

Holy Scripture Lessons for the Day

Epistle Lesson: Letter of the Holy Apostle, Paul to the Romans 5:1-10

BRETHREN, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Gospel Lesson: Gospel According to St. Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

Ahoy Matey! Save the Date for the Community Sail! Two years ago we attempted a community sail aboard Maritime Heritage Alliance's schooner Madeline. We were rained out by foul weather. We are going to try again this year with a sailing on Thursday evening, 9 September leaving the pier at 6 PM sharp and returning after a run around the bay by 9 PM. Eligible to crew this sail are: Fr. Iakovos, Holly Olszewski and Denyse Everett from our congregation. Please mark your calendars for this fun filled evening and look for the sign up sheet sometime in August.

Devote yourself to stillness and know that I am God - Psalm 45:10 (LXX)

Archangel Gabriel Greek Orthodox Church

Traditional Worship for Modern Life

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PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

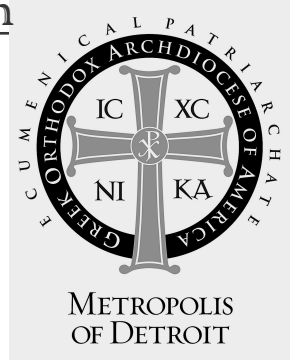
Sunday, 13 June	4rd Sunday After Pentecost 3rd Sunday of St. Matthew Fast Day--Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 9 AM Orthros 10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos 11:15 AM Church School 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour
Monday, 14 June	St. Elisha the Prophet Fast Day--Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 5:30 PM Monthly Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday, 15 June	St. Amos the Prophet Fast Day--Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed
Wednesday, 16 June	St. Tykhon the Wonderworker Strict Fast Day
Thursday, 17 June	St. Isuarios and Companions, the Martyrs Fast Day--Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 6 PM Special Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 18 June	St. Leontios and Hypatios the Martyrs of Syria Strict Fast Day
Saturday, 19 June	St. Thaddeus (Jude) the Apostle Fast Day--Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 4:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers 5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 20 June	5th Sunday After Pentecost. 4th Sunday of St. Matthew Fathers' Day Fast Day--Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 9 AM Orthros 10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos 11:15 AM Church School 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

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“Hey, What’s in the Box?” There is some fun afoot as our church school moves into summer. As part of our summer programming the children have been asked to put something into a box...something of their choosing. It can be anything but must fit in the box. At the time for the sermon, one of the children presents Fr. Iakovos with the box and he then reveals what has been placed in the box. Father then has one minute to craft a short sermon that ties in what is in the box with a theme based upon the faith or practices of the Orthodox Church. Should he be unable to come up with something to say on a relevant topic the students that put the item in the box will win a prize. Father will not know on which Sunday he will be presented with “the box”; neither will the congregation. What fun, heh? To participate in the fun, students must attend church school lessons and participate in the class. So stand by for the fun!

Parish Council To Meet Tomorrow. The regular monthly meeting will take place at 6 PM in the parish community center. In addition to the normal monthly business there will be reports dealing with our financial situation as well as the upcoming Taste of Greece fundraiser. Committee chairpersons are asked to forward all reports electronically to Karen Kain no later than this evening. Members of the council are asked to ensure that they have received and read committee reports prior to the meeting. Members requesting items to be placed on the agenda should speak with Karen Kain this morning or e-mail requests by this evening.

Choir Members to Attend Workshop in Lansing. Presvytera and Rebekah Olechnowicz and Dennis Stavros of our choir will be attending a special pre-convention workshop to be held at Holy Trinity Church in Lansing on Tuesday. The workshop has been organized to help singers become familiar with the Byzantine liturgical settings arranged by Nancy Takis. This is the very same music used in our parish. Mr. Stan Takis will be directing the workshop and conducting the choir. Other persons interested in attending are welcome to do so. The workshop begins at 6 PM and ends at 9 PM. Later, in July, the group will meet in Canonsburg, PA near Pittsburgh for their annual convention. At that time the music rehearsed at the workshops will be further refined and then utilized during the Divine Liturgy celebrated as part of the convention. There is no cost to attend the workshop in Lansing. For information on the Canonsburg convention and associated costs, please contact MEFGOX directly or go to their informational web site.

Special Choir Rehearsal Scheduled for Thursday. As a follow on to the Lansing workshop there will be a special rehearsal for the choir and potential new members on Thursday of this week. Beginning at 6 PM the rehearsal will begin to focus on the special musical hymns of August to the Theotokos as well as programming into the Fall. Everyone is welcome to participate and new members or prospective members are encouraged to attend.

Top Soil/Humus and Manure Needed for Gardens. Our two planters are ready to receive a good dose of top soil, humus and manure in order to provide a basis for our plantings this year. Believe it or not there is close to 75 cu ft of material required. Persons with contacts in the landscaping business or suggestions about securing this material are asked to speak with Father Iakovos. The Ladies’ Philoptochos has taken responsibility for one planter and the church school will be fixing up the second. Persons that would like to volunteer in helping to make these gardens a reality are asked to speak with father for more information.

Prosfora Still Required. Thanks to Pam Bemis who provided the prosfora for this morning’s liturgy. Our freezer still isn’t full so those that participated in the prosfora baking class have an opportunity to practice their trade. You are asked to bake a large prosfora, wrap as instructed in your class and label with your name placing it in the freezer. You may also want to place a list of the names you would like commemorated in the bag with the bread so that when Father Iakovos does the proskomidi he can commemorate your loved ones.

Thanks Andy! Thanks are extended to Andy Foster who chairs the Taste of Greece committee with Steve Bemis for his efforts in cleaning and organizing our storage room. This room holds a lot of the materials used for the Taste of Greece. And, those of you who have seen it, can testify that at it’s best it looked like someone set off a bomb in there. Andy went through all of the materials and supplies and organized them in such a way that we can easily get at them while conserving and effectively using our space. This was a very time consuming project and we are quite thankful to Andy for taking time from his schedule to perform this service. Also, a special thanks to the Fosters who agreed to host the Richards family who are visiting with us from Beaver Island. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are very much appreciated.

Taste of Greece Schedules Next Meeting. The committee will meet at Traverse City St. Francis Catholic High School on Wednesday, 23 June at 11 AM in the cafeteria there. Invitations to the meeting were sent and captains are asked to please RSVP with Andy Foster or Steve Bemis as soon as possible. We’re getting to the one month window on the event and excitement is building. Tickets are available at a cost of \$14 each—same as last year—from Karen Kain. Tickets must be prepaid. For more information on this event or to volunteer, please speak with Andy or Steve.

Local Schools Mark End-of-Year. Students from our congregation marked the end of the school year this past week as classes for Traverse City came to a close. Congratulations are offered to all of our students who have completed the year. Also, we have several teachers, support staff, administrators and board members affiliated with our congregation who have come to the end of a rather grueling year. Traverse City Area Public Schools has found itself in the throes of a budget crisis throughout the past year and it doesn’t appear to be getting any easier into next year. We will be saluting our students and teachers with a special service of thanksgiving and intercession on their behalf at the end of this month. Well done to all of you for a great year under some rather trying circumstances.

Please Respect Our Church School Classes. As the liturgy concludes our teachers are busy conducting classes in the education center. We ask that parents and others not interrupt or otherwise disrupt classes while the students are finishing up; teachers will dismiss the students to the community center when classes are done. Your cooperation with this policy is very much appreciated.

Father Fred Hosts Blood Drive. The Father Fred Foundation, in conjunction with Michigan Blood, will host a blood drive on Monday June 21 at 826 Hastings St, Traverse City, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Drives will also be held on Monday September 20 and Monday December 20, 2010. Please consider making the Foundation your regular place to donate blood. For more information, call (231) 935-3030.