

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, January 9, 2022

Sunday After Epiphany



We welcome all our Parishioners and Friends and Guests to our Holy Cross Community. Please join us in the gymnasium after Divine Liturgy for our Coffee/Social Hour.

Service Hours are as follows:

Sunday: Orthros 8:30am Liturgy 9:45am

Sunday School begins right after communion.

All Week Day Divine Liturgy Services are as follows:

Orthros 9:00 am and Liturgy 10:00 am

Congratulations to the newly elected Parish Council

*Tony Alexander, Constantine Anagnopoulos, Christ Dalmares,
Eleftherios Karropoulos, Panagiotis Karropoulos, Art Karoubas,
Paraskevas Lilas, Bill Litsogiannis, Eustratios Margaritis, Demetri
Nicholas, Kosta Pinos, Susan Sarolas, John Small,*

William Toullos, Kosta Xinos



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Rev. Protopresbyter John N Kalomas - Parish Priest

Εφ 4:7-13

Eph. 4:7-13

Ματ 4:12-17

Mt. 4:12-17

Ἀδελφοί, ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Διὸ λέγει, Ἀναβάς εἰς ὕψος ἠχμαλώτευσεν αἰχμαλωσίαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν δόματα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. Τὸ δέ, Ἀνάβη, τί ἐστὶν εἰ μὴ ὅτι καὶ κατέβη πρῶτον εἰς τὰ κατώτερα μέρη τῆς γῆς; Ὁ καταβάς, αὐτὸς ἐστὶν καὶ ὁ ἀναβάς ὑπεράνω πάντων τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἵνα πληρώσῃ τὰ πάντα. Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστάς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδασκάλους, πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων, εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ· μέχρι καταντήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, εἰς ἄνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι Ἰωάννης παρεδόθη, ἀνεχώρησεν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ καταλιπὼν τὴν Ναζαρέτ ἐλθὼν κατώκησεν εἰς Καπερναοὺμ τὴν παραθαλασσίαν ἐν ὀρίοις Ζαβουλῶν καὶ Νεφθαλεῖμ, ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν διὰ Ἡσαίου τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος· γῆ Ζαβουλῶν καὶ γῆ Νεφθαλεῖμ, ὁδὸν θαλάσσης, πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, Γαλιλαία τῶν ἐθνῶν, ὁ λαὸς ὁ καθήμενος ἐν σκότει εἶδε φῶς μέγα, καὶ τοῖς καθημένοις ἐν χώρα καὶ σκιᾷ θανάτου φῶς ἀνέτειλεν αὐτοῖς. Ἀπὸ τότε ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς κηρύσσειν καὶ λέγειν· μετανοεῖτε· ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

At that time, Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Don't dwell in the past. A New Years Message

The devil appeared to three monks and said to them: if I gave you power to change something from the past, what would you change? The first of them, with great apostolic fervor, replied: "I would prevent you from making Adam and Eve fall into sin so that humanity could not turn away from God."

The second, a man full of mercy, said to him: "I would prevent you from God and you will condemn yourself eternally". The third of them was the simplest and, instead of responding to the tempter, he got on his knees, made the sign of the cross and prayed saying: "Lord, free me from the temptation of what could be and was not".

The devil, giving a raucous cry and shuddering with pain, vanished. The other two, surprised, said to him: "Brother, why have you responded like this? He replied: "First: we must NEVER dialogue with the devil . Second: NOBODY in the world has the power to change the past. Third: Satan's INTEREST was not to prove our virtue, but to trap us in the past, so that we neglect the present, the only time God gives us His grace and we can cooperate with Him to fulfill His will ".

Of all the demons, the one that catches the most men and prevents them from being happy is that of "What could have been and was not".

The past is left to the mercy of God and, the future to his Providence. Only the present is in our hands. "Live in the moment"

Μη μένετε στο παρελθόν. Μήνυμα Του Νέου Έτους

Ο διάβολος εμφανίστηκε σε τρεις μοναχούς και τους είπε: αν σας έδινα δύναμη να αλλάξετε κάτι από το παρελθόν, τι θα άλλαζες; Ο πρώτος από αυτούς, με μεγάλη αποστολική θέρμη, απάντησε: «Θα σας εμπόδιζα να κάνετε τον Αδάμ και την Εύα να πέσουν στην αμαρτία για να μην μπορέσει η ανθρωπότητα να απομακρυνθεί από τον Θεό».

Ο δεύτερος, ένας άνθρωπος γεμάτος έλεος, του είπε: «Θα σε απέτρεπα από τον Θεό και θα καταδικάσεις τον εαυτό σου αιώνια». Ο τρίτος από αυτούς ήταν ο απλούστερος και, αντί να ανταποκριθεί στον πειρασμό, γονάτισε, έκανε το σταυρού του και προσευχήθηκε λέγοντας: «Κύριε, ελευθέρωσε με από τον πειρασμό του τι μπορούσε να είναι και δεν ήταν». Ο διάβολος, βγάζοντας μια θορυβώδη κραυγή και ανατριχιάζοντας από τον πόνο, εξαφανίστηκε.

Οι άλλοι δύο, έκπληκτοι, του είπαν: «Αδελφέ, γιατί απάντησες έτσι;» Απάντησε: "Πρώτον: δεν πρέπει ΠΟΤΕ να κάνουμε διάλογο με τον διάβολο. Δεύτερον: ΚΑΝΕΙΣ στον κόσμο δεν έχει τη δύναμη να αλλάξει το παρελθόν. Τρίτον: Το ΣΥΜΦΕΡΟΝ του Σατανά δεν ήταν να αποδείξει την αρετή μας, αλλά να μας παγιδεύσει στο παρελθόν, ώστε να παραμελούμε το παρόν, τη μοναδική φορά που ο Θεός μας δίνει τη χάρη Του και μπορούμε να συνεργαστούμε μαζί Του για να εκπληρώσουμε το θέλημά Του». Από όλους τους δαίμονες, αυτός που πιάνει τους περισσότερους άντρες και τους εμποδίζει να είναι ευτυχισμένοι είναι αυτός του «Τι θα μπορούσε να ήταν και δεν ήταν». Το παρελθόν αφήνεται στο έλεος του Θεού και

το μέλλον στην Πρόνοια του. Μόνο το παρόν είναι στα χέρια μας. "Ζήσε τη στιγμή

ALTAR BOY SERVERS

Dear Parents. If you have children from the ages of 7 years and up please give us their names and give us their contact information in the office so we can create and altar boy list. Fr. John would like the altar boys to be in to serve between 9:30- 9:45 am.

Please sign your children up today.

STEWARDSHIP QUOTE

It is a New Year, therefore it is time to make a new commitment. Please make your pledge for your 2022 Stewardship Offering. God loves a cheerful giver.
Είναι καινούρια χρονιά, ως εκ τούτου είναι καιρός να κάνουμε και καινούρια υπόσχεση στην Εκκλησία μας προσφέροντας την οικονομική μας συνδρομή. Ο Θεός αγαπά τον χαρούμενο δότη.

WINTER WONDERLAND STAY WARM



MEMORIALS

Eleni Pinos 40 days, Right Side Pews 2. Harry Carson 1 year, Left Side Pew 1
May their Memory be Eternal!!!

Today's coffee fellowship hour and Luncheon is being hosted by the Pinos family in Memory of Eleni Pinos. Everyone is invited to our community hall to enjoy fellowship.





THE TRADITION - One of the more beautiful and inspirational traditions of the Greek Orthodox Church is the annual family celebration of the Vasilopita. This original event which happened in Cappadocia of Caesarea in the last half of the fourth century, is very much alive in our Orthodox homes each year. The Greek word Vasilopita is directly translated as “Sweet Bread of Basil”. When the Vasilopita is prepared, a coin is baked into the ingredients. Sweet flavoring is added to the bread which symbolize the sweetness and joy of life everlasting. It also symbolizes the hope that the New Year will be filled with the sweetness of life, liberty, health, and happiness for all who participate in the Vasilopita Observance.

When the observance begins, usually on New Years Day, the bread is traditionally cut by the senior member of the family, and the individual who receives the portion of the Pita which contains the coin is considered Blessed for the New Year. Each portion of the Vasilopita are distributed as follows: The first portion is cut in remembrance of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The second is for the Holy Mother of our Lord, The Virgin Mary. The third is for St. Basil the Great, the other portions are cut for the members of the family beginning with the eldest. Portions may also be cut for the Church, the house, the traveler, the visitor and the poor.

THE HISTORY - This age old tradition commenced in the fourth century, when Saint Basil the Great, who was a bishop, wanted to distribute money to the poor in his Diocese. He wanted to preserve their dignity, so as not to look like charity, he commissioned some women to bake sweetened bread, in which he arranged to place gold coins. Thus the families in cutting the bread to nourish themselves, were pleasantly surprised to find the coins.

THE MAN - St. Basil was one of the greatest Fathers of the Christian Church and appeared on the spiritual horizon of the Orthodox Faith. He was Bishop of Caesarea, Cappadocia (Asia Minor). He was born four years after the First Ecumenical Council held in the year 325 A.D. Saint Basil was one of the three Cappadocian Fathers of the Church (the others were Gregory of Nazianzus, his best friend, and his brother, Gregory of Nyssa). Saint Basil was the first person in human history to establish an orphanage for little children. He also founded the first Christian hospital in the world. His fame as a Holy Man spread like wildfire throughout the Byzantine world. He was considered one of the most wise and compassionate clergymen in the entire history of the Church. His Feast Day is observed on January 1st, the beginning of the New Year and the Epiphany season. The Church, therefore, in respect for his many contributions to the Church and to mankind in general, combined the joy and happiness of the New Year with the glory of the birth of Christ, and the Epiphany into what is known in the Orthodox Church as the Vasilopita Observance.

SACRAMENTS AND 40 DAY CHILD BLESSINGS

No Sacraments or 40 Day Blessings for this Sunday

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 9th Our Holy Cross Vasilopita Celebration
following Divine Liturgy

JANUARY 17th and 18th. We will celebrate both St. Anthony and St. Athanasios with one Liturgy on January 17th.

**JANUARY 21, 22, 23; GOYA FAMILY SKI TRIP at LAKE
GENEVA TIMBER RIDGE**





GOYA FAMILY SKI WEEKEND

January 21,22,23 2022 Lake Geneva Wisconsin. Limited spaces.
RSVP at 708-594-2040. Rooms 1 bedroom suite \$239 per night and
2 bedroom suite \$359 per night. For more information please call
708-594-2040 and speak to Fr. John or Rebecca.

Activities Besides Water Park

ICE-Skating. \$5 ticket for 1.5 hours. Skate Rental \$10

SLEDDING \$10 Ticket for 1.5 hrs. Sled Rental \$10

SKIING (SKIS and Snow Board)

Ski lift Ticket \$65 adult/\$45 Child under 11

Ski Rental \$34 Adult, \$25 child under 11.

Please check out our website at www.holycrossil.org or follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all upcoming events!



On Behalf of the Entire Holy Cross Family We Would Like To Wish You A Healthy And Prosperous New Year.

Εκ Μέρους Όλης Της Οικογένειας Του Τιμίου Σταυρού
Θα Θέλαμε Να Σας Ευχηθούμε Ευλογημένο Το Νέο
Έτος Με Υγεία Και Ευημερία.