

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR THE DAY

Epistle Lesson: St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians 1:11-19

BRETHREN, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Gospel Lesson: St. Luke 16:19-21

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, who 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 Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus 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 Lazarus 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 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 someone 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 someone should rise from the dead.'"

As hunters change their bait for birds, fish and wild animals corresponding to their appetites at different times, so the demons likewise take material from us and, to entice us toward the passions, they change their inducements in accord with the leaning of our will, whether towards good or evil.
St. Isaac the Syrian in The Book of Grace.



TRAVERSE CITY ORTHODOX MISSION

A Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

Meeting at 1030 Hastings St., Traverse City, Michigan

www.tcorthodoxchurch.org

Vol. II Nr. 43

Sunday, 2 November 2008

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✠ PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS ✠

Sunday 2 November 5th Sunday of Luke. St. Akindinos and companions.

Please note that we return to Standard Time this Sunday.

9 AM Orthros

10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

11:15 AM Church School

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Monday 3 November St. Nestor, Martyr of Thessaloniki.

5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

6:30 PM Bible Study Nr. 8

Tuesday 4 November St. Ioanikos the Great.

Wednesday 5 November SS. Galaktion and his wife Episteme, Martyrs of Emesa.

Strict Fast Day

Thursday 6 November St. Paul the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople.

6:30 PM Book Discussion Group Nr. 4

Friday 7 November 33 Martyrs of Melitene.

Strict Fast Day

5:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers

Saturday 8 November Synaxis of the Holy Archangels.

9 AM Orthros

10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

4:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers

5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday 9 November 5th Sunday of Luke. St. Akindinos and companions.

9 AM Orthros

10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

11:15 AM Church School

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Statement on Proposition Nr. 2. In response to the many inquiries of the faithful of the Metropolis of Detroit concerning Proposal 2 on Tuesday's ballot, Metropolitan Nicholas offers the following guidance for your prayerful reflection and consideration: *In our opinion Proposal 2 does not adequately address the Orthodox Christian concern for the sanctity of life and its protection. The moral and legal implications of this Proposal are far-reaching, and the implications for society should be fully understood before voters approve measures governing the treatment of embryos and stem cell research. The faithful are counseled to vote against Proposal 2 on the basis of the ethical teachings of our Orthodox Tradition.*

Baptismal Font Donated by St. George Church. Through the efforts of Fr. Jim Kordaris of the Department of Parish Development, our church is the recipient of a baptismal font donated by St. George Greek Orthodox Church of Trenton, NJ. The font was originally donated to St. George Church by Lulu and John Blazakis of Yardley, PA in 1967. Trenton, NJ is just across the Delaware River from Yardley, PA. We are all so very happy about this important donation! Letters of thanks will be sent to the faithful at St. George Church as well as the daughter of the original donors, Mrs. Mimi Blazakis-Negraoui.

What is truly fascinating about this gift is how it ties into Fr. Iakovos' history as a boy. In 1968, at the age of 11, Father and his family (Mom, Dad and two brothers) relocated from New York to a suburb of Philadelphia near Yardley, PA. The place was called Falls Twp. in Bucks County. He spent his sixth grade through senior in high school attending schools in the Yardley area. He graduated from Pennsbury High School in Fairless Hills, PA near Yardley in 1975. It seems unbelievable that this font would have been donated to St. George one year prior to Father's moving there and that that very same font would one day, 41 years later, follow him to Traverse City. While Fr. Iakovos did not attend church at St. George and had no contact with the piece until now (he was raised in a pious Roman Catholic household) the story is still quite fascinating and defies explanation by coincidence.

Thanks to Father Jim, the Archdiocese, the faithful of St. George parish and Mrs. Blazakis-Negraoui for their kindness to us.

Free Subscription to the Orthodox Observer. Members of our parish are invited to register to receive a complimentary subscription to **The Orthodox Observer**. The Observer is the official newspaper of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

To place your name on the mailing list it is as easy as e-Mailing us at jakovos@charter.net or writing your details on the sign-up sheet located in the narthex of the church. We will be mailing the list to the Archdiocese by mid-November so please take a moment to sign-up if you are interested.

Philoptochos Sign Up. In their meeting held 5 October a group of our ladies voted to organize a group that would operate under the auspices of the National Philoptochos of the Archdiocese of America. This women's service organization whose name means "Friend of the Poor" engages in various philanthropic works in order to reach out to the less fortunate. In order to complete this application for membership we are asking any women that would like to be charter members of this new group to sign up on the sheet for this purpose in the narthex of the church.

Dues for the group are \$16 per year and any woman aged 18 or older and an Orthodox Christian is eligible to be a member. Women that are married to Orthodox Christians, but not necessarily Orthodox themselves are also welcome to become associate members.

"Friends" Campaign Underway. Every year we are invited to participate in the annual drive to raise additional much needed funding for the functioning of our Metropolis. The Metropolis of Detroit, of which our parish is a part, provides support to our operations through a multitude of ministries directly targeting parishes. Most importantly, the Metropolis provides the administrative and spiritual support of our parish operations. As a mission, we are recipients of the Leadership 100 Home Church Planting Grant which partially funds the salary of our priest. This grant is administered through the Office of our Metropolitan. Further, the Metropolis is responsible to be a liaison between the parish and the Archdiocesan administration so as to aid in coordination of our effort here with the efforts of the other parishes. The Department of Religious Education provides distribution of various materials and professional development opportunities in order to coordinate the religious education programming of metropolis churches. The Department of Youth Programs of the Metropolis provides much needed support and programming for the young people in the form of events, mailings and electronic communications to keep our youth engaged.

Last year, our individual parishioners provided support in the amount of \$2,220. The majority of the contributions of our parishioners for last year ranged from \$25 to \$50. This year we would like to increase the number of parishioners participating in the campaign and challenge those that gave last year to just give 5% more. Within the next few days every parishioner will receive a mailing directly from Fr. Iakovos that will explain the drive and ask for your continued support. In view of the economic uncertainty of the times it is essential, now more than ever, to insure the financial viability of our parish and metropolis. When your appeal letter comes, please consider the request thoughtfully and prayerfully before making your decision. Any amount of support is welcome.

Save the Date—Monday, 10 November. The Great Lakes Maritime Academy will host its annual memorial service for those lost at sea and on the lakes one week from tomorrow. The memorial, which takes place at Noon on the anniversary date of sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald in 1975, will specifically honour (this year) those lost aboard the Carl D. Bradley which foundered and sank southwest of Gull Island in Lake Michigan on 18 November 1958. This is the fiftieth anniversary of the sinking of that ship. Thirty-three of the thirty-five man crew were lost; there were only two survivors. Moreover, the majority of the crew lived in Rogers City, MI, making widows and orphans of many in that town on that day. As part of the memorial service this year there will be an honour guard provided by the local US Coast Guard station. Also there will be a performance of the *Mariners' Hymn, Eternal Father Strong to Save* by the **Traverse City West Middle School Chamber Choir** under the direction of Mrs. Holly Olszewski of our parish. The public is cordially invited and there will be a modest reception following the memorial. Weather permitting, the service will take place outdoors immediately south-east of the berth for the T/S State of Michigan on campus. For more information, please speak with Fr. Iakovos.

Pre-Christmas Fast to Begin in Two Weeks. Please remember that the fast in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity will begin on Saturday, 15 November. While not as demanding as the Great Lent, it will require some changes in our diet, behavior and priorities. Please take time to think about how you will keep this important period of preparation. Before you know it, the season will be upon us—don't be caught unawares; plan now for your advent observance.