

Sunday School Registration and Kickoff will be Sunday, September 10th! Registration will begin on Sunday, August 27th and the first class is Sunday, September 10th. For information, contact our Sunday School Director, Tracey Lazos at lazofamily@gmail.com.

Greek School Registration: Don't miss out on a chance to sign your children up for our fantastic Dr. Basil E Stevens Greek School! We offer children from K through 6th Grade a unique opportunity not only to perfect their Greek conversation, grammar, and reading skills, but also to learn the rich Hellenic tradition of song and dance! The school year begins Saturday, September 9 at 9:00am! For information on registration, please contact Fr. Athanasios at frathanasios@standreorthodox.org.

On Saturday, August 26 in conjunction with St. Andrew, Chicago and St. George, Chicago, the ECE (Expert Center of European Soccer) will conduct a Soccer Camp from 9:00am to 1:00pm at the Lincoln Soccer Turf Foster Pro, 5100 North Lake Shore Drive (Foster and Lake Shore Drive). The Fee is \$55 per player. This camp is open to all youth 7yrs and older. For more information regarding the camp and the whole ECE program please call 847-834-5485.

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

The newly-released DVD of the Greek Liturgy by Fr. Ivan Moody is now on sale for \$20.00. After Divine Liturgy today, there will be a table in the hallway between the Church and the church office where the DVD can be purchased. All proceeds are donated to St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE!

Visit the Holy Land with Fr. John Kalomas & Fr. Timothy Bakakos: 11 Days Epiphany in the Holy Land. \$2,898 per person/double occupancy, from Chicago. For additional information call the office (773) 334-4515.



PHILOPTOCHOS

August 15th: Reception in Auditorium following services for the Dormition of the Theotokos. Please consider helping with set-up and serving at the reception after services. Please stop by the Philoptochos table if you are able to participate.

August 18th, Friday: Sarah's Circle Sack Lunches will be made in the kitchen at 10:30. If you are able to participate, please notify Vonnie Karafotias at vonnie@karafotias.com or Vickie Karagianis at 773-327-3194.

September 2nd, Saturday Outreach First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen Volunteers Needed at 1427 Chicago Avenue. Evanston, Illinois. Philoptochos has supported this Soup Kitchen for over 40 years, thanks to the efforts of our late Philoptochos sister, Ethel Kotsovos, along with many other Philoptochos members. We serve between 75-100 needy men, women and children, a warm, nutritious meal, prepared by the church's volunteers, in a dining room setting. In order to maintain our slot, we have been asked to formally commit to 6 to 8 people per month.

Please consider stopping by to assist serving lunch the first Saturday of the month, ask a friend, relative or include your young adults over age 13. Community hours can be earned by participating in the Soup kitchen. There will be sign up lists on the Philoptochos bulletin board, or, at the Philoptochos table in the auditorium.

Future dates: Please RSVP by August 16th for **Saturday, September 2nd**
Please RSVP by September 18th for **Saturday, October 7th**
Please RSVP by October 16th for **Saturday, November 4th**
Please RSVP by November 13th for **Saturday, December 2nd**

September 14th, Thursday: Exaltation of the Holy Cross: Reception in the Auditorium after services: Please stop by the Philoptochos table to sign up for set-up, baking or serving.

September 23rd: Metropolis Annual Luncheon: An Afternoon in Byzantium at Empress Banquets in Addison, Illinois: Fellowship Hour: 11:00am, Luncheon 12:00 Noon. RSVP by September 9th \$50.00 per person. Please stop by the Philoptochos table to make reservations.

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@standreorthodox.org

Website: StAndrewOrthodox.org

Fr. John N. Kalomas – Proistamenos

Fr. John Kutulas – In Loving Memory

Fr. Athanasios Minetos

SUNDAY, AGUST 13, 2017 (10th Sunday of Matthew)
STEWARDSHIP QUOTE– *With Faith We Could Move Mountains. With Faith One Can Also Change Their Hearts In Being A Good Steward.*

TRISAGION

Irene Tzakis
Soterios Papadakos

May Their Memory Be Eternal!

UPCOMING SERVICES

Tuesday, August 15th,
Dormition of the Theotokos
Orthros 9:00 a.m.
Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

.....
: ***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.*
:

10th Sunday of Matthew

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 Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in Canada

EPISTLE READING: 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."