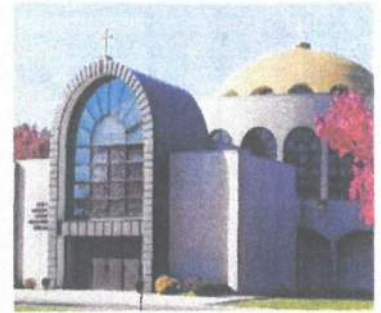


THE MESSAGE TO MHNYMA

September 2019 Newsletter



TAKE UP YOUR CROSS – THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR

The Italians have a custom that on New Year's Eve as midnight approaches, the streets clear. There is no traffic; there are no pedestrians; even the police take cover. Then at the stroke of midnight, the windows of the houses fly open. To the sound of laughter, music and fireworks, each member of the family pitches out old dishes and plates, detested ornaments, hated furniture and any personal possession which remind them of something in the past year they are determined to wipe out of their minds.

September 1st, marks the beginning of the Ecclesiastical (Church) Year for Orthodox Christians. The month of September is an invitation to lay aside everything that hinders spiritual growth and to embrace the Cross.

"Then Jesus told His disciples, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?'" (Matthew 16:24-26).



It is crucial for each of us to identify the meaning of taking up one's cross. At the time of Christ, a cross was an instrument of execution. The hangman gallows of the old west, the guillotine of medieval times and the cross were employed to take the life away from an individual. Christ however, makes this instrument of death into a weapon for life. A symbol of defeat into a symbol of victory. In Matthew 16:24-26, Jesus states the central paradox of the Christian faith. In grasping the temporal, we lose the eternal; in sacrificing everything we can know, we gain unimaginable riches. In dying, we live.

On the Cross Christ destroys the power of death. Death can no longer hold us captive, its' power has been taken away. The moment Christ died on the Cross, Hades was filled with the presence of God and could not endure the Light. After the death of Christ upon the Cross - suffering has been given new meaning. It now becomes the Way to Life in Christ.

In the light of the Cross, every thought in our heart, every word of malicious gossip and all the slanderous tales told are signs of the failure to take up one's cross. The presence of divisiveness means the power of hell is reigning and sustained through our recklessness and indifference to the Cross. There is no greater sin than that which seeks to divide the Church - there is no justification for such behavior.

Through the daily practicing of repentance the pain of our own sins begins to be felt. The first step in healing of the soul is acknowledgment of sin. A doctor cannot prescribe the proper medicine until the nature of the illness is determined. It is a "cross" to know one's self - to come face to face with the weakness and infirmities of our soul. Taking up one's cross inevitably leads to spiritual warfare.

Once sins are acknowledged the devil embarks upon a full-scale war to knock us down. Spiritual warfare is the struggle against sin. It involves prayer, fasting, the reception of Holy Communion and the intercession of the saints. In the spiritual warfare God sends legions of angels and the gift of the His Grace to strengthen us in battle. We are not left alone. The Cross becomes our companion and gives us strength to resist temptations and leads us to discipleship and the following of Christ.

Discipleship means the following of Christ. Christ can only be followed through obedience to God's will. Once engaged in spiritual warfare the paths to service of God and our neighbors become possible. Discipleship gives birth to evangelism. Those who are being led by Christ are then called upon to lead others in the Way.

The last liturgical "theme" of the year is that of being created as "Temples of God." The Virgin Mary was the first living temple of God and opens the way for all of us to become the dwelling place of Christ. The first liturgical theme of the New Church year is that of discipleship. A temple of the crucified Christ becomes a disciple of the crucified Christ.

May this New Ecclesiastical Year begin with the opening of the windows of our souls and the discarding at the feet of Christ everything that should be wiped from our memories. Putting everything away that hinders the presence of Christ and embracing all that feeds the soul shall lead to communion with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ✠Fr. Ted

WISDOM OF THE CHURCH FATHERS ON THE CROSS: It is impossible to represent and to think of the cross without love. Where the cross is, there is love. In the church you see crosses everywhere and on everything, in order that everything should remind you that you are in the house of God, the God of love, the temple of love, the God who was crucified for us.

Fr. John of Kronstadt





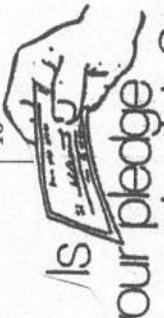

The Feast Day of the Exaltation (Elevation) of the Holy Cross will be celebrated on Saturday, September 14th, with Orthros at 8:00am and Divine Liturgy followed by the Litany of the Holy Cross at 9:00am in the Cathedral. The Litany includes a procession with the Cross being held aloft and elevated around the church with chanting of hymns and prayers.

We are in need of Vasiliko plants for the celebration of the Litany of the Holy Cross for this day. If you can be of assistance, please bring them to the church Friday, September 13th or prior to the start of worship on Saturday, September 14th. Your cooperation in this effort is deeply appreciated!

SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN
GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
8000 Madison Street Merrillville, IN 46410
219-769-2481
www.ssconstantineandhelen.org

September 2019

The Cross is the Protector of the whole world; the Cross is the splendor of the Church; the Cross is the support of the faithful; the Cross is the glory of angels and the terror of demons. For You have spread Your arms on it and drawn the whole to knowledge of You, O Christ!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR BEGINS Orthros 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:00am Super Sunday Sign-Ups 11:00am	2  LABOR DAY	3 CELC Orientation 9:00-11:00am 2 Day Class	4 CELC Orientation 9:00-11:00am 3 Day Class	5 CELC 2 Day Class Begins 8:30-11:30am	6 CELC 3 Day Class Begins 8:30-11:45am Food Pantry 9:00am-12:00noon	7 
8 NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS Orthros 8am D.L. 9am Super Sunday Sign-Ups 11:00am	9 Philoptochos Meeting 6:00pm Jr. GOYA & GOYA Meetings 6:30-8:00pm	10	11	12	13 Food Pantry 9:00am-12:00noon Greek School 5:30-7:30pm Vespers for the Feast of the Holy Cross 7:00pm Justice, IL	14 ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS Orthros 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:00am STRICT FAST DAY
15 Orthros 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:00am Sunday School Begins 9:00am with Liturgy Loukoumades Sale	16	17	18  Is your pledge up-to-date?	19 Parish Council 7:00pm	20 Food Pantry 9:00am-12:00noon Greek School 5:30-7:30pm	21 IOCC 5K Walk/Run 8:00am St. Andrew Chicago, IL
22 Orthros 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am GOYA Bake Sale 11am Stassis Memorial Brunch 11:00am	23 JOY & HOPE Meetings 6:30-7:30pm Jr. GOYA & GOYA Meetings 6:30-8:00pm	24	25 Metropolis of Chicago, Clergy Laity Philoptochos Conference September 25-29 Minneapolis, MN	26 Senior Citizens Lunch & Meeting 12:30pm	27 Food Pantry 9:00am-12:00noon Greek School 5:30-7:30pm	28
29 Orthros 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am	30					

AT SUMMER'S END

September marks the beginning of the new Church year as well as a new school year. It is a time when parents fulfill their religious obligations by registering their children for Sunday School and other church related activities, while making certain that their children attend faithfully each Sunday.

It is also the time parents leave behind the lazy summer months to come to church together with their children. In this respect parents have a greater role to play in the spiritual upbringing of their children, for a child learns through imitation.

Unfortunately some parents neglect their moral and Christian duty by preferring sleep rather than to attend church on Sunday. Other parents taxi their children to church, go out for coffee, and return at the conclusion of classes and church services. Many parents think that an hour or two is too long, so they substitute a six column newspaper, a TV show, or an activity in place of attending worship services on Sunday morning. These actions definitely set a bad example for the youngsters and create quite a disturbing impact upon their minds. Children know that if their parents really value church and love God that they would be attend Sunday worship. Yet, if parents consistently neglect to attend God's service, it is giving eloquent testimony that God doesn't matter and that they are not recommending Him to their children. If we are members of the official family of the Church and seldom attend its services, what better way can we have of telling our family and the world that it really doesn't make a difference.

How many of you who seldom go to church would like to live in a world where there is no God? How many parents have admitted to themselves that if they had come to church as a family they would not be having headaches over the grown children? It is unfortunate that parents realize the potentiality of the Church too late. Instead they must suffer the consequences and worse yet the children are made to suffer through the negligence of their parents.

Parents! You have a duty towards your children. They look to you for their moral and religious upbringing. Do not fail them lest they suffer the sins of their parents. Come to church as a family. Attend weekly worship services regularly. Get involved in the various ministries and activities of your parish. What greater legacy can you leave your children than for them to have a loving and personal relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

A week contains 168 hours. Dedicate one or two of those hours to the Lord. Your church is the place to find God, His hope, His peace, His love and His gift of salvation. Come on in! Your children will be glad you did and so will you.

2019 BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING



On Sunday, August 11th we held our Annual Back to School Blessing for the children of our Cathedral, along with the teachers and administrators who attend our parish. May the good Lord watch over them and bless them all with a safe, happy and productive New School Year.

FROM THE CHURCH FATHERS: Young people must be made to distinguish between helpful and injurious knowledge, keeping clearly in mind the Christians' purpose in life. So, like the athlete or musician, they must bend every energy to one task, the winning of the heavenly crown.
- St. Basil the Great

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



GREEK SCHOOL REGISTRATION will continue until the second week of September in the church office during weekdays. **Please note that Greek School begins on Friday, September 13th, 5:30pm.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION: We will begin our Sunday Church School program on **Sunday, September 15th**. **Also on this day we will be taking class pictures.** Registration for children ages 3-years-old to high school age, will take place on Sunday, September 2nd & 9th in the lobby of the Great Hall or in the church office during the week. There is a \$20 registration fee for each child (after September 8th the fee is \$25 per child). **Please register your children early!** Looking forward to seeing all our children on the first day of class so they may learn about the Orthodox Faith in a fun and interesting way, while meeting their peers here at church. Don't forget bring your smiles for the class pictures on this day!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: GOYA Bake Sale, Sunday, September 22nd, following worship. Please support their efforts.

THE ANNUAL FAMILY FUN NIGHT will be held on Saturday, October 12th this year. Let us all come together for a fun time and support this event that benefits the GOYA Scholarship Fund.

YOUTH MEETINGS: GOYA (students 8th-12th grade) & Jr. GOYA (students 6th-7th grade), will meet on Monday, September 9th & 23rd, 6:30-8:00pm.

JOY (youth 3rd-5th grade) & HOPE (youth K-3rd grades) will meet on Monday, September 23rd, 6:30-7:30pm.

PETER STASSIS MEMORIAL BENEFIT will be held on Sunday September 22nd, immediately following worship. Everyone is invited to the brunch held in the Great Hall to benefit the Peter Stassis Memorial Scholarships for Fanari Camp. This year six full or partial scholarships were offered in memory of Peter Stassis for young people from our parish to attend Fanari Camp.

JR. GOYA OUTREACH: Once again this year our Jr. GOYA will be holding a Pillow & Blanket Drive beginning September 22nd-November 10th. New pillows and new blankets can be brought to church and dropped off in the Narthex on Sundays or the church office during the week.

GOYA COAT DRIVE: GOYA will be collecting new and gently used coats for children, teens, young adults, women and men, sizes 3T-3X. Collection begins September 1st through October 6th. Coats can be dropped off in the church office or in the Narthex of the Cathedral.

YAL ESSENTIAL BACKPACKS APPEAL: The YAL along with the Street Outreach Team are preparing for their October outreach. Once again, we will be distributing "essential backpacks" for the homeless youth, women and men of Chicago. The following items are needed: socks, wipes, water, mints, Band-Aids, deodorant, granola bars, cheese crackers, and applesauce. You may donate a backpack, essential items, or a backpack full of the essential items. Please keep in mind they are living on the streets; they may be subjected to theft or violence, therefore please no money or gift cards. Backpacks should not be heavy. Your support is greatly appreciated! Collection begins September 1st-29th. A bin will be located in the Narthex or can be dropped off in the church office.

QUIP: Youth and beauty fade; character endures forever.

HIGGINS

OVERHEAD DOOR
Sales • Service • Installation
30 Years Experience
1305 Erie Ct., Suite A • 219-663-2231
\$10.00 OFF ANY SERVICE CALL W/AD
LIMIT ONE PER VISIT



Nutritional Lifestyle Centers®
Vitamins/Supplements • Healthy Snacks
Natural Smoothies
\$1 Off Any Size Smoothie w/Ad
8235 Wicker Ave., St. John • (219) 558-2233

MICHAEL J. TROUMOULIARIS
ATTORNEY AT LAW

5521 West Lincoln Highway
Suite 102
Crown Point, Indiana 46307
(219) 738-2050
michael@attorneymj.com
www.attorneymj.com



CHAPEL LAWN FUNERAL HOME & MEMORIAL GARDENS

8178 Cline Ave.
Schererville, IN 46375



219-365-9554
Fax 219-365-9566

www.chapelawnmemorial.com



CALL PANTELAT 219 688-3378
MARIA AT 219 742-7595
SOME OF THE FINEST HAND-CRAFTED JEWELRY FROM GREECE!

PARTHENON TRAVEL

PERRY & STEVE ZAFIRIADES
(773) 784-0811
2413 W. LAWRENCE AVE.
CHICAGO, IL 60625
Greek Papers • Translations
email: parthenon_travel@yahoo.com

Turning 65 or Older? Best In Medicare Supplement!

Senior Care Insurance Services
• Medicare Supplement Plans
• Medicare Disability Plans
• Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans
Conveniently located offices in Merrillville, Schererville, Valparaiso & Munster
(219) 736-7800 or 1-800-821-0604
Fred M. Ulayyot
Licensed Insurance Agent



AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact Terry Sweeney to place an ad today!
tsweeney@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6407

Cedar Lake Kitchen Family Dining

10325 W 133rd Avenue (219) 374-8888
Cedar Lake, IN 46303 Fax (219) 374-6521

Looking for a new financial advisor? Let's talk.



Reid A Rhodes
Financial Advisor
11426 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
219-663-4329

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

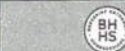
THE PANGERE CORPORATION

www.pangere.com

Building Excellence Since 1905



Over a Century of Pride & Progress
Full Service
Commercial / Industrial Contractor
• Design / Build • Renovation / Remodeling
• Pre-Engineered Buildings
Gary, Indiana • (219) 949-1368



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY Executive Realty
HomeServices

"Making the American Dream a Reality"



Bill Vossos
Associate Broker

219.680.9037 - Cell

sellwithbilly@gmail.com

https://www.facebook.com/TheBillVossosTeam/

YOUR HOME SOLD
GUARANTEED
OR WE'LL BUY IT!



No Gimmicks! For a free report that details the inner workings of this exclusive offer go to www.TheKirkGuarantee.com to obtain Your FREE SPECIAL REPORT that details How You Can Benefit from Our Unique Guaranteed Sale Program.

Call 1-833-423-4768 ID# 9072
(Talk to No Agent) or
Call Kirk Direct at 219-293-8494

L.Kirk | Realtor

ELMWOOD Casket Company Elmwood Cemetery Memorials

Serving Chicagoland Families Since 1921



Use This Ad
for up to 20% off

• 30%-60% less than Funeral Homes
• 100 plus casket models • Made in the USA
• Monuments, Headstones & Markers • On-Site Final Engraving
219-322-9740 • 756 East US Schererville (NW Corner of Cline & Rt. 39)
219-844-7009 • HHS - 16th Street, Hammond (Inside Elmwood Cemetery)
Locations in Schererville and Hammond with 24 Hour Service
www.ElmwoodCaskets.com

Constantina Tucker, DO Family Practice



COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK
Community Healthcare System
Hoehn Medical Center
comhs.org

Northwest Indiana Native | Fluent in Greek

Community Care Network | Hoehn Medical Center
505 W. Lincoln Hwy, Schererville, IN
219-322-3311

SPREAD THE WORD A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

St. Helen Philoptochos
Ladies Society #2034
Merrillville, Indiana 46410
Join us for Philanthropy & Friendship
Stewardship \$30.00 or more

BURNS FUNERAL HOME

Merrillville/Crown Point • 769-0044
Hobart • 942-1117



3000 Burr Street
Gary, Indiana 46406-3429
219-989-0700 • fax 219-989-0701



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

Sts. Constantine/Helen Greek Orthodox, Merrillville, IN

A 4C 01-0906

SPIRITUAL FUTURE



Throughout the summer, I have the opportunity to visit many of the Church Festivals in our Metropolis and get to touch base with my brother clergy and talk about "What makes things tick" at our parishes regarding Youth Ministry. Along with long discussions with several Youth Workers, we find that our young people are very busy these days and lead somewhat complex lives. Whether it be school and homework, after school activities or sports, they have a lot going on and it is our job to make sure that we offer the most at our parishes for their "Spiritual Future."

Our Cathedral is filled with excitement when September comes around. Besides being the Ecclesiastical New Year, it's also a new year for all our ministries that are offered. Please make sure that you register your children for Sunday School. Here they are exposed to and learn about our Holy Orthodox Faith. Our Youth programs, Hope/J.O.Y. along with the Jr. G.O.Y.A. and G.O.Y.A. allow our young people to come together, open up - and express themselves as well as learn about their Orthodox Faith in a casual atmosphere, while getting to know each

other and their parish priests.

We have to understand that even if we talk about "Youth Ministry," we actually mean "Family Ministry." If you would like to join our Cathedral Sunday School Staff, please let us know. There is **ALWAYS** a need for extra volunteers in the classroom on Sunday. Maybe you would like to be part of our parent advisor group for our youth ministry programs. Commit yourselves to this "Spiritual Future" and to Christ. As you see, we offer so much and have so many young people, and we can always use your help. Please check the Constant Contact e-mail of Fridays to see when our teachers or advisors have their meetings, there is always a seat for you. If you have any questions, please let Fr. Ted or myself know.

I have to be honest, every year at this time as we prepare for our ministries, I cannot wait to see what the coming Ecclesiastical New Year will bring to our Cathedral. We have so much going on that allow us to come closer to Christ and think about our "Spiritual Future."

I look forward to working with all of you in this coming year.

✠Fr. George

Geisen
FUNERAL HOMES
Since 1867

ALEXIS THANOS
FUNERAL DIRECTOR
& PARISHIONER

PAPPAS TWELVE
RESTAURANT ISLANDS
RESTAURANT
662-7900 663-5070
Crown Points Hometown
Family Restaurants

Your Complete Source for
Cleaning Supplies, Equipment and Paper
Products

ajax sanitary
supply

SHOWROOM & WAREHOUSE
3590 Broadway • Gary, Indiana 46408
Phone (219) 981-1515 www.ajaxsan.com

Complete
Floral
Service

Merrillville Florist
Shop & Tea Room
7005 Madison St., Merrillville, IN 46410
Floral Designer & Instructor
(219) 769-3454

Avalon Manor Banquet Center
The Region's Newest & Finest Banquet Facility

- Elegance at Affordable Prices
- Accommodates 15-1100 people
- Bridal Suites, Descending Staircase, Outdoor Gazebo
- Seminars, Conferences, & Business Meetings

3550 E. U.S. Hwy. 30, Merrillville
(219) 945-0888 <http://www.theavalonmanor.com>

UPGRADE TO A
VIBRANT ad
Contact us for details • 800-950-9952

WE BUY HOUSES
Any Situation - Any Condition

RegionHome
BUYERS
(219) 641-3008
www.RegionHomeBuyers.com
We will make you a fair cash offer on your home AS-IS! No closing costs.

Endodontics, Inc.

Mark D. Magura, D.D.S., M.S.D.
Robert A. Corns, D.D.S.
Theodoros Aneziris, D.D.S., M.S.D.
Heather C. Dost, D.D.S., M.S.D.
8001 Broadway, Suite 401, Merrillville, IN
(219) 769-1166
911 Wall Street, Valparaiso, IN • (219) 462-8424
614 Andrew, LaPorte, IN • (219) 324-8717

Calumet Park
Calumet Park Cemetery... 219-769-8803
Calumet Park Funeral Chapel in Merrillville. 219-736-5840
Rendina Funeral Home... 219-980-1141
Calumet Park Funeral chapel in Hobart... 219-940-3791
like us on facebook at... mycalumetpark
Special pricing for all honorably discharged veterans!

4LPi

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

Join our team

- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

Mattingly
family dentistry

219.696.0250
Joseph Mattingly, D.D.S.
957 East Commercial Avenue, Lowell, IN 46356

Dr. Anthony Puntillo
Dr. Christopher Crane
Dr. Kenneth Hyde

Crown Point Merrillville Schererville Valparaiso
662-2264 769-7447 322-8552 462-3537

www.pandscsmiles.com
PUNTILLO & CRANE
ORTHODONTICS - PC
invisalign



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lp.com

Sts. Constantine/Helen Greek Orthodox, Merrillville, IN

B 4C 01-0906



ΜΗΝΥΜΑΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ

Εἰς τὴν "Υψωσιν ιοῦ Τιμίου Σταυροῦ

Σταυρικῆς πανηγύρεως καὶ ἀνυψώσεως σήμερον ἀγομένης καὶ τῶν Χριστοῦ παθημάτων τῆς μνήμης εἰς μέσον εἰσαγομένης, τίς ἂν γένηται κόρος φιλοχρίστων ψυχαῖς; οἶμαι γὰρ ὅτι οὐδεὶς. Διότι, ἔνθα Σταυρὸς ἀνυμνεῖται, πρόδηλον ὅτι καὶ Χριστὸς συνδοξάζεται· ὡσαύτως, καὶ ἔνθα Χριστὸς ἀνυμνεῖται, καὶ Σταυρὸς συνδοξάζεται· τύπος γὰρ τῆς ἀχωρίστου Τριάδος πέφυκεν ὁ Σταυρὸς, ἡνωμένους τοῖς τρισὶ ξύλοις ἀδιαίρετον φέρων τὴν ἑνωσιν.

Χαίροις τὸ κεδροπευκοκυπάρισσον τρισόλβιον ξύλον, ὡς τῆς Τριάδος ἰσάριθμον, ἐν ᾧ καὶ ἐτάθη τῆς Τριάδος ὁ εἰς, καὶ θανῶν ἑκουσίως τοῦ θανάτου τὸ κράτος τελείως κατέλυσε.

Χαίροις, Σταυρέ, σημεῖον ἐξ ἀστέρων, ὁφθεῖς ἐν οὐρανῷ τῷ εὐσεβεῖ Κωνσταντίνῳ.

Χαίροις, Σταυρέ, ἀρχιερέων ἢ εὐπρέπεια, καὶ ἐκκλησιῶν πασῶν εὐκοσμία καὶ δόξα.

Χαίροις, Σταυρέ, παρθενευόντων βοηθέ, καὶ συζευγνυμένων ἐγκράτεια.

Χαίροις, Σταυρέ, πανσεβάσμιον τόξον Χριστοῦ, καὶ θεοσήμου τόξου σημεῖον πρὸς ἀνθρώπους καταλλαγῇ, δι' οὗ καὶ ἀπηλλάγημεν κατακλυσμοῦ ἀσεβείας, καὶ κιβωτὸν ἁγίαν κτησάμενοι τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν Χριστοῦ πάσης κακοδοξίας ἐπάνω νηχόμεθα (ἐπιπλέομεν).

Ἀγίου Νεοφύτου τοῦ Ἐγκλείστου



ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΟΣ ΧΡΕΙΑΖΕΤΑΙ: Συτομα θα φθασουμε στην μεγάλη μερα της Υψώσεως του Τιμιου Σταυρου και σας παρακαλουμε να φερετε βασιλικο στην Εκκλησια για να δωσουμε στους πιστους στην ακολουγια τις 14 Σεπτεμβριου. Παρακαλοθμε να φερετε το βασιλικο στην Εκκλησια πριν την Θεια Λειτουργια αυτη την ημερα.

ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΤΙΚΟ ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 2019

Κυριακή, 1 Σεπτεμβρίου – ΑΡΧΗ ΙΝΔΙΚΤΟΥ.
Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεία Λειτουργία: 9:00 π.μ.

Κυριακή, 8 Σεπτεμβρίου – ΤΟ ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑΣ ΔΕΣΠΟΙΝΗΣ ΗΜΩΝ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ.
Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεία Λειτουργία: 9:00 π.μ.

Σάββατο, 14 Σεπτεμβρίου – Η ΠΑΓΚΟΣΜΙΟΣ ΥΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΖΩΟΠΟΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ.
Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεία Λειτουργία: 9:00 π.μ.

Κυριακή, 15 Σεπτεμβρίου – ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗΣ ΥΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ.
Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεία Λειτουργία: 9:00 π.μ.

Κυριακή, 22 Σεπτεμβρίου – Α' ΛΟΥΚΑ.
Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεία Λειτουργία: 9:00 π.μ.

Κυριακή, 29 Σεπτεμβρίου – Β' ΛΟΥΚΑ.
Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεία Λειτουργία: 9:00 π.μ.

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣΜΟΣ: Τόσο πολὺν ἐργαζομεθα καὶ δὲν μας μένει χρόνος γιὰ νὰ ἐκκλησιασθούμε, νὰ εὐχαριστήσωμε τὸν Θεο, νὰ κοινωνήσωμε, νὰ προσευχηθούμε;

Ὁ Χριστὸς μας περιμένει καθὲ Κυριακὴ στὸν Μυστικὸ Δειπνὸ. Σας περιμένει καὶ ἐγὼ, ὁ πνευματικὸς σας πατέρας.

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΥ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΝΕΑ Τὸ σχολεῖο μας θὰ λειτουργεῖ καθὲ Παρασκευὴ βραδὺ ἀπὸ 5:30-7:30 π.μ. Τὰ μαθηματὰ τοῦ Ἑλληνικοῦ Σχολεῖο ἀρχίζουν 13 Σεπτεμβρίου, 5:30 π.μ., μετὸν ἀγαθισμό γιὰ τὴν νεὰ σχολικὴ χρονία.

ΕΓΓΡΑΦΕΣ ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΚΑΤΗΧΗΤΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ θὰ λαβὼν χώρα τὴν Κυριακὴ, 1 & 8 Σεπτεμβρίου μετὰ τὴν Θεία Λειτουργία. Μαθηματὰ ἀρχίζουν 9:00 π.μ. μετὰ τὴν Θεία Λειτουργία τὴν Κυριακὴ, 15 Σεπτεμβρίου. Προσπαθεῖστε ὅλοι νὰ γράψετε τὰ παιδιὰ σας στὸ Κατηχητικὸ Σχολεῖο καὶ δώστε τοὺς τὴν εὐκαρία νὰ λαβὼν μιὰ καλὴ βάση τῆς Ὀρθοδόξου Χριστιανικῆς Ὁρησκείας μας.

ΝΕΑ ΤΗΣ ΦΙΛΟΠΤΩΧΟΥ: Ἡ συνεδρίαση τῆς Φιλοπτώχου θὰ γινεῖ Δευτέρα, 9 Σεπτεμβρίου, στίς 6:30 π.μ., στὸ Μικρὸ Χωλὸ τῆς Ἐκκλησίας. Τὸ βραδὺ αὐτὸ θὰ ἔχωμε τὸ «ΠΑΤ' ΛΑΚ» καὶ παρακαλοῦνται ὅλες οἱ κυρίες νὰ φερουν ὁ, τι φαγητὸν θέλουν. Τηλεφωνήστε τὴν Bobbie Korfias 219-322-1949 γιὰ νὰ τίς πητὲ τὴ θὰ φερετε. Ἐλπίζουμε ὅλες τίς κυρίες τῆς ἐνορίας μας νὰ παρευρεθούμε καὶ νὰ κάνουμε μιὰ καλὴ ἀρχή.

Τὴν Κυριακὴ, 15 Σεπτεμβρίου, μετὰ τὴ Θεία Λειτουργία, ἡ Φιλοπτώχος θὰ ἔχει λουκουμάδες γιὰ πούλημα – \$7.00. Σας περιμένουμε!

ΚΑΙ ΠΑΛΙΝ: Μεχρὶ τὴν 10 Αὐγούστου, 593 συμπλήρωσαν τὴν φόρμα τῆς συνδρομῆς τοὺς γιὰ τὸ 2019. Τὸ ποσὸ ποὺ συγκεντρώθηκε εἶναι \$373,690 μετὰ \$630 τὸ χρόνο. Ἐσεῖς ποὺ διαβάζετε αὐτὲς τίς γραμμὲς, εἰσθε μετὰ τὸν 295; Πρέπει καθὲ χρόνο νὰ συμπληρώσωμε τὴν φόρμα τῆς συνδρομῆς νὰ εἰμαστε μέλη τῆς κοινοτητος. Ἐπίσης σας παρακαλοῦμε νὰ μὴν καθυστερήτε τὰς πληρωμὲς τῆς συνδρομῆς σας καὶ νὰ δυσκολευθῆτε ἀργότερα.

ΡΗΤΑ ΕΚ ΤΗΣ ΠΑΛΑΙΑΣ ΔΙΑΘΗΚΗΣ: Τὸν Θεὸν φοβοῦ καὶ τὰς ἐντολάς αὐτοῦ φυλάττε, ὅτι τοῦτο πᾶς ἀνθρώπος.
Μαλαχίας

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NAILED DOWN

Many times when we are asked to do something for our soul, for Christ and His Church, we say, "I don't want to be tied down." I don't want to be tied down to attending church every Sunday. I don't want to be tied down to spending a few minutes each day speaking to God in prayer and letting Him speak to me through the Bible. I don't want to be tied down to making a pledge every year to support God's work through the Church.

When we say this, we should remember that our Lord was not tied down; He was nailed down, nailed to a cross for you and me. How much am I willing to give for Him? In the light of the Cross how can I not say, "Love so amazing, so divine, shall have my soul, my life, my all."

STEWARDSHIP STATISTICS

(As of 8-9-19)

Pledging Members 2019	593
2019 Goal	800
Amount Pledged	\$373,690.00
2019 Goal	\$550,000.00
Average Pledge	\$630.16
2019 Goal	\$750.00
Members who give but don't Pledge	6
Amount given	\$8,013.00
Average	\$222.58
Members on record who don't pledge or give	300
Members who didn't fulfill 2018 Pledge	61
Amount not paid for 2018	\$13,648.00

If you haven't Pledged for 2019, please do so today!

THE CHALLENGE OF LEADERSHIP

Our Cathedral of Ss. Constantine and Helen is a beautiful parish complex, which everyone sees. From afar everything looks great. However, upon closer inspection we see the flaws, the wear and tear and breakdowns that have befallen our buildings and grounds, the maintenance and renovations that need to be done to keep our parish functional as to meet the needs of our membership and to keep it a strong beacon of light for Christ.

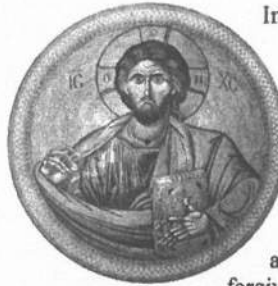
Back in January we wrote in the Message that the focus for 2019 of our church would be two fold. First and foremost would be the spiritual edification of our parishioners. This we have and are accomplishing through our religious programs, through worship, ongoing religious education and outreach ministries.

Second was to continue to renovate, refurbish and build up our physical church edifice and grounds so that our house of worship may truly be a place we can be proud of as we glorify and praise God. This aspect has proved more challenging.

Thanks be to a major donor and a few faithful parishioners we were able to renovate the Hellenic Cultural Center (Great Hall, Gold Room and Lobby) at no expense to the church. However, the Cathedral Dome Repair and Roof Renovation Project has come to a crossroad. After a successful start to fund raising half the money needed, the project was put on hold by our contractor for reasons still not understood. This is a costly delay, not only financially, but also causing more water damage to the exterior dome, Cathedral and Chapel exterior roofs and interior ceilings, as well as to the iconography of both the Cathedral and Chapel.

The Parish Council is working with our contractor to move ahead with the Cathedral Dome Repair and Roof Renovation Project as soon as possible. Shortly, the Parish Council will be presenting a special fundraising drive to our entire membership to raise not only the remaining funds for this project, but for other ones that we are facing that are turning critical. This is the challenge that not only our leadership faces, but our entire community. For as a community we worship together and should take care of our parish together. Let us be united in faith and purpose. Let us all be CATHEDRAL STRONG!

WHOM DO WE MEET IN CHRIST?



In Christ we meet God. We also meet our true selves as God wants us to be, the divine pattern for man. "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48), said Jesus.

The most important decision one has to make in life is the decision for or against Jesus Christ. Say "Yes" to Jesus as Lord and you gain light, life, forgiveness, joy, peace and eternity. Say "No" to Him and you throw all these away.

R. L. Bruckberger pictures God the Father saying to Jesus: "Since I have told you everything in My Word, Who is My Son, I have no other words that can at present say anything or reveal anything to you beyond this. Fix your eyes on him alone, for in Him I have told you all, revealed all, and in Him you will find more even that you desire or ask...If you fix your eyes on Him, you will find everything, for He is My whole word and My reply, He is My whole vision and My whole revelation..."

"From the day when I descended upon Him with My Spirit on Mt. Tabor saying, 'This is My beloved Son: hear Him.' I have put aside the old forms of teaching and response and I have given all to Him: hear Him, because I have no further faith to reveal...If I spoke, it was in order to promise the Christ...in whom all good was to be found..."

Who is Jesus?

He is truly "the only begotten son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, true God of true God...Through whom all things were made."

The need of the world is Jesus.

The hunger of the world is for Jesus.

The hope of the world is Jesus.

The healing of the world is in Jesus.

The light of the world is Jesus.

AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS!



Our Cathedral's former assistant and beloved hierarch, Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira & Great Britain, offering a blessing to the faithful at his enthronement July 27, 2019 in London. Pictured with His Eminence is Deacon Nephon Tsimalis, a spiritual son of our community, who serves as Second Deacon of Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople. EIS POLLA ETH DESPOTA!

Please note that, if His Eminence's schedule allows, he will make a pastoral visit to our community (date TBA). Specific details to be announced via social media and the weekly Sunday Bulletin.

THOUGHT: Have you ever wondered what the Ten Commandments would look like today if Moses had been compelled to submit them to a committee for approval?

SS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
8000 Madison Street
Merrillville, IN 46410
Address Service Requested

Prsrt. Std.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Gary, IN
 Permit No.
329

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY NEWS

WHAT PHILOPTOCHOS STANDS FOR

- P - Is for philanthropy towards the sick and the poor.
- H - Is for the heart of Jesus that fills our hearts with love.
- I - Is for the Image of God that we all share together in.
- L - Is for our love of God which fills us with love for each other.
- O - Is for the orphans at St. Basil's and elsewhere.
- P - Is for the prayers which precede all our work.
- T - Is for the Theotokos, our mother, intercessor, and guide.
- O - Is for the offerings of help to those in need.
- C - Is for the charities and the missions we support.
- H - Is for the help we give the poor, the aged, and the sick.
- O - Is for onward toward our goal of ministering in Christ's Name no matter what obstacles we face.
- S - Is for our Savior, our leader, our Lord, our God.

MEETING DATE: With the beginning of the New Ecclesiastical Year, our St. Helen's Philoptochos Society will once again be hosting their monthly meetings. The first meeting will be on Monday, September 9th, at 6:30pm in the Gold Room. The theme for the evening is "The 80's." All ladies of our community are invited to attend. A "Potluck" dinner will be offered at this meeting. Philoptochos will offer the main meal, and everyone is asked to bring a side dish, appetizer or dessert. Please call Bobbie Korfias at 219-322-1949 and let her know what dish you will be bringing. Bring a friend and join us for fun and fellowship as we kick off our new Philoptochos Year.

PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERSHIP is ongoing throughout the year. Philoptochos needs YOU to fulfill its mission! You can support Philoptochos either as an active member or as a supportive member. For those too busy to attend a monthly meeting or be involved in any of its ministries or activities, your yearly \$30 or more membership is a meaningful way to participate and offer your assistance. Help us to help others by becoming a Philoptochos member of the largest Christian women's philanthropic organization in America!

LOUKOUMADES SALE: Sunday, September 15th. The cost is \$7.00 per container. You can purchase Loukoumades to go, or sit down at a table with a cup of coffee, relax and enjoy!

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP EULFIDOPHROS OF AMERICA
 AND THE BLESSINGS OF HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN NATHANIEL OF CHICAGO

THE NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY PRESENTS THE SEVENTEENTH

Children's Medical Fund Luncheon

*Saturday, the 16th of November,
 Two Thousand Nineteen*

Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile
525 N. MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL

RECEPTION AT ELEVEN O' CLOCK
 LUNCHEON AT TWELVE NOON

Honoree
ANASTASIA MICHALA 2017 LUNCHEON CHAIR



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS: The church office will be closed on Monday, September 2nd, for the Labor Day holiday. Announcements for the weekly bulletin should be submitted to the church office by Wednesday, September 4th, no later than noon.

HELPING HAND FUND: Throughout the year, various individuals and institutions approach our Cathedral for financial assistance during their times of need and trouble. Only through the generosity of our faithful, along with our societies and organizations, can we be of an assistance and offer a helping hand. We kindly ask that you remember those less fortunate and assist them through a monetary donation to our "Helping Hand" program. Today, you may be helping a stranger, tomorrow it may be a loved one or even yourself. Please give generously! For specific details, contact Fr. Ted.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE: Are you forgetting your donations for the Food Pantry? Once again this past summer our Food Pantry was overwhelmed by those in need. Please bring your food items, personal hygiene supplies, etc. and place them in the designated area in the Narthex or drop them off in the church office whenever you come to church. For more information or to be of an assistance, see Patti Makarounas.

SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS: Our Senior Citizens group will meet again starting on Thursday, September 26th, at 12:30pm in the Gold Room. Our Seniors Group is open to all our members, Greek or English speaking, 55 years old and older. Come on out join us for a nice meal and some fellowship. For updates and further information about Senior Citizens, or how to get actively involved, contact Kalliope Dedelow at 219-588-1026.

MORE PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS - FALL OUTING: On Sunday, October 13th, our Philoptochos Society will have their yearly outing. This year they will attend Brunch and the Play "The Pajama Game" at the Theater at the Center in Munster. Sitting for Brunch is 1:00pm and the Play at 2:30pm. Brunch and show cost is \$65 per person (Brunch only is \$30/ Show only is \$36). Paid reservations, (Checks payable to St. Helen's Philoptochos) are due to Nicki Droza by September 19th. For details/reservations contact Nicki at (219) 688-2036 or nicki529@yahoo.com.

THANK YOU to all who gave so much in school supplies or in cash donations for the needy children of our area. Your gifts of love brightened the day of many a student and teacher as they began the New School Year. You are all deeply appreciated for what you have done once again this year. God bless you all!

CHUCKLE: A little girl had developed a bad habit. She was always lying. Once when she was given a St. Bernard dog for her birthday, she went out and told all her friends and neighbors she was given a lion. Her mother took her aside and said, "I told you not to lie. You go upstairs to your room and tell God you are sorry. Promise God you will not lie again." The little girl went upstairs to her room, said her prayers, and then came down again. Her mother asked, "Did you tell God you are sorry?" The little girl replied, "Yes, I did. And God said sometimes He finds it hard to tell my dog from a lion too."