

Adult Religious Education (Bible Study) - We will resume again sometime in September.
Happy Summer!

Looking for volunteers for the Narthex Committee— The Parish Council is looking for individuals who can volunteer their time in the Narthex on Sunday and Major Holidays. If interested please see the president of the Parish Council—Nick Hatzopoulos

Donations for the Boutique at St. Andrew's Greek Fest- Saturday, July 7th & Sunday, July 8th.
This is a popular destination because of unique items for sale. Please drop off gently used items at the church office. Thank you!

*Jewelry and accessories *Housewares *Toys and books *Vinyl records, CDs, tapes *Religious items

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



PHILOPTOCHOS

Saturday: July 7th and August 4th: First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen Volunteers Needed:
please send a note to Timi Papas if you are available to participate from: 11:15- 12:30.
Timpapa417@yahoo.com

Friday, June 15th 10:30: Sarah's Circle and The Night Ministry Sandwich Making: please meet in the kitchen to make sack lunches. Vonnie@Karafotias.com for questions.

Save the Date: Tuesday, June 19th: End of Year dinner; details to follow.

July 7th & 8th: Picnic Bake Sale. Please contact Patty Harrison and Demetra Christus if you are interested in baking for the Picnic.

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

August Membership Event: Hellena Chrones' home: last week of August; details to follow.

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, JUNE 10, 2018 (Second Sunday of Matthew)

STEWARDSHIP QUOTE – *Follow Me Is A Command That Our Lord Expresses To All. Being That We Are What Our Lord Created From The Earth, We Have Two Choices; To Be Good Stewards And Follow The Command Of God, Or To Ignore And Go Our Separate Ways.*

MEMORIAL

Christos Prassas - 40 days
Sophia Prassas - 9 years

May Their Memory Be Eternal!!!

Coffee Hour is being sponsored by Cleo Prassas in loving memory of her husband Christos & by The Stuart and Eva Polydoris Family.

.....
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.*
.....

2nd Sunday of Matthew

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ today in today's Gospel we hear our Lord say "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." Our Lord said this to call the apostles. This is not just the apostles' call but it is our own. What this statement says is that if we follow the Lord Jesus Christ we will bring men to Him. Following the Lord Jesus Christ means that we are live our lives in the same manner that He lived His. That means that we are to be obedient to our Heavenly Father and take up the way of the cross. As our Lord said to His disciples; "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Matthew 16:24).

It also means that we must be one as the Son is with His Father. Our Lord prayed for this at His Passion saying "Holy Father, keep through Your own name those whom You have given me that they may be one, as we are. (John 17:11) I in them, and You in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that You have sent me, and have loved them, as You have loved me." (John 17:23) In order for us to be one with God as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are one we must be first be obedient to the will of God. Obedience to the will of God means that we must place God in charge of our lives. In other words we must surrender our will to God's will. That is exactly what the apostles did when they forsook everything and followed Jesus. As our Lord said "He that loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me." (Matthew 10:37)

This means that we must love God above all things. This is the great commandment "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." (Mark 12:30) To love God above all things is a difficult path to follow but, it is also a path of joy. This is because the path of the cross leads to the resurrection. Many people look at this path as without seeing the joy of the

resurrection at its end. Saint Paul reminds us of this in his First Epistle to the Corinthians when he says "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." (1 Corinthians 1:18)

What the cross leads to is restoration of lives to that which we were created to be by God. When this happens we become changed. We are at peace with creation. This peace is often referred to as serenity. Accepting the path of the cross is something we do voluntarily. While our Lord calls us to the path of salvation through the cross He leaves us to choose between the path of salvation and the path of destruction. If we choose the path of destruction and are hearts are completely turned to evil, then God leaves us and Satan becomes our master. This was the case with Judas when he turned against our Lord Jesus Christ for thirty pieces of silver. Our Lord did not impinge on Judas' freewill but rather said to him "That thou doest, do quickly." (John 13:27)

Our Lord allows us to choose between good and evil freely. His call to us to make this choice is "Follow me!" or "That thou doest, do quickly." In making this choice we all too often become concerned about our own welfare. We become scared to surrender everything over to God. Our Lord assures us that these concerns are unfounded when He says "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much better than they?" (Matthew 6:26) If we have made the choice to follow Christ, then as the Gospel says we will become fishers of men. This means that as fishermen cast their nets into the dark depths of the sea for a catch of fish so, will we with Christ and the Gospel catch men from the dark depths of this world.

As fishers of men we will fulfill the Lord's command "Go therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19) All too often we abdicate this responsibility to someone else. If we do this then we must ask ourselves are we truly following Christ. The Gospel says "Follow Me AND I will make you fishers of men." One of the key ways that we are fishers of men is through the way we live our lives; as the fisherman uses

a lure to attract the fish to his hook. However we also have the responsibility to share our faith as fishers of men. This sharing can be as simple as Philip saying to Nathaniel "Come and see." (John 1:46)

Come and see what I have found; Come and see what I have; Come and see what gives me joy. In sharing the faith the apostle Paul instructs Timothy in the following manner; "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, where unto you are also called, and have professed a good profession before many witnesses. (1 Timothy 6:12)"

So my dear brothers and sisters in Christ my prayer for you is that you may fight the good fight of faith following the way of the cross of Christ so that you may draw men into Christ's net through your profession of Him before men in the manner in which you live your lives.

Amen

Given by Fr. Milan Medakovic at Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church

EPISTLE READING **Romans 2:10-16**

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for every one who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL READING: **Matthew 4:18-23**

At that time, as Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left their boat and their father, and followed him. And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY, June 10th, 2018

Feast Day of St. Nathanael

Vespers 5:00 p.m.

Open House Reception 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Monday, June 11th, 2018

Feast Day of St. Nathanael Hierarchical Liturgy

Annunciation Cathedral

Orthros 8:30 a.m. Liturgy 9:30 a.m.