



Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church

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November 4, 2018: 5th Sunday of Luke

“Though your sins be like scarlet, they may be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (Isaiah 1:18).

O, the boundless mercy of God! In His greatest wrath upon the faithless and ungrateful people, upon the people “laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters” (Isaiah 1:4), as “princes [rulers] of Sodom” (Isaiah 1:10) and upon the people who have become as the “people of Gomorrah” (Isaiah 1:10) – in such wrath, the Lord does not abandon mercy but rather calls them to repentance. Just as after terrible lightnings, a gentle rain falls. Such is the Lord long-suffering [patient] and full of mercy and “neither will He keep His anger forever” [Psalm 102:9 (103:9)]. Only if sinners cease to commit evil and learn to do good and turn to God with humility and repentance they will become “white as snow.” The Lord is mighty and willing. No one, except Him, is able to cleanse the sinful soul of man from sin and, by cleansing, to whiten it. No matter how often linen is washed in water with ashes and soap, no matter how often it is washed and rewashed, it cannot receive whiteness until it is spread under the light of the sun. Thus, our soul cannot become white, no matter how often we cleanse it by our own effort and labor even with the help of all legal means of the law until we, at last, bring it beneath the feet of God, spread out and opened wide so that the light of God illumines it and whitens it. The Lord condones and even commends all of our labor and effort, i.e., He wants us to bathe our soul in tears, by repentance to constrain it by the pangs of the conscience to press it, to clothe it with good deeds and in the end of ends, He calls us to Him: “Come now,” says the Lord, “and let us reason together” (Isaiah 1:18). That is, I will look at you and I will see if there...
(Continued on the back)



EPISTLE READING:

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we

were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.



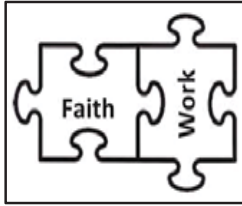
GOSPEL READING:

The Gospel According to Luke 16:19-31

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores,

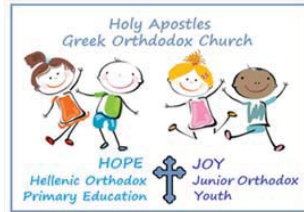
desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazaros in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazaros to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazaros in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from ... **(Continued on the back)**

UPCOMING EVENTS



“Career and Faith” series, TODAY **Immediately following Sunday School**

GOYA is featuring our Stewards Con Sofologis, formerly in the US Secret Service and a current Parish Council member, and Ron Baldinger, an American Airlines Pilot and former US Air Force Pilot and our current Stewardship Chair. Pizza lunch is included.



Hope & Joy Meeting. Nov. 5th **6:30-7:30pm, Holy Apostles** **Church**

Contact Ashley Joiner
(ashleydjoiner@gmail.com)



PAREA (Our Company of Friends) **Lunch, November 6th** **11:30am, Delia's Pizzeria and Grill** **28 Eds Lane, Sterling 20165**

LCPS will be closed that day, so feel free to bring the whole family! RSVP to Marina (571-969-9234)

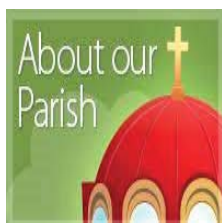


Prepare spanakopita and tiropita for **the Philoptochos Bake Sale** **Saturday, Nov. 10th at 10 AM** **Holy Apostles Church**

Order your Spanakopita and Tiropita (\$25 per tray) by November 9th for pickup November 17th and 18th.

Adults Night Out Social, Saturday, Nov. 10th **7pm, Tarbender's Lounge in Leesburg**

The Stewardship Committee invites all parishioners to join us in fellowship and support this local restaurant owned by our Steward, Paul Zangos! Join us in our reserved back room. See Kristina Ayoub for details.



PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)
Nov. 11th, Immediately following
church Unsure if you are eligible to vote at the GA? Email
Ron.Baldinger@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH! Hear an update on our Stewardship program from Ron Baldinger.

UPCOMING EVENTS



WREATHS ON SALE! Decorated (\$48) and Plain (\$36). Place your order in the hall or at ahepa542.org. Pickup is late November. Help our local AHEPA Chapter 542 support Holy Apostles youth and ministries!



Loudoun Hunger Relief Thanksgiving Dinner Bags,

Bring to church by Nov. 11th

Place in a reusable bag: stuffing, 4 cans of vegetables boxed potatoes, gravy (mix or jar), cornbread or biscuit mix, cranberry sauce, dessert mix/ingredients, no perishables, \$10 grocery store gift card in envelope.

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey will be honoring the Feastday of their Patron Saint, St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople on Nov. 13th. All are invited!

Mon. Nov. 12th, 7pm Hierarchical Great Vespers

Tues. Nov. 13th, 9am Orthros and Divine Liturgy

All services are at the St. John Chrysostom Chapel in our Metropolis Headquarters (215 E. Grove Street, Westfield, NJ 07090) and will be followed by a reception at the Metropolis Headquarters.

Laconian Society of DC 83rd Annual Dance:

Fri. Nov. 23rd, 8pm-1am, Tysons Corner Marriott, Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres, Greek and American music, raffle prizes, call 703-734-3200 for tickets.

Weekly Liturgical Schedule for November

8:15 AM, Orthros. 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Nov. 8 Archangels Michael & Gabriel

Nov. 9 St. Nektarios

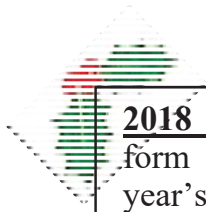
See our website for the full November schedule.



EXPRESS GREEK WEEKEND

WORKSHOPS! Throughout the year for adults and high schoolers. Attend as many as you wish; 3-5 hours each with materials.

LEARN GREEK WITH THEATER! Every other Sunday, 2-3:45pm, January – June 2019, various ages. Contact Ergini for all class details (703-652-4426).



ANNOUNCEMENT

2018 PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD: Pick up a form or go to our website to participate in this year's Parish Christmas Card which is sent to all parishioners. Please include your donation of \$25 made payable to HAGOC and write "Christmas Card" in the memo section. Email questions to Lia at liaecon@comcast.net. Thank you for supporting this annual fundraiser!

WEEKLY FEATURE: "Whatever you do work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men (Corinthians 3:23) (Article by the Stewardship Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America)

In times of trouble or worry, especially over our career, we call upon God to strengthen us, to provide opportunity and to bring us success. When we achieve some measure of worldly success, it is easy to say to ourselves as we read in the Old Testament Book of Deuteronomy (8:17), "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But the next verse quickly reminds us, "Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth." As Christian Stewards we are called to give back to God from the "first fruits" of our labor. **We support our parish and her ministries in an intentional way and not with only what is left after everything else has been taken care of. In whatever work we do, we are called to give glory to God for the abilities and opportunities he provides.** We do this by caring for the work we do, applying our God-given abilities to our work, and by respecting the responsibilities with which we have been entrusted. In whatever type of work we find ourselves, our work can become sacred when we dedicate it to God. In the words of Mother Theresa, "Wherever God has put you, that is your vocation. It is not what we do, but how much love we put into it." The work we do is also a gift if we see it as an opportunity to serve God and others. Christian stewardship of work also teaches us that we are responsible to those with whom we work and those that we may serve, in our career and in our church. We are called to reflect the light of Christ in their lives, encourage them, support them and love them. Do good works with all your heart!

(Cover Message Cont.) is Me in you and you will look upon Me as in a mirror and you will see what kind of person you are. O Lord, slow to anger, have mercy on us before the last wrath of that Dreadful Day.

(Gospel Reading Cont.) here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"

GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION: Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and Chrismated (Confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting and abstinence prior to Holy Communion. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with our Parish Priest. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion.



Did you know, our **basic operating costs** in this **temporary** facility are **\$225,660 A YEAR!** Help us move to a permanent church campus where we can invest in a church and buildings that are actually ours! Make a donation to our **Capital Campaign** for a permanent church campus in Ashburn.



Thank you to Philoptochos for sponsoring today's coffee hour!