

90th Anniversary

Happy 90th Anniversary!



November 17, 2024
9th Sunday of Luke

*On November 17, we commemorate our father among the saints
Gregory the Wonderworker, Bishop of Neocaesarea.*

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
808 North Broom Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19806
Telephone: (302) 654-4446, Fax: (302) 654-4204, Fr. Cell# 856-246-2756
CHURCH EMAIL: office@holytrinitywilmington.org
PARISH PRIEST EMAIL: frchristoforoikonomidis@gmail.com
Church Office Hours: Monday ~ Friday - 9am - 4pm
V. Rev. Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Throne
Fr. Christoforos Oikonomidis, Proistamenos
Stephanos Karakasidis, Parish Council President

November 17, 2024
9th Sunday of Luke

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20
Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

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MEMORIALS:

NARTHEX DUTY TEAM: Group 2

TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP IS OFFERED BY: The Daughters of Penelope

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY:

Sunday, November 17

9th Sunday of Luke

9:00am Orthros & Divine Liturgy / Sunday School

Thanksgiving Tray passed by Philoptochos

Fall General Assembly (after worship)

3pm DVYC Basketball Games @ Wilmington

Monday, November 18

6:30pm Girls / 7:30pm Boys Basketball Practice

Tuesday, November 19

7pm DVYC Meeting @ St George, Media PA

Wednesday, November 20

12pm Bible Study

5:30pm Greek School

6pm Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, November 21

Entrance of Theotokos

9:00am Orthros & Divine Liturgy

6pm Vespers for the Feast of St Iakovos @ Holy Trinity, Westfield NJ

7pm GOYA Dance Practice

Friday, November 22

9am Feast of St Iakovos @ Metropolis Headquarters, Westfield NJ

7pm Philoptochos Bid N Buy

Sunday, November 24

13th Sunday of Luke

9am Orthros/10am Divine Liturgy / Sunday School

Sunday School Food Drive Ends and Toy Drive Begins

3pm DVYC Basketball Games @ Wilmington

Welcome

The Holy Trinity Family welcomes all visitors. We hope that you enjoyed the Divine Service of the Church of the Book of Acts. You participated in the most ancient Christian Service written by Saint John Chrysostom- the Golden Mouth. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is distributed ONLY to those Baptized and/or Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared according to our Sacred Tradition. We invite everyone to come forward at the end of the Divine Liturgy to receive the blessed bread. If you have any questions about the Orthodox Church or would like to discover how to join this Ancient Christian Faith please see the priest or call the church office for an appointment 302-654-4446. We thank you and may the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and yours abundantly always.

Today's Bible Readings

Galatians 2:16-20

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Πρὸς Γαλάτας 2:16-20 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιοῦται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου· διότι οὐ δικαιωθήσεται ἐξ ἔργων νόμου πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δέ, ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ, εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοί, ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; Μὴ γένοιτο. Εἰ γὰρ ἂ κατέλυσα, ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἑμαυτὸν συνίστημι. Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον, ἵνα θεῶ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δέ, οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῆ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῆ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

Luke 12:16-21

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 12:16-21 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἀνθρώπου τινὸς πλουσίου εὐφόρησεν ἡ χώρα· καὶ διελογίζετο ἐν ἑαυτῷ λέγων· τί ποιήσω, ὅτι οὐκ ἔχω ποῦ συνάξω τοὺς καρπούς μου; καὶ εἶπε· τοῦτο ποιήσω· καθελῶ μου τὰς ἀποθήκας καὶ μείζονας οἰκοδομήσω, καὶ συνάξω ἐκεῖ πάντα τὰ γενήματά μου καὶ τὰ ἀγαθὰ μου, καὶ ἐρῶ τῆ ψυχῇ μου· ψυχῆ, ἔχεις πολλὰ ἀγαθὰ κείμενα εἰς ἔτη πολλά· ἀναπαύου, φάγε, πίε, εὐφραίνου. εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Θεός· ἄφρον, ταύτη τῆ νυκτὶ τὴν ψυχὴν σου ἀπαιτοῦσιν ἀπὸ σοῦ· ἃ δὲ ἠτοίμασας τίνι ἔσται; οὕτως ὁ θησαυρίζων ἑαυτῷ, καὶ μὴ εἰς Θεὸν πλουτῶν.

2024 Youth Ambassadors Holy Trinity Church, Wilmington, DE



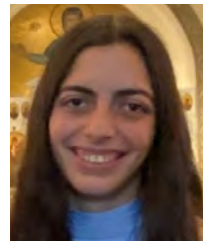
Eleni Marcantonis ~ Ambassador of Faith

Eleni is a Junior at Bayard Rustin High School where she excels in the classroom as well as on the Field Hockey team for the last three years. Outside of class she is a member of Student Council, Environmental Club, and serves as Secretary of Tri-M Music Honors Society, Finance VP of Book Club, and Co-President of A Cappella Club. She plans to attend university to study the sciences in hopes of attending medical school. Of course, her first passion is musical theater where she has starred in roles such as Mother Superior (Sister Act), Maureen (Rent), and Sandy (Spongebob) and is a member of the Uptown Singing group. At church, Eleni has stellar Sunday School attendance and has served as both President and Recording Secretary for GOYA, participates in Greek Dance, Basketball, and Youth Choir, but shines the brightest at Sights and Sounds! She is honored for this recognition of Ambassador of Faith.



Vasili Dargakis ~ Ambassador of Hope

Vasili Dargakis is a 17-year-old senior at Garnet Valley High School and an active member of the Greek Orthodox community. Baptized at St. Sophia Cathedral in Washington, DC, he has been involved with the Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA) since the 7th grade. Currently, he serves as the President of the Holy Trinity Wilmington GOYA, where he continues to demonstrate his dedication to his faith and community. Looking ahead, he plans to attend college next fall to major in business, aiming to bring his leadership skills into the professional world.



Theodora Karas ~ Ambassador of Love

Theodora is a high school senior, home-schooled in collaboration with Claritas Classical Academy where she schooled in classical studies. Theodora has been a member of Holy Trinity since 2022, since she moved to the area with her family. As a member of Holy Trinity, she participates in Sunday School, GOYA, Basketball and the Dance Group. She also enjoys volunteering at the annual festival. She enjoys the friendships she has forged since joining Holy Trinity. Prior to attending Holy Trinity, Theodora was a member of St. George GOC where she participated in GOYA and dance group. She is a dedicated student who is valued by her peers and tutors. She has helped organize a Bible study at her school to share her Orthodox Christian faith. She dedicates her free time working with her family at their business and on their family farm. After high school, she plans on furthering her studies at the university level with the goal to continue learning about God's world and His plan for her in the world. She plans to remain active within her Church community each Sunday as well as through YAL and Macedonian Dance Group



Maria Karakasidis ~ Ambassador of Peace

Maria is a senior at Unionville High School, set to graduate with the Class of 2024. She has always been a bright and compassionate individual, known for her dedication to both her studies and the people around her. Throughout her time at Smithson Valley, San Antonio and Unionville, Kennett Square Maria excelled academically, especially in science courses, which fueled her passion for the medical field. Her dream is to pursue a career where she can make a difference in people's lives through healthcare, a calling she has felt from a young age. Maria enjoys spending time with her family and friends as well as painting. As her family, we are incredibly proud of her accomplishments and her desire to contribute to society in such a meaningful way. We know that her future holds great things.

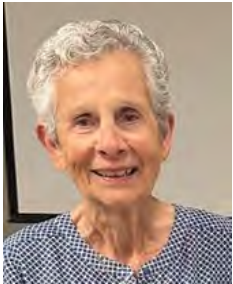
2024 Adult Honorees

Holy Trinity Church, Wilmington, DE



Lazarus Kirifides ~ Parish Honoree

Dr. Kirifides, born in New York City to Michael and Maria Protidou Kirifides, has devoted his life to serving others. He graduated from Friends Central School, earned his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, and went on to receive his medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. For over 36 years, he practiced Obstetrics and Gynecology in Wilmington, DE, delivering more than 3,000 babies and shaping the lives of countless families. He has served in leadership roles at Riverside Hospital, received accolades for his teaching, and was recognized for his 50 years of dedicated service to the medical profession. An active member of the Orthodox Church and the Hellenic community, he has also made significant contributions through his involvement in various organizations, including Leadership 100 and the Hellenic University Club. He has served as a Board member as well as Vice-president and Secretary of the Parish Council and was President of AHEPA Chapter #95. On Oct. 20, 2024 Dr. Kirifides was elevated to the distinguished rank of Archon. His guiding philosophy - *“If you give to the community your time, talent, and treasure, the community will give back to you”* - reflects his deep commitment to God, family, and service.



Sophia Tarabicos ~ Philoptochos Honoree

Sophia (Liarakos)Tarabicos was born in Wilmington, DE on April 27, 1934, the year the Greek community was incorporated and is one of the oldest living original members. When the community purchased the property at 8th & Broom Streets in Wilmington and Holy Trinity was built, she became a member of the church choir and played the organ. In 1954, she married James Tarabicos and they both served the ministries of the community. James was president of the parish council from 1972 to 1974. Sophia was a Sunday School teacher from 1966-1974. In 1982, she was elected President of the St. Agapi Philoptochos and served until 1984, when she was then appointed to the New Jersey Diocese Philoptochos Board, serving as secretary. In 1988 she formed the parish Terpsichorean Dance Troupe with Presbyteria Georgia Rassias. Sophia has three children, Alexandra Nannas (Ted), Larry, and Georgiean Dovellos (Gus), 6 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren with another one in the way.



Kleopatra Dargakis ~ Youth Worker Honoree

Kleopatra Dargakis grew up in Washington, DC, where she was an active participant in the Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA) at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Her passion for GOYA continued throughout her youth, and during college, where she volunteered as a GOYA assistant coach. Now a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), she works with individuals with behavioral challenges, dedicating her skills to helping others thrive. In addition to her professional work, she is currently the girls' GOYA basketball coach for Holy Trinity, where she continues to mentor and inspire young athletes. She is married and has three children, balancing her family life with her ongoing commitment to her faith and community.



Evangeline “Evita” Guajardo ~ Church Musician Honoree

Singing has always been a passion of Evangeline's. She was encouraged by both her mother and Yaiyai, who urged her to join the church choir over a decade ago. Though she was initially hesitant due to her limited Greek, she quickly fell in love with liturgical music. Singing in the choir fills her with joy and connects her deeply to the church's rich history. She believes we use our voices to glorify God, and as a youth choir leader, she strives to inspire the same love for this sacred music in the next generation.



His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey



Invites All the Faithful to the
First Celebration of the Feast of St. Iakovos of Evia
Patron Saint of the Metropolis of New Jersey



Hierarchical Great Vespers,
Acolyte Blessing,
and Dinner Reception

Thursday, November 21, 2024
6:00 P.M.

Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road
Westfield, NJ 07090

Orthros,
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy,
and Reception

Friday, November 22, 2024
9:00 A.M.

Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of New Jersey
215 E. Grove Street
Westfield, NJ 07090



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS of NEW JERSEY



HIS EMINENCE
METROPOLITAN APOSTOLOS OF NEW JERSEY
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO A

Symposium

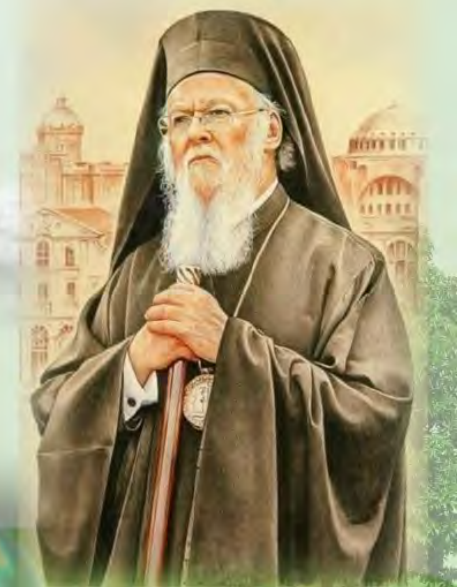
**“OUR GREEN PATRIARCH,
HIS ALL-HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW:
OUR ORTHODOX FAITH AND OUR ENVIRONMENT”**

**SATURDAY
23 NOVEMBER 2024**

**SAINT THOMAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY
at 9:00 a.m.**

- 9-9:45am** • Registration & Light Breakfast
- 9:45-10am** • Welcome, Invocation & Introductions
- 10-11am** • **“Creation, Incarnation and Transfiguration: The Task of Theological Thinking in an Age of Ecological Crisis”**
Jack Pappas, PhD, Fordham University
- 11:15-12:15pm** • **“Joining in the Praise of All Creatures: Orthodox Liturgy and the Earth”**
Crina Gschwandtner, PhD, Fordham University
- 12:15-12:30pm** • Response, **His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey**
- Luncheon following

**RSVP: ArchonCJL@gmail.com
Please reply by 11/18/24**



SAINT THOMAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, 615 MERCER STREET, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08002



**Ladies Philoptochos Society
 Saint Agape Chapter
 Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
 Wilmington, Delaware
 Christmas Cookie Sale**



**Orders are due by November 20th, 2024 Orders can be picked up
 December 17th & 18th between 3:00-7:00 PM in the church hall
 Contact: Eleni Karakasidis at (302) 898-6047 with any questions**

Name:		Telephone #:		
Item	Pieces	Price	Quantity	Total
Koulourakia	12	\$15		
Variety Box	4 Koulourakia 4 Almond 3 Kourambiedes 3 Melomakarona 2 Baklava	\$28		
Baklava	8	\$24		
Total Amount Due:				

**Make checks payable to Philoptochos Society and mail to:
 Popi Papachrysanthou, 726 Mill Creek Lane
 Bear, DE 19701
 (302) 290-1717**

2024 Community Christmas Card

Dear Parishioners,

Our annual Christmas Card serves two purposes:

First, it gives the community the opportunity to send Christmas greetings to friends and family. Second, Your contribution of \$25.00 per family enables Philoptochos to fulfill helping the needy in our community and our local and National charities. Please consider supporting this endeavor.

You can participate in the following ways:

- 1) Call Joanne Tarabicos @ 302.239.4950 or Joanna Tsaganos @ 302.478.5536.
- 2) by Email at jdtaras@aol.com
- 3) use the form below and mail the information and/or payment to:
Joanne Tarabicos, 5802 Stone Pine Road, Wilmington, DE 19808 or
to the Church Office @ 808 N Broom Street, Wilmington, DE 19806

Please make the check of \$25.00 payable to: Philoptochos Society

There will be forms in the Narthex of the Church and we will have a table during coffee hour from November 10 to December 8, 2024

Deadline: Sunday, December 8, 2023

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Joanne Tarabicos and Joanna Tsaganos

I/We wish to add my/our name(s) to the Community Christmas Card.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City & State _____

Zip _____

Telephone: _____



Goya Ad Book Form

2025 Basketball Tournament January 18 & 19, 2025



Please check a box off and send in the ad information and payment. Make checks payable to Holy Trinity GOYA. Different types of ads may be accepted, for example: in remembrance ads, graduation ads, pictures, business ads, store ads, personal congratulatory ads, etc. Below are the prices per each different advertisements. Thank you for your support.

- Back Cover (full page): \$175
- Front Inside Cover (full page): \$175
- Back Inside Cover (full page): \$175
- Half-Page: B&W: \$50, COLOR: \$65
- Full-Page: B&W: \$100, COLOR: \$115

Ads may be sent to office@holytrinitywilmington.org as attachments, or write and submit a message and picture below and give to any GOYAn or send to the Church Office.

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HUC WILMINGTON & THE PARISH COUNCIL
PRESENT

BARBARA GOVATOS, VIOLIN
CYNTHIA RAIM, PIANO & ROBERT MARTIN, CELLO



TRIOS BY BEETHOVEN & BRAHMS

SUNDAY | DEC 8 | 4PM



MUSIC SCHOOL OF DELAWARE
4101 WASHINGTON ST. WILMINGTON
DOORS OPEN 3:50 PM RECEPTION FOLLOWS

ADMISSION: \$30
CHILDREN/STUDENTS: \$15
SENIORS > 75 YRS \$15

TICKETS : HUCWILMINGTON.ORG

All proceeds after costs will equally benefit the HUC Scholarship Fund & the Capital Campaign.

A JOURNEY OF FAITH
To Thessaloniki, Mt. Athos and Constantinople
Led by His Eminence Apostolos of New Jersey
February 21-March 3, 2025: 11 Days / 9 Nights



Thessaloniki & Mt. Athos: See the most important religious sites in Northern Greece. Visit Greece's second largest city, Thessaloniki. Attend Liturgy at the Cathedral of St. Demetrios, visit the Monastery of St. John the Theologian in Souroti to venerate the grave of St. Paissios and visit the awe inspiring Meteora Monasteries. Men will depart for the Holy Mountain for two nights and the women will enjoy a visit to Ormylia Monastery and a visit to a museum in Thessaloniki.

Constantinople: Visit the important Greek Orthodox sites: the Ecumenical Patriarchate and St George Cathedral, Agia Sophia, Panagia Vlacherna where the "Te Ypermahou" was first chanted, Chora and Baloukli Monastery - Zoodochos Peghe. Also, visit the Underground Cisterns. Shop at the exciting Grand Bazaar! Enjoy a birthday banquet for His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew as well as a private audience with the Patriarch (subject to confirmation).

SPACE IS LIMITED and on a FIRST-COME BASIS

RATE: Per person double occupancy \$4700* & single occupancy \$5635*

*Rates include the air tax/fuel of approximately \$475 which is not guaranteed until ticketing a month prior to departure. Rate above reflects a 4% check discount which does not apply if payment is made any other way. Due to Aegean Airlines group reservations policy, the air fare between Thessaloniki and Istanbul is not guaranteed and may be subject to fare increases depending on when you make your reservation to join the group. An air supplement may apply.

Deposit of \$800 due by November 20, 2024 or late booking fee of \$50 per person will apply.

YOUR TOUR WILL INCLUDE:

- *Round-trip airfare on Turkish Airlines: EWR / IST / Thessaloniki & IST / EWR & Aegean Airlines: Thessaloniki / ATH / IST
- *Private arrival and departure transfers in a deluxe air conditioned motorcoach with English speaking escort
- *7 1/2 days of private sightseeing for men & 6 days for the women. All entrance fees are included.
- *Women: 6 nts first class hotel in Thessaloniki at the Electra Palace or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes and service fees.
- *Men: 4 nts first class accommodation in Thessaloniki at the Electra Palace or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes and service fees & 2 nts accommodation on the Holy Mountain including meals and transportation on the Holy Mountain & roundtrip private ferries
- *All: 3 nts first class accommodation in Constantinople at the Divan Istanbul Hotel or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes & service fees.
- *1 welcome dinner in Thessaloniki, 1 dinner in Constantinople & a banquet for His. All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew
- *Private audience with His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (subject to confirmation)

New Date & Location

10th Anniversary Gala
in Honor of the Episcopal Ordination of
His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey



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Monday, January 13, 2025
The Venetian | Garfield, New Jersey

The Fall General Assembly
will take place **TODAY**
Sunday, November 17, 2024
in the Community Center after worship.
Please plan to attend.



Prot. No. 392/2024

Archepiscopal Encyclical for National Philoptochos Sunday

November 17, 2024

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America:

Go, and do likewise. (*Luke 10:37*)

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ,

On this National Philoptochos Sunday, when we remember the parable of the “Good Samaritan” that was read last Sunday, let us take inspiration from the final words that the Lord addresses to the lawyer who was trying to best Him in an argument. “Go, and do likewise,” the Lord said to him, and to all of us. Be merciful! Show compassion! And this is the essence of what it means to be part of Philoptochos.

Our National Philoptochos Societies, with tens of thousands of sisters who labor with love on behalf of others, have learned this lesson well from our Lord and Savior. The core value of their various ministries is to follow the example of the Samaritan and to extend God’s mercy and compassion to anyone who is in need.

Let us support them in their service to our fellow brothers and sisters, knowing that they fulfill a great need in the world. They have taken the word of the Lord to heart. And although we might not be able to be in the trenches with them, we can offer them the resources they require to “go and do likewise.” In this way, we join with them, with the Samaritan of the Gospel, and with our Lord Himself in the redemption of the world.

With paternal love in Christ,

†

ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



Άριθμ. Πρωτ.: 392/2024

Αρχιεπισκοπική Έγκύκλιος για την Κυριακή τῆς Ἐθνικῆς Φιλοπτώχου Ἀδελφότητος.

17 Νοεμβρίου 2024

Πρὸς τοὺς Σεβασμιωτάτους καὶ Θεοφιλεστάτους Ἀρχιερεῖς, τοὺς Εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱερεῖς καὶ Διακόνους, τὶς Πρεσβυτέρες καὶ τὶς Διακόνισσες, τοὺς Μοναχοὺς καὶ τὶς Μοναχές, τοὺς Προέδρους καὶ τὰ Μέλη τῶν Κοινοτικῶν Συμβουλίων, τοὺς Ἐντιμολογιωτάτους Ἄρχοντες τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου, τὰ μέλη τῆς Ἠγεσίας τῶν 100, τὰ Ἡμερήσια καὶ Ἀπογευματινὰ Σχολεῖα, τὶς Φιλοπτώχους Ἀδελφότητες, τὴ Νεολαία, τὶς Ἑλληνορθόδοξες Ὄργανώσεις καὶ ὁλόκληρο τὸ Χριστεπώνυμο πλήρωμα τῆς Ἱερᾶς Αρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς.

«Πορεύου καὶ σὺ ποίει ὁμοίως» (Λουκᾶ 10:37).

Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

Ἡ σημερινὴ Κυριακὴ εἶναι ἀφιερωμένη στὴν Ἐθνικὴ μας Φιλόπτωχο Ἀδελφότητα καί, εὐκαιρίας δοθείσης, ἄς ξαναθυμηθοῦμε τὴν παραβολὴ τοῦ

«Καλοῦ Σαμαρείτη», ἡ ὁποία διαβάστηκε τὴν περασμένη Κυριακὴ. Σὲ αὐτὴ τὴν παραβολή, ὁ Κύριος ἀπευθύνεται πρὸς κάποιο νομικό, ὁ ὁποῖος τὸν ρωτᾷ ἐν τῇ σωτηρίᾳ, λέγοντάς του (καὶ μέσῳ αὐτοῦ σὲ ὅλους ἐμᾶς): «πορεύου καὶ σὺ καὶ ποίει ὁμοίως»! Γίνετε οἰκτίρμονες καὶ ἐλεήμονες! Αὐτὸ ἀκριβῶς εἶναι τὸ νόημα τοῦ νὰ εἶσαι μέλος τῆς Φιλοπτώχου Ἀδελφότητος.

Τὰ κατὰ τόπους τμήματα τῆς Φιλοπτώχου Ἀδελφότητος, μὲ χιλιάδες μέλη, ἀδελφές μας πὸν ἐργάζονται καὶ διακονοῦν μὲ ἀγάπη ἀνιδιοτελῶς πρὸς τὸν πλησίον, ἔχουν μαθητεύσει ἄριστα στὰ πόδια τοῦ Κυρίου μας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ὁ κεντρικὸς σκοπὸς τῶν διακονιῶν αὐτῶν εἶναι νὰ μιμηθοῦν τὸ παράδειγμα τοῦ «Καλοῦ Σαμαρείτη», δείχνοντας τὸ ἔλεος τοῦ Θεοῦ, συμπονώντας ὅποιον ἔχει ἀνάγκη.

Ἄς τὶς στηρίξουμε, λοιπόν, στὴ διακονία τους πρὸς τὸν πλησίον, γνωρίζοντας ὅτι καλύπτουν ἓνα μεγάλο κενὸ στὴν κοινωνία μας. Ἔχουν βάλει τὸ λόγὸ τοῦ Κυρίου στὴν καρδιά τους καὶ τὸν κάνουν πράξη. Ἀκόμη καὶ ἂν δὲν μπορούμε νὰ εἴμαστε μαζί μὲ αὐτὲς στὴν πρώτη γραμμὴ, μπορούμε νὰ προσφέρουμε τὸν ὀβολὸ μας πρὸς ἐνίσχυσή τους, ὥστε νὰ ἔχουν τοὺς ἀναγκαίους πόρους γιὰ νὰ «πορευθοῦν καὶ νὰ ποιήσουν ὁμοίως». Μὲ αὐτὸ τὸν τρόπο συμπράττουμε μαζί τους, ὅπως καὶ μὲ τὸ Σαμαεῖτη τῆς εὐαγγελικῆς περικοπῆς, καθὼς καὶ μὲ τὸν ἴδιο τὸν Χριστὸ στὸ ἔργο τῆς σωτηρίας τοῦ κόσμου.

Μετὰ πατρικῆς ἐν Χριστῷ ἀγάπης,

+ Ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος

This Sunday's Hymns

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον. ᾠχος δ'.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριάι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 4.

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, "Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!"

Ἀπολυτίκιον. ᾠχος πλ. δ'.

Ἐν προσευχαῖς γρηγορῶν, ταῖς τῶν θαυμάτων ἐργασίαις ἐγκαρτερῶν, ἐπωνυμίαν ἐκτήσω τὰ κατορθώματα· ἀλλὰ πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, Πάτερ Γρηγόριε, φωτίσαι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν, μὴ ποτε ὑπνώσωμεν, ἐν ἀμαρτίαις εἰς θάνατον.

Apolytikion. Mode pl. 4.

By your accomplishments, you earned the name that you bore, for you were vigilant in prayer and diligent in working miracles. Therefore, holy father Gregory, intercede with Christ our God, that He illumine our souls, lest we fall asleep in sin unto death.

ᾠχος πλ. δ'.

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας, καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας, φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Mode pl. 4.

O Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who by sending down the Holy Spirit upon them, made the fishermen wise, and through them illumined the world and to you the universe was ever drawn – all Glory to you O Lord.

Κοντάκιον. Kontakion.

Κοντάκιον. ᾠχος δ'. Ὁ ὑψωθείς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ.

Ὁ καθαρῶτατος ναὸς τοῦ Σωτῆρος, ἡ πολυτίμητος παστὰς καὶ Παρθένος, τὸ ἱερὸν θησαύρισμα τῆς δόξης τοῦ Θεοῦ, σήμερον εἰσάγεται, ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ Κυρίου, τὴν χάριν συνεισάγουσα, τὴν ἐν Πνεύματι Θείῳ· ἦν ἀνυμνοῦσιν Ἄγγελοι Θεοῦ· Αὕτη ὑπάρχει σκηνὴ ἐπουράνιος.

Kontakion. Mode 4. You who were lifted.

The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is she.