

Adult Bible Study - Monday, November 12th @ 7:00 p.m. Come join us and learn about the richness of our faith through scripture. Bring your bibles, we'll be using the Orthodox Study Bible. For more information call the office (773) 334-4515 and speak to Father John.

Catechism class will begin Wednesday, Nov 14th at 7:00pm. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Orthodox, please contact Fr Athanasios at frathanasios@standreorthodox.org.

Mommy and Me will be meeting on Friday, November 16th @ 10:30 am in the pre-school room. Thanksgiving lesson and craft. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Stephane Collopy at sacollopy@gmail.com

SENIOR CIRCLE - Yiayia's are having a Potluck luncheon: Monday November 5th at noon at church in the Presidents room. Come join us and bring a dish to share with others. Looking forward to seeing you all.

Save the Date for our Annual Boxing Event: Friday, November 16th, 2018. Tickets are \$100.00 Please call the office for reservations (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



Upcoming Opportunities:

Thanksgiving Turkey and Canned Food Drive: Ongoing for the month of November
Please join our St. Andrew community and help provide a Thanksgiving meal (and more) to thirty families in need. As we join with Care For Real, Edgewater's food pantry, certain food items are in demand. In the coming weeks, as you leave church, look for a flyer attached to a brown paper bag, and help us fill the tables of those who are in need.

Friday, November 16 – Sandwich Making: Please join us in the kitchen from 10-noon, to make sandwiches for Sarah's Circle, a women's shelter. Contact Vicki Karagianis at 773-327-3194 to let her know you will be there.

Saturday, November 17 - Loukoumi Make a Difference Day: St. Andrew families, along with other parishes and organizations, will be participating in the Loukoumi Make A Difference Day. This traveling service day started out in NYC and the Loukoumi Foundation is rolling it out to other cities. We will be stopping at three locations to assist others and Make A Difference in their lives. See the itinerary below. We will travel by bus to the locations, start time is 9am at St. Andrew Church, and estimated completion is around 3pm. All travel will be provided by bus, sponsored by the Loukoumi Foundation.

9 am start at St. Andrew- make cards for children in the hospital
Travel to a pet shelter and provide necessary items
Travel Hellenic American School- have lunch; a reading of Loukoumi will also take place
Travel to the Greek American Rehab Center to visit with patients
Travel back to St. Andrew
If you'd like to join in this day of giving, please send an email to cynthiapearl@msn.com.

Thursday, November 29 - Vespers for St. Andrew 7-9pm
Friday, November 30 - Feast Day of St. Andrew Liturgy - 10am

For our patron saint, St. Andrew, Vespers and the Feast Day are very special days within our church and we share this celebration with others from the Metropolis area. We need everyone's help for these days. It is an honor to host people from all over the Chicagoland area, and it isn't always easy putting it together. However, with your help, the baking, serving, and preparing will go smoothly. Please contact Fotine at 773-418-8957, if you can help.

Saturday, December 8 - Mingle and Jingle: Did you see your invitation in your email inbox? Our major fundraiser is almost here! Please make your reservations by contacting Paula Bork at 773-203-4441 or paulanbork@gmail.com. Ticket cost is \$130 per person and includes dinner, dancing, and drinks. This is our chapter's major fundraiser. We know that Philoptochos is a caring and worthwhile organization. Don't keep us a secret. This fundraiser helps us, help those most in need. Please be a supporter.

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



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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018 (5th Sunday of Luke)

STEWARDSHIP QUOTE – The Lazarus That We Meet In Our Everyday Lives Defines What Type Of Stewards We Will Be. We Must Not Be Like The Rich Man Who Just Plainly Ignored The Suffering, But We Must Get Down In The Trenches And Heal The Suffering. That Is What A Good Steward Is.

TRISAGION

Elpiniki Lales, Antonios Pagos, Diamond Mendonides

May Their Memory Be Eternal!!!

40 DAY BLESSING

Angelica Argianas & Korinthia Belcore

We invite the entire Parish Family to join in prayer as the servants of God, Angelica and Korinthia along with their parents, Michelle & Peter Argianas and Katelyn & Rob Belcore, respectively, present them to God within the church following the fortieth day of their 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 worshipping with us.*
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Lazarus and the Rich Man: 5th Sunday of Luke

I bet that every one of us can name some famous people who seem to be famous mostly because they are famous. Some people make the news simply by being who they are for reasons that are beyond us. For whatever reason, the names of celebrities are always well known. But it's not the same for the humble and poor, for people who live on the streets or in shacks and who do not know where their next meal will come from. Hundreds of millions of children in the developing world today do not have safe drinking water, adequate shelter, or health services. Many of them end up like the poor man in today's gospel lesson, begging desperately outside the home of a wealthy person, only to be ignored and to die without any human comfort. The names of those who live such lives are rarely known or recorded. The names, like the people, are usually thought to be unimportant and rarely make the news. How completely shocking it is, then, that our gospel text gives us the name of the poor beggar Lazarus, but leaves out the name of the rich man. This detail shows us that God's kingdom is not like worldly kingdoms, not like human society as we know it. For the kind of wealth that makes people famous in this life counts for nothing in the next. And the kind of humility, the kind of complete trust in God that the poorest of the poor are in the best position to have, counts for little in today's world; yet, it is only by that kind of humble trust that anyone will enter the kingdom of God.

No, the point is not that the rich will be damned and the poor will be blessed. Instead, it is that there are strong and deep temptations associated with wealth, possessions, and success in this world. For if we love ourselves, our riches, and our status more than God and neighbor, no matter how much or little we have, we will shut ourselves out of the kingdom. The name Lazarus means "One who has been helped," and those whose miserable life circumstances do not encourage them to trust in money, power, or success are in a good position to learn that their help is in the Lord, in His mercy and love. The rich man never learned that lesson, however. He wore only outrageously expensive clothes and had a great feast every day. He must have known about the poor beggar Lazarus. He probably stepped over or around him every time he went in or out of his house. Here was a desperately poor man, lying on the ground, whose only comfort was the stray dogs who would lick his open sores. All that Lazarus wanted were the crumbs that fell from the man's table, you might say his garbage. But the rich man was so greedy and thoughtless that he apparently denied him even that. Our Lord is quite clear about the consequences of such a life. This man showed no mercy; he demonstrated no love for his wretched neighbor.

Consequently, he cut himself off from the mercy and love of God.

Quite different from this selfish man were the saints we commemorated on Thursday, the Holy Unmercenary Healers Cosmas and Damian. They used the money they inherited from their parents to provide medical care without charge to the sick and needy. Imagine that: doctors who refused payment. God worked many miracles through them, for they became channels of the Lord's mercy and love to those with whom the Lord identified Himself: the sick, the weak, the stranger, "the least of these my brethren." St. Paul's famous words about love in 1 Corinthians 13 were lived out by these great saints. We remember them precisely because of their love. The Lord said that the greatest commandments are to love God all our heart, soul, and strength and our neighbors as ourselves. And what greater sign of love is there than patiently and selflessly to ease the pain of others, to lighten their burdens, to heal their bodies, and restore them to health. No, these men did not take credit for their work or think that they healed by their own power. Instead, their lives were transformed by the healing energies of the Holy Spirit; they became channels of God's mercy to suffering, desperate people. Saints Cosmas and Damian were completely different from the rich man who disregarded Lazarus. They would have provided him their best care free of charge and done everything possible to nurse him back to health. Their selfless love for Lazarus would have been an icon of the Kingdom of God in which those who wait humbly upon the Lord will not be disappointed.

But we have to go beyond merely praising the memory of Sts. Cosmas and Damian. We must venerate them not only with our words, but also with our deeds; namely, by following in their footsteps for the Lazaruses of our world and or our lives. No, we are not all called to become physicians; we are not all called to give everything away to the poor. But we are all called to live out the selfless love that Jesus Christ has brought to the world, the love that is patient and kind and free of envy; that rejoices in the truth and endures all things for the salvation of the world. That kind of love never fails, for it has conquered death through our Lord's crucifixion and glorious resurrection. Such love is not a feeling, an emotion, or a sentiment. It is a commitment, a sacrifice, an offering of ourselves to God in the service of the living icons of Christ whom we encounter every day, namely every human being with whom we come in contact. Unlike the rich man in the parable, we are not to be so fixated on ourselves that we ignore the needs of others. None of us is rich and famous in the world, but we

all have the opportunity, at the very least, to share the crumbs that fall from our tables with those who are hungry for them. As we prepare for the Nativity or Advent fast, we should plan on giving the money that we save by eating a humble diet to those who do not have the basic necessities of life. That's what we do as a parish through the "Food for Hungry People" collection during Lent. Stay tuned for details on a food drive for Thanksgiving and for our plans to help a needy family at Christmas. Think also of the crumbs, the small bits of time and energy, that we are all able to give: to the sick and lonely who need visitors or at least a note or a phone call; to neglected children who need tutors and mentors; to pregnant women in difficult situations who need our support to help them welcome their babies; and to the countless other people in our own neighborhoods who need God's blessing in their lives in a tangible, practical way.

The hard truth is that, if we are not sharing our lives and blessings with others in some way, we will become just like the rich man who was too caught up with his own pleasure to worry about poor Lazarus. We know where that path leads. The good news is that Saints Cosmas and Damien have shown us a better way, the way of our Lord, which is open to us in every generation, in every walk of life, no matter how rich or

poor we are. For the money and power of the world will fade away; they do not last. Only one thing lasts, and that is the selfless love of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ Who has conquered sin and death. And we all have gifts and abilities that may become channels of His blessing and mercy to a world of people like Lazarus, whether their wounds are physical or spiritual or emotional. Of course, we do not have to save the world; Christ has already done that. We just have to be faithful: to trust, believe, and follow our Savior in how we treat others. He turned no one away empty-handed and neither should we. If we claim His mercy and love for ourselves, we must show them to all who bear His image and likeness. Let us be Christians not merely in name, but also in how we live, even when it is inconvenient. Then we will become living icons of the salvation that Jesus Christ has brought to a world of sin and death, and the Lazarus's of the world will know that they too are the children of God. And together with them, we will all share in the mercy of a Lord Who raises the dead, heals the sick, feeds the hungry, and makes even the most miserable people His blessed sons and daughters.

Given by Fr. Philip LeMasters Eastern Orthodox priest, professor at McMurry University,

EPISTLE READING **Ephesians 2:4-10**

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

GOSPEL READING: **Luke 16:19-31**

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"