SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: SAINT GREGORY ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONIKE, PALAMAS

THE RIGHTEOUS GERASIMOS; THE MARTYRS PAUL & JULIANA

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 1, Verses 10-14, Chapter 2, Verses 1-3. It is found in our books on pages 140-141.

Ο Ἀπόστολος Πέτρος: Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τῷ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 1, εἴδ. 10-14, κεφ. 2, εἴδ. 1-3: Κατ’ ἄρχον, Κύριε, τὴν γῆν ἐξελεύσασθαι, καὶ ἐγέρα τῶν χεριῶν σου εἰς αὐτὸ αὐτοῖς ἀπολύνοντα, σὺ δὲ διαμείνεις· καὶ πάντες ὡς ἑαυτῶν παλαιωθῶσθαι, καὶ οὗτοι περιβάλλοντες ἑλέεις αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἀλλαγήσωσθαι· σὺ δὲ ὁ αὐτὸς εἶ, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείψουσιν. Πρὸς τινα δὲ τῶν αὐτῶν εἰρήκεν ποτε, Κάθου ἔκ κελεύσαι, καὶ πᾶν τὸ ἔπος υἱῶν σου ἐν ἐκείνῳ ἐκπελέσαι. Εἰ γὰρ ὁ διὰ τοῦ κυρίου, ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; ἄλλα, ἐκ δεξιῶν µου, ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου συντρίψως, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείψουσιν. Πρὸς τίνα δὲ τῶν ἀγγέλων εἴρηκεν ποτε, Κάθου ἡ δόξα; Ἦτις, ἀρχὴν λαλεῖσθαι διὰ τοῦ κυρίου, ὑπὸ τῶν ἀκουσάντων εἰς ἡµᾶς ἐβεβαιώθη πάσα παράβασις καὶ παρακοὴ ἔλαβεν ἔνδικο µισθαποδοσίαν, πῶς ἡµεῖς ἐκφεύξονται τηλικαύτης ἀµελήσαντες σωτηρίας; Έχεις, ἀρχὴν λαλεῖσθαι διὰ τοῦ κυρίου, ὑπὸ τῶν ἀκουσάντων εἰς ἡµᾶς ἐβεβαιώθη.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 2, Verses 1-12. It is found in our books on pages 291-293.

Η σημερινή εὐαγγελική περικοπή έκ του κατα Μαρκου, κεφ. 2, εἴδ. 1-12. Εὐφημεῖται εἰς τὰς βιβλία µας, σελ. 290-292.

Today’s Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Six (Plagal 2):

When the angels appeared at your tomb, those who guarded You became as though dead. And, standing by your sepulcher was Mary, seeking your pure and sacred body. You did vanquish Hades and, uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the Virgin bestowin

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: (Sundays, 9 a.m., upstairs). This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey. It is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith. We explore Christian theology and practice by reading selections from Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or rediscover) why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kosik at orthodoxy-agkousik@outlook.com. Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month (rather than every Sunday). For March, the class will meet on Sunday, March 4, and on Sunday, March 11, both days at 9 a.m.

TODAY’S MEMORIAL SERVICES: Memorial Prayers are being offered today for the repose of the soul of our brother James P. Dariotes, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago. Ascend us, eternal memory! Eternal Memory!

40 DAY BLESSING: This morning we welcome 40 day-old Thalia, daughter of Christine & Tom Prountzos. Να μας ζησή και πάντα! Long life!

BASKETBALL GAMES TODAY: We have 4 basketball games today, beginning at 2 pm:
2 pm Boys Elementary School St. Gregory and Holy Cross
3 pm Boys Middle School St. Nicholas and Holy Cross
4 pm Boys Middle School Resurrection and Annunciation
5 pm Boys Elementary School Annunciation and St. Nicholas

SERVICES DURING GREAT LENT: HAIRETISMOI (SALUTATIONS) ON FRIDAY: The Great Lent, a period of prayer, preparation, fasting, and repentance, in preparation of Holy Pascha (the Resurrection of Christ), is characterized by additional weekday services. One of these is the Service of Salutations to the Theotokos. It is conducted on the first five Fridays of Great Lent, as this Friday, March 9, culminating in the Service of the Akathist (all four Stanzas of the Salutations Service are recited), on Friday, March 23. Services begin at 7 p.m. and last about an hour.

SOCKS DRIVE: We are having a socks drive all during the month of March. The socks will be given out to our guests who come to Community Kitchen. The next Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, March 20. Won’t you bring a packet of new socks, please, and leave it at the pagari. You will be helping keep someone’s feet warm.

SUNDAY STREETS: Valencia Street will be closed to thru traffic next Sunday, March 11. We suggest parking in the lot behind the Cathedral, as well as on adjacent streets. You may, of course, drop off individuals who have difficulty walking. Just tell the traffic person at the intersection.

BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK: Basketball practice will take place this Wednesday, March 7 and Thursday, March 8, beginning at 7 p.m., both days.

STEWARDSHIP AND YOU: We cannot stress how important it is for everyone, age 18 and above, who considers the Cathedral to be your home parish, to support its ministries through Stewardship. For, we are a family, and a family needs all its members doing their part, in order for it to be a happy, functioning family. In an effort to properly acknowledge and thank you for your support, we have listed the names of all Stewards (through February 15) in our March Herald. In case you’ve misplaced your card or if you wish additional cards for family members, they are available at the pagari, as well as general information about Stewardship. We also invite you to direct any questions you may have concerning our Stewardship program, to Father Stephen or a member of the Parish Council Stewardship Team. Let’s make 2018 a banner Stewardship year for the Cathedral. Together, we can do it!
CLOSER AND CLOSER: We’re in the home stretch. As you can see, we are nearing completion of the exterior. We’ve recently been awarded a conditional use permit, which will enable us to secure a third-party operator to run the parking. Tentatively, we’ve been given April 1, 2018 for utilization of our parking. As for the interior, we hope to locate a contractor by the end of 2018 for the upper interior wall installation. However, in order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. First, we have outstanding pledges, to the tune of $550,000. May we ask you to make good on your Building Fund pledges? If you have not yet contributed, won’t you consider making your gift? Your gift is fully tax deductible, to the extent allowed by law. More importantly, you will experience the joy of giving (and to such a historic undertaking!), helping make firm our presence as a Greek Orthodox house of worship in the heart of our Great City. In this way, we will be answering the call by God to Moses, when he said “Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you.” (from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἁγίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήσοµαι ἐν ὑµῖν. (Exodus 25:8)). When everything is completed, we will be able to consecrate the new Cathedral to the glory of God. Most likely, this will coincide with our 100th anniversary, in 2021.

“The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.”