

Recent Fires in Greece - A second tray will be passed today, August 5th to help those whose homes and communities have been destroyed by the fires in Attica, Greece. **Thank you for your support!**

Greek School Registration is now open for the Fall, kindergarten - 6th grade. School starts on Saturday, September 8th, 2018. For more information contact church office (773) 334-4515

St. Andrew's has Graves for Sale @ Elmwood Cemetery, Section 3B. Please call the church for additional information if you are interested (773) 334-4515

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Sunday School Teachers Needed: Are you looking for a way to give back to the community? Do you like spending time with kids, shaping the next generation of Orthodox Christians? Join the St. Andrews Sunday School staff as a part-time, full-time or substitute teacher. Contact Tracey Lazos at 773-230-4648 or sasschicago@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer.

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Dear Father John, Father Athanasios, and Family of St. Andrew,
I would like to thank all of St. Andrew's community for your support of Philoptochos while President. Your generosity and ongoing willingness to donate towards Philoptochos' philanthropic causes have been truly phenomenal. As I move to Denver this month, I will keep St. Andrew close in my heart along with all of you. Please welcome and congratulate Fotine Bloom as she becomes President for the next year. Until next time, always remember 'friend of the poor' is and continues to be the hallmark of St. Andrew's Philoptochos.
With agape, Cynthia Melas

Backpacks and School Supplies Drive: You still have time!! Please help the St. Andrew's Women's Philoptochos and Sunday School provide backpacks for elementary, middle and high school students in our local Edgewater and Uptown Community. Please make a monetary donation by August 15th so that we may purchase backpacks and essential school supplies to help them get off to a good start on their first day of school. Suggested donation for a complete backpack with supplies is \$25, however all donations are accepted. Checks should be made payable to St. Andrew's Women's Philoptochos Society (SAWPS). Make a difference in a young person's life! Thank you for your support in this effort!

Saturday: September 1st, October 6th, November 3rd, and December 1st: First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen Volunteers Needed: Please send a note to Timi Papas (timpapa417@yahoo.com) if you are available to participate from: 11:15-12:45. Thank you!!

Wednesday, August 15TH: Feast Day of Panagia: Coffee Hour after services, please contact Marilyn Tzakis if you are available to assist with baking and setup.

This is not your YiaYia's Philoptochos!! Stop by and see why!!
SAVE THE DATE: Friday, August 31st 7:00 pm until...

Hellena and Jeff Chrones have opened their home to host the women and men of St. Andrew to learn about the 21st Century Philoptochos!! We are all united in faith to aid those less fortunate than ourselves. Please join us for a fun filled evening of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres as we toast in the new ecclesiastical year, September 1st!! This is the place to be, don't miss out on an evening of fellowship and joy!! If you are already a member of Philoptochos, bring your husband, and/or a friend to join in this very special evening! Evite invitations have been sent out, check your email and RSVP!! Invitations are also available at the Philoptochos table!!

Welcome to Saint Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church
"Proclaiming Orthodoxy Since 1926"


5649 North Sheridan Road • Chicago, IL 60660
(773) 334-4515 • Fax: (773) 334-3468
E-mail: info@standreworthodox.org
Website: StAndrewOrthodox.org

Fr. John N. Kalomas – Proistamenos
Fr. Athanasios Minetos - Associate Priest
Fr. John Kutulas – In Loving Memory

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5th, 2018 (10th Sunday of Matthew)
STEWARDSHIP QUOTE – *Prayer and Fasting Allows Us To Fully Focus On Not Only Ourselves But Also On The Needs Of Others. This Focus On Both Our Selves And Others Helps Us To Become Good Stewards Of The Church.*

MEMORIAL

Georgia Loukas - 9 years

May Her Memory Be Eternal!!!

Coffee Hour is being sponsored by The Anthony Loukas Family, in loving memory of Gerogia.

Please come and join us in the gym after services to celebrate Fr. John's Birthday!

40 DAY BLESSING
Zoe Marie Dallas

We invite the entire Parish Family to join in prayer as the servant of God, Zoe Marie along with her parents, Nichole & Dimitri Dallas, present her to God within the church following the fortieth day of her birth. We offer congratulations and prayers that God continue to bless them with health and happiness.

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● **FOR NON-ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS:** We welcome those Christians not fully united with us. It is a consequence of the sad divisions of Christianity that we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist and for which we must all pray. We do however invite you to receive the blessed bread that is given out to all at the end of service. Thank you for coming and worshiping with us.
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10th Sunday of Matthew; Prayer and Fasting

In today's Gospel reading we have heard that God, our Lord, designates the strength of our faith as the main weapon that is able to bring the victory over evil. Our faith is not like a lifeless stone, not a precious diamond, which, though beautiful and very expensive, is still dead and insensible... Christ teaches us that our faith must be similar to a grain: though it is primarily tiny, it is alive. And, as this minute grain will eventually grow and become a big beautiful tree, our faith must also always grow and develop, and never freeze or stop in one place. Christ tells us that if even we have had faith of the size of a mustard seed, the mountains would have retreated in front of us, and we would have been able to move them from place to place...

The Lord tells His disciples about a prayer and fasting as about the most powerful means to strengthen our faith. What hidden meaning is there in the words of God that by our faith we would be able to move mountains from one place to another? Why do we need to do this? Will it help to save our souls?

Let us consider for a moment that Jesus was talking not about the physical mountains of earth and stones, but about those mountains, which rise in our hearts, the mountains of sins, accumulated during our lives? These are the very mountains that separate us from God... Them we should move away and (or, even better) make them topple into the deep sea... Only with the help of God's grace that we receive at every Church service, we are able to break down

these cold and dark, lifeless rocky mountains of sin and pride.

The apostles proved to be able to overthrow these mountains of their personal sins, and then to turn the whole existing at that time human world over. Under the influence of their preaching about Jesus Christ and after their personal example demonstrating the strength of their faith (which they were ready to confess in spite of multiple and various prosecutions to the very death), many peoples were set in motion, declined the previous false beliefs and become Christians. As a result, the entire ancient world was changed and a new Christian civilization, to which we all belong, was built! The devil wants to destroy this new world of God-believers that our Heavenly Father created. We can preserve it only by prayers and fasting. Our faith must constantly increase. If our faith does not grow, it will decline and eventually die. The true fast – is not when one gives up eating meat, but when one denies oneself, gives up one's sins. Real prayer – is such state of mind, when the soul every minute is turned towards God, as a radio set is tuned to the radio station. Only in this way we will be stronger than the devil, than atheism, than any other false aggressive religion! Amen!

Taken from the Russian Patriarchate of the Orthodox Church of Canada Web site.

EPISTLE READING I Corinthians 4:9-16

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 17:14-23

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."

UPCOMING SERVICES

Monday, August 6th, 2018 Transfiguration
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Monday, August 6th, 2018
Small Paraklesis 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 8th, 2018
Small Paraklesis 7:00 p.m.

Friday, August 10th, 2018
Small Paraklesis 7:00 p.m.