

MEATFARE SUNDAY

Resurrectional Dismissal Hymn

Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad; with all the might and strength of His arm, an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet, He has trampled down death by death, and first born of the dead has He become. From the belly of Hades, has He delivered us; and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

Dismissal Hymn for 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 Meatfare

When Thou, O God, wilt come to earth with glory, and all things tremble, and the river of fire floweth before the Judgment Seat, and the books are opened and the hidden things made public, then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, and deem me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O most righteous Judge.

Epistle of the Day – 1 Corinthians 8:8-13, 9:1-2 - Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

From the Holy Fathers – "In the future Judgment, the condition of each person will be revealed in an instant, and each person on his own will proceed to where he belongs. Each person will recognize, as if on a television screen, his own wretchedness, as well as the spiritual condition of others. He will reflect himself upon the other, and he will bow his head, and proceed to the place where he belongs... In other words, Christ will not say, "You come here; what did you do?" Nor will He say, "You go to Hell; you go to Paradise." Rather, each person will compare himself with the others and proceed to his appropriate place."

-St. Paisios of Mount Athos: On How the Final Judgement Will Take Place

Κυριακή τῆς Ἀπόκρεω

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιášθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἁγίου 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, Βασιλεύουσιν πόλιν τῆ χειρὶ σου παρέθετο ἦν περισώζε διὰ παντὸς ἐν εἰρήνῃ, πρεσβεΐας τῆς Θεοτόκου, μόνη Φιλάνθρωπε.

Κοντάκιον τῆς Ἀπόκρεω

Ὅταν ἔλθῃς ὁ Θεός, ἐπὶ γῆς μετὰ δόξης, καὶ τρέμωσι τὰ σύμπαντα, ποταμὸς δὲ τοῦ πυρὸς πρὸ τοῦ Βήματος ἔλκη, καὶ βίβλοι ἀνοίγωνται, καὶ τὰ κρυπτὰ δημοσιεύωνται, τότε ρῦσαί με, ἐκ τοῦ πυρὸς τοῦ ἀσβέστου, καὶ ἀξίωσον, ἐκ δεξιῶν σου με στήναι, Κριτὰ δικαιοσύνης.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 23 – Meatfare Sunday

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

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-13, 9:1-2

(Liturgy Book, Pages 132, 133)

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

(Liturgy Book Pages 133,134)

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

Council Members Welcoming Today:

John Lountzis, Ion Craciun

Council Members Ushering Today:

Angel Helm, Gus Kotsakis

Fellowship Hosts: Mr. Stellios Koutroulelis, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Krallis, Mr. & Mrs. James Krallis, Mr. George Krallis, Mr. & Mrs. Jon Kramer

GOYA Room Kickoff Event immediately following Divine Liturgy

Monday, February 24 – 1st & 2nd Findings of the Head of John the Baptist

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

Wednesday, February 26

12:30 PM 3rd/6th Hour

6 PM Paraklesis

GOYAnS: Please join us for Paraklesis with a time of fellowship to follow in the new GOYA Room!

Friday, February 28

12:30 PM 3rd/6th Hour

4 PM Great Vespers

Saturday, February 29 – Saturday of Souls

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

6 PM Great Vespers

Next Sunday, March 1 – Forgiveness Sunday

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

Sunday, March 1

JOY Greek Dance practice following Divine Liturgy

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.



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

Polycarp, the Holy Martyr & Bishop of Smyrna (February 23)



This apostolic and prophetic man, and model of faith and truth, was a disciple of John the Evangelist, successor of Bucolus (Feb. 6), and teacher of Irenaeus (Aug. 23). He was an old man and full of days when the fifth persecution was raised against the Christians under Marcus Aurelius. When his pursuers, sent by the ruler, found Polycarp,

he commanded that they be given something to eat and drink, then asked them to give him an hour to pray; he stood and prayed, full of grace, for two hours, so that his captors repented that they had come against so venerable a man. He was brought by the Proconsul of Smyrna into the stadium and was commanded, "Swear by the fortune of Caesar; repent, and say, 'Away with the atheists.'" By atheists, the Proconsul meant the Christians. But Polycarp, gazing at the heathen in the stadium, waved his hand towards them and said, "Away with the atheists." When the Proconsul urged him to blaspheme against Christ, he said: "I have been serving Christ for eighty-six years, and He has wronged me in nothing; how can I blaspheme my King Who has saved me?" But the tyrant became enraged at these words and commanded that he be cast into the fire, and thus he gloriously expired about the year 163. As Eusebius says, "Polycarp everywhere taught what he had also learned

from the Apostles, which also the Church has handed down; and this alone is true" (*Eccl. Hist.*, Book IV, ch. 14,15).

This past week, your Stewardship made these ministries possible:

- Over 60 people heard an important and insightful talk on opioid addiction by our own Stanley Papademetriou.
- Several young adults gathered for an Orthodoxy on Tap discussion about the meaning and practice of fasting.
- Hundreds of names of our loved ones who have reposed were offered up in prayer at the 1st Sat. of Souls Liturgy.

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.

Congratulations to our GOYAns who attended the Tournament last weekend for willing the Sportsmanship Award!

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 23 Meatfare Sunday

