

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Resurrectional Dismissal Hymn

When You descended into death, Life immortal, you vanquished the power of Hades by Your resplendent divinity; And when you raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You."

Dismissal Hymn of Sts. Constantine & 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.

Kontakion of the Prodigal Son

Having foolishly abandoned Thy paternal glory, I squandered on vices the wealth which Thou gavest me. Wherefore, I cry unto Thee with the voice of the prodigal: I have sinned before Thee, O compassionate Father. Receive me as one repentant, and make me as one of Thy hired servants.

Epistle of the Day – 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 - ¹²“I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but I will not be mastered by anything. ¹³You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.” The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” ¹⁷But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. ¹⁹Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

From the Holy Fathers –

“All our attention must be centered on the parable of the Prodigal Son. We all see ourselves in it as in a mirror. In a few words the Lord, the knower of hearts, has shown in the person of one man how the deceptive sweetness of sin separates us from the truly sweet life according to God. He knows how the burden of sin on the soul and body, experienced by us, impels us by the action of divine grace to return, and how it actually does turn many again to God, to a virtuous life.”

+ St. John of Kronstadt, “Sermon on the Sunday of the Prodigal Son,”

Κυριακή τού Ασώτου

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀγίου Κωνσταντίνου

Τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου τὸν τύπον ἐν οὐρανῷ θεασάμενος, καὶ ὡς ὁ Παῦλος τὴν κλήσιν οὐκ ἐξ ἀνθρώπων δεξάμενος, ὁ ἐν βασιλεῦσιν, Ἀπόστολός σου Κύριε, Βασιλεύουσαν πόλιν τῇ χειρὶ σου παρέθετο ἦν περισῶζε διὰ παντὸς ἐν εἰρήνῃ, πρεσβεΐας τῆς Θεοτόκου, μόνη Φιλάνθρωπε.

Κοντάκιον τού Ασώτου

Τῆς πατρῶας, δόξης σου, ἀποσκιρτήσας ἀφρόνως, ἐν κακοῖς ἐσκόρπισα, ὄν μοι παρέδωκας πλοῦτον· ὅθεν σοὶ τὴν τοῦ Ἀσώτου, φωνὴν κραυγάζω· Ἥμαρτον ἐνώπιόν σου Πάτερ οἰκτίρμον, δέξαι με μετανοοῦντα, καὶ ποιήσόν με, ὡς ἓνα τῶν μισθίων σου.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 16 - Sunday of the Prodigal Son

8:30 AM Orthros, 9:45 AM Divine Liturgy

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

(Liturgy Book, Page 130)

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

(Liturgy Book, Pages 130,131,132)

Acolytes Group 2 (Powers): H. Robitzer, D. Scantzios, A. Futrick, A. Scantzios, E. Ross, J. Ross, J. Futrick, N. Meitzler, F. Amegangee

Council Members Welcoming Today:

John Lountzis, Ion Craciun

Council Members Ushering Today:

Angel Helm, Gus Kotsakis

Fellowship Hosts: Mr. & Mrs. Dionisios Kotsakis, Mrs.

Anna Koumaras, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Koumaras, Mr. Stavros Koumaras

1 PM: Baptism - Luke Zeppos

Monday, February 17 – 6:30 PM Opportunity House

Tuesday, February 18 - 9 AM Orthros

7-9 PM: ‘Orthodoxy on Tap’ YAL (Young Adults)

Meeting @Chatty Monks Brewery on Penn Avenue –
RSVP with Dino.

Wednesday, February 19 – 6 PM Paraklesis

Thursday, February 20 – 9 AM Orthros

Friday, February 21 – 4 PM Great Vespers

Saturday, February 22 – Saturday of Souls

Orthros 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy 9:45 AM

2 PM: GOYA Dodgeball Tournament & Apokreatiko

@ Annunciation, Lancaster

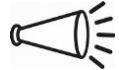
Next Sunday, February 23 – Judgment Sunday

Acolytes Group 3 (Seraphim): G. Koumaras, N. Lountzis, N. Rohm, H. Macarantonis, T. Antonellos, B. Wadsworth, N. Simotas, Z. Simotas, J. Noll, D. Antonellos

Sunday, February 23 - Immediately following Divine Liturgy: GOYA Room Kickoff Event

Other Announcements

- Support Sts. Constantine & Helen by buying gift cards from us for your grocery shopping at Giant, Redner's, and Weis supermarkets. They will be on sale each week at Fellowship.



ECHO Alert! Assembling and mailing of the February ECHO is scheduled for Thursday, February 27th. The HARD deadline for ECHO submissions will be Thursday, February 20th. Your cooperation is very much appreciated!



In the Hospital (Remember in Prayer)
Reading: Anna Koumaras

St. Philothei the Righteous Martyr of Athens (February 19)



Saint Philothei was born in Athens in 1522 to an illustrious family. Against her will, she was married to a man who proved to be most cruel. When he died three years later, the Saint took up the monastic life and established a convent, in which she became a true mother to her disciples. Many women enslaved and abused by the Moslem Turks also ran to her for refuge. Because of this, the Turkish rulers became enraged and came to her convent, dragged her by force out of the church, and beat her cruelly. After a few days, she reposed, giving thanks to God for all things. This came to pass in the year 1589. She was renowned for her almsgiving, and with Saints Hierotheus and Dionysius the Areopagite is considered a patron of the city of Athens.

This past week, your Stewardship made these possible:

- Our Project Mexico Team to begin planning to build a home (on our behalf) for a needy family in Tijuana.
- A young couple to begin marriage preparation talks.
- Several of our youth to learn to speak the Greek language and dance a Greek folk dance.

Mark your Calendars!

All parishioners and guests are invited to join St. Xenia Philoptochos Society for this very informative daytime meeting to be held in our social hall...

Monday, February 17, 2020

Please join us at 12 noon

(A light luncheon will be served following the program and short meeting. Please sign up during Fellowship so we can plan the luncheon.)

**"The Opioid/Overdose Crisis
in Berks County"**

This program will be presented by our very own... Stanley Papademetriou, Director of the Council on Chemical Abuse (COCA) a private non-profit organization located in Reading. Stanley will discuss Opioid overdose, local response to the crisis, and emerging substance use trends.

Our Project Mexico

2nd Meeting
Sunday, March 1st
12:00 Noon

On Sunday, March 1st, after Fellowship Hour, we will hold the second meeting of our team of volunteers who will travel to Tijuana, Mexico from July 27th to August 3rd to build a home for a homeless family. The total cost will be \$1,200 per person which we will raise as a group through various fundraisers and online appeals using social media. The minimum age to participate is 14 years old though this can be negotiated. Please contact Fr. Theodore or Dino if you have an interest in joining the trip.

Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
1001 East Wyomissing Boulevard
Reading, PA 19611

The Weekly Church Bulletin

Rev. Fr. Theodore Petrides

Dn. James Elliker

Church Phone: 610-374-7511

FAX: 610-374-5890

Sunday, February 16 **Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

