

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR THE DAY

### Epistle Lesson: St. Paul's Epistle to Titus 3:8-15

TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

### Gospel Lesson: St. Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

**Volunteers Needed for Taste of Greece Fundraiser.** The success of this fundraiser, scheduled one week from this Thursday at St. Francis High School on Eleventh St., is contingent upon our cadre of volunteers. This year more than ever we need your help! There are a number of volunteer opportunities available. Check out our website or bulletin board in the church for a list of positions available. If you are interested in helping out, please speak with Helen Knapp, our volunteer coordinator.

**Desserts Needed For Resale.** Our Taste of Greece (TOG) committee is requesting that our parishioners get working on baking sweets and dessert items for resale at the festival. While we are encouraging "Greek" specialty items, any baked good would be more than welcome for resale. Our bookstore will be offering various cook books for sale at the festival and baked items taken from those books would be helpful in marketing the cook books. For more information or to make your donation, please speak with Katerina Stavros or Karen Kain.



*A Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit*

*Meeting at 1030 Hastings St., Traverse City, Michigan*

[www.tcorthodoxchurch.org](http://www.tcorthodoxchurch.org)

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## ✠ PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS ✠

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13 July</b>	<b>Sunday of the Holy Fathers. Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel.</b> 9 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos 11 AM Church School 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour
<b>Monday</b>	<b>14 July</b>	<b>St. Aquilla of the Seventy.</b> Clergy-Laity Congress Washington, DC 5:30 PM Taste of Greece Meeting at St. Francis High School
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>15 July</b>	<b>Holy Prince Vladimir, Equal to the Apostles.</b> Clergy-Laity Congress Washington, DC
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16 July</b>	<b>Hieromartyr Athenogenes.</b> Fast Day Clergy-Laity Congress Washington, DC
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17 July</b>	<b>Great Martyr Marina.</b> Clergy-Laity Congress Washington, DC
<b>Friday</b>	<b>18 July</b>	<b>St. Emilianos of Bulgaria.</b> Fast Day Clergy-Laity Congress Washington, DC
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19 July</b>	<b>Righteous Macrina.</b> <i>No Vespers This Week—services resume next Saturday</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20 July</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew. Feast of the Prophet Elias.</b> 10 AM Abridged Orthros and Reader's Typika Service <i>Please Note: No Holy Communion Available This Morning</i>

		11 AM Church School 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour
<b>Monday</b>	<b>21 July</b>	<b>SS. John and Simeon.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>22 July</b>	<b>St. Mary Magdalene, Equal to the Apostles.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>23 July</b>	<b>Hieromartyr Phocas.</b> Fast Day 10 AM-12 PM Pastoral Visits to Orchard Creek Assisted Living 1 PM Taste of Greece Work Party at St. Francis High School
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>24 July</b>	<b>Great Martyr Christina.</b> 1 PM Taste of Greece Work Party at St. Francis High School 4 PM-8 PM Taste of Greece Dinner 8 PM-? Taste of Greece Clean-up
<b>Friday</b>	<b>25 July</b>	<b>Dormition of St. Anna.</b> Fast Day—Wine and Oil Allowed 1 PM Pastoral Visit to Toy House Retirement Community
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>26 July</b>	<b>Hieromartyr Hermolaus and Companions.</b> 4:30 PM 9 <sup>th</sup> Hour and Vespers 5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>27 July</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew. Great Martyr Panteleimon.</b> 9 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos 11 AM Church School 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

**Clergy-Laity Congress Week of 14 July.** Father and Presvytera will be traveling to Washington, DC to attend the National Clergy-Laity Congress of the Archdiocese of America which opens tomorrow morning at 9 AM. They will be absent from the parish from this afternoon through Tuesday afternoon 22 July. Also attending the congress and representing our parish is Harriet Rennie who is already in WDC today. The congress consists of a week long parade of seminars and informational sessions on topics ranging from parish finance, media and communications, youth programs, marriage enrichment programs and the whole gamut of current issues affecting the work of the Church. It is also an opportunity for clergy and lay people from around the Archdiocese to interact and network so as to strengthen ties within our churches.

Father will be staying at his godson's home in Silver Spring, MD and commuting on a daily basis to the hotel in WDC where the congress is being held. On Sunday, 20 July, Fr. Iakovos will be attending services with his godson and his family at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Bethesda, MD.

The best way to contact Father is via cell phone. Alternatively he may be reached via e-Mail for the entirety of his absence and parishioners are encouraged to phone or write should they require anything that can be handled from a distance over the phone. Father will be collecting and returning messages from the parish phone on a periodic basis throughout each day. If you have an emergency he will attempt to get coverage from other Orthodox priests downstate. Please note that they are some distance from us and therefore will not necessarily be able to get here quickly. No matter, please don't hesitate to phone and allow Fr. Iakovos to make a plan to provide service for you.

Father and Presvytera look forward to their return from WDC on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

**Parish Council Meeting Update.** Our parish council held their regular monthly meeting this past Wednesday. Present for the meeting were: Harriet Rennie, president; Karen Kain, vice-president; Judy Weston, secretary; John Batsakis, Fr. Iakovos, Helen Knapp, Stephanie Long, Doug Partlo, and Bob Underwood. Also present for the meeting was Donna Psaros, acting financial secretary and member of the stewardship committee. Absent was Mike Denny, treasurer and Theresa Patterson.

The council was slated to hear a proposal from Dan McNamara of Nat City Investments at this meeting but Mr. McNamara was unable to attend. He will be contacted to reschedule his presentation to the council at a later date. In other news, the Stewardship Committee reported total pledged funds as of 30 June of \$103,850. The average pledge amount is \$1,462.88 per household and total pledged funds received for the first six months of 2008 are \$44,720. The parish profit and loss statement for the month shows total income of \$13,380.60 and total expenses of \$9,436.47 resulting in a surplus for the month of June of \$4,152.05. Looking at our six month report, total income for the period is reported as \$52,392.76 with total expenses of \$60,430.33 for a deficit of \$6,625.43. After factoring in interest income our deficit is reduced to \$5,060.10 for the six month period.

The council agreed to set up a sub-committee to begin developing a "strategic plan" for the parish. This committee would be responsible to generate a plan for the erection of a church, community center, etc., after going through a process of honing the parish vision for the future. The committee would be working with a five year time horizon. This committee will be organized after a presentation made to stewards at our Annual General Meeting which is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 7 September. In the interim an ad hoc committee will work together to develop the presentation for the AGM.

The finance sub-committee has requested a meeting with the Metropolitan in order to generate our 2009 budget and expects to have that meeting sometime in August. The sub-committee will then complete the proposed budget for presentation to the stewards at the 7 September meeting.

Parish Council Secretary Judy Weston was asked to complete the official list of stewards eligible to vote in our annual election as well as an official list of stewards eligible to hold office. She expects to be able to provide this list over the next few weeks. Excerpts from our by-laws explaining the process of voting and office holding will be made available in the future editions of the parish bulletin and on our web site during the month of August.

Bob Underwood and John Batsakis provided a comprehensive Taste of Greece report. We are faced with a number of unforeseen challenges this year. Some of these challenges are the result of internal changes in faculty and administration at St. Francis High School; some are the result of the on-going bad economy and high price of our supplies. The TOG committee will meet tomorrow to discuss last things with respect to the fund raiser. Another meeting will be held later in the week if necessary. Mr. Underwood reiterated the need for volunteers and helpers, especially with respect to our clean-up activities. We must have the venue clean and ready for use first thing Friday morning. This means that all cleaning, etc., must be completed on Thursday night following the close of the event. Additional information will be made available to the parish via our web site and telephone chain.

**Parish Takes "Best in Class" at Cherry Festival Junior Parade.** Our church school entry in this year's junior parade held on Thursday of this past week was judged "Best in Class." Coordinated by Mrs. Holly Olszewski and Mrs. Karen Kain, the parish entry carried banners identifying the church as well as promoting our upcoming Taste of Greece event. Participants in the event were: Holly, Jacob, James and Jenna Olszewski, Lizzie Babcock, Damian Lucero, Thomas Patterson, Malena and Karen Kain, John Batsakis, Helen Knapp, Diane Deering, Presvytera Joleen-Elisabeth and Fr. Iakovos. Thanks to everyone that participated and supported this project! We're planning "Noah's Ark" as a float for next year's parade!