

Special Hymns for the 1st Sunday of Luke

Today's Resurrection Hymn:

From on high You descended, O merciful Lord, and accepted the three day burial to free us from our passions. Glory to You, O Lord, our life and our resurrection.

Dismissal Hymn:

For their struggle, O Lord, Your Martyrs received the crown of immortality from You our God. Armed with Your might they defeated tyrants. They also crushed the arrogance of demons. By their intercessions, O Christ our God, save our souls.

Dismissal Hymn for Sts. Constantine and Helen:

The form of Your Cross was seen in the sky by Your Apostle among the kings, O Lord. He received his calling, like Paul, not from man, and placed his imperial city in Your hands. Ever guard it in peace, O Loving God, through the intercessions of the Theotokos.

Kontakion:

A protection of Christians unashameable, Intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us, for you are good: Your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you; Hasten to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Α' ΛΟΥΚΑ Καλλιστράτου Μάρτυρος

Αναστάσιμον Απολυτίκιον

Εξ ύψους κατήλθες ο εύσπλαχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω
τριήμερον, ίνα ημάς ελευθερώσεις τών παθών. Η ζωή καί η
ανάστασις ημών Κύριε δόξα σοι

Απολυτίκιον Αγίων Μαρτύρων

Οι μάρτυρές σου, Κύριε, εν τή αθλήσει αυτών, τό στέφος
εκομίσαντο, τής αφθαρσίας, εκ Σού,τού Θεού ημών,
έχοντες γάρ τήν ισχύν σου, τούς τυρράνους καθείλεσεν
εθραυσαν καί δαιμόνων τά ανίσχυρα θραση Αυτών ταίς
ικεσίαις, Χριστε ο Θεός, σωσον τάς ψυχάς ημών.

Απολυτίκιον Αγίου Κωνσταντίνου

Τού Σταυρού σου τόν τύπον εν ουρανώ θεασάμενος, καί
ως ο Παύλος τήν κλήσιν ουκ εξ ανθρώπων δεξάμενος. Ο
εν βασιλεύσιν Απόστολός σου, Κύριε, βασιλεύουσιν πόλιν
τή χειρί σου παρέθετο. Ήν περίσωζε διά παντός εν ειρήνη,
πρεσβείαις τής Θεοτόκου μόνη Φιλάνθρωπε.

Kontakion

Προστασία τών Χριστιανών ακαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία πρός
τόν ποιητήν αμετάθετε, μή παρίδης αμαρτωλών δεήσεων
φωνάς, αλλά πρόφθασον ως αγαθή εις τήν βοήθειαν ημών
τών πιστών κραυγαζόντων σοι. Τάχυνον εις πρεσβείαν καί
σπευσον εις ικεσίαν, η προστατεύουσα αεί, Θεοτόκε τών
τιμώντων σε.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 27 1st Sunday of Luke

Epistle: II Cor. 6:16-18; 17:1 (Pew Book, page 1377)

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11 (Pew Book, page 1221)

Acolytes: Group 2 (Powers): J. Phyrillas, D. Kyvelos,
T. Limberiou, G. Limberiou, K. Mitchell, S. Mitchell, H.
Robitzer, Y Patestas, D. Scantzios, A. Scantzios, E.
Ross, N. Simotas, M. Patestas

Council Members Welcoming: Athan Dialectos
Strat Marmarou

Council Members Ushering: Tony Phyrillas
Artie Fecera

40 Day Blessing: Son of Thomas & Maria Crassas
Son of Travis Jones & Brittany
Koharcheck

1 Year Memorial: Evangeline Graham

Fellowship Hosts: Ms. Michele Stranko
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Stroumbakis
Mr. & Mrs. Florian Sutu
Mr. & Mrs. David Waligurski
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Szczawinski

Today is “**National Philoptochos Fellowship Sunday.**” The Fellowship is being sponsored by our St. Xenia Chapter. A second collection will be taken to aid Greece & Syria. **Please be generous!**

TODAY DURING FELLOWSHIP:

Register to participate in the **Annual Crop Walk** on October 11th at Grings Mill. The walk is a national event that raises money to help alleviate world hunger. 25% of the money raised stays here in Berks County to feed the hungry.

Final Registration for your children for **Greek School** that will start in October and will be taught by our new Youth Director/Pastoral Assistant, Dino Koutroubas.

Today after Fellowship, Cook Spanikopita

The **Annual GOYA/Parent Kickoff Picnic** will take place today at 4:00 p.m. at the Pappalas' residence, 5012 Stony Run Drive in Exeter. This event is a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to spend time and get to know each other better. We will be discussing and planning future events. Please plan to attend.

Monday, September 28

Bake Kourabiedes at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 29

Food Pantry at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 30

Bake Kourabiedes at 9:00 a.m.

Bible Study begins at 7:00 p.m. This Year's Fall Bible Study will focus on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, found in the Gospel of Matthew Chapters 5 through 7 which includes the Beatitudes and our Lord's teachings to: “turn the other cheek”; “love our enemies; “not worry about the future...but take one day at a time”. The study will conclude on December 4th. We will meet in the Church Library. Bring your Bible.

Next Sunday

Sunday, October 4 2nd Sunday of Luke

Acolytes: Group 3 (Seraphim): A. Lountzis, A. Midouhas, A. Marmarou, E. Polyak, N. Lountzis, P. Daglis, J. Radwanski, A. Tilley, A. Lynch, C. Sasaran, N. Radwanski, N Rohm, N. Kiritsis, E. Kiritsis

Announcements

If you are interested in attending **Adult Greek School** please contact the church office.

The **Annual JOY/Parent Kickoff Picnic** will take place on Sunday, October 4th at 4:00 p.m. at the Pappalas' residence, 5012 Stony Run Drive in Exeter. This event is a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to spend time and get to know each other better. We will be discussing and planning future events. Please plan to attend.

Bring in **Bazaar Gift Room Donations** of new, used, or very gently used items on Sunday, October 11th. Place items on tables next to the Church Hall beverage counter, labeled as donations.

The Enlightener of the 1st Christian Nation

On **September 30** we remember **Saint Gregory, Enlightener of Armenia. Like other enlighteners--Nina of Georgia, Columba of Scotland and Innocent of the Aleuts--Gregory was not a native of the country he would one day illumine with the Christian faith.**

Born about 239 in Parthia, Gregory came to Armenia as a child with his family. His father, Anak, had a dark purpose: the king of Persia had paid him to assassinate the Armenian king when some good opportunity arose.

Anak bided his time until one day, out hunting with the king and some nobles, he saw the king sitting alone in a secluded spot. Anak attacked, but the dying king was able to cry out his name, and command that he and his family should be executed.

Pursued to a river by the nobles, Anak could see no escape. He jumped into the river and drowned. Most of his family members were soon killed, but a quick-thinking nursemaid had grabbed Gregory, and took him to safety in Caesarea.

Gregory was raised as a Christian, and among his childhood friends was the crown prince of Armenia, Tiridates, who had been forced out of his country when the Persian king's plan to invade and seize the throne succeeded. When the prince decided to return to Armenia and claim his throne, he invited Gregory to come along as his trusted advisor. Neither young man knew about the history they shared.

Once in Armenia, the two came into conflict. Gregory earnestly wanted Tiridates to become a Christian; Tiridates was content with his pagan gods. When jealous nobles noticed this rift, they enlarged it by informing the king that Gregory was the son of his father's assassin. Enraged, the king consigned Gregory to a deep, foul pit. He would spend fourteen years there, visited only by a woman who dropped him morsels of bread.

The king became ill and depressed, and when nothing seemed to help, his loving sister ordered Gregory released from the pit. She was convinced that only this Christian could help her brother. Gregory, finally free, immediately asked the courtiers to fast, and prayed day and night. When Tiridates recovered, his sister revealed that she was the one who had fed Gregory in the pit.

The king was now ready to accept the Christian faith, with Gregory as his learned and loving teacher. In the year 301, he and his courtiers, followed by masses of citizens, were baptized, making the Armenian people the first to accept Christianity as a nation.

After being consecrated a bishop in Caesarea, Gregory returned to Armenia and traveled the country, teaching and preaching, opening monasteries and building churches. In the place where he had a vision of Christ, he erected a cathedral, with the king's support. He also sent missionaries into neighboring countries to spread the faith. Though known as the enlightener of one nation, Gregory never forgot the command of Christ to "Go and teach all nations."

Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church

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The Weekly Church Bulletin

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Sunday, September 27, 2015
1st Sunday of Luke

