

The Good News

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2019

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Christ is Risen!

The other day I watched a television show about the building of the Hoover Dam. This marvel was the child of one man, which was made possible by the co-working of three companies, and was completed by countless workers. It is indeed amazing to see such work being done. While I was watching this program, I realized that our salvation was also completed in a similar way. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ grants us the salvation of new life. The Grace and Decent of the Holy Spirit gives us the ability to participate in this salvation. The saints of the Church tell us by their words and show us by their action the way to this salvation. My brothers and sisters in the Lord, we celebrated Christ's Resurrection weeks ago and the descent of the Holy Spirit we will celebrate in 15 days. The final feast of the Paschal period, we celebrate all those who lived the life that the Resurrected Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit calls us to live. Let us take a few moments to look at who these saints are, what qualities they have, and how we can enter their ranks.

Who are the saints? They come from various occupations. Some were Emperors, Patriarchs, Bishops, Priests, Clergy, Laity and Farmers. The Saints come from all walks of life. There are, of course different kinds of saints: martyrs, fathers, mothers, righteous, elders, hierarchs and theologians to name a few. In other words, anyone can be a saint. What are the qualities of saints? They are people of faith who believed enough to: witness and die for Christ. They were people of persecution physical: (they were fed to lions, burnt at the stake, killed by the sword and crucified), psychological (they were abandoned by love ones and even were persecuted by loved ones) They gave everything of themselves to God and their fellow man. To God in that they did not live life of pleasure, they cared for all men including persecutors and put nothing in front of God. They lived like God and had such a good relationship with God that they became God-like. To their fellow man in that they loved man and tried to bring him into relationship with God. They sold all they had and gave to poor and by living good lives they brought God's mercy to His people, peace to the Church and God's compassion to men. What was their reward? Glory they became gods by grace thus achieving the goal of humanity. They were joined to the Resurrection of Christ and thus they have life eternal. In fact they received a hundredfold what they lost.

How can we become saints? First by prayer which is conversation with God, (both corporate and personal), especially the Eucharist which is the food for whole person and the medicine of immortality. Second fasting which cleanses body and soul and shows mastery of soul over body. Thirdly alms giving. We are called to give our excess to poor since giving to poor like giving to Christ and in this we will be rewarded. Fourthly witness to the world what it is to be Christian. We must act as though Christ is present and live as Christ even when difficult, acting this way to Christians and non-Christians alike.

So, we can see that on this final feast we venerate those people who have incorporated the Resurrection into their lives. They gave of themselves to the point that others could see Christ in their lives. Some were killed while others bore witness to old age. Their example to us is timeless. All generations who live as they live will be rewarded by being first in the Kingdom of Heaven. We can be like them only when we live like them. My Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, the time of the saints is not over. The Church constantly renews herself through present day saints. We can become saints as well by living as God calls us to live. By giving of ourselves in prayer and almsgiving, by restoring the balance within us with fasting and Holy communion, by bearing witness to this new life to others, we can inherit the rewards promised to us by Christ and hear him say, "Well done o good and faithful servant! Enter into the joy of your Lord." Amen.

In the Risen Christ

Fr. Michael Constantinides

June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Note: Sunday Liturgy 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy (Saint George) 8:30 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy	Note: Sunday Summer Hours Saint George (starting June 16) 8:00 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy	Note: Fr. Michael and Fr. Thomas will be alternating Saturdays with Fr. Peter Andronache in offering the Eucharist at Saint Elias in Dubuque.	Fast Day 2:00 p.m. Centennial Meeting (Assumption)	The Ascension of our Lord 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at the Assumption Church 12:00 noon Bible Study (Assumption)	Fast Day 6:00 p.m. Small Paraklesis (Assumption)	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy at Saint Elias in Dubuque, IA (Fr. Thomas to Serve)
Sunday of the Blind Man Orthros and Divine Liturgy (Assumption and Saint George) +Sacrament (Saint George)	10:00 am Digital Ministries (Assumption)	6:00 p.m. Festival Meeting (Assumption)	Fast Day 2:00 p.m. Centennial Meet- ing (Assumption)	Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Assumption) 6:00 p.m. Community Dinner Night— Holy Pentecost	Fast Day	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy at Saint Elias in Dubuque, IA (Fr. Peter to Serve)
Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council Orthros and Divine Liturgy (Assumption and Saint George)	Metropolis Open House St. Nectarios Greek Ortho- dox Church 133 South Roselle Road, Palatine, IL Great Vespers: 7:00 p.m. Open House Reception to follow	Feast day of Saint Bartholomew the Apostle Name Day of Patriarch Bartholomew Name Day of Metropolitan Nathaniel Matins: 8:30 a.m.; Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. at the Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago	Fast Day	10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Assumption)	Fast Day	Saturday of Souls 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy (Assumption and Saint George)
Pentecost Summer Hours Begin (St. George) Orthros and Divine Liturgy (Assumption and Saint George) Kneeling Service to follow the Divine Liturgy	Fast Free 6:00 p.m. Parish Council Meeting (Assumption)	Fast Free	Fast Free 2:00 p.m. Centennial Meeting (Assumption)	Fast Free 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Assumption)	Fast Free	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy at Saint Elias in Dubuque, IA (Fr. Michael to Serve) 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers at All-Saints in Peoria
Sunday of All-Saints Orthros and Divine Liturgy (Assumption and Saint George) Graduation Sunday (Saint George) 11:30 a.m. Philoptochos Meeting (Assumption)	Fast of the Apostles Begins Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	Fast Day 2:00 p.m. Centennial Meet- ing (Assumption)	Fish, Wine and Oil allowed 10:00 a.m. Senior Outing (Saint George)	Fast Day	Saints Peter and Paul 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy at Saint Elias in Dubuque, IA (Fr. Michael to Serve)
Synaxis of the Holy Apostles Orthros and Divine Liturgy (Saint George)	Father Thomas will be out of town. Please direct all parish matters to Mike Haney (309) 781-4150 and any pastoral need to Fr. Michael Constantinides (708) 214-2371					
Synaxis of the Holy Apostles Orthros and Divine Liturgy (Saint George)	Father Thomas will be out of town. Please direct all parish matters to Mike Haney (309) 781-4150 and any pastoral need to Fr. Michael Constantinides (708) 214-2371					

Epistle Readers

Sunday, June 2, 2019
 Sunday of the Blind Man
 Alexa Florence
 Sunday, June 9, 2019
 Sunday of the Fathers of
 the 1st Ecumenical
 Council
 Ethan Kirkpatrick
 Sunday, June 16, 2019
 Pentecost
 Loukia Constantinides
 Sunday, June 23, 2019
 Sunday of All Saints
 Scot Johnson
 Sunday, June 30, 2019 Syn-
 axis of the 12 Apostles
 Calvin Schneider

Coffee Hour Hosts

for June 2019

Sunday, June 2, 2019:
 Our Philoptochos will
 host coffee hour in
 honor of our Senior
 Citizens
 Sunday, June 9, 2019:
 Open
 Sunday, June 16, 2019:
 The Speed family
 Sunday, June 23, 2019:
 The family of the Strat-
 ton's in honor of John
 and Martha Stratton's
 70th Wedding
 Anniversary
 Sunday, June 30, 2019:
 Diane Breckon

Parish Council Sunday Duty

**Sunday, June 2,
 2019**

**Nick Coin
 John Mekus
 Dennis Spurgetis
 Diana Spurgetis**

**Sunday, June 9,
 2019**

**Joe Burmeister,
 Mary Kay Eckert,
 Gus Pappas
 Mary Rankin**

**Sunday, June 16,
 2019**

**Mariellen Crosson
 Doug Kenyon
 Ted Pitsoulakis**

**Sunday, June 23,
 2019**

**Nick Coin
 John Mekus
 Dennis Spurgetis
 Diana Spurgetis**

**Sunday, June 30,
 2019**

All Groups

Parish Registry

Chrismation

The Servant of God,
 Susan Townzen, was
 Confirmed into the Or-
 thodox Church on May
 26, 2019. The Sponsor is
 Maria Kouti.

WEDDING

Shannon Thodos and Eric
 Grouzard were united in
 the Sacrament of Holy
 Marriage on May 25, 2019
 and the sponsor was
 Chris Thodos.

Funeral

The servant of God,
 Joanna Zaimis, fell asleep
 in the Lord and was bur-
 ied on May 6, 2019

EVENING MEAL VOLUNTEERS

**June 26, 2019:
 Tom and
 Jenny Bakeris**
**Anyone inter-
 ested in par-
 ticipating in
 this worth-
 while ministry
 should contact
 Dena Manta
 at 332-1684.**

Memorials for June

June 2, 2019

**Elaine Froumis
 (1 Year)**

**Metropolitan
 Iakovos
 (2 Years)**

Prospora Baking
 Schedule

**Sunday,
 June 2, 2019:
 Patti Kenyon**

**Sunday,
 June 9, 2019:
 Open**

**Sunday,
 June 16, 2019:
 Diane Breckon**

**Sunday,
 June 23, 2019:
 Open**

**Sunday,
 June 30, 2019:
 Open**

Assumption Corner - June 2019

Digital Ministries Meeting - June 3rd at 10am

NEW MINISTRY ALERT - We are in the process of updating our digital media presence. Anyone interested in offering any input is welcome to join us for our first meeting Mon. June 3rd at 10am. We will be surveying the community soon to better understand of our need, please respond when you receive the survey.

Summer Food Festival — July 19th & 20th; Meeting June 4th

We are still in need to a festival chairperson. Please contact Father Thomas if you are interested. We will be having our festival meeting at 6pm on June 4th to finalize many aspects of our festival; from menu to prices to advertising. Please be sure and join us if you would like to help plan for our largest fundraiser of the year. Lastly, volunteer sign up is happening NOW! In the church hall there is a sign-up sheet available Sunday mornings. You can also sign up online by following this link: <https://signup.com/go/MDVLwOA> Sign up today!

Community Dinner Night - June 13th at 6pm

NEW MINISTRY ALERT - See included Flyer

Sunday June 30th - Assumption Closed

Father Thomas will be out of town on Sunday June 30th. There will not be divine services at Assumption, rather all the faithful are encouraged to come together at St. George to celebrate as Christ's one body.

Philoptochos News - Rummage Sale Collection has Begun

Our annual rummage sale preparation have begun and we are extending our plea to the entire community to help with collections. Any donated items can be placed in the far Sunday school rooms beginning June 1st. Also, our monthly meeting is schedules for Sunday June 23rd during coffee hour.

Centennial News — Grand Banquet 8/17

June is sponsorship month. If you have not done so already, please take a moment to consider sponsoring our centennial celebrations and confirming your spot in our centennial program book. Sponsorships can be placed expressing your well wishes toward our next hundred years or in memorial of any family who have fallen asleep in the Lord. Inquires to Tom Gregory: 773-791-4672

Community Dinner

Thursday, June 13th 2019

Theme: Holy Pentecost

Dinner at 6pm discussion to follow Conclusion by 7:30

No cost, and RSVPs are requested but not required

RSVP to Fr. Thomas at (847) 927-3333 or FrAlatzakis@gmail.com

"Blessed are You, O Christ our God.

You made the fishermen all-wise,

by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit,

and through them,

You drew the world into Your net.

O Lover of mankind, glory to You."



Join us as we spend the evening discussing the great feast of Pentecost and addressing some common question that may arise; from the simple, "why are we kneeling so much" to the existential "what does this mean for me". It is sure to be a wonderful evening of faith and fellowship. Open to all ages and backgrounds so bring the whole family and a friend if you'd like!

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church - East Moline, IL