

## Special Hymns for Sunday of the Blind Man

### Today's Entrance Hymn:

In the congregation let us bless our God Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead. To You we sing, Alleluia

### Today's Resurrection Hymn:

To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful give praise and worship. For he willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

### Dismissal Hymn for Sts. Constantine and Helen:

The form of Your Cross was seen in the sky by Your Apostle among the kings, O Lord. He received his calling, like Paul, not from man, and placed his imperial city in Your hands. Ever guard it in peace, O Loving God, through the intercessions of the Theotokos.

### Easter Kontakion:

You descended to the grave, O Christ our God, yet overthrew Hades power as immortal conqueror. And, You rose from the dead, O Christ our God. And, You greeted myrr-bearing women; and you gave to your Apostles Your holy peace; and to the fallen men, You brought resurrection.

### Megalinarion:

The angel cried out to the woman full of grace: Rejoice, O pure virgin; again I say, rejoice. For your Son is risen from the tomb on the third day. Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. Exalt and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son.

### Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ; from the Font of immortal life, taste. Alleluia!

## ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΤΥΦΛΟΥ

### Εισοδικον

Εν Εκκλησιες ευλογειτε τον Θεον, Κυριον εκ πηγων Ισραηλ. Σωσον ημας Υιε Θεου, ο αναστας εκ νεκρων, Ψαλλοντας σοι. Αλληλουια.

### Αναστάσιμον Απολυτίκιον

Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρί και Πνευματι τόν εκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εις σωτηρίαν ημών, ανυμνήσωμεν πιστοί και προσκυνήσωμεν. Οτι ηυδόκησε σαρκί ανελθειν εν τώ Σταυρώ και θάνατον υπομειναι, και εγειραι τούς τεθνεώτας εν τή ενδόξω αναστάσει αυτου.

### Απολυτίκιον Αγίου Κωνσταντίνου

Τού Σταυρού σου τόν τύπον εν ουρανώ θεασάμενος, και ως ο Παύλος τήν κλήσιν ουκ εξ ανθρωπων δεξάμενος. Ο εν βασιλεύσιν Απόστολός σου, Κύριε, βασιλεύουσιν πόλιν τή χειρί σου παρέθετο. Ήν περισώζε διά παντός εν ειρήνη, πρεσβείαις τής Θεοτόκου μόνη Φιλάνθρωπε.

### Κοντακιον του Πασχα

Ει και εν ταφω κατηλθες, αθανατε, αλλα του αδου καθειλες την δυναμιν. Και ανεστης ως νικητης, Χριστε ο Θεος, γυναιξι μυροφορις φθελξαμενος χαιρετε, και τοις σοις αποστολοις ειρηνην δωρουμενος ο τοις πεσουσι παρεχων αναστασιν

### Μεγαλυναριον

Ο αγγελος εβσα τη κεχαριτωμενη. Αγνη παρθενε, χαιρε και παλιν ερω χαιρε. Ο σος Υιος ανεστη τριημερος εκ ταφου. Φωτιζου, φωτιζου, η νεα Ιερουσαλημ, η γαρ δοξα Κυριου επι σε ανετειλε. Χορευε νυν και αγαλλου Σιων, συ δε αγνη, τερπου Θεοτοκε, εν τη εγερσει του τοκου σου

### Κοινωνικον

Σωμα Χριστου μεταλαβετε, πηγης αθανατου γευσασθε. Αλληλουια

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, June 5 Sunday of the Blind Man

**Epistle:** Acts 16:16-34 (Red Book, page 56)

**Gospel:** John 9:1-38 (Red Book, page 58)

**Acolytes:** Group 1 (Thrones): C. Siozos, G. Caloiero, C. Sterious, D. Porcaro, A. Sweigart, A. Zeppos, B. Wadsworth, A. Grassley, E. Hansen, S. Elliker, K. Schlageter, S. Maoury, M. Maoury, L. Elliker

**Council Members Welcoming:** Tony Phyrillas  
Kim Shunk

**Council Members Ushering:** Harry Dialectos  
Gus Kotsakis

**The Sunday School and Greek School** will hold their Annual End-of Year Ceremony today following the Divine Liturgy.

**Fellowship Hosts:** Dr. & Mrs. Esfstration Gordon  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Grassley  
Ms. Despina Green  
Mr. George Halulakos  
Mr. & Mrs. John Halulakos

A **General Assembly** will be held today following the Sunday School and Greek School Ceremony to discuss and approve the purchase of property adjacent to the church.

**GOYANs** will meet in the GOYA room following the Sunday School and Greek School Ceremony.

**Philoptochos End-of- Year-Dinner** at 12:30 p.m. at Double Tree by Hilton, 710 Penn Street

## Next Sunday

### Sunday, June 12 Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Orthros at 8:15 a.m.

Divine Liturgy at 9:15 a.m.

**Acolytes:** Group 2 (Powers): J. Phyrillas, D. Kyvelos, T. Limberiou, G. Limberiou, K. Mitchell, S. Mitchell, H. Robitzer, Y. Patestas, D. Scantzios, A. Scantzios, E. Ross, N. Simotas, M. Patestas

## Announcements

**Father of the Year Nominations** must be submitted by June 10<sup>th</sup>. See the May ECHO for details.

**Summer Camp: JOY:** June 19-25; **GOYA:** July 10-16  
Cost is \$500. (Contact Father Tom for financial aid).  
Register online at [www.pittsburgh.goarch.com](http://www.pittsburgh.goarch.com). (Follow the link to register).

### Save the Dates:

- **VBS** is August 22-26. Please contact:  
Amy Elliker at [ellikerfamily@gmail.com](mailto:ellikerfamily@gmail.com) OR Marisa Hunsicker [marisa1976@comcast.net](mailto:marisa1976@comcast.net)
- The **Church Picnic** is August 21<sup>st</sup> at St Benedict's Picnic Grove

**In the Hospital** (Remember in Prayer)

**Reading:** Lawrence Medaglia  
Georgios Kakalelis  
Katherine Fisher



## The Earliest Church

**On June 1st we remember a great Church Father, the second-century saint Justin the Martyr.**

Justin is sometimes called "The Philosopher" because he studied the great philosophies of his day (Stoicism and Plato's teachings, for example) with great care and seriousness. Only after this intense study, which showed him that Christianity was more complete and authentic than all philosophies, did he accept baptism and proclaim himself a Christian.

Justin spent the rest of his life writing to explain Christianity and to draw people to the faith. He also described the way Christians worshipped in those very early days of the Church—a description remarkably close to the order of the Orthodox Divine Liturgy.

A recent issue of "USA Today" carried a front-page story about people who choose to celebrate Easter in gatherings at home rather than attending a traditional church. They

claim that their way of worship is "closer to the original"—the early Church described in the New Testament. One person is quoted as saying that "if you look at the Bible, the church we have today is nowhere to be found."

But what does the Bible say about the Church? What was the earliest Church like? First, we know that its form of worship was not spontaneous and free-form, as some people today assume. The Eucharist was central in the time of the apostles, and has remained central in all the centuries since.

The bread and wine of the Eucharist were understood to be truly the Body and Blood of Christ right from the Church's beginning, because Christ Himself said, "This is My Body" and "This is My Blood." So Saint Justin wrote that at each Liturgy "...the food which is blessed by the prayer of His word, and from which our blood and flesh by assimilation are nourished, is the flesh and blood of that Jesus who was made flesh." Because the Eucharist was understood in this way, worship was reverent and orderly, just as in the Orthodox Church today.

Another person quoted in the "USA Today" article claims that unlike the "modern, hierarchical" Church, her house church needs no "pastors and teachers who take over." Yet we know that the New Testament Church was hierarchical, and was led by pastors and teachers. Saint Paul outlines the duties of bishops and deacons--the hierarchical order--in I Timothy. Paul tells Timothy himself to "command and teach these things."

We also know that the early Church was governed by the teaching of the apostles. Paul exhorts the believers to "stand fast and hold to the traditions which you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by letter" (2 Thessalonians 2: 15).

Those who want to "find" the early Church would do well to study Saint Justin's writings. He notes each element of worship in the Divine Liturgy during the second century, based on the worship of the apostles, and carried on today in every Orthodox Church.

*.Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church*

**1001 East Wyomissing Boulevard  
Reading, PA 19611**

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Fr. Thomas Pappalas

Dn. James Elliker

Church Phone: 610-374-7511

FAX: 610-374-5890

## Sunday, June 5, 2016 Sunday of the Blind Man

