

**House Blessings Continue After February 4th**

**Father Vasileios will begin contacting our families for house blessings this week.**

Please contact Father Vasileios to discuss scheduling your house blessing in February or March; or fill out the house blessing form below and turn it in to the office.

*Christ is illumined, let us shine forth with Him.*

*Christ is baptized, let us descend with Him that we may also ascend with Him.*

-St. Gregory the Theologian, Oration on the Holy Lights, Epiphany 381, 10-16., 4th Century

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**ΕΠΙΦΑΝΙΑ HOUSE BLESSING FORM**

If you would like Father Vasileios to bless your home for the New Year, please return this form to the Church Office as soon as possible.

Please indicate your preferred days of the week and time of day: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions please call the Church Office at 329-6363.

**TRAVEL-SIZE TOILETRIES NEEDED**

MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES CONTINUALLY NEEDS TOILETRIES, WARM SOCKS AND BACK-PACKS TO GIVE TO THE HOMELESS THAT THEY SERVE. WHEN YOU ARE PURCHASING GROCERIES, PLEASE REMEMBER THE LESS FORTUNATE AND PICK UP SOME SOCKS OR TRAVEL-SIZE TOILETRIES! THERE IS A BASKET IN THE FOYER OF MT. TABOR FOR THESE ITEMS. THANK YOU!!

**Thank you to today's Coffee Hour Sponsors:**

*Stamatis, Stamatopoulos, Stathos, Strategakos*

**Thank you to last week's Coffee Hour Sponsors:**

*Simbles, Skevofilax, Skevofilax, Spiropoulos, Stahlke*

**Next week's Luncheon Sponsors are:**

**The Men's Fellowship Group**

**Thank you to today's ushers:**

*Anita Jones, Harry Stamatis, Chrissie Spiropoulos, Maria Miller*

**Thank you to last week's ushers:**

*Stephen Dow, Dan and Gigi Appling, Nyda Glaros*

**Next week's ushers are:**

*Pat Mitchell, Dr. Jerry Burks, Brian Holland, Liz Strong*

**FIFTEEN SUNDAY OF MATTHEW  
THE SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY AND  
RIGHTEOUS SYMEON THE  
HOLY PROPHETESS ANNA**



**TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**

**GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

414 ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOL ROAD

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746

(512) 329-6363 WEBSITE - WWW.TRANSFIGURATION.ORG

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

ORTHROS 8:45AM; DIVINE LITURGY 10:00AM

**Reverend Fr. Vasileios Flegas, Proistamenos**

*HYMNS FOR TODAY*

**Resurrection Hymn (Second Tone)**

“Ote katilthes pros ton thanaton i zoi i athavatos tote ton Athin enekrosas ti astrapi tis theotitos Ote the ke tus tethne otas ek ton katahthonion anestisas pase e thinamis ton epuranion ekragvazon zoothota Christe o Theos imon thoxa Si.”

“When You descended to the realm of death You as life immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all radiant divinity.

And when You from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead all the hosts of heaven’s powers did proclaim and cry out O life-giving Christ and Our God we give glory”

**Hymn to Saint Symeon the God-Receiver**

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receivest in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection.

**Hymn for the Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

“Metemorfothis en to ori, Christe o Theos, dixas tis mathites Sou tin doxan Sou, kathos idynando Lampson ke imin tis amartolis to fos Sou to aidion, presvies tis Theotokou Fotodota doxa Si.”

“When O Christ our God Thou wast Transfigured on the mountain Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy disciples in proportion as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners. By the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.”

**Kontakion**

Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγίας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεῶν ἐβλόγησας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἀλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλεῖς οὓς ἠγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόνητος.

“Thou Who didst sanctify the Virgin's womb by Thy birth and didst bless Symeon's hands as was meet by anticipation, has even now saved us O Christ our God. But grant peace in the midst of wars unto Thy commonwealth and strengthen the hierarchs whom Thou hast loved oh only Friend of man.”

**WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sunday, February 3, 2013**

**SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK**

*Feast of St. Photios* - Wednesday, February 6: *Orthros*- 9:00am; *Divine Liturgy*- 10:00am  
*Great Vespers* - Saturday, February 9: 5:00pm

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The first General Assembly of 2013 will be held on Sunday, February 24, during the coffee hour. Plan to attend so that you can meet the new Council Members and hear about the plans for this year!

**HOPE/JOY SPECIAL UPDATE!!!**

Secret Agents of Christ, has been moved to SUNDAY, February 10, from 5-7pm. Bring your children to hear about the Holy Special Agents of the past, learn about their special tools of the trade, and become a Special Agent for Christ, too! Contact Tom Gouris 263-5866 or tagouris@asutin.rr.com to RSVP or for more info.

**Men's Study Group**

The Men's group will kick off a new book study in February!  
We will meet every-other Wednesday beginning, February 6.  
The schedule will be: 5:30- Paraclesis 6:30- Potluck and Book Study  
Father has selected "Everyday Saints and Other Stories" by Archimandrite Tikhon for this study. There are copies in the bookstore for sale.

**GOYA GATHERING!**

All GOYAnS... save the date of Saturday, February 9- 6:00pm at the Price home for a fun evening of food, fellowship, “recap” of our fabulous basketball tournament, and study!

**Sunday School News!**

The Oratorical Festival will be held this year on *Saturday, February 23 at 4:00* .  
More information will follow!

**YAL**

Our YAL meeting on Thursday, February 7 has been cancelled. We will reconvene on Thursday, February 21.

**GOLF** (Greek Orthodox Ladies Fellowship)

Join us as we continue our study of In Thy Presence by Lev Gillet this Tuesday, February 5!  
All women are invited to attend this beautiful study time together. Children are welcome, too! If you would like to be put on the email list, contact Whitney Papadatos: wpapadatos@hotmail.com

**Encore! SAVE THE DATE**

The Encore! Fellowship group is planning a pot-luck dinner at the home of Jacob and Diana Angelo on Sunday, February 17 at 6:00pm



### Righteous Simeon and the Holy Prophetess Anna

Righteous Simeon the God-Receiver was, according to the testimony of the holy Evangelist Luke, a just and devout man waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him (Luke 2:25). God promised him that he would not die until the promised Messiah, Christ the Lord, came into the world.

Ancient historians tell us that the Egyptian pharaoh Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-247 B.C.) wished to include texts of Holy Scripture in the famous Library at Alexandria. He invited scholars from Jerusalem, and the Sanhedrin sent their wise men. The Righteous Simeon was one of the seventy scholars who came to Alexandria to translate the Holy Scriptures into Greek. The completed work was called "The Septuagint," and is the version of the Old Testament used by the Orthodox Church.

St Simeon was translating a book of the Prophet Isaiah, and read the words: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive in the womb, and shall bring forth a Son" (Is 7:14). He thought that "virgin" was inaccurate, and he wanted to correct the text to read "woman." At that moment an angel appeared to him and held back his hand saying, "You shall see these words fulfilled. You shall not die until you behold Christ the Lord born of a pure and spotless Virgin."

From this day, St Simeon lived in expectation of the Promised Messiah. One day, the righteous Elder received a revelation from the Holy Spirit, and came to the Temple. It was on the very day (the fortieth after the Birth of Christ) when the All-Pure Virgin Mary and St Joseph had come to the Temple in order to perform the ritual prescribed by Jewish Law.

When St Simeon beheld their arrival, the Holy Spirit revealed to him that the divine Child held by the All-Pure Virgin Mary was the Promised Messiah, the Savior of the world. The Elder took the Child in his arms and said, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).

Simeon blessed the All-Pure Virgin and St Joseph, and turning to the Mother of God he said, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

The holy Evangelist continues: "And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Aser. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband for seven years from her virginity; and she was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not leave the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming at that very hour, also gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption at Jerusalem" (Luke 2:36-38).

The holy righteous Simeon the God-Receiver died at a great age (Tradition says he was 360). His holy relics were transferred to Constantinople in the sixth century.

February 3, 2013 - Fifteenth Sunday of Matthew

Epistle - II Corinthians 4: 6-15

Brethren, it is God Who said, "Let there be light" to shine out of darkness, Who shined in our hearts, for the illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the preeminence of the power may be of God, and not from us. In every way we are afflicted, but not straightened; we are at a loss, but not utterly at a loss; persecuted, but not abandoned; cast down, but not destroyed— always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we, the living, are always being delivered to death on account of Jesus, that also the life of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. So that indeed death energizeth itself in us, but life in you. But having the same spirit of faith, according to that which hath been written: "I believed, wherefore I spoke," we also believe, and therefore speak, knowing that the One Who raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also through Jesus, and shall present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that the grace, which abounded through the majority, might cause the giving of thanks to abound more to the glory of God.

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ θεὸς ὁ εἰπὼν ἐκ σκότους φῶς λάμψαι, ὃς ἔλαμψεν ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν πρὸς φωτισμὸν τῆς γνώσεως τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν προσώπῳ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ἔχομεν δὲ τὸν θησαυρὸν τοῦτον ἐν ὀστρακίνοις σκεύεσιν, ἵνα ἡ ὑπερβολὴ τῆς δυνάμεως ἢ τοῦ θεοῦ, καὶ μὴ ἐξ ἡμῶν· ἐν παντὶ θλιβόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐ στενοχωρούμενοι· ἀπορούμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐξαπορούμενοι· διωκόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγκαταλειπόμενοι· καταβαλλόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀπολλύμενοι· πάντοτε τὴν νέκρωσιν τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι περιφέροντες, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι ἡμῶν φανερωθῇ. Αἰ γὰρ ἡμεῖς οἱ ζῶντες εἰς θάνατον παραδιδόμεθα διὰ Ἰησοῦν, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ φανερωθῇ ἐν τῇ θνητῇ σαρκὶ ἡμῶν. Ὡστε ὁ μὲν θάνατος ἐν ἡμῖν ἐνεργεῖται, ἡ δὲ ζωὴ ἐν ὑμῖν. Ἔχοντες δὲ τὸ αὐτὸ πνεῦμα τῆς πίστεως, κατὰ τὸ γεγραμμένον, Ἐπίστευσα, διὸ ἐλάλησα, καὶ ἡμεῖς πιστεύομεν, διὸ καὶ λαλοῦμεν· εἰδότες ὅτι ὁ ἐγείρας τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἡμᾶς διὰ Ἰησοῦ ἐγερεῖ, καὶ παραστήσει σὺν ὑμῖν. Τὰ γὰρ πάντα δι' ὑμᾶς, ἵνα ἡ χάρις πλεονάσασα διὰ τῶν πλειόνων τὴν εὐχαριστίαν περισσεύσῃ εἰς τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ.

At that time, a lawyer asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying "What do you think of Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put your enemies under your feet"? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νομικός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ, πειράζων αὐτόν καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε, ποία ἐντολὴ μεγάλη ἐν τῷ νόμῳ; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἔφη αὐτῷ· Ἀγαπήσεις Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ καρδίᾳ σου καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ ψυχῇ σου καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ διανοίᾳ σου· αὕτη ἐστὶ πρώτη καὶ μεγάλη ἐντολή. δευτέρα δὲ ὁμοία αὐτῇ· ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. ἐν ταύταις ταῖς δυσὶν ἐντολαῖς ὅλος ὁ νόμος καὶ οἱ προφῆται κρέμανται. Συνηγμένων δὲ τῶν Φαρισαίων ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· Τί ὑμῖν δοκεῖ περὶ τοῦ Χριστοῦ; τίνας υἱὸς ἐστὶ; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· Τοῦ Δαυὶδ. λέγει αὐτοῖς· Πῶς οὖν Δαυὶδ ἐν Πνεύματι Κύριον καλεῖ αὐτὸν λέγων, εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τῷ Κυρίῳ μου, κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; εἰ οὖν Δαυὶδ καλεῖ αὐτὸν Κύριον, πῶς υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ἐστὶ; καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐδύνατο αὐτῷ ἀποκριθῆναι λόγον, οὐδὲ ἐτόλμησέ τις ἀπ' ἐκείνης τῆς ἡμέρας ἐπερωτῆσαι αὐτὸν οὐκέτι.

### **WELCOME VISITORS!**

*We welcome all new visitors who worshipped with us this morning. We are pleased to have you with us!  
Please join us next door after service for coffee and fellowship.  
There is material in the entrance of the church regarding ministries and events of Transfiguration.  
We hope that you will return often to worship with us and grow in Christ!*

### **Receiving Holy Communion**

*The sacrament of Holy Communion is reserved for only baptized and/or Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared by fasting, prayer and confession. The Orthodox Church is not in sacramental communion with any other church outside the Orthodox Christian Faith. If you are not Orthodox, you are invited with everyone to receive the Antidoro (blessed bread) at the end of service.*

*If you would like information about the Orthodox Church and becoming an Orthodox Christian, please see Father Vasileios after services.*

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### **Sunday School Classes are in session!**

Please allow the Church School children and teachers to receive Holy Communion first so they can leave for their classes. All others should wait until the ushers dismiss you by rows to receive Communion.

### **PRAYERS FOR HEALTH**

Arlena, Cindy, Philip, W.C., Glenna, Nicole, Michael, the nun Elizabeth, Wanda, John, Lili, Archie, Paul, Michael, Sarah, Petra, Luke, Matthew, Elizabeth, Cecilia, Venton, John, Julia, Ricky, Wayne, Sarah, Alice, Christopher, Konstandinos, Jan, Marie, Chris, MaryAnn, Cliff, Maggie, Nicholas, Arsinoi, Lou, Thomas, Kathy, Kathryn, Greg, John, Bill, Steve, Maggie, Nakis, Martha, George, Richard Simeon, Terri, Phyllis, Nicole, Mark, Madeleine, Christopher, Sophie, Maria, Nassos, Maria, Amy, Christina, Ana, Dolly, Fr. Ambrose, Vickie, Gonzalo, Pat, Bill, Linda, Mindy, Rosemary, Jenny, Fr. Andreas, Emmanuel, Alkmene, Maree, Constanze, Jennifer, Timothy, Andrea, Janis Mae, Andreas, Luke, Zlata, Andrea, Albert, Dorothy, Presbyteria Krissy, Malamo, Larry, Jane, Argiro, Koula, Boyd, Wilma, Ted, Nicolette, Alexandra, Fr. Damaskinos, Emmanuel, Eleni, Thomas, Maria, Zoe, Kalliopi, Aikaterini, Garyfalia, Danae, Ioannis, Konstantinos, Nikolaos, Evangelia, Aikaterini, Eleni, Eirini, Dimitrios, Antigoni, Sharon, Elaine, Georgia, Chrysoula, Michael, Dimitra, Carol, Frank, Suzanne, Fotini, Max, Sienna, Petros, Kirsten, Yvette, Kimberlin, Alvin, Eric, Alison

### **PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES:**

*SGT Jennifer D. Atkinson, SSG John Atkinson, COL Dave Romine, CPT James Alfaro,  
SSG Deane Anderson, CPT William Willett, MAJ Timothy Ullman, MAJ Chris Chase,  
Cadet Mindy Keys, SPC Andrew Bentzel, MAJ Scot Thornhill, CPT Christopher Gilbert,  
Capt. Alexander Stathos*