



## Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church

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September 29, 2019: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Luke

**"Do to one another what you wish others to do to you."**

The Gospel is infinitely simple if we receive it in simplicity. Our main problem lies in the fact that we look for theological depth in it instead of looking at the directness of the speech of God, who is simplicity itself, wholeness, and who addresses us as friends, not even as disciples, but as friends; because He Himself said, on His way to Jerusalem, 'I no longer call you slaves, but I call you friends, because all that I have to say I have shared with you.' And so let us receive the words which we have heard today with the directness with which they were spoken by Christ: 'Do to one another what you wish others to do to you.' It's something which we have seen repeated all the time; but is it the way in which we live? We want from people around us understanding, patience, compassion, support, friendship and all the simplicity of this world. We don't expect from us heroic deeds, because we are not in heroic times and situations. But that is what we expect to receive. And if we ask ourselves: what do we do about the people who surround us, can we say that we are fulfilling this simple and direct commandment, this advice of Christ in which He says: 'If you do these things you will be truly human'? Let us reflect on that, because we think very often of things great, of things heroic, and when we think these great thoughts we must find the simplest things that we could do. When we read in the Gospel that we should... **(Cont. on the back)**

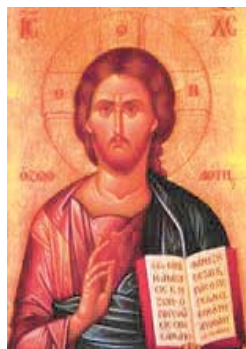


### **EPISTLE READING:**

#### **St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:6-15**

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show

that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.



### **GOSPEL READING:**

#### **Luke 6:31-36**

The Lord said, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend expecting...(Continued on the back)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### **NEW! INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: PART ONE**

**Wednesdays through Nov. 13**

**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).



### **Greek School Classes**

**Wednesdays at 5pm**

Contact Maria Zangos to enroll:

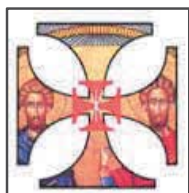
[miliandra@comcast.net](mailto:miliandra@comcast.net)



**HOPE (ages 5-8) – Cox Farms in Centreville,**  
**Sat. Oct. 5 at 1pm.** RSVP to Stefania Whittington:  
[kstefania@gmail.com](mailto:kstefania@gmail.com). Enjoy the petting zoo, hay ride, pumpkin picking, and picnic.

**JOY (ages 9-12) – UPDATE! Zavazone in**  
**Ashburn, Sat. Oct. 12 at 4pm.** Treat afterwards at the nearby Chick-Fil-A, compliments of Katie Utley. RSVP to Katie ([ekatutley@gmail.com](mailto:ekatutley@gmail.com)).

**GOYA (ages 13-18) – Monthly Meeting, Sun.**  
**Oct. 6, Upstairs after Sunday School.** We will discuss our upcoming frappe fundraiser and activities.



### **Philoptochos Meeting**

**Sun. Oct. 6**

**Upstairs after Liturgy**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEW!**



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

**Every other Friday night  
at church**

***Starting Friday, Oct. 4  
7-9pm***

All levels and abilities are welcome! Join us for an opportunity to learn, exercise, and meet new friends. Class is from 7-8pm, followed by provided happy hour drinks and appetizers 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).

**Ellinomatheia  
Certificate  
of Achievement in Greek  
Exam Preparation Studies**

### **Ellinomatheia begins Sun. Oct.13**

Contact Athanasia:  
sdacey@comcast.net



*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)

**DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 13 to buy tickets!**  
**Purchase at our table or on our website.**



### **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.



We signed a letter of intent (LOI) - a non-binding agreement - with an interested buyer for a parcel of our land! Rooney Properties is interested in

purchasing up to 2 acres to build a parking lot for an existing building nearby at approx. \$500,000 per acre AND provide shared parking. This potential sale will help us begin building on our remaining acreage, but **we still need your help! Donate TODAY** to our Capital Campaign! **No amount is too small (or too big).**

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### **Weekly Feature: Raising Independent Children to be Dependent on God**

*(excerpt from Archdiocese podcast on Orthodox Family and Faith with Fr. Timothy Pavlatos)*

“The important thing is that we really need to teach our children from a very early age how to be dependent on God – how to seek God’s help. I find that really comes by example – the example that my wife and I set. When we dialogue with our children if there is something they are struggling with in life – maybe with one of their siblings or something at school or some friends in the neighborhood or whatever it might be – it really is an opportunity to teach them to seek God’s help primarily through prayer and talking about that with them. And so from a very early age, we teach them to turn to God, in times of need or in times of trouble or whatever the case may be. We are starting to cultivate in them this idea and this reality that they can always turn to God in prayer to seek His help... We know that we are relational beings like the Trinity. We are created in their image and so we are created to relate not only to our Father in heaven but also to each other. This is all a part of teaching our children how to relate to others. It’s an opportunity to relate to God, to their siblings, to people around them through prayer and dialogue. This is just a natural part of life. Children are going to be relating to others all the time and we want to help them realize this is something they can do with God.” *(Fr. Timothy Pavlatos is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and a nationally certified counselor.)*



**(Cover message cont.)** give our lives for one another, we think that we can't do it, because there is no attempt at an attack on the life of our neighbour, certainly of our closest. And yet to give one's life means to devote one's life, to devote all one's energy, all one's understanding, all the patience, all the concern, all the sympathy, to all those who surround us. To do, in other words, as Christ put it, to others what we wish that others do to us. Let us reflect on this very, very simple commandment, and see that we bring it at every moment; because we expect everything, and we give so little. We give indeed to those who are dear to us, naturally dear, but even they must put up, so often, with our lack of understanding and patience and compassion. Let us reflect on these simple and direct words of Christ and stand in judgement before them; ask ourselves how can I stand before Christ when He will say to me, 'You have heard these words, you have understood them, you have repeated them' - indeed, for us priests - 'you have preached them. And what have you done?' And how sorry it will be to look at Christ and say, 'I have claimed to be your disciple but in fact I have done nothing of what you have wished me to do to save other people from misery, from loneliness, from evil'.

Amen. (Metropolitan Anthony Surozh)

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**(Gospel Reading Cont.)** nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."



**Classes have begun!.** See Denise Lansdell to register or contact her via email: [deniseinvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:deniseinvirginia@gmail.com).



The Parish Council is sponsoring today's coffee hour. Thank you!