

## Sunday, April 18, 2021

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – St. Mary of Egypt & St. Savvas of Kalymnos.

**Holy Father John the Righteous; Euthemios the Enlightener; Cosmas, Bishop of Calcydon; John the New Martyr of Epiros; Athanasia the Wonderworker of Aegina.**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE TODAY:** Orthros: 8:00 a.m. & Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m.

The church will be opened to the first 250 parishioners who have phoned into the church this past week and registered to attend worship (please review church protocols). Unfortunately due to the recent power surge that damaged many of our systems, this service will be live streamed only on the YouTube Channel.

**HYMNS FOR THE DAY:** (Found in red hymnal book)

# 4 – Το φαιδρον της Αναστασεως/ Having heard the joyous Resurrection message

# 125 – Εν σοι Μητηρ ακριβως/In you, O Mother, was preserved

# 134 – Του Σταυρου σου τον τυπον/The sign of the Cross in the sky

# 218 – Προστασια των χριστιανων /O protection of the Christians

**READINGS:** Orthros Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14

Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

(For further information go to Archdiocese website at: goarch.org or  
The Metropolis of Chicago website at: chicago.goarch.org.)

**THE NICENE CREED & LORD'S PRAYER** are found on pages 52-54 and 71 of your blue service book. Everyone is encouraged to recite them out loud in both Greek & English.

**PRE & POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS:** The Pre-Communion prayers are found on pages 76-80 in your blue service book. The first four will be read in Greek and the next four in English. **Please recite them out loud as a congregation.** The Post-Communion prayers are found on pages 98-100 in Greek and pages 101-102 in English. These should be read by those who have received Holy Communion when they return to their seats.

**COUNCIL DUTY:** JoAnn Massow & ALL Council members and volunteers.

### MEMORIALS

9 day	Kostandinos (Gus) Mavrakis	9 mon.	Ermioni Krinakis
3 mon.	Maria Collaros	1 year	Helen Volan
3 mon.	George Kazonis	2 year	George J. Volan
6 mon.	Ekaterini Giatras	12 year	Gregory V. Sarantis

**MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:** With the easing of some of the COVID-19 restrictions in the state of Indiana, we are able to once again host a limited Coffee Fellowship Hour following worship services on Sunday. **Mask wearing and social distancing are still required when attending. We must stress that everyone entering the Great Hall or walking around in the hall needs to wear a face mask!** We are looking forward to seeing our parishioners and visiting with them after almost a year of no Coffee Fellowship.

Today's Coffee Fellowship is being offered in memory of Maria Collaros. Everyone is welcomed to attend.

**EASTER OFFERING:** As we prepare to glorify our Lord's Resurrection, let us not forget His Church. Let us all, young and old, make a generous donation to our Cathedral. In this way, we will be bearing witness to our own personal faith in the Resurrected Lord. Please return your Easter offering envelope that was mailed to you.

**REMEMBER:** When the church ceases to be in touch with God's kingdom, it is no longer in touch with this world.

**LENTEN/EASTER DONATIONS:** The Lenten season is a time that allows us to provide for the church various items needed. Giving to the church is always special, but during Great Lent and Easter it takes on even more meaning. For this reason we would like to invite our faithful to share in making Great Lent, Holy Week and Easter a most beautiful and inspiring time. Those individuals or families wishing to donate towards any of the following items should contact the church office.

**Flowered Frame Salutation Services & Akathist Hymn (Friday April 2& 9): \$150**

**Palms and Bay Leaves for Palm Sunday (April 25): \$3,000**

**Olive Oil for Holy Wednesday: \$60**

**Flowered Wreaths (3 small) Holy Thursday: \$150 each**

**Epitaphio Flowers – Carnations, etc.: \$4,500**

**58 Easter Lilies: \$870 (\$15 each)**

**GREAT LENT:** is a period of prayer, examination, rededication, penance and spiritual preparation for the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Participate fully in the beautiful and spiritually moving services that our Orthodox Faith provides for us during this time. See the service schedule for dates and times of worship.

**SERVICE SCHEDULE:** Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – *Saturday of Lazarus* – Orthros:

8:00 a.m. & Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. in the Cathedral.

Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> – *Palm Sunday* – Orthros: 8:00 a.m. & Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. in the Cathedral. Second Divine Liturgy: 9:00 a.m. in the Great Hall.

*Nymphios/Bridegroom Service:* 6:30 p.m. in the Cathedral.

**ΘΗΣΚΕΥΤΙΚΟΝ ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ:** Σαββατο, 24 Απριλιου – *Σαββατο του*

*Λαζαρου* – Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεια Λειτουργια: 9:00 π.μ. στο Καθεδρικο.

Κυριακη, 25 Απριλιου – *Κυριακη Βαιων* – Ορθρος: 8:00 π.μ. και Θεια Λειτουργια: 9:00 π.μ. στο Καθεδρικο. Δευτερη Λειτουργια: 9:00 π.μ. στην αιθουσα της εκκλησιας.

*Ακολουθεια του Νυμφιου:* 6:30 μ.μ.

**SHUT-IN VISITATION:** If there is anyone shut in at home, hospital, or nursing home and would like our clergy to visit them and administer the Sacraments of Holy Confession, Holy Communion, and/or Holy Unction for Lent, Holy Week or Pascha, please call the church office at 219-769-2481 to make an appointment.

### **NOTICE: IMPORTANT UPDATES REGARDING HOLY WEEK SERVICES AND THE COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND RESTRICTIONS**

- Reservations are still required for all those faithful wishing to attend worship.** Don't take it for granted that you can attend without calling the church office to reserve your space. **Reservations will be taken starting Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.** Call 219-769-2481 Monday through Friday during the regular office hours of 9am-3pm. Please remember that the church office is closed on weekends.
- Capacity in the Cathedral will be limited to 350 worshippers.** This is about a third of our normal capacity for services. If the church reaches capacity, there will be no walk-ins allowed to enter. If we see, based on reservations, that we have more people than we can accommodate in the Cathedral, we will have a second service for Palm Sunday and Anastasi in the Great Hall. This is another reason why it's very important that you call to make a reservation if you are planning on coming.
- Everyone attending church services is required to wear a face mask to enter per Metropolis of Chicago safety protocols.** There will be no exceptions.
- The service of the Resurrection (receiving the Holy Light) for those not wishing to remain for the Divine Liturgy will take place in the Great Hall.** Those who plan on staying for the Divine Liturgy will attend services in the Cathedral. This is being done to accommodate the many faithful who wish to attend worship.

**ATTENTION FAITHFUL MEMBERS OF SAINTS  
CONSTANTINE AND HELEN CATHEDRAL**

**OUTLINE OF SAFETY PROTOCOLS  
BEFORE ATTENDING CHURCH**

- The church (or areas used for worship) will be sanitized before each service.
- The church will only be allowed to hold as many people (225) as can maintain social distancing (6 feet distance).
- Due to the limited seating available, every person who is planning on attending worship services will need to register through the church office (219-769-2481) between 11am–1pm, Monday through Friday. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. • According to the directives of the Metropolis of Chicago, the high-risk population and those caring for them should not attend services. Our parish will be using a system of self-reporting. We will not be verifying your age or medical history at the door.
- Those who have tested positive for COVID-19, or who are in the same household as someone positive for COVID-19, or who are feeling sick should not attend services.
- Worship Services will continue to be lived streamed on our Cathedral's Facebook Page and You Tube Channel for those who cannot or may not feel safe to attend.

**COMING TO CHURCH**

- Every person attending worship will need to check in upon arrival at the designated area in the Exo-Narthex. There will be a brief screening process (verbal questions and a temperature check) at the sign-in table.
- Every attendee will need to wear masks (you must provide your own mask) at all times while they are in the physical area of worship, except when receiving Holy Communion.
- Use non-contact greetings (waving, a bowing of the head) with fellow parishioners instead of the traditional hugging, kissing or shaking of hands. Social distancing must be maintained. No walking about the church to greet, talk or visit with one another.

**IN THE CHURCH**

- There will be hand sanitizer stations at the entry of the church, at the candle stands, at the entry into the Nave, and at the Solea.
- There will be no veneration (kissing) of icons, sacred objects, or the priest's hand.
- Parish Council members will distribute candles for the faithful to light, as well as place the 3-hour votives and 5-day red votives in their designated areas of the church. After lighting candles you will be asked to sanitize your hands before entering the church.
- No paper bulletins, monthly newsletters or other items will be distributed to those attending worship.
- Due to the need to socially distance, a Parish Council member or a designated usher will escort you to your seat. Please do not insist on sitting in "your spot," as the Parish Council's only concern will be in maintaining social distancing to maximize safety.
- Every other pew will be available for seating with six feet in between each worshiper. People living in the same household can sit together.
- There will be no liturgical books in the pews.
- At the time for Holy Communion, the Parish Council will direct people to approach the Chalice and observe social distancing. Sanitize your hands before approaching the Chalice (sanitizer stations will be available on the Solea).

**Please remember: It is YOUR CHOICE whether to ATTEND CHURCH or not.  
It is YOUR CHOICE whether to RECEIVE Holy Communion or not.  
DO NOT BE JUDGMENTAL of those who do or don't.**

**STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY - IT ALL BEGAN WITH GIVING:** Christ's giving went into the depths of His being so that He emptied Himself, becoming poor so that others might become rich. No giving can be called too much in the light of this love.

This year of 2021, our parish faces a reduced budget of \$800,000, without major repairs or costly renovations (see announcement below for an update). To meet our financial obligations, we have set a goal of at least \$800,000 for our Stewardship Program to reach in pledges (average pledge \$1500). It is only with your love and generosity that this goal will be reached. Please remember that this goal is what our community needs to operate at and be vital in the lives of all our members.

Quarterly statements of contribution have been mailed out to all parishioners. If you haven't already submitted your 2021 Stewardship Pledge form to the church office, please do so today. When considering your pledge, please do not view it as "How little can I give?" but rather "How much can I offer to God and His Church?" As of April 8<sup>th</sup>, the church office has received 466 pledges for a total of \$344,960, which averages out to \$740 a pledge. This is less than half of what is needed to operate our Cathedral ministries and maintain our facilities. Remember that \$200 from every pledge goes to the support of the Archdiocese and the Metropolis of Chicago. Without our personal love and commitment of time, talent and resources – **THERE IS NO CHURCH** – and without the Church, then who will preach the Good News of Salvation in Jesus Christ? Your Stewardship pledge should be at least one quarter paid by the end of March. It is a symbolic profession of faith and helps your church to better plan for various financial needs and expenditures.

If you are one of the 40 members who have failed to pay their 2020 stewardship that has resulted in a total unpaid balance of over \$10,313, please do so today! If you haven't pledged for 2021 as yet, please do so today! In addition to the monetary pledge, just as importantly, the personal involvement and participation by all is needed not only in time of worship but in every affair of the Church.

**EVERY PARISHIONER** of a Greek Orthodox parish, 18 years and older, single or married according to Archdiocese regulations should be a supporting member, a steward, of a parish. Everyone should contribute their fair share to the financial support to their parish. We all need to have the willingness to make a commitment of faith and to "go on record" as being a believer and a supporter of God's work through His Church. To make giving easier for all our faithful, we have established an online program called [Tithe.ly/give](https://tithe.ly/give). This will allow those who have internet accessibility to continue to make offerings for stewardship payments, candles, Helping Hand, Food Pantry and other donations that help cover the costs of operating our parish with just a click of your computer keys. Look below and check out the link listed. It is a profession of faith when we all work together and help our church to better plan for its various financial needs and expenditures. Thank you!

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=1385847>

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:** Over a month ago, we had a power surge throughout our Cathedral complex which caused major damage to various parts of our electrical grid, air conditioning unit for the Gold Room, and air handlers for the offices, Gold Room and Great Hall. Our Maintenance Committee is working to repair the damage, but this is an unseen major expense that has befallen our community. We kindly ask all our parishioners to please be active stewards, current with your pledge payments, as well as support our Building Fund which handles the maintenance and repairs for our Cathedral complex. Building Fund donation forms are being included in our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Stewardship Statements that are being mailed out to all our parishioners.

**PONDERING:** If Christ is the God Who died for me, then nothing that He may ask me to do for Him can be too much to ask of me.

**THE ROAD TO HEAVEN** is never overcrowded.

**PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS:** Following services, our Philoptochos Society will be collecting donations for the **flowers of the Epitaphio** for Good Friday. Just like everything else today, these costs have gone up. Please give generously!

**Lambathes-Candle Sale** today in the lobby of the Great Hall following worship.

**The Palm Sunday Preparations** of making the Palm Crosses and preparing the Bay Leaves for distribution will take place on the Saturday of Lazarus, April 24<sup>th</sup>, following the worship services of the day in the Gold Room. Volunteers are needed! Whether you are a member of Philoptochos or not, one of our youth members or senior citizens, your help is needed. Come one and all, and assist the Philoptochos in preparing these items to be blessed and distributed among the faithful.

**Palm Sunday Bake Sale** featuring delicious Greek pastries and specialties will be held on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> after worship services for Palm Sunday in the lobby of the Great Hall. Pre-orders are being taken through Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. Order forms are available through the church office or our Cathedral website. For further information, please contact Frances Klimis at 219-696-4851.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:** Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 p.m. in the Gold Room. All Parish Council members need to be in attendance as we will be discussing the protocols for Holy Week.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE - THE MAY FAITH BOX** will be distributed at the May 10<sup>th</sup> youth meeting. You may also register to receive a box at church on Sundays or in the church office by completing the form at [tinyurl.com/mayfaithbox](https://tinyurl.com/mayfaithbox). This will be the last faith box for this school year. Please contact Fr. Dimitri with any questions.

**LAMB RAFFLE:** GOYA will be raffling off two Pascha lambs during the Lenten season to raise money for their scholarship fund. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for five tickets. Sales are ongoing each Sunday of Lent in the Hall lobby. Tickets can also be purchased online at <https://tithelive.com/event-registration/#/3389608>. The winners will be drawn on Palm Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and will be announced on the church's Facebook Page and in the Sunday bulletin. Call Susan Tsagris at 219-617-4483 with any questions.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JC's Closet – Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

Ss. Constantine & Helen Vespers – Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

Ss. Constantine & Helen Feast Day – Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

Grecian Festival – Friday, Saturday & Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>

Memorials will not be celebrated on the following Sundays in 2021: April 25<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup>, August 15<sup>th</sup>, and November 21<sup>st</sup>

**JR. OLYMPICS UPDATE:** The Olympics are back, although in a restricted format due to COVID and that our usual venue of Stagg High School is not available this year. The following events for these ages groups will be held at Ss. Constantine and Helen in Palos Hills, IL on May 22-23: 7-9 soccer, 7-10 basketball, 11-13 basketball, 13-18 boys volleyball, 13-18 girls volleyball, 13-18 co-ed softball. If you would like to register your child to participate, please contact Pete Georgiadis at [mansow15@comcast.net](mailto:mansow15@comcast.net) or Kevy Paviadakis at [kevy44@hotmail.com](mailto:kevy44@hotmail.com).

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** for the AHEPA, GOYA, Cathedral, Novak Family Foundation and the Panagiotis Proimos Memorial Scholarships are available in the church office. All high school seniors of our Cathedral are eligible. To be considered for one of the scholarships, all you need to do is pick up an application, fill it out and return it to the church office by the Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline.

**VBS NEWS FLASH—SAVE THE DATE:** We are tentatively planning on resuming VBS this year the week of June 7<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more details in the Sunday bulletin.

**SAINT OF THE DAY – ST. MARY OF EGYPT:** Mary was a runaway child who went to Alexandria and became a prostitute. In the course of her life, she once joined a throng of pilgrims who travelled to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (September 14) and there she did not cease to lead others to sin. However, when she tried to enter into the Church of the Holy Resurrection, an unseen power prevented her from doing so, once, twice, three times, while others around her entered freely. Taking this as a personal sign to her from God, she was cut to the heart by a profound awareness of her own sinfulness. She immediately repented and decided to change her life, embracing the monastic life for over four decades and becoming a saint of the Church. From harlot to saint by the grace of God! Her Feast is set on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, *“while the end of Lent is near, so that idlers and sinners may be aroused by repentance, having as an example this saint”*.

**WHAT IS GREATNESS?** Should a person pursue greatness as a goal? How should we go about achieving greatness? Someone once said: “If you wish greatness, seek truth and you will find both.”

On the Fifth Sunday of Lent, the appointed biblical readings deal with the theme of greatness in the light of the Christian faith. The Epistle reading (Hebrews 9:11-14) tells about the incomparable values of Christ's sacrifice for the cleansing of sin. The Gospel reading (Mark 10:32-45) recounts Jesus' words to the disciples as they were going to Jerusalem about His coming passion and about what true greatness is.

The disciples of Jesus were interested in greatness in a way familiar to most of us. Jesus was speaking to them about the end of His mission – His passion, death, and resurrection. But the minds of James and John were fascinated by visions of glory. As Jews they anticipated the coming of God's kingdom with power. They were eager to have places of honor next to the Messiah sitting on His throne of glory.

When other disciples heard what James and John wanted, they were extremely upset. Righteous indignation? Hidden jealousy? We do not know for certain. It is possible that some considered that request an insult to their Master, who was about to be crucified, a gross desire to exploit His sufferings. It is also possible that others were slighted because of their own hopes of glory – why should James and John achieve the highest honors ahead of them?

But Jesus' heart was on sacrifice, not on honor. He was thinking about His death on the Cross, not about tokens of glory. What a contrast between the mind of Christ and that of the disciples!

**THE SATURDAY OF LAZARUS:** The theme of this day is the resurrection of the dead. Why is the resurrection of the dead stressed on this day? It is stressed for it gives more credence to our Lord's Resurrection in that it was not impossible for Him to come back to life. Jesus foresaw that various Jews and Roman officials would deny His Resurrection. If Lazarus could come back to life after being dead and buried for four days, certainly our Lord could do so, too. Also, the raising of Lazarus from the dead, historically and theologically, sets the tone for Jesus' Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem, which we celebrate on Palm Sunday, as well as starts the events that eventually lead to Jesus' betrayal, arrest, trial, passion, crucifixion, death, burial and – ultimately – His Resurrection.

**CHUCKLE:** A young woman teacher explains to her class of small children that she is an atheist. She asks her class if they are atheists too. Not really knowing what atheism is, but wanting to be like their teacher, their hands explode into the air. There is one exception, a little girl. The teacher asks her why she has decided to be different. “Because, I'm not an atheist.” The teacher, “What are you?” “I'm a Christian.” The teacher is a little perturbed now. She asks her why she is a Christian. “Well, I was brought up knowing and loving Jesus Christ. My mom is a Christian, my dad is a Christian, and my grandparents are too, so I am a Christian.” The teacher is angry. “That's no reason,” she says loudly. “What if your mom and your dad were idiots? And what if your grandparents were idiots? What would you be then?” She paused, smiled and said, “Oh, I guess then I'd be an atheist!”