

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

*Pamphilus & Companions;
Flavianos, Pat. Of Constantinople*



Transfiguration of our Lord Greek Orthodox Church

414 St. Stephens School Road, Austin, Texas 78746

Church Office Hours: 8:30am - 3:30pm

(512) 329-6363 email - office@transfiguration.org

website - www.transfiguration.org

Sunday Service Schedule

Orthros 8:15am; Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Fr. Vasileios Flegas
Protopresbyter
512-574-1972

Fr. George Bithos
Economos
512-507-9897

Deacon Sal Fazio 978-551-2169
Deacon Stephen Dow 512-228-1381
Deacon Haralambos Ryburn 210-325-7330

THESE HYMNS ARE SUNG BY THE COMMUNITY WITH THE CHANTERS
DURING AND AFTER THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Resurrection Hymn

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

Tu lithu sfragisthentos ipo ton Iutheon, ke stratioton filassonton to ahranton Su soma, anestis triimeros Sotir, thorumenos to kosmo tin zoin. Thia tuto e thinamis ton uranon evoon si Zoothota. Thoxa ti Anastasi Su Christe, Thoxa ti Vasilia Su, Thoxa ti ikonomia Su, mone filanthrope.

The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch oe'r Your pure and sacred body O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life where by all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life Glory unto our resurrected Christ, Glory unto Your Kingdom, Glory to Your dispensation O You alone who loves all.

Hymn for the Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστέ ο Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθὼς ἠδύναντο, Λάμπρον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἀμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ αἶδιον, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.

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.

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

Kontakion

Τῆς πατρῶας, δόξης σου, ἀποσκιρτήσας ἀφρόνως, ἐν κακοῖς ἐσκόρπισα, ὄν μοι παρέδωκας πλοῦτον· ὅθεν σοι τὴν τοῦ Ἀσώτου, φωνὴν κραυγάζω· Ἥμαρτον ἐνώπιόν σου Πάτερ οἰκτίρμον, δέξαι με μετανοοῦντα, καὶ ποιήσόν με, ὡς ἓνα τῶν μισθίων σου.

Foolishly I sprang away from Thy great fatherly glory, and dispersed in wicked deeds the riches that Thou didst give me. With the Prodigal I therefore cry unto Thee now: I have sinned against Thee, O compassionate Father. But receive me in repentance; make me as one of Thy hired servants, O Lord.

These HYMNS are sung by the community with the chanters during and after the small entrance during and after the small entrance

Music assists the development of the perception of spiritual life. The soul becomes refined. It begins to understand spiritual music as well. -St. Barsanuphius of Optina

The Stone was Sealed- Του Λίθου Σφραγισθέντος

Resurrection Tone 1 - Ηχος Α

G. Anastasiou



Τού λί - θου σφρα - γι - σθέν - τος ὑ - πό τών Ἰ ου δαί - ων
Του li - thou sfra - yi - sthen - tos i - po - ton i ου the - on
The stone that had been sealed - be - fore Your tomb by the jews



καί στρα - τι - ω - τών φι - λα - σόν - των το ἀ - χραν - τόν Σου σώ - μα ἀ - νέ -
ke stra - ti - o ton fi - la - son - ton to a - hran - ton Sou so - ma a - ne -
and the soldiers guard - ing did watch o'er Your pure and sa - cred bo - dy O Sa -



στης τρι - ῆ - με - ρος Σω - τήρ δω - ρού - με νος τω κό - σμω τήν ζω ῆν
stis tri - i - me - ros So - tir tho - rou - me nos to ko - smo tin zo in
vior the third day You a - rose and un - to all the world did You give life.



Δι ἅ του - το αἰ Δυ νά - μεις τών οὐ - ρα - νών ἐ - βό - ων Σοι,
Thi a tou - to e Thi na - mis ton ou - ra - non e - vo - on Si,
Whereby all the hea - ven - ly - pow - ers did pro - claim that You are the



Ζω - ο - δό - τα. Δό - χα τή Ἀ - να - στά - σει Σου Χρι - στέ. δό - ξα τή
Zo - o - tho - ta Tho - xa ti A - na - sta - si Sou Hri - ste. tho - xa ti
gi - ver of life Glo - ry un - to our re - sur - rec - ted Christ. Glo - ry un -



βα - σι - λεί - α Σου δο - ξα τή ἰ κο - νο - μί - α Σου, μό - νε φι -
va - si - li - a Sou tho - xa ti ἰ ko - no - mi - a Sou, mo - ne - fi -
to Your King - dom Glo - ry to Your dis - pen - sa - tion O You a -



λάν - θρώ - πε
lan - thro - pe
lone who loves - all

Apolytikion of the Transfiguration

English



When O Christ our God Thou wast transfigured in the mountain Gail. Thou didst re



veal Thy glory to Thy disciples in preparation as they could bear it



Let Thy everlastin' light al so'er light on us sinners.



Through the intercessions of the Theotokos. O Thou becomer of light, glorify to Thee!



ry to Thee!

Apolytikion of the Transfiguration



Me te mop phi tng en to o pa. Xpu ori o the os. di xas tia ma thi



tis Sou tyn do xan Su ka thos a dy nam do. Aep' pou kai e pin tois a p'p' to



tis to phos Sou to a i di on, pre s'bi sig r'g the o tu kou. Pho ta do ta.



do xu Si.

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Kontakion

Third Mode
"On this day the Virgin"

Intonation: #8

Allegro $\text{♩} = 150$

Τῆς πατρῶας δόξης σου

Un. F G

Fool - ish - ly I sprang a - way from Thy great fa -

ther - ly glo - - - ry, and dis - persed in wick - ed

G

deeds the rich - es that Thou didst give me.

With the Prod - i - gal I there - - - fore cry

F G

un - to Thee now: I have sinned a - gainst Thee,

F

O com - pas - sion - ate Fa - - - ther. But re - ceive me

in re - pen - tance; make me as one of Thy hired

ser - vants, O Lord.

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:12-20

Prokeimenon. Mode 1
Psalm 32.22,1

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:12-20

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος α'
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 32.22,1

Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ ἐλεός σου ἐφ' ἡμᾶς.
Στίχ. Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε δίκαιοι ἐν Κυρίῳ

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 6:12-20 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, πάντα μοι ἔξεστιν, ἀλλ' οὐ πάντα συμφέρει· πάντα μοι ἔξεστιν, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγὼ ἐξουσιασθήσομαι ὑπὸ τινος. Τὰ βρώματα τῆ κοιλίας, καὶ ἡ κοιλία τοῖς βρώμασιν· ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ ταύτην καὶ ταῦτα καταργήσει. Τὸ δὲ σῶμα οὐ τῆ πορνεία, ἀλλὰ τῷ κυρίῳ, καὶ ὁ κύριος τῷ σώματι· ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ τὸν κύριον ἠγειρεν καὶ ἡμᾶς ἐξεγερεῖ διὰ τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ. Οὐκ οἶδατε ὅτι τὰ σώματα ὑμῶν μέλη Χριστοῦ ἐστί; Ἄρα οὖν τὰ μέλη τοῦ Χριστοῦ ποιήσω πόρνης μέλη; Μὴ γένοιτο. Οὐκ οἶδατε ὅτι ὁ κολλώμενος τῆ πόρνη ἐν σῶμά ἐστι; Ἔσονται γάρ, φησὶν, οἱ δύο εἰς σάρκα μίαν. Ὁ δὲ κολλώμενος τῷ κυρίῳ ἐν πνεύμα ἐστιν. Φεύγετε τὴν πορνείαν. Πᾶν ἁμάρτημα ὃ ἐὰν ποιήσῃ ἄνθρωπος ἐκτὸς τοῦ σώματος ἐστιν· ὁ δὲ πορνεύων εἰς τὸ ἴδιον σῶμα ἁμαρτάνει. Ἡ οὐκ οἶδατε ὅτι τὸ σῶμα ὑμῶν ναὸς τοῦ ἐν ὑμῖν ἁγίου πνεύματος ἐστιν, οὗ ἔχετε ἀπὸ θεοῦ; Καὶ οὐκ ἐστὲ ἑαυτῶν, ἠγοράσθητε γὰρ τιμῆς· δοξάσατε δὴ τὸν θεὸν ἐν τῷ σώματι ὑμῶν, καὶ ἐν τῷ πνεύματι ὑμῶν, ἅτινά ἐστιν τοῦ θεοῦ.

Foundations of Orthodoxy
The Seven Ecumenical Councils
Starting Wednesday Jan. 15, 2025



Where: New Mt. Tabor Community Center
Paraklesis - 5:30 pm - in the Sanctuary

Lenten Potluck Supper 6:30 pm

Class ~7:00 pm

For more information please contact Fr. George
icons3@me.com

Gospel According to Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρωπός τις εἶχε δύο υἱούς, καὶ εἶπεν ὁ νεώτερος αὐτῶν τῷ πατρί· πάτερ, δός μοι τὸ ἐπιβάλλον μέρος τῆς οὐσίας. καὶ διεῖλεν αὐτοῖς τὸν βίον. καὶ μετ' οὐ πολλὰς ἡμέρας συναγαγὼν ἅπαντα ὁ νεώτερος υἱὸς ἀπεδήμησεν εἰς χώραν μακράν, καὶ ἐκεῖ διεσκόρπισε τὴν οὐσίαν αὐτοῦ ζῶν ἄσώτως. δαπανήσαντος δὲ αὐτοῦ πάντα ἐγένετο λιμὸς ἰσχυρὸς κατὰ τὴν χώραν ἐκείνην, καὶ αὐτὸς ἤρξατο ὑστερεῖσθαι. καὶ πορευθεὶς ἐκολλήθη ἐνὶ τῶν πολιτῶν τῆς χώρας ἐκείνης, καὶ ἔπεμψεν αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς ἀγρούς αὐτοῦ βόσκειν χοίρους. καὶ ἐπεθύμει γεμίσει τὴν κοιλίαν αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν κερατίων ὧν ἤσθιον οἱ χοῖροι, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐδίδου αὐτῷ. εἰς ἑαυτὸν δὲ ἐλθὼν εἶπε· πόσοι μίσθιοι τοῦ πατρὸς μου περισσεύουσιν ἄρτων, ἐγὼ δὲ λιμῷ ἀπόλλυμαι! ἀναστὰς πορεύσομαι πρὸς τὸν πατέρα μου καὶ ἐρῶ αὐτῷ· πάτερ, ἥμαρτον εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ ἐνώπιόν σου. οὐκέτι εἰμι ἄξιος κληθῆναι υἱὸς σου· ποιήσόν με ὡς ἓνα τῶν μισθίων σου. καὶ ἀναστὰς ἦλθε πρὸς τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ. ἔτι δὲ αὐτοῦ μακρὰν ἀπέχοντος εἶδεν αὐτὸν ὁ πατὴρ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐσπλαγχνίσθη, καὶ δραμῶν ἐπέπεσεν ἐπὶ τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ καὶ κατεφίλησεν αὐτόν. εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ υἱός· πάτερ, ἥμαρτον εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ ἐνώπιόν σου, καὶ οὐκέτι εἰμι ἄξιος κληθῆναι υἱὸς σου. εἶπε δὲ ὁ πατὴρ πρὸς τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ· ἐξενέγκατε τὴν στολὴν τὴν πρώτην καὶ ἐνδύσατε αὐτόν, καὶ δότε δακτύλιον εἰς τὴν χεῖρα αὐτοῦ καὶ ὑποδήματα εἰς τοὺς πόδας, καὶ ἐνέγκαντες τὸν μόσχον τὸν σιτευτὸν θύσατε, καὶ φαγόντες εὐφρανθῶμεν, ὅτι οὗτος ὁ υἱός μου νεκρὸς ἦν καὶ ἀνέζησε, καὶ ἀπολωλὼς ἦν καὶ εὗρέθη. καὶ ἤρξαντο εὐφραίνεσθαι. Ἦν δὲ ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ὁ πρεσβύτερος ἐν ἀγρῷ· καὶ ὡς ἐρχόμενος ἤγγισε τῇ οἰκίᾳ, ἤκουσε συμφωνίας καὶ χορῶν, καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος ἓνα τῶν παιδῶν ἐπυνθάνετο τί εἶη ταῦτα. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὅτι ὁ ἀδελφός σου ἦκει καὶ ἔθυσεν ὁ πατὴρ σου τὸν μόσχον τὸν σιτευτόν, ὅτι ὑγιαίνοντα αὐτὸν ἀπέλαβεν. ὠργίσθη δὲ καὶ οὐκ ἠθέληεν εἰσελθεῖν. ὁ οὖν πατὴρ αὐτοῦ ἐξεληθὼν παρεκάλει αὐτόν. ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπε τῷ πατρί· ἰδοὺ τοσαῦτα ἔτη δουλεύω σοὶ καὶ οὐδέποτε ἐντολήν σου παρήλθον, καὶ ἐμοὶ οὐδέποτε ἔδωκας ἔριφον ἵνα μετὰ τῶν φίλων μου εὐφρανθῶ· ὅτε δὲ ὁ υἱός σου οὗτος, ὁ καταφαγὼν σου τὸν βίον μετὰ πορνῶν, ἦλθεν, ἔθυσας αὐτῷ τὸν μόσχον τὸν σιτευτόν. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· τέκνον, σὺ πάντοτε μετ' ἐμοῦ εἶ, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐμὰ σὰ ἐστίν· εὐφρανθῆναι δὲ καὶ χαρῆναι ἔδει, ὅτι ὁ ἀδελφός σου οὗτος νεκρὸς ἦν καὶ ἀνέζησε, καὶ ἀπολωλὼς ἦν καὶ εὗρέθη.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY CONFESSION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY CONFESSION IS OFFERED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY TO ALLOW YOU THE NECESSARY TIME FOR THE COMPLETE CONFESSION. TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT PLEASE CALL FR. VASILEIOS AT 512-574-1972 OR FR. GEORGE AT 512-507-9897

“HE IS ALWAYS WRESTLING IN PRAYER FOR YOU...” (COLOSSIANS 4:12)

Prayers for those in our Armed Forces

Chaplain Ahmad Athanasios Williams , SSGT Jennifer D. Atkinson, COL Dave Romine, CPT James Alfaro, MAJ Timothy Ullman, Col. Chris Chase, SPC Mindy Keys, SPC Andrew Bentzel, MAJ Scot Thornhill, CPT Christopher Gilbert, Major Alexander Stathos, 1st LT Angela Bahlatzis, MIDN 1/C Joseph Barone, LCDR Thomas Uhl, Lt. Lance Shannon, CPT Raphael Regalado, SSG George Graman , SSG Rebeca Najib, TSGT Trevor Soto

“THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON IS POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE” (JAMES 5:16)

Prayers for Health

Fr. Ted, Prsb. Aspazia, Prsb. Vasiliki, Sophia, Michael, Ioanna, John Garwood, Luke Garwood, Andrew Garwood, Kara Hardy, Cara, George, Panagiota, Demetra Anna Georgantonis-Keah, Gayla Easley, Jacob, Patricia, Jack, Michelle, Marc, Evan Wilson, Hank Wilson, Vasiliki, Sophia, Rob, Beth, Anirban, Stephen, Jill Gentry, Alexander, Jacob, Carl (Gregory) Forsberg, Becca, Chris, Glory, Bryce, Savanna, Addison, Dina, Manny, Oakley Grace, Giuseppe, Romano, Costa, Joyce, Daymon, Maria, Ann, George, Bill, Steve, Mamdouha Atiyah, Judi, Eleni, Amanda, Khouria Mary, Jaxson Cash, Terry, Kathie, Sunny, Scott, Michael, Paulette, Kathryn, John, Jamie, Greg, Connie, Julie, Matthew, George, Stella, Haralambos, Anna, George, Judith, Phyllis, Adam, Kassiani, Lee, Koula, Panagiota Bauersfield,

Prayer for Catechumen

O Lord our God, who dwellest on high and regardest the humble, who has sent forth as the salvation of the race of men Thine only-begotten Son and God, our Lord Jesus Christ: Look down upon Thy servants the Catechumens, who have bowed their necks before Thee; make them worthy in due season of the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins and the robe of incorruption. Unite them to Thy holy, catholic and apostolic Church, and number them with Thine elect flock: That with us they may glorify Thine all-honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Rachael Adamson, Winston Cooke, Kelby, Jamison, Geoffrey, May Marshall, Hugo Teran, Astraya, Heather Marshall, Jacob Spevak, Richard Runde, Dominic Johnson, Dylan Reuter, Whitney Reuter, Kyle Kirshbom, Stuart Keil, Darendra Keil, Nick Engel, Leo Laessig, Isabella Lynch, Sam Lynch, Antonio Tello, Rebecca Underwood, Cameron Wiley, Jeremy Mola, Jason Ballard,

If you are catechumen and do not see your name on our list, please contact Office@Transfiguration.org with your name.

Please allow the children and the teachers of our Sunday School to take communion first so they can go to their classes.



MISSION SUNDAY

MARCH 2, 2025

The Orthodox Christian Mission Center is the missions and evangelism agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America. **The Mission Center annually Orthodox missionaries, clergy, and mission projects worldwide.** support and pray for these life-transforming ministries. Visit <http://www.ocmc.org> to learn how you can get involved.



ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSION CENTER



Men's Fellowship



a presentation by
John Sobchak

Inspired by Faith. Driven by Purpose.

As the humanitarian aid and development agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, IOCC works in cooperation with the Orthodox Church and other partners to serve people in need, in the spirit of Christ's love. By God's grace, IOCC strives to equip those we serve to continue to improve their own lives and communities.

Our Mission

IOCC, in the spirit of Christ's love, offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need worldwide, without discrimination, and strengthens the capacity of the Orthodox Church to so respond.

Since 1992: Orthodox Christian Philanthropy and Service

IOCC has provided more than \$630 million in humanitarian relief and sustainable development programs to people facing hardship. Current programs focus on five sectors: emergency preparedness and response; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); sustainable livelihoods; food security and agriculture; and health.

Thursday, March 13

Potluck Dinner 6pm
Discussion right after

SUN, MAR 2
12:30-2:30

ALL GOYANS & THEIR FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

GOYANS v. PARENTS

BASKETBALL GAME

RSVP <https://evite.me/4p86DDRQae>

Join us as we celebrate a great basketball season!

@ WESTRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH INCLUDED




CRAWFISH/SHRIMP BOIL

March 29, noon



BUY YOUR TICKETS ON REALM OR VENMO - @TRANSFIGURATION-PHILOPTOCHOS (#9616) BY MARCH 23 NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR!!!!

Adults \$30 (3lbs of crawfish or 1lb of shrimp)
Students \$15 (1/2 lbs crawfish or 1/2 lb shrimp)

Fun for the whole family



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

HOPE AND LOVE

Words can hardly express how grateful we are to Ellen Apostolakis for her leadership in organizing the Hope & Love fundraiser. And to everyone who participated, donated, volunteered, and helped in any way, thank you! Your generosity and support made this event a resounding success. Because of Ellen's leadership and your collective efforts, we were able to raise a significant amount of money and many backpacks that will help so many kids entering the foster system.

VALENTINE'S GIFT SALE AND LUNCHEON

Many thanks to all our volunteers for their hard work and dedication in making our Valentine's Luncheon and Gift Sale a success; Father Vasileios Flegas, Diana Angelo, Christina, Christakis and Andreas Christou, Boryana Dimova, Thea Dunn, Judy Eagle, Jack Gatlin, Michael Glaros, Calliope Gomez, Tula Haldes, Lori Haynes, Sheri and Mike Kinslow, Katina and Mike Koulakis, Steve Levendakis, Anna Manesis, Maria and Alex Michalakos, Linda Robertson, Anthony Rosario, Yanna and George Petty, Dorothy Protopapas, Marinela Uritu.

This event would not have been possible without each one of you!

Transfiguration's Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, Topic Brainstorming Session



Transfiguration's Oratorical Festival is scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, May 4.

Speeches must be completed and given to Julie Wynn by Sunday, April 27.

To help teens review the topics and prepare to write a speech, Father Vasileios will hold a topic brainstorming session, **Sunday, March 9**, for all teens grades 7 – 12 following the procession of icons – beginning approximately at 12pm. During this session, Father Vasileios will answer questions and help evaluate the topics. This is an excellent opportunity to explore the topics and will give participants the confidence that they can write a speech and deliver it.

Throughout the oratorical speech writing process there will be people available to answer questions, and to review speeches giving advice on grammatical correctness. There will also be opportunities leading up to the festival date to practice speeches, perfecting speaking skills.

Please click the link or use the QR code to sign up to attend the brainstorming session:

<https://tinyurl.com/2025OratoricalBrainstorming>





LET'S STEP INTO THE LENTEN SEASON AS A COMMUNITY AND CELEBRATE

APOKRIES

FEB | 22 | 2025

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM | \$50 DINNER
MT. TABOR HALL COMMUNITY CENTER
RSVP TO YANNA IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY FEB 19TH

Όταν η παράδοση ενώνει, ο κύκλος μεγαλώνει
When tradition unites, the circle grows.

APOKRIES IS THE FESTIVE THREE WEEKS PRECEDING LENT, A PERIOD OF MASQUERADING, EATING, DRINKING, AND DANCING. EVERY YEAR, OUR CHURCH PREPARES FOR LENT WITH AN "APOKRIATIKO GLENDI," AN EVENT WHERE WE SAY "GOODBYE" TO THE PERIOD OF MEAT-EATING, "APO-KRIO."

Women's Prayer Ministry

Journey to the Cross and the Empty Tomb



Do you want to recommit yourself to your Christian faith this Lent? Would you like to sharpen your spiritual senses and make small but lasting changes during the Great Fast? Would you like to relive and relearn through the events of Holy Week?

Journey with us using a book by Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis. It will inspire and reinvigorate your faith and prayers!

Join us in our next prayer focus

February 9 – April 19 with

The ROAD BACK to CHRIST:

Reflections on Lent, Holy Week & the Resurrection

If interested in praying with us, please contact:

*Sheri Shannep, Christine Boyer, Laura Hitt
womensprayer@transfiguration.org*

2025 Transfiguration

BIBLE BOWL

Date: Sunday, May 4

Topic: 1st Corinthians



2025 Transfiguration Bible Bowl

Date: Sunday, May 4

Topic: 1st Corinthians

Our annual Bible Bowl will soon be here, so get your team together, get your bibles out and start studying 1st Corinthians.

More information to come in the next couple weeks.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

Women's FELLOWSHIP

A space to deepen intergenerational connections among women. Whether you're new or a lifelong Orthodox Christian, join us for meaningful conversation & a supportive community where wisdom and experiences are shared. All are welcome!

6:45 PM @ THE NEW HALL

Please bring a potluck item to share

Please join us for fellowship

Transfiguration Church ENCORE (Baby Boomers +/-)

Sunday February 23, 2025, after Church Coffee Hour

At the home of Bill & Linda Robertson

Address: 115 Blue Jay Drive, Lakeway, Texas 78734

Hors D'oeuvres, 1:30PM Presentation

"Reviving Faith: The Resurgence of the Orthodox Church in post communist Albania"

Led by Stuart Yoder - TGOc Parishioner

Following World War 2 Albania went through decades of the most severe religious persecution in modern history, where the government tried to obliterate all religion. There has been a miraculous resurrection of the Orthodox church there over the last 30 years after the fall of communism. In November, the Orthodox Christian Missions Center invited me to visit Albania as part of a small group to see first-hand what has happened since the fall of communism, and the role the Missions Center had in helping the church to recover. I'd like to share what I experienced on the trip, and what we can do to continue to support the needs of the Orthodox church in Albania and other developing countries. I met some remarkable people who can be an inspiration to us all.

RSVP to Bill & Linda Robertson: dwr300@hotmail.com or: 512-261-3934



Orthodox Christian Fellowship

For all college and university students every Tuesday at 7pm with dinner, fellowship, spiritual discussion, and prayer at the Episcopal Center on campus (209 W. 27th St., Austin, TX 78705; located on the corner of 27th & University Ave, right off campus)

Community First! Village Volunteering

4 ways to help: *Make Food, Donate Food, Serve Food or Donate funds* ->



When: Mon. Feb. 24th 5:15-7:15pm



Sign up
by 2/22:
What is
CFV?



Matt 25:35 For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in,

Thank you to all our 2024 Stewards

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Steve & Anita Cokins				

Thank You

Saturday of Souls

Our Holy Orthodox Christian Church, like a loving and caring mother, daily, at every divine service offers up prayers for all her children who have departed for the land of eternity. This Saturday, February 22, 2025 is the First Saturday of Souls. On this day, our Holy Church allows us to commemorate all our departed loved ones and also remembers all her children that have left this earthly life and perhaps remain unknown to others, from the beginning of time until now. We will have two more Saturday of Souls services for our loved ones in addition to this Saturday: March 1, and 8.



The Greek Orthodox Church states that, “the divine fathers, being so moved in their love for man, have decreed that a common memorial be made this day for all pious Orthodox Christians who have reposed from all ages past, so that those who did not have particular memorial services may be included in this common one for all

Many in modern, Western Christianity have latched on to the notion that once an individual has died, that is the end of their “salvation story”—their fate is set and nothing more can be said on the matter. Yet this is not what Orthodox Christians through the millennia have taught or believed. Drawing on verses such as Acts 17:31, II Peter 2:9, and Hebrews 11:39-40, The Church has understood that “the day of judgement” is a day that has yet to pass; it is a future event for all of us to prepare for together as one body. So, just as we should pray continually for our brothers and sisters in this life, our prayers for the departed should not cease, either. We continue to stay in relationship with our loved ones in Christ Jesus our Lord, Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life for us all. His love has shown to be stronger than death, and that death does not separate us from the love that is in Christ Jesus:

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)

The “Kolyva” (boiled wheat) also have their symbolism in the church. The boiled wheat kernels express belief in everlasting life. Jesus said, “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone, but if it dies, it bears much fruit” (John 12:24). Just as new life rises from the buried kernel of wheat, so the Church believes that the one buried will rise one day to a new life in God. The wheat is covered in sugar and sultanas to symbolize the bliss of eternal life in Heaven.

The Fathers of the Church also describe a type of benefit of Memorial services that applies to those who have departed from the present life in repentance or at least with a sacred desire for repentance, but who may not have had the opportunity to complete it. St. John Chrysostom said that prayers for the dead offer them “a certain consolation”. St Cyril of Jerusalem writes about a “very great benefit” that is derived by the souls for whom petition is made during the Divine Liturgy when the “most awesome sacrifice” is offered. P. N. Trembelas in his “Dogmatics” says that it has not been revealed to us “to what extent” and “to what degree” our prayers for the dead provide benefit and consolation.

Praying for the dead was certainly practiced by the early Church. Writings from the first few centuries testify to this. St John Chrysostom and St John of Damascus have told us that the practice of praying for the dead was established by the Apostles. That petitions for the repose and salvation of the deceased were included in daily worship. This is evident from the writings of Tertullian (200A.D.), St. Cyprian, bishop of Carthage (250 A.D.), the Apostolic Constitutions (4th century), etc. Even in Old Testament times praying for the dead occurred. In 2 Maccabees 12:40-45, which is part of the Orthodox Old Testament, we read about some that prayed for the dead, and we are told that “if he had not hoped that those that were slain should rise again, it would have seemed superfluous and vain to pray for the dead”, and that it is “a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.”

We are certain such prayers do benefit those who pray for the departed. They remind us that we too are going to die, they make us more diligent and cautious in getting ready for that ultimate journey. They help us realise that so much that we tend to focus on is futile. The only thing that really matters is getting to Heaven and being with God. St Anthony said, “If you want to be prepared for death, live every day of your life as if it’s the last one!”

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2025

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

Fast - Free Week
FEBRUARY 9th



TRIODION WEEKS

Publican and the Pharisee

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15
Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.

Normal Fast Week
FEBRUARY 16th



The Prodigal Son Returns!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.

Meatfare
FEBRUARY 23rd
FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY



The Last Judgement

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.

Cheesefare
MARCH 2nd
FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY



Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4
Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.

1st Sunday of Lent
MARCH 9th



GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS
SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2
Gospel: John 1:43-51

Bring an icon to church for a procession.

2nd Sunday of Lent
MARCH 16th



ST GREGORY PALAMAS

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3
Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.

3rd Sunday of Lent
MARCH 23rd



VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

HALF WAY TO PASCHA!

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6
Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!

4th Sunday of Lent
MARCH 30th



ST JOHN of the LADDER

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20
Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!

5th Sunday of Lent
APRIL 6th



ST MARY of EGYPT

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14
Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.

FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY!
APRIL 13th
GREAT WEEK BEGINS



GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9
Gospel: John 12:1-18

Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY
APRIL 18th



GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.

FEAST OF FEASTS!
APRIL 20th
NO FASTING!



BRIGHT WEEK

HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

Services & Activities for next Week

Monday, February 17

Wednesday, February 19

Thursday, February 20

Saturday, February 22

PRESIDENT’S DAY - OFFICE CLOSED

Paraklesis 5:30pm Potluck (bring a dish to share) Orthodoxy 101 7pm

Women’s Fellowship 6pm

Saturday of the Souls Orthros 9am D. Liturgy 10am

Great Vespers 3pm

APOKREATIKO (MEATFARE) Party 6:30pm

Save The Date!

Camp St. Nicholas

Ages 3 to rising 5th graders
Parents must stay with 3-year-olds

Free for all ages

ACTIVITIES
Lessons with Father
Music
Crafts
Snack Shack
Water Day
... and so much more!

Parent and GOYA volunteers needed!

9AM-12PM
June 2-5, 2025
at Transfiguration
June 6 - tentative family trip to the Monastery

Theme: The Life of Christ

Thank you to last week’s Luncheon Sponsors:

PHILOPTOCHOS

Thank you to our Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Papanastasiou (Captain), Pon, Price, Protopapas-Wallace, Psihramis, Rigney, Yediares

Thank you to our Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Reeder (Captain), Read, Richards, Rivers, Robertson, Russon, Saenz

Thank you to last week’s ushers:

*Alex Michalakos (PCM)
Victor Daniello (PCM)
Dan Appling, Allen Wynn*

Thank you to today’s ushers:

*Anthony Rosario (PCM),
Rachelle Hareng (PCM),
Michael Hareng, Bill Robertson*

Next week’s ushers are:

*Margaret Chase (PCM)
Melissa Constantinides (PCM)
Christaki Christou, Daniel Reeder,
Chris Frazier*