

SUNDAY BULLETIN

JANUARY 19, 2014

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE SUNDAY OF THE TEN LEPERS



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

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

Reverend Fr. Vasileios Flegas, Proistamenos

512-574-1972

Resurrection Hymn (Plagal 1st)

*Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν,
ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν, ὅτι ἠϋδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον
ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγεῖραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.*

*Ton sinanarhon Logon Patrike Pnevmati, ton ek Parthenu tekthenta is sotirian imon,
animnisomen pisti ke proskinisomen, oti ivthokese sarki, anelthin en to stavro, ke thanaton ipomine,
ke egire tus tethneotas, en ti enthoxo Anastasi aftu.*

*Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation.
As the faithful we both praise and worship Him, for in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the
Cross, and death did He endure and He raised unto life the dead
through His all glorious resurrection.*

Hymn for Saint Macarius the Great

*Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh,
and a wonderworker, O Macarius, our God - bearing Father.
By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick
and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith.
Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee.
Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.*

Hymn for the Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

*Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, δεῖξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου,
καθὼς ἠδύναντο, Λάμπρον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἀμαρτωλοῖς, τό φῶς σου τό αἶδιον,
πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.*

*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.
Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.*

Kontakion

*Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγιάσας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεῶν εὐλόγησας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας
καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἄλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον
Βασιλεῖς οὓς ἠγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόανθρωπος.*

*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.*

BRETHREN, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Ἀδελφοί, ὅταν ὁ Χριστὸς φανερωθῇ, ἡ ζωὴ ἡμῶν, τότε καὶ ὑμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ φανερωθήσεσθε ἐν δόξῃ. Νεκρώσατε οὖν τὰ μέλη ὑμῶν τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, πορνείαν, ἀκαθαρσίαν, πάθος, ἐπιθυμίαν κακὴν, καὶ τὴν πλεονεξίαν, ἣτις ἐστὶν εἰδωλολατρεία, δι' ἧς ἔρχεται ἡ ὀργὴ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐπὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς τῆς ἀπειθείας· Ἐν οἷς καὶ ὑμεῖς περιπατήσατέ ποτε, ὅτε ἐζήτε ἐν αὐτοῖς. Νυνὶ δὲ ἀπόθεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς τὰ πάντα, ὀργὴν, θυμὸν, κακίαν, βλασφημίαν, αἰσχρολογία, ἐκ τοῦ στόματος ὑμῶν· μὴ ψεύδεσθε εἰς ἀλλήλους, ἀπεκδυσάμενοι τὸν παλαιὸν ἄνθρωπον σὺν ταῖς πράξεσιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐνδυσάμενοι τὸν νέον, τὸν ἀνακαινούμενον εἰς ἐπίγνωσιν κατ' εἰκόνα τοῦ κτίσαντος αὐτόν· ὅπου οὐκ ἔστι Ἕλληνας καὶ Ἰουδαῖος, περιτομὴ καὶ ἀκροβυστία, βάρβαρος, Σκύθης, δοῦλος, ἐλεύθερος· ἀλλὰ τὰ πάντα καὶ ἐν πᾶσιν Χριστός.

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus's feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus: "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him: "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰσερχομένου αὐτοῦ εἰς τινα κώμην ἀπήντησαν αὐτῷ δέκα λεπροὶ ἄνδρες, οἱ ἔστησαν πόρρωθεν, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἤραν φωνὴν λέγοντες· Ἰησοῦ ἐπιστάτα, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. καὶ ἰδὼν εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· πορευθέντες ἐπιδείξατε ἑαυτοὺς τοῖς ἱερεῦσι. καὶ ἐγένετο ἐν τῷ ὑπάγειν αὐτοὺς ἐκαθαρίσθησαν. εἷς δὲ ἐξ αὐτῶν, ἰδὼν ὅτι ἰάθη, ὑπέστρεψε μετὰ φωνῆς μεγάλης δοξάζων τὸν Θεόν, καὶ ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ πρόσωπον παρὰ τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ εὐχαριστῶν αὐτῷ· καὶ αὐτὸς ἦν Σαμαρεῖτης. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· οὐχὶ οἱ δέκα ἐκαθαρίσθησαν; οἱ δὲ ἐννέα ποῦ; οὐχὶ εὗρέθησαν ὑποστρέψαντες δοῦναι δόξαν τῷ Θεῷ εἰ μὴ ὁ ἀλλογενὴς οὗτος; καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἀναστὰς πορεύου· ἡ πίστις σου σέσωκέ σε.

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 Antidoron (blessed bread) at the end of service. If you would like information about the Orthodox Church, please see Fr. Vasileios after services.

Our Sunday School Classes are back in session.

Please allow the students and teachers to receive Communion first so that they can get to their classes. Thank you.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH

Arlena, Philip, Glenna, Euther, Nicole, Michael, Wanda, John, Lili, Archie, Paul, Michael, Petra, Luke, Matthew, Elizabeth, Cecilia, Venton, John, Julia, Ricky, Wayne, Sarah, Christopher, John, Arsinoi, Konstandinos, Jan, Marie, Chris, MaryAnn, Cliff, Maggie, Lou, Thomas, Kathy, Kathryn, Greg, Bill, Christopher, Steve, Maggie, Nakis, Martha, George, Richard Simeon, Terri, Nicole, Mark, Maria, Madeleine, Nassos, Maria, Amy, Christina, Ana, Dolly, Fr. Ambrose, Vickie, Pat, Bill, Linda, Mindy, Jenny, Rosemary, Fr. Andreas, Emmanuel, Alkmene, Maree, Constanze, Jennifer, Timothy, Andrea, Janis Mae, Andreas, Luke, Zlata, Andrea, Albert, Dorothy, Presbyteria Krissy, Malamo, Larry, Jane, Boyd, Wilma, Ted, Nicolette, Danae, Alexandra, Fr. Damaskinos, Emmanuel, Thomas, Maria, Zoe, Kalliopi, Aikaterini, Garyfalia, Ioannis, Konstantinos, Nikolaos, Evangelia, Carol, Frank, Aikaterini, Eleni, Eirini, Dimitrios, Antigoni, Sharon, Georgia, Chrysoula, Michael, Dimitra, Suzanne, Fotini, Kirsten, Kimberlin, Alvin, Eric, Alison, Emily, Olga, Angie, Anastasios, Tahseen, Athanasios, Tristen, Damon, Fran, Melanie, Theone, Betty (Mary Elizabeth), Zoe, Gabriel, Themis, Maria, Panayiota, Dmitriy, Brandi, Cia, Jimmy, Sybella, David, Anthony, Susan, Carole, John, Stephanie, Maria, Sophie, Christa, Andrea, Greg, Patricia, Stephen, Wanda, Nick, Westin, Larry, Anna, Barbara, Anna, Dana, Colleen, Zoe, John, Kh. Anastasia-Velvet, Christine, Sam, Alex, Gabriella Marie, Lisa, Patricia, Joe, Marija, Sophia, Alysun, Dave, Maria, Jerry, Layla, Deacon James, Johnathan, Xenia, Robin, Ben, Khouria Luanne, Kathy, Bill, Lisa, Katy, Katherine, Nici, Dina, Heidi, Madeleine, Eleni, Philio, Irene, Crissi, Kimberly, Mary Beth, Robert, John, Jerry, David, Mary Katherine

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, CPT. Alexander Stathos,
1st LT Angela Bahlatzis, MIDN 1/C Joseph Barone, Specialist Walter Hurbert (Nikolaos) Willoughby IV,
LCDR Thomas Uhl*

Venerable Macarius the Great of Egypt

Commemorated on January 19

Saint Macarius the Great of Egypt was born around 331 in the village of Ptinapor in Egypt. At the wish of his parents he entered into marriage, but was soon widowed. After he buried his wife, Macarius told himself, "Take heed, Macarius, and have care for your soul. It is fitting that you forsake worldly life."

The Lord rewarded the saint with a long life, but from that time the memory of death was constantly with him, impelling him to ascetic deeds of prayer and penitence. He began to visit the church of God more frequently and to be more deeply absorbed in Holy Scripture, but he did not leave his aged parents, thus fulfilling the commandment to honor one's parents.

Until his parents died, St Macarius used his remaining substance to help them, and he began to pray fervently that the Lord might show him a guide on the way to salvation. The Lord sent him an experienced Elder, who lived in the desert not far from the village. The Elder accepted the youth with love, guided him in the spiritual science of watchfulness, fasting and prayer, and taught him the handicraft of weaving baskets. After building a separate cell not far from his own, the Elder settled his disciple in it.

The local bishop arrived one day at Ptinapor and, knowing of the saint's virtuous life, ordained him against his will. St Macarius was overwhelmed by this disturbance of his silence, and so he went secretly to another place. The Enemy of our salvation began a tenacious struggle with the ascetic, trying to terrify him, shaking his cell and suggesting sinful thoughts. St Macarius repelled the attacks of the devil, defending himself with prayer and the Sign of the Cross.

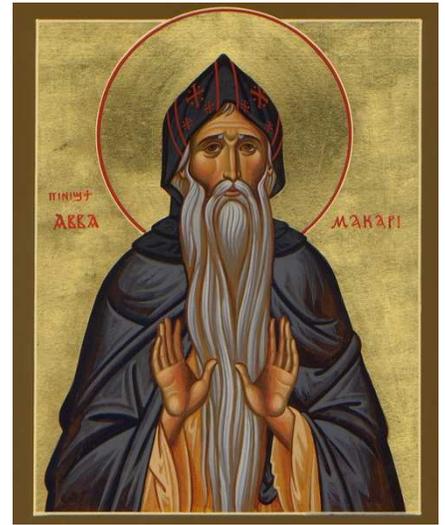
Evil people slandered the saint, accusing him of seducing a woman from a nearby village. They dragged him out of his cell and jeered at him. St Macarius endured the temptation with great humility. Without a murmur, he sent the money that he got for his baskets for the support of the pregnant woman.

The innocence of St Macarius was manifested when the woman, who suffered torment for many days, was not able to give birth. She confessed that she had slandered the hermit, and revealed the name of the real father. When her parents found out the truth, they were astonished and intended to go to the saint to ask forgiveness. Though St Macarius willingly accepted dishonor, he shunned the praise of men. He fled from that place by night and settled on Mt. Nitria in the Pharan desert.

Thus human wickedness contributed to the prospering of the righteous. Having dwelt in the desert for three years, he went to St Anthony the Great, the Father of Egyptian monasticism, for he had heard that he was still alive in the world, and he longed to see him. Abba Anthony received him with love, and Macarius became his devoted disciple and follower. St Macarius lived with him for a long time and then, on the advice of the saintly abba, he went off to the Skete monastery (in the northwest part of Egypt). He so shone forth in asceticism that he came to be called "a young Elder," because he had distinguished himself as an experienced and mature monk, even though he was not quite thirty years old.

When the saint reached the age of forty, he was ordained to the priesthood and made the head of the monks living in the desert of Skete. During these years, St Macarius often visited with St Anthony the Great, receiving guidance from him in spiritual conversations. Abba Macarius was deemed worthy to be present at the death of St Anthony and he received his staff. He also received a double portion of the Anthony's spiritual power, just as the prophet Elisha once received a double portion of the grace of the prophet Elias, along with the mantle that he dropped from the fiery chariot.

The meekness and humility of the monk transformed human souls. "A harmful word," said Abba Macarius, "makes good things bad, but a good word makes bad things good." When the monks asked him how to pray properly, he answered, "Prayer does not require many words. It is needful to say only, "Lord, as Thou wilt and as Thou knowest, have mercy on me." If an enemy should fall upon you, you need only say, "Lord, have mercy!" The Lord knows that which is useful for us, and grants us mercy."



Continued on the next page

When the brethren asked how a monk ought to comport himself, the saint replied, "Forgive me, I am not yet a monk, but I have seen monks. I asked them what I must do to be a monk. They answered, 'If a man does not withdraw himself from everything which is in the world, it is not possible to be a monk.' Then I said, 'I am weak and cannot be as you are.' The monks responded, 'If you cannot renounce the world as we have, then go to your cell and weep for your sins.'"

St Macarius gave advice to a young man who wished to become a monk: "Flee from people and you shall be saved." That one asked: "What does it mean to flee from people?" The monk answered: "Sit in your cell and repent of your sins." St Macarius sent him to a cemetery to rebuke and then to praise the dead. Then he asked him what they said to him. The young man replied, "They were silent to both praise and reproach." "If you wish to be saved, be as one dead. Do not become angry when insulted, nor puffed up when praised." And further: "If slander is like praise for you, poverty like riches, insufficiency like abundance, then you shall not perish."

The monk lived until the age of ninety. Shortly before his death, Sts Anthony and Pachomius appeared to him, bringing the joyful message of his departure to eternal life in nine days. After instructing his disciples to preserve the Monastic Rule and the traditions of the Fathers, he blessed them and began to prepare for death. St Macarius departed to the Lord saying, "Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit."

Abba Macarius spent sixty years in the wilderness, being dead to the world. He spent most of his time in conversation with God, often in a state of spiritual rapture. But he never ceased to weep, to repent and to work. The saint's profound theological writings are based on his own personal experience. Fifty Spiritual Homilies and seven Ascetic Treatises survive as the precious legacy of his spiritual wisdom. Several prayers composed by St Macarius the Great are still used by the Church in the Prayers Before Sleep and also in the Morning Prayers.

Man's highest goal and purpose, the union of the soul with God, is a primary principle in the works of St Macarius. Describing the methods for attaining mystical communion, the saint relies upon the experience of the great teachers of Egyptian monasticism and on his own experience. The way to God and the experience of the holy ascetics of union with God is revealed to each believer's heart.

Earthly life, according to St Macarius, has only a relative significance: to prepare the soul, to make it capable of perceiving the heavenly Kingdom, and to establish in the soul an affinity with the heavenly homeland.

"For those truly believing in Christ, it is necessary to change and transform the soul from its present degraded nature into another, divine nature, and to be fashioned anew by the power of the Holy Spirit."

This is possible, if we truly believe and we truly love God and have observed all His holy commandments. If one betrothed to Christ at Baptism does not seek and receive the divine light of the Holy Spirit in the present life, "then when he departs from the body, he is separated into the regions of darkness on the left side. He does not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but has his end in hell with the devil and his angels" (Homily 30:6).

In the teaching of St Macarius, the inner action of the Christian determines the extent of his perception of divine truth and love. Each of us acquires salvation through grace and the divine gift of the Holy Spirit, but to attain a perfect measure of virtue, which is necessary for the soul's assimilation of this divine gift, is possible only "by faith and by love with the strengthening of free will." Thus, the Christian inherits eternal life "as much by grace, as by truth."

Salvation is a divine-human action, and we attain complete spiritual success "not only by divine power and grace, but also by the accomplishing of the proper labors." On the other hand, it is not just within "the measure of freedom and purity" that we arrive at the proper solicitude, it is not without "the cooperation of the hand of God above." The participation of man determines the actual condition of his soul, thus inclining him to good or evil. "If a soul still in the world does not possess in itself the sanctity of the Spirit for great faith and for prayer, and does not strive for the oneness of divine communion, then it is unfit for the heavenly kingdom."

40 DAY BLESSING

This morning we will celebrate the 40-Day Blessing for Olivia Ketrenos,
the precious daughter of Christopher and Michele Ketrenos.

May God grant you many years!

Our GOYANs and their families are in Dallas attending
the Metropolis Basketball Tournament!

Fr. Vasileios will be returning to them today immediately following the Liturgy.

Please pray that they all have a wonderful weekend and safe return home.

Go T-FIG Basketball Team!

2014 Stewardship

If you have not turned in your stewardship card for this year, please prayerfully consider
what you can do for your church and fill out a card soon. Thank you!

GOLF (Greek Orthodox Ladies Fellowship)

GOLF will resume on Tuesday, January 28 at 10:00am.

All women are encouraged to join us for a wonderful time of study and fellowship!

Please contact Krystal Cawood to be added to our email list- townsendcrafts@gmail.com

House Blessings

Father Vasileios will be working on house blessings from now until the beginning of Great Lent.

Please contact Father Vasileios or the church office to discuss scheduling your house blessing;

or fill out the house blessing form below and turn it in to the office.

EPIPHANY 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 note that Father will be out of town on the following dates: Jan. 17-20; and 22- 25

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 512-329-6363.

Save the Date for the Great Lent Bible Bowl!

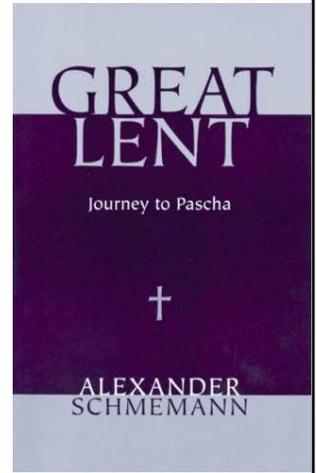
Get ready because we are going to have another amazing Bible Bowl during Great Lent on the Sunday of the Cross,

March 23, at 1:30 pm.

The questions will come from the book: Great Lent: Journey to Pascha by Alexander Schmemmann.

We have ordered several copies of this book to carry in our bookstore.

Place your order with us now!



Philoptochos News

Save the Date!

Our next Philoptochos meeting will be on **Saturday, Feb. 15 at noon.**

Please remember to “fund-raise while you shop” and pick up your gift cards from us!

We have many different cards on hand, and we can order any that you would like!



Mark your calendars for: **YES ATX 2014**

This event will be happening just after Pascha - **April 25, 26, & 27, 2014.**

We'll sleep in the church and immerse ourselves in a transformative, eye-opening experience.

All youth, make plans to join us!

Thank you to today's Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Hicks, Holland, Horwedel, Hrissikopoulos, Ralph & Anita Jones, Julie & Jerry Jones

Thank you to last week's Luncheon Sponsors:

GOYA and their parents

Next Week's Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Justice, Kalogirou, Kalpaxis, Kangos, Karides

Thank you to today's ushers:

David Maziasz, Paul Petrogeorge, Mary Beth Gradziel, Harry Stamatis

Thank you to last week's ushers:

Dr. Lou Apostolakis, Brian Holland, Tricia and Kevin Koriath

Next week's ushers are:

Mike Strong, Nyda Glaros, Dan and Gigi Appling