οἵτινες καταγγέλλουσιν ἡμῖν ὁδὸν σωτηρίας. τοῦτο δὲ ἐποίει ἐπὶ πολλὰς ἡμέρας. διαπονηθεὶς δὲ ὁ Παῦλος καὶ ἐπιστρέψας τῷ πνεύματι εἶπε· παραγγέλλω σοι ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐξελθεῖν ἀπ' αὐτῆς. καὶ ἐξῆλθεν αὐτῇ τῇ ὥρᾳ. Ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ κύριοι αὐτῆς ὅτι ἐξῆλθεν ἡ ἐλπίς τῆς ἐργασίας αὐτῶν, ἐπιλαβόμενοι τὸν Παῦλον καὶ τὸν Σίλαν εἰλκυσαν εἰς τὴν ἀγορὰν ἐπὶ τοὺς ἄρχοντας, καὶ προσαγαγόντες αὐτοὺς τοῖς στρατηγοῖς εἶπον· οὗτοι οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἐκταράσσουσιν ἡμῶν τὴν πόλιν Ἰουδαῖοι ὑπάρχοντες, καὶ καταγγέλλουσιν ἔθνη ἃ οὐκ ἔξεστιν ἡμῖν παραδέχεσθαι οὐδὲ ποιεῖν Ῥωμαίοις οὖσι. καὶ συνεπέστη ὁ ὄχλος κατ' αὐτῶν. καὶ οἱ στρατηγοὶ περιρρήξαντες αὐτῶν τὰ ἱμάτια ἐκέλευον ῥαβδίσειν, πολλὰς τε ἐπιθέντες αὐτοῖς πληγὰς ἔβαλον εἰς φυλακὴν, παραγγείλαντες τῷ δεσμοφύλακι ἀσφαλῶς τηρεῖν αὐτούς· ὃς παραγγελίαν τοιαύτην εἰληφὼς ἔβαλεν αὐτοὺς εἰς τὴν ἐσωτέραν φυλακὴν καὶ τοὺς πόδας αὐτῶν ἡσφαλίσατο εἰς τὸ ξύλον. Κατὰ δὲ τὸ μεσονύκτιον Παῦλος καὶ Σίλας προσευχόμενοι ὕμνουν τὸν Θεόν· ἐπηκροῶντο δὲ αὐτῶν οἱ δέσμοι. ἄφνω δὲ σεισμός ἐγένετο μέγας, ὥστε σαλευθῆναι τὰ θεμέλια τοῦ δεσμωτηρίου, ἀνεώχθησάν τε παρακρῆμα αἱ θύραι πᾶσαι καὶ πάντων τὰ δεσμὰ ἀνέθη. ἔξυπνος δὲ γενόμενος ὁ δεσμοφύλαξ καὶ ἰδὼν ἀνεωγμένας τὰς θύρας τῆς φυλακῆς, σπασάμενος μάχαι-

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34

IN THOSE DAYS, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to

ραν ἔμελλεν ἑαυτὸν ἀναιρεῖν, νομίζων ἐκπεφευγέναι τοὺς δεσμίους. ἐφώνησε δὲ φωνῇ μεγάλῃ ὁ Παῦλος λέγων· μηδὲν πράξης σεαυτῷ κακόν· ἅπαντες γὰρ ἔσμεν ἐνθάδε. αἰτήσας δὲ φῶτα εἰσεπήδησε, καὶ ἔντρομος γενόμενος προσέπεσε τῷ Παύλῳ καὶ τῷ Σίλᾳ, καὶ προαγαγὼν αὐτοὺς ἔξω ἔφη· κύριοι, τί με δεῖ ποιεῖν ἵνα σωθῶ; οἱ δὲ εἶπον· πίστευσον ἐπὶ τὸν Κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, καὶ σωθήσῃ σὺ καὶ ὁ οἶκός σου. καὶ ἐλάλησαν αὐτῷ τὸν λόγον τοῦ Κυρίου καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ αὐτοῦ. καὶ παραλαβὼν αὐτοὺς ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ τῆς νυκτὸς ἔλουσεν ἀπὸ τῶν πληγῶν, καὶ ἐβαπτίσθη αὐτὸς καὶ οἱ αὐτοῦ πάντες παραχρήμα, ἀναγαγὼν τε αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ παρέθηκε τράπεζαν, καὶ ἡγαλλίασατο πανοικὶ πεπιστευκῶς τῷ Θεῷ.

kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.



Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην 9:1-38 Εὐαγγελίου **τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα**

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, παράγων εἶδεν ἄνθρωπον τυφλὸν ἐκ γενετῆς. Καὶ ἠρώτησαν αὐτὸν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ λέγοντες· ῥαββί, τίς ἡμαρτεν, οὗτος ἢ οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ἵνα τυφλὸς γεννηθῇ; ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς· οὔτε οὗτος ἡμαρτεν οὔτε οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ἀλλ' ἵνα φανερωθῇ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν αὐτῷ. ἐμὲ δεῖ ἐργάζεσθαι τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πέμψαντός με ἕως ἡμέρας ἐστίν· ἔρχεται νύξ ὅτε οὐδεὶς δύναται ἐργάζεσθαι. ὅταν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ᾤ, φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου. ταῦτα εἰπὼν ἔπτυσε χαμαὶ καὶ ἐποίησε πηλὸν ἐκ τοῦ πτύσματος, καὶ ἐπέχρισε τὸν πηλὸν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τοῦ τυφλοῦ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ὕπαγε νίψαι εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν τοῦ Σιλωάμ, ὃ ἐρμηνεύεται ἀπεσταλμένος. ἀπήλθεν οὖν καὶ ἐνίψατο, καὶ ἦλθε βλέπων. Οἱ οὖν γείτονες καὶ οἱ θεωροῦντες αὐτὸν τὸ πρότερον ὅτι τυφλὸς ἦν, ἔλεγον· οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ καθημένος καὶ προσαιτῶν; ἄλλοι ἔλεγον ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν· ἄλλοι δὲ ὅτι ὁμοιος αὐτῷ ἐστιν. ἐκεῖνος ἔλεγεν ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι. ἔλεγον οὖν αὐτῷ· πῶς ἀνεώχθησάν σου οἱ ὀφθαλμοί; ἀπεκρίθη ἐκεῖνος καὶ εἶπεν· ἄνθρωπος λεγόμενος Ἰησοῦς πηλὸν ἐποίησε καὶ ἐπέχρισέ μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς καὶ εἶπέ μοι· ὕπαγε εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν τοῦ Σιλωάμ καὶ νίψαι· ἀπελθὼν δὲ καὶ

The Gospel According **to John 9:1-38**

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him,

νιψάμενος ἀνέβλεψα. εἶπον οὖν αὐτῷ· ποῦ ἐστὶν ἐκεῖνος; λέγει· οὐκ οἶδα. Ἔγουν αὐτὸν πρὸς τοὺς Φαρισαίους, τὸν ποτε τυφλόν. ἦν δὲ σάββατον ὅτε τὸν πηλὸν ἐποίησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἀνέωξεν αὐτοῦ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς. πάλιν οὖν ἡρώτων αὐτὸν καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι πῶς ἀνέβλεψεν. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· πηλὸν ἐπέθηκέ μου ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς, καὶ ἐνιψάμην, καὶ βλέπω. Ἔλεγον οὖν ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων τινές· οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὐκ ἔστι παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὅτι τὸ σάββατον οὐ τηρεῖ. ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· πῶς δύναται ἄνθρωπος ἁμαρτωλὸς τοιαῦτα σημεῖα ποιεῖν; καὶ σχίσμα ἦν ἐν αὐτοῖς. λέγουσι τῷ τυφλῷ πάλιν· σὺ τί λέγεις περὶ αὐτοῦ, ὅτι ἡνοιξέ σου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν ὅτι προφήτης ἐστίν. οὐκ ἐπίστευσαν οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι περὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι τυφλὸς ἦν καὶ ἀνέβλεψεν, ἕως ὅτου ἐφώνησαν τοὺς γονεῖς αὐτοῦ τοῦ ἀναβλέψαντος καὶ ἡρώτησαν αὐτοὺς λέγοντες· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς ὑμῶν, ὃν ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη; πῶς οὖν ἄρτι βλέπει; ἀπεκρίθησαν δὲ αὐτοῖς οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ εἶπον· οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς ἡμῶν καὶ ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη· πῶς δὲ νῦν βλέπει οὐκ οἶδαμεν, ἢ τίς ἡνοιξεν αὐτοῦ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς ἡμεῖς οὐκ οἶδαμεν· αὐτὸς ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸν ἐρωτήσατε, αὐτὸς περὶ ἑαυτοῦ λαλήσει. ταῦτα εἶπον οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ὅτι ἐφοβοῦντο τοὺς Ἰουδαίους· ἤδη γὰρ συνετέθειντο οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα, ἐάν τις αὐτὸν ὁμολογήσῃ Χριστόν, ἀποσυνάγωγος γένηται. διὰ τοῦτο οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ εἶπον ὅτι ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸν ἐρωτήσατε. ἐφώνησαν οὖν ἐκ δευτέρου τὸν ἄνθρωπον ὃς ἦν τυφλός, καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ· δὸς δόξαν τῷ Θεῷ· ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν ὅτι ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὗτος ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐστίν. ἀπεκρίθη οὖν ἐκεῖνος καὶ εἶπεν· εἰ ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐστίν οὐκ οἶδα· ἐν οἶδα, ὅτι τυφλὸς ὢν ἄρτι βλέπω. εἶπον δὲ αὐτῷ πάλιν· τί ἐποίησέ σοι; πῶς ἡνοιξέ σου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς; ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς· εἶπον ὑμῖν ἤδη, καὶ οὐκ ἠκούσατε· τί πάλιν θέλετε ἀκοῦειν; μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς θέλετε αὐτοῦ μαθηταὶ γενέσθαι; ἐλοιδόρησαν αὐτὸν καὶ εἶπον· σὺ εἰ μαθητὴς ἐκείνου· ἡμεῖς δὲ τοῦ Μωϋσέως ἐσμὲν μαθηταί. ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν ὅτι Μωϋσεὶ λελάληκεν ὁ Θεός· τοῦτον δὲ οὐκ οἶδαμεν πόθεν ἐστίν. ἀπεκρίθη ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ἐν γὰρ τούτῳ θαυμαστόν ἐστιν, ὅτι ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε πόθεν ἐστί, καὶ ἀνέωξέ μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς. οἶδαμεν δὲ ὅτι ἁμαρτωλῶν ὁ Θεὸς οὐκ ἀκούει, ἀλλ' ἐάν τις θεοσεβῇς ἢ καὶ τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ ποιῇ, τούτου ἀκούει. ἐκ τοῦ αἰῶνος οὐκ ἠκούσθη ὅτι ἡνοιξέ τις ὀφθαλμούς τυφλοῦ γεγεννημένου. εἰ μὴ ἦν οὗτος παρὰ Θεοῦ, οὐκ ἠδύνατο

"Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

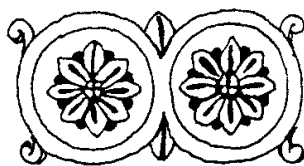
The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this

ποιεῖν οὐδέν. ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ· ἐν ἁμαρτίαις σὺ ἐγεννήθης ὅλος, καὶ σὺ διδάσκεις ἡμᾶς; καὶ ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἔξω.

Ἦκουσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἔξω, καὶ εὐρῶν αὐτὸν εἶπεν αὐτῷ· σὺ πιστεύεις εἰς τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ; ἀπεκρίθη ἐκεῖνος καὶ εἶπε· καὶ τίς ἐστι, Κύριε, ἵνα πιστεύσω εἰς αὐτόν; εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· καὶ ἑώρακας αὐτὸν καὶ ὁ λαλῶν μετὰ σοῦ ἐκεῖνός ἐστιν. ὁ δὲ ἔφη· πιστεύω, Κύριε· καὶ προσεκύνησεν αὐτῷ.

man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.



UPCOMING SERVICES

Thursday, May 28: Holy Ascension - Orthros and Divine Liturgy
Πέμπτη 28 Μαΐου: Της Αναλήψεως - Ὁρθρος καὶ Θεία Λειτουργία

May 31: Sunday of the First Ecumenical Council– Orthros and Divine Liturgy
31 Μαΐου: Κυριακή της Πρώτης Οικουμενικής Συνόδου - Ὁρθρος καὶ Θεία Λειτουργία

We continue to retrieve messages from our office phone and email while working remotely.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your steadfast support to our beloved Saint George.

We remind our parishioners that **Saints Anargyroi Philoptochos Society** is here for you during this difficult time. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call the church office (609-586-4448) and leave a message. If you would like to volunteer or offer help, please email: evie.georgopoulos@comcast.net

Thank you for your continued support to Philoptochos!

We humbly thank all who make donations and contributions online. You can donate towards candles, stewardship, the “collection basket” and in memory of a loved one.

Please order here: <https://my-site-104217-102934.square.site/>

Anyone having difficulty with Donating online or Facebook Live Service can view tutorial at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flqMPP9eAJU>

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America announces the creation of the “Greek Orthodox Archdiocese COVID-19 Relief Fund” as an important part of its efforts to support those around the country who have been impacted by the current pandemic. One-time grants of up to \$2,500 will be made available to those who are facing extreme financial hardship as a result of COVID-19.

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros named Bishop Apostolos of Medeia to lead a committee to approve applications for relief. Those facing an economic or financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and in need of emergency help with expenses such as rent, mortgage, utilities, food, childcare, medical, funeral or other daily costs, may apply to the COVID-19 Relief Fund, which has been privately funded, through website: <https://www.goarch.org/>

Additional Links: Twitter <https://bit.ly/twittercovid19reliefvideo>

Facebook: <https://bit.ly/fb-covid19-video>

YouTube: <http://bit.ly/youtube-covid19-release-video>



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

**His Eminence, Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey to Lead
Prayer Service for the Health of those afflicted from COVID-19
Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 12:30pm**

**Westfield, NJ
May 18, 2020:**

Please join us online on Tuesday, May 26 at 12:30pm from the St. John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Tenafly, New Jersey, as His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey, on behalf of the Holy Eparchial Synod, leads all of us in prayer for the health and healing of those suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic. This prayer service will be broadcasted live on the official YouTube Channel of the Metropolis of New Jersey, the YouTube Channel of the St. John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Cathedral and the various social media platforms of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

This beautiful service grants us the opportunity for all the Clergy and Faithful in the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey, together with the devout Faithful from throughout the Country, to join together in prayer as we pray for all those suffering with this terrible disease. His Eminence requests that you please submit to the Metropolis the names of your family, friends and loved ones that are afflicted with the COVID-19 Virus to metropolis@nj.goarch.org by Monday, May 25, 2020, so that together we may pray for the complete restoration of their health.

The online prayer service may be viewed by clicking on one of the links below:

GOMNJ YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5zLKZhXjIj-u8mZVsMrduQ>

Tenafly YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCnCLMyhU2m7X_1KhBXIBnRw/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/goarch

Twitter: www.twitter.com/goarch

YouTube: www.youtube.com/greekorthodoxchurch



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS ^{OF} NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Archpastoral Message - May 18, 2020

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council, Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood, Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools, Directors and Participants of all Youth Organizations, and all devout Orthodox Christians of the Communities of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen!

I pray this message finds you well physically and spiritually, experiencing all of God's Heavenly Blessings as we continue to celebrate the glorious Resurrection of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As some states begin the slow and cautious process of permitting certain public areas to reopen in light of the recent progress made against the COVID-19 pandemic, we are filled with hope that we are slowly, yet eventually, arriving at the end of this most trying time. This is not to say that the end of the pandemic is imminent, but rather the progress made gives us cause to have cautious optimism that, God-willing, all of our Ecclesiastical Communities will be permitted to open their doors again in the near future. These months have been difficult especially for the devout faithful who have been yearning to attend the Divine Services, longing to pray in the House of God, and desiring to participate fully in the Sacramental life of the Church both with their spiritual presence and their physical presence. Although currently it is not the case, it is our most fervent prayer and our sincerest hope that the reopening of Ecclesiastical Communities to the devout faithful will be possible in the near future. In light of this, we must prepare ourselves both pragmatically and spiritually for when this day, God-willing, soon arrives.

For months the devout faithful have been unable to participate physically in the Divine Liturgy. The day is coming soon, however, when you will hear the resounding words of the Divine Liturgy, *"With the fear of God, with faith and with love, draw near."* I implore you all to inscribe these words on your hearts always. On the one hand, these

sacred words of the Divine Liturgy prepare us to receive the precious Body and Blood of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. On the other hand, however, they take on additional meaning for us in these present circumstances. As we prepare to physically gather again soon for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, these words will serve as an angelic herald which calling all devout faithful to action. Having been distanced from your Ecclesiastical Communities for months, these words will inspire you to approach our Lord and, when called to Him, to not turn our face away from Him. Therefore, when the day comes that we will be permitted to safely gather together physically in united prayer, I encourage you to be spiritually courageous and draw near to our Lord in unwavering faith and unfettered love exclaiming, *"Here I am, Lord"* (Is. 6:8).

Though some people may feel trepidation in physically attending the Divine Services, I implore you to not allow anything to deter you from drawing near to our Lord and Savior so that you may experience the everlasting life He offers to you through His Divine Liturgy. For our Lord tells us, *"I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh"* (John 6:51).

As we patiently and prayerfully wait for the eventual reopening of our Parish Communities so that we may, *"with faith and with love, draw near,"* I beseech each and every one of you to encourage and to spiritually embolden one another. Though our Ecclesiastical Communities have endured much over the past couple months, let us be abounding with faith and love for each other and for our Communities so that when the doors of our Churches open again, we will be ready physically and spiritually to serve Christ and His Church.

Praying that our Loving Lord continues to guard and guide each of you and your families, I remain,

With Paternal Love and Blessings in the Risen Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Metropolitan" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "Evangelos" is written in a slightly smaller, more compact script. The signature is positioned centrally below the text "With Paternal Love and Blessings in the Risen Lord,".

† E V A N G E L O S
Metropolitan of New Jersey



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS ^{OF} NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Memorial Day 2020

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council, Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood, Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools, Directors and Participants of all Youth Organizations, and all devout Orthodox Christians of the Communities of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen!

For over 150 years our nation has set aside a day to commemorate the brave men and women who served this country and gave their lives in defense of our great nation. Their sacrifice, described by Abraham Lincoln as their last full measure of devotion, was not motivated out of ego or self-glorification, but it was motivated out of their desire to ensure that our nation remains free for all generations and that the principles which we hold so dear remain inviolate. It was through their courage that this nation was transformed from thirteen colonies into a nation of self-determination as they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to its establishment. It was through their resolve that they preserved the union of this country as brother fought against brother. It was through their bravery that they traversed the seas to liberate Europe when the powers of fascism threatened the world.

Their sacrifice has preserved time-honored principles such as freedom, equality, and justice of which we are all beneficiaries. Their service to our nation paved the way for this country to ascend the heights of greatness as it has become a shining beacon of liberty and hope for the entire world. Freedom and all of its benefits, however, come at a great cost. This cost was paid in the lives of hundreds of thousands of courageous men and women throughout the life of our nation. They waged war so that we might know

peace. No amount of thanks can ever be rendered to them for their selfless service and the sum of our praise can never repay the debt of the nobility of their deeds.

As we pay tribute to these valiant men and women, let us honor their sacrifices through personal reflection and prayerful remembrance. **Moreover, I ask that our Parishes hold a Trisagion service on Sunday, May 24, 2020 for the repose of the souls of all deceased veterans and for our deceased brethren.** May our prayers for and our commemoration of these brave souls remain within our hearts so that we may more fully honor their sacrifice, never forgetting their courage and valor. Praying that God grants them eternal rest and praying that He guards and protects all members of our armed forces, law enforcement, and civil authorities, I remain,

With Paternal Love and Blessings in the Risen Lord,

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ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΗΣ

May 21, 2020

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council, Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood, Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools, Directors and Participants of all Youth Organizations, and all devout Orthodox Christians of the Communities of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen!

Due the devastating effects of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic, we have witnessed the interruption and cancellation of numerous Ecclesiastical and social events both within our own communities and in society at-large. Many of these events centered around the celebration of significant accomplishments and marked an opportunity for people to gather in jubilation. One such event which has been affected are the graduation ceremonies of high school seniors who, having finished their primary education, now prepare themselves to enter a new world. For some, this marks the beginning of a career and for others it marks the beginning of a more specialized education. With the present circumstances, however, the 2020 graduating high school students have generally been deprived of the opportunity to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Therefore, I am pleased to announce that the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey will be holding a Virtual High School Graduation Ceremony for all of the faithful Greek Orthodox Christian graduating high school seniors of the Class of 2020 from throughout our Holy Metropolis. This will offer us the opportunity as a spiritual family of Greek Orthodox Christians to come together, to recognize, and to celebrate their accomplishments. By honoring their well-deserve achievement, we can express our support for them as the Body of Christ as they embark on their new journeys. Details pertaining to the Virtual Graduation Ceremony such as the date, time, and other relevant

information will be communicated to the Parish Priest of each Community and to the devout faithful so that the graduates, their families, and all devout faithful can joyously participate in this significant celebratory event.

It is my sincerest hope and prayer that you will help join me in celebrating this auspicious occasion and show your support for our beloved young adults. Although we are not able to celebrate with them in person, let us fervently pray that our Lord will guide them and guard them as they enter this new phase of their young lives. Praying that our Loving Lord protects and guards our graduates, their families, and each one of you, I remain,

With Paternal Love and Blessings in the Risen Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Metropolitan" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "Evangelos" is written in a slightly smaller, more delicate script. The signature is centered below the text "With Paternal Love and Blessings in the Risen Lord,".

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