

THE MEETING OF OUR LORD

Resurrectional Dismissal Hymn

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the passions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

Dismissal Hymn of the Presentation

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receives in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection.

Kontakion of the Presentation

Thou Who didst sanctify the Virgin's womb by Thy birth, and didst bless Symeon's hands as was meet, by anticipation hast even now saved us, O Christ God. But grant peace in the midst of wars unto Thy commonwealth and strengthen the hierarchs whom Thou hast loved, O only Friend of man.

From the Holy Fathers – Although all of our celebrations are intimately rooted in the knowledge that we have been called for complete communion with Christ and to live in function of His Kingdom to which we already belong, we still live in a world that has for the most part rejected what Christ gave it, that is, authentic life “in abundance,” life with real purpose and meaning. We Christians, in spite of having accepted what God's intervention in human affairs gave us, slip repeatedly and fall into the great temptation to convert the things of this world into gods. We are constantly attracted by ways of seeking happiness and fulfillment that exclude God. This, of course, always proves to be vain and futile.

So our lives vacillate, back and forth, between the assurance of salvation and indifference, between moments of real joy because we know that God is with us, and moments of boredom because we cannot give ourselves totally over to Him.

-St. (Bishop) Dmitri of Dallas +2011

Ἡ Ὑπαπαντὴ τοῦ Κυρίου

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν καταδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Τῆς Ὑπαπαντῆς

Χαίρει κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθένε· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ Ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σὺ Πρεσβύτα δίκαιε, δεξάμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν, χαριζόμενον ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν Ἀνάστασιν.

Κοντάκιον Τῆς Ὑπαπαντῆς

Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγίας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεῶν εὐλογήσας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἄλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλεῖς οὐς ἠγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόανθρωπος.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 2 – THE MEETING OF OUR LORD

Epistle: Hebrews 7:7-17

(Bible, Page 1425)

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

(Bible, Pages 1216,1217)

Acolytes Group 4 (Archangels): T. Hunsicker, J. Wagner, S. Mitchell, C. Hunsicker, C. Kraras, G. Hunsicker, S. Elliker, L. Elliker

Council Members Welcoming Today:

John Lountzis, Ion Craciun

Council Members Ushering Today:

Angel Helm, Gus Kotsakis

Fellowship Hosts: Mr. & Mrs. Viktor Koci, Ms. Maria Kolevas, Mr. Constantine Kollintza

Fellowship Sponsors: Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Kolevas

Next Sunday, February 9 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

Acolytes Group 1 (Thrones): D. Porcaro, Y. Patestas, A. Zeppos, A. Grassley, A.J. Tilley, M. Patestas, C. Zeppos, A. Zeppos

Other Announcements

- Thank you to everyone who has generously donated resources or time to the new GOYA room! All requested items have been donated. Look for the room to be completed soon.
- GOYA Basketball Tournament 3: Pittsburgh, PA 2/14-16
- 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.



In the Hospital (Remember in Prayer)
Reading: Ruth Anthony



Nicholas of Japan

St Nicholas, designated Equal-to-the Apostles and Enlightener of Japan, served as a missionary priest in Japan since trekking through Siberia for almost a year before landing on Japanese soil in 1861. Shortly after his elevation to the episcopacy in 1880, St Nicholas welcomed a visiting Chinese missionary delegation at the All Japan Council of July 1882, where he also ordained the first Chinese priest St Mitrophan of Beijing who died as a martyr.

St Nicholas reposed in the Lord on February 3/16, 1912. There were no Orthodox Christians in Japan when he first arrived. At the time of his death there were 33,017 Christians in 266 communities of the Japanese Orthodox Church, including 1 Archbishop, 1 bishop, 35 priests, 6 deacons, 14 singing instructors, and 116 catechists.

Our Project Mexico *Initial Planning Meeting* *Sunday, Feb. 9th* *12:00 Noon*

On Sunday, Feb. 9th, after fellowship hour, we will hold our initial planning meeting for all who are interested in joining our team of volunteers who will travel to Tijuana, Mexico from July 27th to Aug. 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 fund-raisers and online appeals using social media. We are especially targeting our teenagers and their parents as this is a unique faith-building opportunity for parents and children to share. The minimum age to participate is 14 years old though this can be negotiated. Please contact Fr. Theodore or Dino if you have any other questions concerning the trip. We are a bit late in registering our names to start our fund-raising so it is vitally important that you either attend this meeting or contact to let us know of your sincere interest and intention to participate.

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.

This Past Week

Your Stewardship made these possible:

- A young couple received marriage preparation.
- A dying woman received Holy Communion and Unction one last time.
- Our Vision Committee to meet and determine what we are doing right, need to improve, or are doing wrong here at Sts. Constantine & Helen.

Sts. Constantine & Helen

2020 Apokries Party

Saturday, February 15th

7 pm to 11 pm

Tickets: \$12

*All Children & College Students Free
Greek & American Music By DJ Leo*

*Tickets will be sold during fellowship beginning
today, February 2nd.*

Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
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The Weekly Church Bulletin

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