



Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church

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**October 13, 2019: Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical
Council**

“What began in Russia will end in America.”

~Elder Ignatius of Harbin, Manchuria



Alexander Solzhenitsyn, in his “Godlessness: the First Step to the Gulag”, explained how the Russian revolution and the communist takeover were facilitated by an atheistic mentality that led to the secularization of Russia, and alienated the people from God and traditional Christian morality and beliefs. He rightly concluded: “Men have forgotten God; that’s why all this has happened.” Godlessness is always the first step towards tyranny and oppression! As we American Christians witness, first-hand, the secularization of our great country, we understand the evil that is taking root, and how we Americans have become a people deceived by an atheism that is ripping our beloved country from us, and converting it into something sadly like the Russian land, before she was taken down the road to perdition by Soviet Communism. Under the militant radicalism of many so-called “liberal” and “progressive” elites, God has been progressively erased from our public and educational institutions, to be replaced with all manner of delusion, perversion, corruption, violence, decadence, and insanity. Marxist ideologies and secularist principles have engulfed our culture and perverted the mainstream thinking, causing individual freedoms and liberties to rapidly disappear. Consequently, we Americans are feeling a powerlessness, ... **(Cont. on the back)**



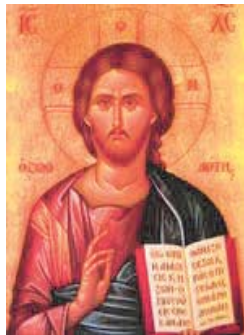
EPISTLE READING:

St. Paul's Letter to Titus

3:8-15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid

controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.



GOSPEL READING:

Luke 8:5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it

withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who ...**(Cont. on the back)**

There is no Sunday School today due to the
Columbus Day holiday weekend.

TODAY'S Events

DEADLINE is TODAY to buy tickets!
Purchase at our table or on our website.



*Dinner Honoring Father
George Alexson and 50
Years in the Priesthood*

Sunday, October 27, 2019
Belmont Country Club
6pm – 10pm

\$80/adult, \$20/child (under 12)

Ellinomatheia
Certificate
of Achievement in Greek
Exam Preparation Studies

Ellinomatheia begins TODAY

Contact Athanasia Dacey:
sdacey@comcast.net



AHEPA (Chapter 542) Wreath Sales, TODAY through Oct. 29)

Have you decorated for
Christmas? Don't worry, AHEPA
(Chapter 542) is once again selling
lovely Christmas Wreaths. Please
order during coffee or shop online

at www.ahepa542.org. You can also contact Michael
Hadjimichael at mike.hadjimichael@gmail.com or
John Drapas at johndrapas@hotmail.com for
assistance. Orders will be delivered approximately
Nov. 17 at church. All funds raised support AHEPA's
worthy causes.



UPCOMING Events

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: PART ONE **Wednesdays 7:00-8:30PM at** **Church**

Course designed for Inquirers into the
beliefs and practices of the Orthodox
Church. Open as well to practicing Orthodox faithful
desiring to learn more about the Faith. Basic text: The
Christian Orthodox Faith (copies available at Church).

NEW!

UPCOMING EVENTS



**Hasapiko Happy Hour:
Adult Greek Dance and
Fellowship**

Friday, Oct. 18

7:00-9:00pm at church

Join us for an opportunity to learn, exercise, and meet new friends. Class is from 7-8pm, followed by refreshments from 8-9pm. A one-time fee of \$25 per person can be paid at class via check or cash. Please **RSVP** to our instructor and parishioner, Alissa Iatridis (alissa.iatridis@gmail.com).



GOYA (ages 13-18)

"Giving Thanks"

Discussion with Deacon

Harry Chelpon, Sunday

Nov. 10 after church.

Lunch will be provided.

RSVP to Paris

(parisecon@yahoo.com).



Greek School Class

Wednesdays 5pm at

Church

Contact Maria Zangos to enroll:

milihandra@comcast.net

NEW!



Moms of Young Children Group

For mothers with newborn through elementary school age kids. All children welcome at meetings. Meeting dates are flexible. Email Rebecca Rallis to sign up: rebecca.rallis.holyapostles@gmail.com.

St. Mark Church Food Festival - Fri, Nov 1 (12-8); Sat, Nov 2 (11-7); and Sun, Nov 3 (12-4); 7124 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817. Russian and Eastern European foods. See our parish email for details.

Next Weekday Liturgy: Friday, Oct. 18; St. Luke
Orthros 8:15AM, Divine Liturgy 9:30AM



How soon can we begin building our new church? **That depends on you! Donate TODAY** to our Capital Campaign for **YOUR** future home!

Weekly Feature: The Holy Eucharist

The Holy Eucharist is the oldest experience of Christian Worship as well as the most distinctive. Eucharist comes from the Greek word which means thanksgiving. In a particular sense, the word describes the most important form of the Church's attitude toward all of life. The origin of the Eucharist is traced to the Last Supper at which Christ instructed His disciples to offer bread and wine in His memory. The Eucharist is the most distinctive event of Orthodox worship because in it the Church gathers to remember and celebrate the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ and, thereby, to participate in the mystery of Salvation. In the Orthodox Church, the Eucharist is also known as the Divine Liturgy. The word liturgy means people's work; this description serves to emphasize the corporate character of the Eucharist. When an Orthodox attends the Divine Liturgy, it is not as an isolated person who comes simply to hear a sermon. Rather, he comes as a member of the Community of Faith who participates in the very purpose of the Church, which is the Worship of the Holy Trinity. Therefore, the Eucharist is truly the center of the life of the Church and the principal means of spiritual development, both for the individual Christian and the Church as a whole. Not only does the Eucharist embody and express the Christian faith in a unique way, but it also enhances and deepens our faith in the Trinity. This sacrament-mystery is the experience toward which all the other activities of the Church are directed and from which they receive their direction. The Eucharist, the principal sacrament mystery of the Orthodox Church, is an experience of communion with the Living God in which prayer, music, gestures, the material creation, art and architecture come into full orchestration. The Eucharist is a celebration of faith, which touches not only the mind but also the emotions and the senses. The Eucharist has been known ... **(Cont. on next panel)**

(Cover message Cont.) as we are subjugated by some of the most radical and hypocritical, least democratic, and characterless individuals our society has ever produced. It is all the more imperative that we fervently pray for our country, and give witness to the importance of Christ in our lives. The secularization that is taking place must not be allowed to take hold, but must be pushed back by us. We must stand firm against this radical takeover, and as warriors for our faith, battle against the destructive power of the evil enemy of our salvation.

With love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon

(Weekly Feature Cont.) as the Holy offering, the Holy Mysteries, the Mystic Supper, and the Holy Communion. The Orthodox Church recognizes the many facets of the Eucharist and wisely refuses to over-emphasize one element to the detriment of the others. In so doing, Orthodoxy has clearly avoided reducing the Eucharist to a simple memorial of the Last Supper which is only occasionally observed. Following the teachings of both Scripture and Tradition, the Orthodox Church believes that Christ is truly present with His people in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The Eucharistic gifts of bread and wine become for us His Body and His Blood. We affirm that these Holy Gifts are transfigured into the first fruits of the New Creation in which ultimately God will be "all in all".

(Gospel Reading Cont.) when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."



Classes have begun! Contact
Denise Lansdell:
deniseinvirginia@gmail.com.



The Sunday School is sponsoring
today's coffee hour. Thank you!