



Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church

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Presiding Priest: Fr. George Alexson (cell) 703-314-6421

****SUMMER HOURS****

Orthros 8:15am Divine Liturgy 9:30am

June 25, 2017

The Third Sunday of Matthew



June 29, Hierarchical Vespers

7:00 PM

**celebrated by His Eminence,
Metropolitan Evangelos**

My Beloved in the Lord,

As we reflect on the events of the devastating and destructive earthquake that struck the island of Mytilene this past week, we pray for those coping with the effects of this terrible disaster. In doing so, we are given the opportunity to reflect on the innumerable blessings that we have been granted by God. He has given us countless gifts and, therefore, it becomes our responsibility to share them with those who are in need, especially the people of Mytilene. The people of Mytilene played a significant role during the Middle East refugee crisis. They had opened their homes, their wallets, and their hearts to refugees because they saw the image and likeness of God in the faces of the immigrants who were in need. Together with our prayers, let us now show our support for the people of Mytilene in their own hour of need by offering them financial assistance so that we may help them recover from this disaster. In this spirit, I ask that on Sunday, June 25, 2017 a Special Tray be passed in all of the parishes of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey so that we may offer a portion of what we have to the people of Mytilene who have lost so much. Furthermore, I ask that a contribution be made from the Parish Councils and the Philoptochos Sisterhood chapters of each parish to assist the people of Mytilene. Let us continue to pray for and help those affected by this natural disaster. Praying that our loving Lord will offer His mercy and compassion to those suffering in Mytilene, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

† E V A N G E L O S

Metropolitan of New Jersey

Checks are to be made payable to the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey with "Mytilene Emergency Fund" in the Memo line.



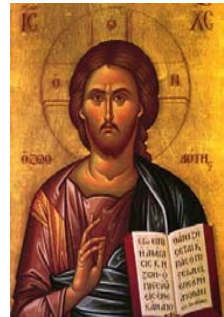
EPISTLE READING : St. Paul's Letter to the Romans

5:1-10

BRETHREN, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

GOSPEL READING : The Gospel According to Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.



Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 25, 2017



Here is an update on the status of our 2017 Stewardship collections:

- **Total Pledges:** 100
- **Total Amount Pledged:** \$185,488
- **Total Paid to Date:** \$96,642
- **Total Outstanding Balance Due:** \$88,845

Contact Ron Baldinger, Stewardship Chair with questions, ron.baldinger@gmail.com



For the 4th year PAREA is launching the **"BECAUSE EYE CARE FOR YOU" campaign**. PAREA will be collecting old and used eye glasses and sunglasses. These glasses will be donated to an eye center for further distribution to individuals who cannot afford to buy new eyewear. A special collection box

will be placed in the church hall **throughout the month of June**. Thank you in advance for supporting this great cause. Comments? Marina (703-349-1842).



All parishioners are invited!

Annual Parish Picnic, Sat. Aug. 26

12:00-3:00pm

Ashburn Farm Windmill Pavilion

Organized by the Stewardship Committee. An online signup and RSVP will be forthcoming closer to the date.

Camp Good Shepherd –VA : **July 2-8**, Camp Piankatank in Hartfield, VA, 5th-12th graders. The Metropolis has reopened registration! If you know of anyone who still wants to go to camp and has not registered please encourage them to sign up here: <https://app.campdoc.com/!/home/auth/email>. Camp Good Shepherd is the Metropolis of New Jersey overnight youth camp for the Orthodox Christian youth in the Diocese. Contact cgsvirginia@gmail.com with questions.



PAREA (Our Company of Friends) – A huge thank you to all who joined PAREA's June gathering! Special thanks also to everyone who brought delicious treats for PAREA's June Coffee Hour. PAREA will be in hiatus during the months of July and August. God willing, we will be

gathering again around our PAREA's table on **Tuesday, September 5th at Mimi's Cafe**. Have a blessed and safe summer! Marina (703-349-1842)

WEEKLY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE for JUNE 2017

Wed. June 28 Vespers at Sts. Peter and Paul, Frederick, Md

Thurs. June 29 Sts. Peter and Paul 8:15 AM, Orthros. 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

7:00 PM, Great Vespers at our church

Fri. June 30 The Twelve Holy Apostles Feast day of our Church 8:15 AM, Orthros. 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy



Looking for a gift for your special occasion? Take a peek at the Philoptochos bookstore. We have beautiful icons for a special day. If you can't find what you need, we can order for you.



AmazonSmile - Help our Church receive donations when you shop at Amazon.com! Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of orders to a selected charity. To get started, go to our website and click on the “Go to smile.amazon.com” button to select our Church.

Thank you to PAREA for sponsoring today's Coffee Hour and organizing the clean-up of our fellowship hall.

2017 Stewardship Pledge (ALL PLEDGES JANUARY- DECEMBER 2017) HOLY APOSTLES GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

In faith, prayer and sacrifice, my family and I wish to share in the support and work of the Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church. We would like to pledge:

\$_____ for the year 2017 (through December 2017)

You may pay via cash, check or online using PayPal

☐ Annually ☐ Semi-annually ☐ Quarterly ☐ Monthly ☐ Weekly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Your pledge is **strictly confidential**.