Sunday, November 26, 2023
13th Sunday of Luke
St. Stylianos of Paphlagonia
Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Third (Mark 16:9-20)
Mode of the Week: Plagal of the Fourth/Πλ. του Τετάρτου

Our Parish Hymn of the Holy Cross of Christ:
Save, O Lord, save your people and bless Your inheritance. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross.

Σῶσον Κύριε τὸν λαὸν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκαι τοῖς Βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

To our Visitors and Guests: We extend a warm welcome to all worshiping with us today! While Holy Communion, following ancient practice, is reserved for Orthodox Christians, non-Orthodox may receive the blessed bread (antidoron) offered at the conclusion of the service.

Please join us in the Parish House after the Divine Liturgy for Coffee Fellowship!
Pray and return to the Lord Your God.
Verse: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75)

Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (18:18-27)
13th Sunday of Luke

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.' " And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."
Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ Our Devout Father Alypios the Stylite (+607)
+ Our Devout Father Akakios (+6th Century)
+ Our Devout Father Iakovos the Anchorite (+457)
+ Our Devout Father Nikon the “Repeater”
+ Saint Nicon, the son of a certain noble, was from Armenia. Farsaking his parents and homeland, he passed throughout the parts of the East, crying to all men, “Repent ye,” because of which he received this name. Finally, he came to Lacedæmonia of the Peloponnesus, where he built a church in honour of Christ our Saviour. After having dwelt there many years in solitude, he reposed about the year 670, at the age of one hundred.
+ Our Devout Father Stylianos of Paphlagonia (+6th Century)

Variable Hymns of the Day in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (pg. 8 in the Small Book/pg. 37 in the Hymnal):

- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Εὔεορος, Plagal of the Fourth Mode):
  You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and consented to a three-day burial, to free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You! (Sung before and after the Small Entrance). Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 68 (Small Book).

- Hymn of St. Katherine (Τῇ ἱππορίσει, Plagal of the First Mode):
  Let us praise and extol the all-lauded Bride of Christ, * the Protectress of Sinai, divine Saint Katherine,* as the one who gives aid and her assistance to us, for she brilliantly suppressed the impious orators,* with the sword of the Spirit.* And being crowned as a martyr,* she asks that all receive the grace.

- Hymn of St. Stylianos (Σύγχρος ἡμῶν, Third Mode):
  You were stylæd as a sturdy column * of the Church of Christ, and as pillar * of self-control, and protector of children and babies,* Stylianos, for from youth, as if bodiless,* you were a mystery. He is silence. He is infinite. He is everything. He seeks to find joy in God. God is happiness in heaven. He seeks what is eternal far from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You! (Sung before and after the Small Entrance). Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 241)

This Week’s Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidelines:

Sunday (11/26—Fish, Wine, Oil): Mark 16:29-17; Ephesians 6:5-18
Tuesday (11/28—Fish, Wine, Oil): I Timothy 1:18-14; Luke 19:45-48
Thursday (11/30—St. Andrew—Fish, Wine, Oil): Matthew 4:18-23; I Corinthians 4:19-16; John 1:35-3:1
Friday (12/1—Strict Fast): I Timothy 4:4-8; Luke 20:19-26

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Jacquie (+October 21)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Hannah K., Julieta L., Muriyah S.

Prayers for Military Personnel and Their Families:

Aubriana Butchko, Kyle Glotzbach, Robert Ice, Aaron Vratholes, Alekstas Zagar

Prayers for our Catechumens and Inquirers into the Orthodox Church:

Bobbie, CJ, Ethan, James, Jessica, Tony and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Porphyrios of Kavokalivia, commented on this Sunday’s Gospel. Man seeks joy and happiness in heaven. He seeks what is eternal far from everyone and everything. He seeks to find joy in God. God is a mystery. He is silence. He is infinite. He is everything. Everyone possesses this inclination of the soul for heaven. All seek to find joy and happiness. All are seeking to turn back towards God. Jesus, who is the only one who is able to make them see God, Him, albeit unconsciously. Turn your mind towards Him continually. Learn to love prayer, familiar converse with the Lord. What counts above all is love, passionate love for the Lord, for Christ the Bridegroom. Become worthy of Christ’s love. In order not to live in darkness, turn on the switch of prayer so that divine light may flood your soul. Christ will appear in the depths of your being. There, in the deepest and most hidden part of your heart is the Kingdom of God.

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years! November 30: Andrew Adams, Daniel Filimon, Andreas Tsamolias
Birthdays—Happy Birthday! November 26: George Gordy, Mary Gordy November 28: Tammie Cantrell, Mariama Filimon November 29: Natalia Lane, Natalia Saratositis November 30: Danai Esquivel

Announcements:

* Philotheos: The Philotheos is collecting 2T-4T clothing, baby wash and lotion, jackets of all sizes, and stuffies as a Nativity Almsgiving opportunity supporting the work of the Kolbe Center (our local crisis pregnancy center) and the Outreach Program of the Macon-Bibb Sheriff’s Dept. Please contact Presbytera Stacey for more information.

* Orthodoxy 101 will take place this Wednesday evening at 6:30pm in the Church Library after the Great Vespers. The topic will be “The Orthodox understanding of Salvation.” Zoom link is available for anyone who would like to join digitally, please contact Presbytera Stacey for more info!

* The facilitator of the bookstore, Cristina Lekas, is very graciously offering to open the Holy Cross Bookstore during the week. On Wednesday evenings, the bookstore will be open from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. At the same time, the Church will be open for lighting candles/prayer/etc.

Christmas Card/Poinsettias: If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia “In Memory of” or “In Honor of” someone, please fill out the form that was sent by email and turn in your payment to Natalia Saratositis. Deadline is December 17th!

* Festival Chair/Christmas Downtown: The facilitator of the bookstore, Cristina Lekas, is very graciously offering to open the Holy Cross Bookstore during the week. On Wednesday evenings, the bookstore will be open from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. At the same time, the Church will be open for lighting candles/prayer/etc.

* Save the Date—Blessing of the Animals will take place one again this year—Saturday, December 16 (the Feast of St. Modestus) at 3:00pm in the Church Courtyard!

* Youth: Nativity (Christmas) Pageant will be taking place on Sunday, December 17th (the Nativity Pageant and the end of the Divine Liturgy. More information coming soon!

* Please see your email for the 2024 Coffee Fellowship sign-up. Thank you to those who provide for our fellowship after the Divine Liturgy!