Sunday, December 13, 2020

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE/ ENAEKATH KURIAKH ΛΟΥΚΑ

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE AMOUNT
As we prepare to give our stewardship payments and Sunday offerings this morning, I want to draw your attention to something Jesus said about offerings. In Luke 21, we read, “He saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put two small copper coins.” Upon seeing this happen, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.” Now, we’d never ask anyone to give all they had to live on. However, the principle here is that the amount of the offering isn’t the main issue. The motives of the heart and the sacrifice required by the giver are more meaningful than the dollar amount of the gift. Whatever the amount of your gift today, remember that God cares much more about the state of your heart as you give than the amount of the gift itself.

WELCOME
I hope that you have been doing well as we continue to stay safe during this pandemic. I would like to remind you that the church is sanitized after each service and we continue to do whatever is necessary to keep the church in accordance with the guidelines we have been given to make your visit is as safe as possible. We continue to check temperatures upon entering, hand sanitize and record everyone who enters to have contact tracing possible. There have been no reports of anyone getting ill after coming to church. We continue to provide online live streaming through the website of the parish and Facebook for those of you who cannot attend.

MEMORIAL
Today there will be a Seven-Year Memorial for Ekaterini Magoulas and 34-Year Memorial for Theologos Magoulas, the dearly parents of Paula Magoulas and grandparents of Anastasia Sarakakis Skarvelis and Catherine (Jesse) Sumner. An Eleven-Year Memorial for Theologos Magoulas, the dearly parents of Paula Magoulas and grandparents of Anastasia Sarakakis Skarvelis. May their memory be eternal.

STEWARDSHIP
It is so important for the vitality and growth of the parish that our stewards are supportive each and every year. In order to become a steward, please complete the Stewardship form (found on our website www.sttheodores.org under Giving). Stewardship payments may be made monthly by credit card, if desired. Please email square@sttheodores.org with your total pledge and the desired frequency of your payments. Remember, you do not need to pay all at once! Determine the monthly contribution amount that is affordable for you. Stewardship pledges and donations can still be mailed directly to the church, if desired. Include any special instructions for Fr. Manuel or Juliana.

GREEK WINTER FESTIVAL
The Saint Theodore’s Festival Committee is excited to present the Greek Winter Festival! This is an opportunity to share with our community all of our traditions that make a Greek Christmas so special. This will be an outdoor event on December 12, from 11am to 7pm. There will be food, baked goods, and more! Let’s show our St. Theodore parish spirit this winter and come together as a village!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY LITURGIES
Thursday, December 24 – Morning Service of Christmas Eve, Vesperal Liturgy 10AM
Thursday, December 24 – Evening Service of Christmas, 10PM Orthros, 11PM Divine Liturgy Friday, January 1 – New Year’s Day and Feast of St. Basil, 9AM Orthros, 10AM Divine Liturgy

GREEK SCHOOL ONLINE
Greek School is taught online on Fridays in the evening from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Our teacher is Mrs. Evangelia Dimitropoulou. There will be classes for all three levels – Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced. All students returning and new students need to register as soon as possible by emailing Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com.

SEVEN-DAY CANDLES
Due to the increase in the cost of candles and the purchase of new red globes, the price of the seven-day votive candles has been raised to $10.00 each.

NOVEMBER CAN FOOD DRIVE
We will be collecting can foods and other non-perishable food items through the month of December. Please bring your donations to church each Sunday.

BIBLE STUDY ONLINE
The bible study will be each Wednesday from September 23rd until December 16th. We will resume sometime after the new year. You are invited to be a part of it either by listening or participating in an active way. We are trying this online for two reasons: 1) due to the pandemic it would be safer than meeting at the church and 2) it can actually facilitate more people to become involved and participate while staying in the comfort of their own homes or offices. Sign up at the link to the Bible Study is meet.google.com/adh-ceui-cng. You could also use this link to join the Bible Study.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ONLINE
Sunday School is taught online on Saturdays in the morning beginning at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. For Advanced. All students returning and new students need to register as soon as possible by emailing Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com or Maria Adamos at mmbanis@gmail.com.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL ONLINE
Sunday School is taught online on Saturdays in the morning beginning at 10:00 a.m. and concluding at 11 a.m. The platform that we are using is Google Classroom. Both Maria Adamos & Georgia Plangeitis are teaching the class. If any new students would like to enroll you can contact Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com or Maria Adamos at mmbanis@gmail.com.

SEVEN-DAY CANDLES
Due to the increase in the cost of candles and the purchase of new red globes, the price of the seven-day votive candles has been raised to $10.00 each.
CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE
New this season! St. Theodore is piloting its first ever Christmas Tree sale. Stock is very limited so act quickly. All trees are only $30. Choose from a selection of balsam firs in two sizes: 5-6 feet and 6-8 feet. Trees are located behind the church.

Come by during our Winter Festival on 12 December or any Sunday between now and Christmas.

Payments may be made in person by cash or check, or online here.

Questions? Send us an email or call the church office at 301.552.3540. We are selling Christmas Trees for $30.00. Please see any Parish Council member on Sundays to place your order. You can also purchase them online @ https://sttheodores.org or at the Greek Winter Festival.

USED CLOTHING DROP-OFF SHED
Our used clothing shed has now reopened. We are now taking donations again. Be sure to bring your items in plastic bags that are tied. We are accepting all clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes, and stuffed toys. Please no rags, fabric scraps, toys or household goods. It is a hardship and expense to dispose of.

Poinsettia Sale
Join the St. Theodore Community as we decorate and beautify the church in celebration of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Today is the last day to submit your order form for the poinsettias in memory of a loved one or for the health of a family member. Help us decorate the Church for Christmas.

Minimum Donation - $20.00 How many ______ Total Amount $ __________
Donated by: ___________________________ phone number ________________
In Memory of: __________________________ For the Health of

All Names will be commemorated during the Consecration of the Holy Gifts on Christmas Eve Night.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKIA/KONTAKION SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

**ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟ ΑΝΑΣΠΑΣΜΟΝ**
Ότε κατηφείς πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἢ ζωὴ ἢ αἵνανα, τότε τὸν άθην ἐνέκρυσας, τή αἱτίαζη τῆς Θεότητος. ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνᾶσας ἐκ τῶν καταρχῶν ἀνέστης, πάσας αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπικαρακτὸν ἐκράτανας. Ζωοθάτε λαχτή τι Θεος ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion**
When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

**owany Pometatopous**
Εν πίστει τοις Προπατοράς εὐδαίμων, την εξ Εθνων δε αὐτών προμηνυθεσσαμενος Εκκλησιαν. Καυχούνται εν δόξῃ ις Άγιους, ὅτι εκ σπέρματος αὐτῶν, ὑπάρχει καρτος ευςιετής, ἢ αὐτός τεκοῦσα σε. Τα αὐτών ἱκεσίας, Χρυστέ ο Θεος, σώσων τὰς ψυχάς ἡμῶν.

**For the Forefathers**
By faith You justified the Forefathers, having through them betrothed to yourself the Church that came out of the nations. The saints are boasting in glory; for the glorious fruit, the Virgin who without seed has now opened, O Life-giver, Christ our God, save our souls.

**Απολυτικιον Του Ναου**
Στρατολογία Αθλητής, του ουρανίου στρατηγος Βασιλέως, περικαλής γεγένησε Θεότητα, ὅτι ήσνε γὰρ τῆς πίστεως, παρετάξεις εμφόρονος, και κατευλώθητας, τῶν δαιμόνων τὰ στήρι, και νιψάνος ωφελίμα θυσίας, οὖν σε πίστει αἰει μακαρίωσον.

**Apolytikion of the Parish Church**
In truth enlisted with the King of the Heavens, You did become for Him a noble commander, Trophy-bearer & Great Martyr Theodore. With the weaponry of faith, you armed yourself wisely and did utterly destroy the forces of evil, as a triumphant athlete of the Lord; we faithfully call you blessed.

**Κοντάκιον**
Παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν. Τοις προπατοράς εὐδαίμων, την εξ Εθνων δε αὐτών προμηνυθεσσαμενος Εκκλησιαν.

**Kontakion**
Πορανίων κατεξώλητη, τότε τὸν θάνατον ἐνέκρυσας, τή αἱτίαζη τῆς Θεότητος. ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνᾶσας ἐκ τῶν καταρχῶν ἀνέστης, πάσας αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπικαρακτὸν ἐκράτανας. Ζωοθάτε λαχτή τι Θεος ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

**Παιδίον νέον Θεότητος**
Παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν. Στρατολογία Ἀθλητής, του ουρανίου στρατηγος Βασιλέως, περικαλής γεγένησε Θεότητα, ὅτι ήσνε γὰρ τῆς πίστεως, παρετάξεις εμφόρονος, και κατευλώθητας, τῶν δαιμόνων τὰ στήρι, και νιψάνος ωφελίμα θυσίας, οὖν σε πίστει αἰει μακαρίωσον.
The Lord said this parable: 'A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'
Greek Winter Festival 2020
Vendor Registration

Dates of Event: Saturday, December 12, 2020
Festival Hours: Saturday 11am-7pm

*Please type or print all information legibly*

Name of Organization ____________________________________________

Type of Business / Products Sold ________________________________

Contact Name ________________________________________________

Street Address ________________________________________________

City, State & Zip ______________________________________________

Phone ________________________________________________________

Fax __________________________________________________________

Email: _________________________________________________________

Festival Donation fee of $75 per section (8’x8’) is due by November 30, 2020
Additional sections may be purchased upon request and approval.

Rental of 6’ Tables and Chairs are available for additional charge
($10 for Tables and $5 for Chairs)

Due to space limitations, Covid Restrictions and Guidelines, Reservations are handled on a first-come, first-serve basis. We are following all CDC Guidelines. Facemasks must always be worn. To ensure your reservation, please have your donation in by the above deadline.

Make checks payable to St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church

St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church
7101 Cipriano Road · Lanham, MD 20706
Church phone 301-552-3540 · Church fax 301-552-2424 · email: vendors@sttheo.org and/or call or text Mr. George Papasyrou (Festival Chairman) at 410-693-9773
PARISH REOPENING GUIDELINES

We have received notification from our Metropolitan to reopen, the following requirements below must be followed:

• Parishioners must register their attendance with their full names and contact information. Your Parish Priest will notify you of the registration process and platform which the Parish will use.

• Parishioners must screen themselves prior to coming to church including a temperature check even if they have not experienced any symptoms of COVID-19. If they have any symptoms, they are not to attend Church.

• Parishioners shall not come to the Church by a ride share (Uber, Lyft), taxi, or by means of public transportation. It is strongly recommended that Parishioners arrive in their own vehicle or arrange for another parishioner to transport them.

• Parishioners must sanitize their hands upon entering the Church.

• Parishioners must wear protective masks throughout the Services.

• Parishioners must adhere to the social distancing guidelines of keeping a six-foot distance from other parishioners at all times in the pews and throughout the Church. The only exception being for families that have quarantined together, as they will be able to sit together in a designated section of the Church.

• Parishioners are not to wander in the Church, in the Parish facilities, or outside on the parish grounds.

• Small children shall not be allowed to roam the aisles.

• Only one parishioner will be allowed in the restroom at a time. Parishioners must thoroughly wash their hands after using the restroom.

• Parishioners must leave the Church premises, including the parking lot and exterior grounds, upon conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, all the while maintaining social distancing standards.

• If after attending any service a parishioner experiences symptoms of or tests positive for COVID-19, in addition to immediately contacting their medical provider, they must contact the Church office to inform the parish of the date that they attended service.