

**Adult Religious Education (Bible Study)** - Monday, October 16th @ 7:00 p.m. Come join us and learn about the richness of our faith through Scripture. Bring your bibles. We will be using the Orthodox Study Bible. For more information call (773) 334-4515 and speak to Father John.

**Sunday School has started**, if you haven't done so, please register your child/ren. For more information contact Tracey Lazos at lazofamily@gmail.com.

**Greek School:** 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 began Saturday, September 9 For information on registration, please contact Fr. Athanasios at frathanasios@standreorthodox.org.

**Mommy and Me** will be meeting this Friday, October 20th @ 10:30 a.m. in the Pre-school room. Cleansing of pumpkins lesson and craft. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Ste[hane Collopy @ sacollopy@gmail.com

**The Chicago Clergy Syndesoms annual dinner in memory of His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos** will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at the Concord Banquets, 20922 N Rand Rd, Kildeer, IL. Please join us as we honor Bishop Demetrios for his name's day, and all priests who have served 20 years in our Metropolis. Tickets are \$100 per person. For tickets or more information, please call the church office at 773-334-4515.

**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**

**Please RSVP by October 16th** for November 4th First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen Volunteers at 1427 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Illinois. Please sign up to assist serving lunch the first Saturday of the month. Please ask a friend, relative or include your young adults over age 13. Community hours for teenagers can be earned by participating in the Soup kitchen. Plan to arrive by 11:15 to get assignments, serve lunch from 11:30-12:30; cleanup from 12:30 to 12:45. Future dates: Please RSVP by November 13th for **Saturday, December 2nd**

**Wednesday, October 18th: Rescheduled Philoptochos Meeting: The Chicago Metropolis Annual Priests Council Meeting in memory of His Eminence Iakovos is Tuesday, October 24th, at Concord Banquets in Kildeer, therefore our meeting has been rescheduled to 10/18.** We will have a short business meeting and then begin preparations and start baking for Vespers and St. Andrew Day. We will be baking: koulouri, moustokouloura and pazimathea; additional dates for baking will be announced. Sign-up please at the Philoptochos Desk

**Friday, October 20th Sarah's Circle Sack Lunch: 10:30 Please meet in the kitchen; this is truly about women helping women!** These lunches are served on the weekend when the cafeteria at Sarah's Circle is closed. Please contact Vicki Karagianis at (773-327- 3194) or Vonnie Karafotias (630-378- 4878 or vonnie@karafotias.com) if you are able to assist, by October 16th.

**Sunday, October 22nd: OPEN HEARTS, OPEN DOORS Inclusion Awareness Sunday** and extended coffee hour: Please join us for our 11th Annual Inclusion Awareness Day, Sunday, October 22nd. Please invite anyone you may know who would like to participate in this special day of worship. Please contact Maria Kotsinis at reenote@comcast.net for additional information. If you are able to assist with set-up and serving, please stop by the Philoptochos table after services.

*Welcome to Saint Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church*

*"Proclaiming Orthodoxy Since 1926"*

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Website: [StAndrewOrthodox.org](http://StAndrewOrthodox.org)

Fr. John N. Kalomas – Proistamenos

Fr. John Kutulas – In Loving Memory

Fr. Athanasios Minetos



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017 (Third Sunday of Luke)**

**STEWARDSHIP QUOTE – *The Most Precious Gift That God Has Given To Us So We May Achieve Is Salvation. No Price Can Ever Repay This Except To Give From The Heart And To The Best That We Can Give.***

**MEMORIAL**

Christopher Simms — 40 days

**May His Memory Be Eternal!**

**Altar Steward —** The Simms Family in loving memory of Christopher.

**40 DAY BLESSING**

**Penelope Panagiota Schloss**

*We invite the entire Parish Family to join in prayer as the servant of God, Penelope Panagiota and her parents, Tina & Ed Schloss 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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## *Third Sunday of Luke; The Widow of Nain*

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

"For perfect hope is achieved on the brink of despair, when instead of falling over the edge, we find ourselves walking on air." Thomas Merton

Change is hard and some changes are harder than others, but all are reminders that everything in this life is passing away and if we cannot let go of this world we cannot be followers of Christ.

Jesus meets many of the people in the New Testament at times of crisis, when suffering is great, and the need is immediate, like in today's Gospel. Other times he meets people at times when life is being lived at a normal pace, when there is no particular need, no death, or sickness, like the Samaritan Woman or at Mary, Martha, and Lazarus' house for dinner.

Wherever He went, whoever He met, whatever circumstance He encountered, He brought a message of profound compassion. Even when His words seemed harsh, the message was meant to move his listeners from where they stood to a place closer to Him and to divine freedom. Christ offers a way of healing that reaches deep into the depths of human life that often shakes the foundations of life itself that is unpredictable. In Him the dead are made alive.

But notice. It is usually the poor and needy that find Him. They are the ones who recognize Him for Who He Is. The Psalmist wrote that "a broken heart He will not despise" which means that He understands our brokenness far better than we do, for most of us do not even know that we are broken.

Speaking in parables and often in ambiguous terms, Jesus never offered easy answers. He offered no instruction book or magical formulas. Instead He opened doors to divine wisdom that lay just beyond the reach of those who came to Him in order to stretch them and to challenge them to change both thought and life. God does not change us without our permission. We, together with Him, cooperate in the changes that are necessary. No matter how much Bible reading one does, or services one attends, or words of wisdom one collects, none of it will profit unless a new way of life is born us. Our brokenness must be healed.

Thomas Merton wrote: "Having faith in Christ without undergoing healing in Christ is no faith at all."

The Lord takes the material offered to him by each present moment and cares for the task at hand whatever it may be. Often he makes a lesson out of it, or a miracle, or something else wholly appropriate to the moment. You never hear of Jesus wishing he were someplace else except perhaps in the Garden of Gethsemane where he struggled with his coming torture and death, but he resolved his internal crisis with acceptance, "Not as I will, but as You will."

The only son of the widow died. The crisis for this woman was intense. She would no longer have the support of her son. She could easily have become destitute without his help. So, the pain caused by his death was not her only problem. When Jesus saw her he had compassion. Jesus is compassion. "Do not weep," he said and then raised her son from the dead. Jesus relieved her of her temporal suffering.

Still the solution to her deepest suffering was yet to be met. Death would come again to both of them, to one first and then the other. She did not yet know the true freedom that comes from non-attachment to this temporal world. God is Spirit and He comes and goes like the wind, as Jesus tells us. If we are tied down to

this world, we cannot follow Him as He comes and goes. If we are to be His true followers we must become free also, as free as the wind. To be free is to not be afraid to let go, to hold on to nothing that is passing away, to trust wholly in Christ who is Deathless, and to become like Him in whose image we have been created. "There is coming a time," Jesus told the Samaritan woman, "that the true worshippers would worship not on this

mountain or in Jerusalem, but in spirit and in truth." The mountain and Jerusalem represent the world and its attachments. Spirit and truth represent freedom from all temporal things.

Given by Fr Antony Hughes of St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church

### **EPISTLE READING: II Corinthians 9:6-11**

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

### **GOSPEL READING: Luke 7:11-16**

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"