

## **ORTHODOX ORACLE**



APRIL 2020



## The Resurrection of Lazarus

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your passion, / You did confirm the universal Resurrection, O Christ God! / Like the children with the palms of victory, / We cry out to You, O Vanquisher of death; / Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord! The Hymn of the Feast

The **story of Lazarus** is known from the Gospel narrative of John (11:18, 30, 32.) **Lazarus** was the brother of Martha and Mary and lived in Bethany, near Jerusalem. When **Lazarus** died, he was raised by Jesus from the dead after he had been **entombed for four days.** The miracle of **Lazarus**' resurrection represents Jesus showing His lordship over life and **death**; that Jesus was more powerful than **death**, and to prefigure His own resurrection in the coming days. (**Lazarus**' name is derived from the Hebrew Eleazar **meaning** "God has helped".)

Why did Jesus cry for Lazarus? Pope Leo the Great referred to this passage when he discussed the two natures of **Jesus**: "In His humanity **Jesus wept for Lazarus**; in His divinity he raised him from the dead." The sorrow, sympathy, and compassion **Jesus** felt for all mankind. The rage he felt against the tyranny of death over mankind.

#### CHURCH INFORMATION

CHURCH

Address:

Dormition of the Theotokos 800 Westridge Road Greensboro NC 27410

Phone: 336-292-8013 Fax: 336-256-9908 Secretary: Donna Raxter

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am – Ipm Priest by appointment

WEBSITE: www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

EMAIL: office@dormition.nc.goarch.org

CLERGY

Rev. Father Sarantis Loulakis Phone: 516-526-1475 patersarantis@yahoo.com

PHILOPTOCHOS Catherine Stuman 336-392-4264 ccstuman@yahoo.com

MUSIC Michelle Thompson Phone: (336) 906-0804 rmthompson1@earthlink.net

SUNDAY SCHOOL Maria Colozzi, mkcolozzi@gmail.com

WEBSITE

YOUTH DIRECTOR

Yianni Margiotis Phone: (980) 406-0977 ymargiot@gmail.com

JOY Abeer Maayeh <u>abeer@mac.com</u> abeernm@hotmail.com

Deadline for newsletter submissions: the 15th of the month Please submit them to office@dormition.nc.goarch.org

Church Services: Sunday Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am Heavenly Father!

We praise You for Your church.

For the way You place us to work together to spread the Gospel love of

Jesus Christ. The calling to pour out

Your love on others is humbling and
fulfilling. Your plan is perfect and we are
all a part of it!

Thank You for the church we serve in.

We know it's no accident that You have placed us here; even in moments of boredom or fatigue, we know that when we seek to hear Your voice above all others, we will find reassurance and encouragement. Amen!

2020 PARISH COUNCIL

President

Philip Vavalides 336-707-1160

pvavalides@triad.rr.com

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#### IT IS IMPERATIVE TO KNOW That ...

Dear Faithful,

It is indeed with prodigious joy to humbly and passionately serve all of you with much love and care at all times. Please know that besides communicating with me during the weekly office hours or after every divine service, I joyfully welcome your phone calls, text messages and email conversations and *occasionally* through Facebook. Therefore, depending upon the urgency of your call/question/wish I acknowledge to you the following means of communication.

For an *immediate response*, especially for emergencies, I recommend for you to call me direct at (516) 526-1475. I answer all the calls immediately when *available*, or within the hour of your call, BUT ONLY if a short message is left.

For responses that ARE NOT of immediate need, but must be answered on the same day then one may place a phone call or send a text message.

Because there are at least 10 -25 email that I respond to daily among the over 150 plus emails, which I received daily, it makes it very difficult to answer (all) emails on a daily basis. However, if you think your email is important for me to answer on the same day then kindly follow it up with a text message. I check my emails twice daily at different times except Saturdays and Sundays.

Furthermore, please know that the electronic media is not always trustworthy. In that case kindly call. Thank you all for your understanding and love. God bless!

Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

#### A Message from Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

Beloved Faithful in Christ, Christ is in our midst!

As we near to embark on the sacred walk of **Holv** virus, it is my fervent prayer that with the Lord's grace, all of you continue to stay above healthy, while increasing your spiritual Lenten exercises of prayer, fasting and alms giving. Happy and blessed Holy Week! Happy and blessed Easter! (Kali Anastasis!)

Holy Week for many Orthodox Christians, if not all, is the tion, to which we had raised our palm branches on **Palm** longest walk of the liturgical year, especially being amidst a threatening virus, however, it is so spiritually uplifting. No obstacles should stop us from celebrating and reliving our Orthodox faith, even if our church's doors are closed. Why? Well, our homes are types of church when adorned with icons, hand censers and oil lamps. Furthermore, remember that our bodies are "the temples" where the Holy Spirit abides and keeps all of us calm in these stressful times; so, let us take our Holy Week's walk to uplift our spirits. Let us all now relive our Holy Week walk.

On Palm Sunday, we begin the walk at the outskirts of Jerusalem, where together with the disciples we will throw our "cloaks" over a colt for Jesus to sit on, as He enters the city as a victorious King over *death*, (*Lazarus* story) while cheering Him wavering our palm branches. Undoubtedly, everyone recognizes that this a strange scene, we all know that kings after a battle victories rode on great stallions, not donkeys. But Jesus chooses to be a living story, a story of humility.

Amidst the Holy Week's walk, we will walk on the hills of *Gethsemane*, where the disciples fall asleep as Jesus prays in agony. The soldiers fully armed come to arrest The Prince of peace. Again, another strange scene! Why would a peace maker be arrested? We will then walk with Jesus to His **mockery of a trial**, full of lies and false accusations. Perhaps, we also walk away with Peter, who **denies him three times**. But hopefully, as Peter weeps tears of confession, we too may weep with repentance tears, as we humbly recognize that we may also have denied Christ with our acts.

Perhaps, we will walk **on Holy Thursday**, following Jesus as He carries His cross, mourning along with the women. And then we stop, it's **Good Friday**. Standing on our feet, we watch from afar, as Jesus, the Lord, the Champion King, hangs on the cross as He prays to God, the Father, and says: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34 A strange scene one may say, indeed!

But now what?

Will we accompany Jesus the rest of the way, to **His Bur**ial, the Epitafios to bury our faults? When our lives, or Week, and as we are cautiously dealing with the Covid-19 the lives of those around us, bring us to places of trial and suffering, will we walk with Jesus there? Will we mirror Jesus to choose to embrace seeming humility by forgiving those who have hurt us in the past? If we stop here and not convinced to follow Jesus to the end with prayer, repentance and forgiveness, then we may miss the victory of His Holy Resurrection, our prize, our own resurrec-**Sunday**. We will probably miss it, because, perhaps we may not have included in our Holy Week's walk the great feast of Lazarus' resurrection. And if we missed it, then we did not have the opportunity to dwell on the scene when Jesus wept at the tomb of Lazarus, His best friend who had died and laid four days in the tomb. Perhaps we missed the joyous words of our champion King that were cry out loudly: "... He called out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The man who had been dead came out with his hands and feet bound in strips of linen, and his face wrapped in a cloth." John 11:43

> Why is the Lazarus' Resurrection so important to us? It is because we are the today's Lazarus, whom Christ will raise from the dead. By the raising of Lazarus from the dead notice how Jesus caused Lazarus' resurrection. He said, "And when He had thus spoken, He cried with a loud voice. Lazarus, come forth." Saint John Chrysostom comments on this, why did he not say, "In the name of My Father come forth"? Or, "Father, raise him up"? Christ omit all these expressions to show by His actions His independent authority, His wisdom, to show not only by words, but by His deeds, power.... This is that of which He spoke, "The hour is coming, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and they that hear shall live." John 5:28

My beloved,

It was Lazarus' resurrection (Icon on the front cover) that brought out the crowds on Palm Sunday. Jesus had no illusions that raising Lazarus from the dead would convince everyone. What about you? Has He convinced you? It is my hope that your Holy Week's walk that you will follow may bring you and your family health, protection, love, understanding, repentance and wisdom that Lord Jesus is the King of Kings and the Son of God, Who loves all of us so much. Let us love Him with our hearts. Don't miss His Holy Resurrection! Follow Him habitually in church. Wishing all of you a blessed Easter, (Kali Anastasis!)

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#### STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

## Develop a heart of generosity

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35b

A friend who regularly volunteers to serve meals to the needy illustrates the truth behind Jesus' teaching. "It's so rewarding to help," she says, explaining that the time and hard work is worth it. "I think I get more out of it than they do."

When we give generously, it is often we who are blessed. But more than just enjoying a pleasant emotion, the act of giving truly blesses us by shaping our personalities and developing our character. That's a truth affirmed by research. (Check out "The Science of Generosity" white paper from the University of California at Berkeley, or The Science of Generosity Initiative at Notre Dame University!)

Generous people tend to be the kind of good folk we want as friends and neighbors. And they frequently are generous not only with their money but also their time, their love and their very selves. In other words, they are not merely generous, they are *generous-hearted*.

Anyone can develop a generous heart, or a *more* generous heart. Begin by deepening your relationship with God by seeking guidance and wisdom in daily prayer. Then simply begin to pour yourself out for the sake of others, giving generously as a spiritual exercise and discipline. Here are four ideas that won't cost you a dime:

Give a smile. Smile at everyone you see. You may be surprised at how it changes your mood.

Give a nice thought. Say something nice to everyone – family and friends, co-workers, parishioners, store clerks, folks in an elevator.

Give a courtesy. Hold a door open for the person behind you; at the grocery, let someone with just one or two items go ahead of you; stop for pedestrians.

**Give your time.** Find ways to serve people face-to-face: tutor schoolchildren, serve community meals, visit your church's shut-ins, teach ESL, volunteer at a homeless shelter.

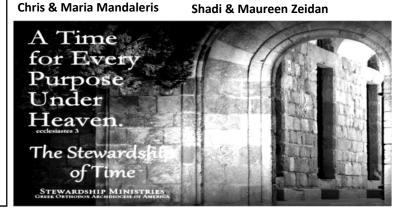
Jesus said it is more blessed to give than receive. When we give our time, talents and possessions, God blesses us by developing in us a generous heart. "As soon as the word spread, the people of Israel gave in abundance the first fruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field." 2 Chronicles 31:55

Vickie Matsakides

76 families have filled out & returned a 2020 Stewardship card as of March 15: THANK YOU!

Fred & Michelle Akbary **Cecelia Antahades Mary Anton Nick Bartis** Jacob & Shannon Bishara Erin & Kris Blindenbacher **Sofia Calis Brad Caplanides Christina & Graham Childs Gabriella Christy** Carl & Maria Colozzi Maria & James Cropper Hamp & Lula Culler **Demetri & Joy Dascalakis** Nikolaos & Alexandra **Diamandis** Mike Dolianitis Paula Doumas & Brad Van Laningham Ron & Sondra Freeman **Brier & Elaine Gay** Clarke & Nina Gilliam **Pete Graham** Scott & Christa Graham Maher & Niveen Hanna **Eleni Harrison Rob & Missy Harrison** Ike & Cindy Hatzisavvas Michael John James Dina & Theodora Katsis Nihad & Sana Kattan **Barbara Kazazes** Angelo N. Kontoulas Greg & Eleni Kuhn Shawn Kuhn Michael & Lydia Long Fr. Sarantis & Presv. Norma Loulakis Joanne Macropoulos

**Lampros & Theodora Megremis Eddie & Maria Merrell Emily & Sam Mihelich** Samer & Rania Mushahwar **Nicholas & Hollis Oberlies Dimitrios & Anastasia Papadopoulos** Michael & Nina Pasick John Patterson Vasiliki Patterson Peter & Phyllis Poulos Julie & Adam Powell **Larry & Minerva Ross Panagiotis & Barbara Sabanis Chris & Ardele Sakellaris** Bernadette Shepherd **Roger & Celia Sims Bessie Sipsis Jimmy & Linda Sipsis** Joseph & Nectaria Smith Mikhail & Ginah Soufia Catherine & Jim Stuman Kirk & Kiki Tarasidis **Christos & Ashley Thalassenos Danny & Maria Thanos Tom & Michelle Thompson Art & June Toompas** Zack & Sheila Touloupas Nafsika Tsintzos Mark Tzouvelekas **David Valavanis** Yianni & Effie Varitimidis **Kimmon & Gwen Varsamis Philip & Teresa Vavalides Kay & David Williams** Marshall & Patricia Yandle **Doris Zaharias** Zoe Zaharias



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# Orthodox Fellowship Lunch: Will not meet this month.



URBAN MINISTRY: In light of the many uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, we will **NOT** be serving dinner at Greensboro Urban Ministry on April 20th. Though we are disheartened not to be able to provide the dinner service, the health and safety of our parishioners and our fellow community members must come first. We will, however, still be providing financial sponsorship for the meal. If you are interested in providing financial support for any of our meals this year, please contact Scott Graham (<a href="mailto:scottalgraham@gmail.com">scottalgraham@gmail.com</a>) or Pete Graham (<a href="mailto:petegraham88@gmail.com">petegraham88@gmail.com</a>). Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry!

#### Thank you to everyone who gave donations for Lent.... Especially:

Nafsika Tsintzos and Joanne Macropoulos for flowers for the Friday Salutations services; Kirk & Kiki Tarasidis for the flowers for the Elevation of the cross; Eleni Kuhn and everyone who cleaned the church for Holy Week & Pascha



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### The Teachings of the Church

Making God Real in the Orthodox Christian Home by Anthony Coniaris Excerpts from pages 148-151

#### **Before Going to Church on Good Friday**

Before going to services on Good Friday, it is good for parents to discuss and explain to their children the meaning of the beautiful services in which they are called to participate. In order to assist parents in their explanation we offer the following highlights.

#### The Service of the Descent from the Cross

On the morning of Holy Friday the service of the Royal Hours is held consisting of Old Testament prophecies relating to the passion and crucifixion of Christ and their fulfillment in the New Testament. The Vespers for Great and Holy Friday are celebrated in the afternoon. During this service the final events of the life of Christ are retold: the trial, the sentencing, the scouring, the mocking, the crucifixion, the death, the descent from the cross, and the burial. As the Gospel account is read, a person, representing Joseph of Arimathea, removes the Body of Christ from the cross, wraps it in a shroud and carries it into the altar, representing the tomb.

Toward the end of this service the priest lifts a large embroidered icon depicting Christ lying in the tomb, and carries it in a procession around the church. Finally he lays it in the specially decorated symbolic tomb in the center of the church. During the procession the following hymn is sung:

The Noble Joseph, when he had taken down the most pure body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen, and anointing it with spices, placed it in a new tomb.

It is around the symbolic tomb of Jesus, beautifully decorated with flowers, that the evening service will take place.

#### The Service of the Lamentation of Our Lord's Death

In John 19:25 we read, "...standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, and Mary Magdalene." Mary the Theotokos stood by the cross and watched her Son die. In the Lamentations that we sing on the evening of Great and Holy Friday, Mary expresses her feelings about her Son's death. Sharing these feelings we sing with her the Lamentations.

In most Orthodox Churches the Lamentation hymns are printed for worshippers to follow. Make it a point to meditate prayerfully on these beautiful hymns during the service.

#### Passing under the Tomb

Some Orthodox Churches observe the custom of having children pass under the symbolic tomb of Christ on Good Friday. This act is a renewal of our baptismal commitment. When we are immersed in Baptism, we die with Christ. When we are raised out of the water, we are resurrected with Him. Falling on our knees and crawling under the tomb of Christ is an act of humility and commitment to Christ on the day when He shed His precious Blood for our salvation.

#### The Procession

Good Friday in the Orthodox Church commemorates not only the death and burial of Jesus but also His descent into Hades where He preached His Gospel to all those who had died before His coming. In this descent Jesus Who is the Life encountered and destroyed death. As the hymn says, Thou hast come down to earth to save Adam and having not found him on earth, Thou hast descended, searching for him, even in Hades.

The solemn procession around the church on Good Friday with the embroidered icon of the entombed Christ is not only a funeral procession; it represents also the Son of God, the Immortal One, proceeding through the darkness of Hades pre-announcing the joy of the Resurrection. During this procession the choir sings the hymn, "Holy God...." The procession stops a number of times for the priest to address petitions to the Lord.

#### The Old Testament Prophecy (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

The theme of the Resurrection is picked up in the Old Testament reading from the Prophet Ezekiel. God speaks to the prophet who is looking into a huge valley filled with the dry bones of the dead. God announces to Ezekiel that the earth is not intended to be a universal graveyard. Not death but resurrection is the ultimate destiny of man. The dry bones will hear the words of the Lord. The dead will live again. "Behold, my people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of the graves...."

At the conclusion of the service it is customary in some churches for the worshippers to receive a flower from the beautifully decorated symbolic tomb of Christ. This is taken home and preserved reverently in the family icon corner.

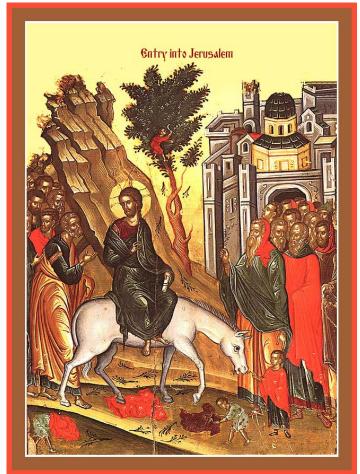
## **Tentative Sunday School Schedule**

# All classes listed are tentative APRIL

5 – 5th Sunday of Lent/St. Mary of Egypt No services

#### TENTATIVE HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- 11 <u>Saturday of Lazarus</u>: <u>No Services</u>
- 12 <u>PALM SUNDAY</u> <u>No services</u>
- 17 GOOD FRIDAY Apokathilosis Service / Myrrh bearing women.
- 19 EASTER SUNDAY No classes
- 26 <u>St. Thomas Sunday</u> Class 11:10 am – 12 Noon.



## **MAY**

- 3 <u>Sunday of Myrrh-bearing Women</u> Class 11:10 am 12 Noon.

  \*\*Sermonette Sunday (before Distribution of Holy Communion.)
- 10 <u>Sunday of Paralytic</u> Class 11:10 am 12 Noon

  \*\*Teachers Meeting: Discussing awards Sunday / Children's Outing /
  Teachers Appreciation Gathering.
- 17 Sunday of Samaritan Woman Last Class 11:10 am 12 Noon.
- 24 Sunday of the Blind Man NO CLASS
  A Promotion Sunday / AWARDS No class

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## Parish Council Corner

Prayer of Protection from the Coronavirus
(Prayer by Grace Bishop Alexis (Trader) of Bethesda)

O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your ineffable goodness, look down upon Your people gathered in Your name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. You know our weakness. You hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart. O Lord who loves mankind deliver us from the impending threat of the corona virus. Send Your Angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of physicians, and preserve those who are healthy that we may continue to serve You in peace and glorify Your most honorable and majestic Name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

The Parish Council would like to wish anyone celebrating their name day during April, Chronia Polla.

In this time of uncertainty with the COVID-19 virus, it is difficult to write this message. The parish council held our monthly meeting on Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Since then it seems that things have change almost hourly. There have been a few days that the parish council has received three or four emails that contradict each other. Keeping this in mind, the following is the status as of March 23<sup>nd</sup>.

First and foremost, following directions from His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta we have closed the church and office to all visitors. Father continues to serve the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning with the aid of two chanters, and a parish council member. We are streaming the service on Facebook Live. Parishioners are not allowed to attend. We do not have any idea how long this situation will last. We will keep everyone informed by phone and email.

All parishioners are encouraged to watch our streaming services and to follow along. If you wish to follow the service but don't have a book, an excellent resource is AGES Initiatives. This is the

resource that the chanters use in singing the services.

We do not know what the situation will be when we reach Holy Week and Pascha. Hopefully it will be better by then, but if parishioners are not allowed in the church and if Father is allowed to hold services without parishioners in attendance, we will stream the services. We all pray that we will be able to celebrate the resurrection together.

Sadly, we have to report that we have canceled a number of activities that we planned for this spring. The Drive Thru Food and Pastry Sale, the Pascha picnic, and the Oratorical Festival will not be held. We do not anticipate holding the Palm Sunday luncheon. The Parish Assembly that was scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup> has been postponed. We are praying that we do not have to cancel the festival in September.

The church office is closed to all visitors until further notice. You may call or email the office as necessary. The secretary will be available to answer phones and messages during her normal work hours.

During this time our financial obligations continue. Please take a moment and mail your stewardship contributions to the office. We will have a parish council member in church each Sunday to light candles for you. If you would like one or more candles lit, please send your request and donation to the office so that it is received by Friday.

Even though we may not have services during Holy Week, we will still be decorating the icons, the cross and the kouvuklion and will gladly accept your donations for those needs.

The parish council is dedicated to helping our parish in these troubled time. Please give us an opportunity to answer any questions that you might have as we deal with the virus. We encourage you to communicate any questions, comments or concerns with your parish council, either by phone or email. (information is on page 2 of this newsletter). Please direct any liturgical questions to Father Sarantis.

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Top Row: Sunday School children sorting Food Bank donations to be delivered to the Blessed Table Food Pantry.

Middle and Bottom Rows: Glendi! February 29, 2020

#### LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY NEWS

On February 26th, our donated canned goods were delivered to the Blessed Table Food Pantry and they were thrilled to receive our donation! We collected 230 pounds which was a great addition to their food pantry and the people they assist. This donation is equivalent to 192 meals! A special Thank You to those who donated goods, to Catherine Stuman and Cecelia Antahades for making the delivery, as well as to the Sunday School students and teachers for their assistance in sorting and boxing the food for delivery. We appreciate all who support our efforts!

A special thank you to everyone who assisted the Benson family Sunday, March 8th, by bringing food for the Fellowship Hour following the 40 Day Memorial Service for our Philoptochos sister, Kathy. Many thanks to our members who also assisted with set up and clean up. Everything was lovely and very much appreciated by the family. May Kathy's memory be eternal.

On Wednesday, March 11th, our Philoptochos Chapter hosted the Lenten Meal following the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy. Thank you to members who provided food for the meal and those who helped set up and clean up afterwards!

Our March and April Food Bank donations will be given to A Simple Gesture of Greensboro, which works to engage the entire community to help end hunger. Each month they select the neediest programs throughout Guilford County to deliver collected non-perishable food items. March and April collections are usually sparse; therefore, we have chosen these months each year to aid them with our Food Band donations. Donations of canned tuna and chicken, vegetables, fruit, soup, oatmeal, cereal, powdered milk, beans, rice, chili, pasta, tomato sauce, pasta sauce, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, and jelly are always needed items and greatly appreciated. Please check expiration dates and remember NO GLASS JARS. Remember to bring your donated food items each Sunday you come to church or anytime you come to a meeting.

Philoptochos and Pete Harris Scholarship Applications are now available by calling the church office. Completed applications must be turned in no later than 12 Noon, Sunday, April 12th for consideration. Parents and students please note that these scholarships have as a requirement religious participation, for example, church attendance, serving in the altar, helping in the Narthex, being a reader at services. Please contact Gwen Varsamis, Chapter Corresponding Secretary, 336-601-6717 or email <a href="mailto:gwen.varsamis@gmail.com">gwen.varsamis@gmail.com</a> if you need additional information, or to request an application electronically.

Although our Ladies Philoptochos Membership Drive has ended, new members are welcome throughout the year. If you are not a Philoptochos member, please consider joining. As Philoptochos members we come together, committed to helping the poor, the sick, the homeless, the hungry, and to promote our Orthodox faith and traditions. This is a wonderful opportunity for new friendships and fellowship, and the personal satisfaction of helping those less fortunate. Your membership will ensure that our ministry of being "a friend

of the poor" will continue to thrive touching those in need. Also, as a reminder to our current members, 2020 Membership Dues of \$30 may be paid on Sundays to Sheila Touloupas or Christa Graham, or mailed to the church office, attention Philoptochos. Membership dues need to be paid by Sunday, April 12th, in order for us to meet the April 30th deadline to our National and Metropolis Headquarters, and so that you may be in good standing for 2020.

Plans have begun for our Graduation Sunday on May 3rd. We will be honoring our graduating High School and College graduates, past recipients, and presenting the 2020 Philoptochos and Pete Harris Scholarships. On this the 50th Anniversary of our Philoptochos Scholarship Program, we would like to recognize all previous scholarship recipients. We are asking high school and college graduates and former recipients, or their family or friends, to please email Catherine Stuman, (ccstuman@yahoo.com) by Sunday, April 5th, so that they may be contacted about this special day.

The **2020 Clergy Laity Congress/ National Philoptochos Biennial Convention** will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, June 28 – July 2, 2020, at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown and the Huntington Convention Center. The theme of this year's conference is focused on the Apostle Paul's emphatic declaration that "... the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13). The ambitious and entertaining program will inspire, educate, inform and motivate delegates to reach even higher as we seek to help the needy among us. The registration cost is \$650 prior to May 1st and \$700 after May 1st. Anyone interested in attending, contact Catherine Stuman, cell #336-392-4264 or email (ccstuman@yahoo.com) for a registration form and additional information.

If you and a family member or friend would like to host a **Coffee Hour** in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the Coffee Hour poster in the Fellowship Hall. Philoptochos provides the coffee, cups, creamer, sugar and sweeteners. All donations help to support an Orthodox mission priest.

We have an exciting and busy month ahead of us. We thank you for your continued support and participation in our various projects and events.

# Please mark on your calendars the following important dates:

**Sunday, April 5th:** <u>deadline</u> for names and email addresses of graduates of class of 2020 and former scholarship recipients

**Sunday, April 12th noon:** <u>deadline</u> to submit Pete Harris and Philoptochos Scholarship Applications

**Sunday, April 12th:** <u>deadline</u> for paying 2020 Philoptochos dues

Sunday, May 3rd: Graduation Sunday

**Tuesday, May 19th**: Philoptochos Meeting, 6:45 PM. Location to be determined.

April 2020

Aprii 2020		T	187 1 1	<b>-</b>		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 29 John of			1	2	3	4
Climacus						
	Due to the order for Greensboro residents to stay at home until April 16th, all					
Liturgy 10am	services will be streamed live on Facebook during this time.					
F Mami of	,	7	0	9	10	11
5 Mary of Egypt	6	'	8	9	10	11 Saturday of
Едурі						Lazarus
Liturgy 10am						9:30am Liturgy
33						99
	13 Holy	14 Holy	15 Holy	16 Holy	17 Holy	18 Holy
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Liturgy of		Liturgy of St.
Liturgy 10am				St. Basil		Basil 9am
				9am	A l 4 l l ! .	
			Unction 3pm		Apokathelosis	
					3pm	
Bridegroom	Bridegroom	Bridearoom	Holy Unction	The Passion	Lamentations	
Service 7m	Service 7m	Service 7m	7pm	(12 Gospels)	7pm	
				7pm	•	Dro Doourroo
						Pre- Resurrec- tion Service
						11:15pm
						11.13piii
19 Pascha	20	21	22	23	24	25
Paschal						
Liturgy						
12:30am						
Agape						
Service						
Ham						
26 Thomas	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday Oam Mating						
9am Matins 10am Liturgy						
Tourn Endry						

NON PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID Greensboro NC Permit No. 293

#### Return Service Requested



April 2020

"Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ."

Colossians
3:23-24

#### IN TIMES OF ILLNESS

"Come, O blessed of my father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was sick and you visited me." (Matt. 25:31-46).

When a member of our Parish is ill and has been hospitalized or may be recuperating at home, the immediate family of the ill person should contact Father Sarantis at (516) 526-1475 or call the church office. It is beneficial to both the body and the soul when our priest prays for us when we are healthy or ill.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

Due to the order for Greensboro residents to stay at home until April 16th, all services will be streamed on line of Facebook.

Beginning on Friday, March 27th, the church office will be closed at least until Friday, April 16th.