



## **Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Parish Bulletin February and March 2023**

### **Message from Father Paisius**

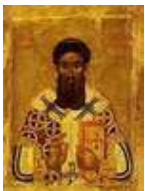
Glory to Jesus Christ! Greetings to the faithful members and families of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Parish Community. May the Lord our God continue to bless us all as we follow Him every day.

The 2nd Sunday of Great Lent we commemorated Saint Gregory Palmas, Archbishop of Thessaloniki in the 14th century. Saint Gregory defended the Church and its understanding of how we see and experience God. He taught that we see and experience the light of God in the energies but not the essence of the nature of God. He used the example from the created world of how we see the Sun by seeing the rays of sunlight but not seeing the Sun itself. By seeing the light of Christ as the disciples saw the Light of Christ shining on the Mount as celebrated in the Feast of Transfiguration, we are able to transformed and changed and can experience spiritual growth. This teaching of Saint Gregory Palmas is called Hesychasm and explains our understanding of God and how as Orthodox Christians we also can be transformed and grow in faith.

In the Gospel Reading, we learned about the importance of developing a deeper faithful that overcomes obstacles and allows God to work in our lives. Just as the friends of the Paralytic had a deep faith which resulted in his healing, so we are called to develop this same depth of faith so that we are able to experience the miraculous and healing power of God in our lives. This power can change and transform the limits of our humanity and help us be the children of God as were created to be.

### **Saints and Feasts Commemorated**

#### **Saint Gregory Palamas March 12**



This divine Father, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that the grace of God is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books

and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359.

## **Sunday of the Holy Cross March 19**



With the help of God, we have almost reached the middle of the course of the Fast, where our strength has been worn down through abstinence, and the full difficulty of the labor set before us becomes apparent. Therefore our holy Mother, the Church of Christ, now brings to our help the all-holy Cross, the joy of the world, the strength of the faithful, the staff of the just, and the hope of sinners, so that by venerating it reverently, we might receive strength and grace to complete the divine struggle of the Fast.

### **Quotes of the Church Fathers**

Pay attention carefully. After the sin comes the shame; courage follows repentance. Did you pay attention to what I said? Satan upsets the order; he gives the courage to sin and the shame to repentance.

+ St. John Chrystotom, Homily 8, [\*On Repentance and Almsgiving \(Fathers of the Church Patristic Series\)\*](#)

### **Events and Announcements**

#### Upcoming Services

Wednesday, March 15, Saint Manuel of Crete, Liturgy of Pre Sanctified Gifts 6 pm Lenten Potluck Meal

Thursday, March 16, Great Vespers with Artoklasia 6 pm

Friday, March 17, Saint Alexis Man of God/ Saint Patrick of Ireland, Liturgy of Pre Sanctified Gifts 10 am Small Compline with Salutations to the Theotokos 6 pm

Saturday, March 18, Saint Cyril of Jerusalem/ Soul Saturday, Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 10 am Memorial Service Great Vespers 6 pm

Sunday, March 19, 3rd Sunday of Great Lent/ Sunday of Veneration of Holy Cross, Orthros with Veneration of Holy Cross 9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil 10 am Lenten Sunday Vespers 6 pm

Wednesday, March 22, Saint Basil of Ancrya, Liturgy of Pre Sanctified Gifts 6 pm Lenten Potluck Meal

Friday, March 24, Forefeast of Annunciation, Liturgy of Pre Sanctified Gifts 10 am Great Vespers with Artoklasia and Salutations to the Theotokos 6 pm

Saturday, March 25, Annunciation of the Holy Theotokos, Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 10 am Great Vespers 6 pm

Sunday, March 26, 4th Sunday of Great Lent/ Sunday of Saint John Climacus/Synaxis of Holy Archangel Gabriel, Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil 10 am Memorial Service Lenten Sunday Vespers 6 pm

Wednesday, March 29, Liturgy of Pre Sanctified Gifts 10 am Compline with Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete 6 pm

Friday, March 31, Saint Hypatios the Wonderworker/ Saint Innocent of Alaska, Liturgy of Pre Sanctified Gifts 10 am

Small Compline with Akathist Hymn to Holy Theotokos (Full Salutations Service) 6 pm

## **Birthday and Anniversary Congratulations**

### **Birthdays**

#### **February**

Andrew Kaleto, February 6, Kriss Beddoe, February 7, John Peters, February 9, Maegen Mavromihalis, February 10, Nadine Malouf - February 9, Father Dean Gigicos, February 15, Malama Thrasivoulou, February 18, Nataliya Molsbee, February 19, George Trigas, February 25, Kally Vlahos and Jessie Beddoe, February 28

#### **March**

Virginia Freeman, March 1, Nicoletta Conner, March 2, Jennifer Rood, March 5, Evangelos Hagicostas, March 7, Nicholas Potaritis and Grady Ross, March 10, Liz Skochil – Mar 13, Mellissa Bridges and Angela Petritsis Cupp, March 20, Panayotis Loukatos and Helena Williams, March 27.

May the Lord our God grant to his servants many more years. Mrs. Malama, Maria Loukatos mom, reached the wonderful age of 103 on February 18.

### **Anniversaries**

Rodney and Karen Bridges – Happy 43rd wedding anniversary on February 1st  
Linda and Louie Peters – Happy 46th wedding anniversary on February 19th.

May they have many more happy blessed years together.

### **Memorials and Funerals**

Memorial Service for newly departed servant of God Evgenia Ioanidos. Evgenia was beloved sister of our parishioner, Artemis. May her memory be eternal.

We had the funeral service for Maria Bryan at Riemann Funeral Home on Beauvoir Road. Maria reposed in the Lord on February 11. We pray for the mercy and healing grace of God for his family. May her memory be eternal.

We had the funeral service for our beloved parishioner Bassem Nektarios Elmarakshi at Holy Trinity on February 25. Bassem reposed in the Lord on February 19th. We pray for the mercy and healing grace of God for his family. May his memory be eternal.

Pray for Evie Magiros and her family on the passing of her dear brother George Magiros. George's funeral was held in Baltimore, Maryland. We pray for mercy and grace for him and his family.

### **Prayers for the Sick and Recovering**

Pray for Saidi Maalouf, Niki Arnold, and Karen Henderson as they recover from their illnesses.

## Events

Congratulations to Julia "Nektaria" Hodges and Dennis "Dionysios" Toups on their Chrismations and entrance into the Orthodox Church!



Julia "Nektaria" Hodges



Dennis "Dyonisios" Toups

We are pleased to announce that Sunday February 19 at 1:30PM we celebrated the joyous occasion of the Holy Baptism of the child of God, Leila "Anna" Jayarama. Let's join together in celebrating the joyous occasion of Leila's entrance into the Orthodox Church with her parents, sister, and family!



We had a Mardi Gras Party, Καρναβάλι in Greek, at Holy Trinity on Feb 18th. Thanks to all who participated and put the function together. Food, dance, and a lot of fun.



### Announcements

We offer our best wishes and congratulations to Caleb and Melissa Bridges as they are now expecting their 2nd child in mid-September this year! May God bless them and Anyisia as we rejoice with them!

Friday, March 17 we celebrate Saint Patrick's Day as we honor St. Patrick the Apostle and Enlightened of Ireland. Saint Patrick is a well-known Orthodox Saint and so we celebrate his feast with beautiful Orthodox hymns and services. Have a wonderful St. Patrick's Day!!

We wish to announce that on Wednesday, March 22 following the Liturgy of Pre Sanctified Gifts, we will be showing the Man of God movie about St. Nectarios of Aegina. Come and join us for this wonderful event!

We invite everyone to come out to help at the Church on Saturday, April 1 at 9:30 am as we work together to clean our Church and Parish grounds before Holy Pascha. Let us work together as we beautify our Church and Parish grounds for our celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We are asking for volunteers to help with the donations of the flowers and basil that will decorate the tray with the Holy Cross for this coming Sunday, March 19 for the veneration of the Holy Cross

We encourage everyone to donate for our Easter flowers to do so between now and Palm Sunday. Donations can be made using the parish donation envelopes. Please annotate the envelope that the donation is for Easter flowers.

We're taking donations for the Holy Trinity Pascha card. With a small donation of your choosing you can have your name put in the Holy Trinity Pascha card that will be sent to all parishioners. Please contact Crysanthe Beach for more information.

### Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Contact Information

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