

# THE MESSENGER

*Weekly Worship Guide of The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, Atlanta Georgia*

**Sunday, May 20, 2018 – Κυριακή, 20 Μαΐου 2018**

**Sunday of the Holy 318 Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council**

**Κυριακή των αγίων 318 Πατέρων της Α' Οικουμενικής Συνόδου**

*The Holy 318 God-Bearing Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council, Thallelaïos the Martyr, Alexandros, Asterios, Asklas, the Martyrs, The Righteous Fathers Nikitas, John, and Joseph, Founders of Nea Moni in the island of Chios, The Translation of the Relics of St. Nicholas of Myra the Wonderworker, The Righteous Fathers Thalassios and Mark.*

## TODAY'S MEMORIALS

3 Month Memorial for Maria Lerakis

1 Year Memorial for Tassie (Anastasia) Portulas

2 Year Memorial for Alexandros Lerakis

5 Year Memorial for Pete (Panayiotis) Theofanidis

**Special Memorial for James (Dionysios) & Calliope Cotsakis**

*James and Calliope (Chaknis) Cotsakis, devoted Orthodox Christians, earmarked their entire estate for the Cathedral, Metropolis and other Church related organizations. The annual memorial service is held so the memory of these kind and generous benefactors will remain eternal in the hearts and minds of their Cathedral family.*

**Special Memorial for the Battle of Crete**

*Today we honor the men and women of Crete who defended their island 77 years ago this day with the commencement of the Battle of Crete. Overwhelming numbers of German paratroopers attacked Crete on May 20, 1941 and, instead of the easy capitulation the Germans experienced with other invasions, Crete fought off these invaders for almost two weeks, thereby upsetting the German timetable for the invasion of Russia that spring. This change in plans resulted in the historically significant defeat of the Nazis by the Russians and subsequently helped end the war in Europe - all attributed to the bravery of the Greeks on the island of Crete.*

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR THE 2017 - 2018 YEAR!**

ALL students will remain in Church until after graduation.

Once graduation is over, students in PreK-A-12<sup>th</sup> grades will go to their classrooms for 30 minutes.

## TODAY IS AHEPA SUNDAY!

Today the Order of AHEPA is recognized for their many philanthropic, educational and cultural endeavors.

We also remember the 1922 founding fathers of AHEPA Mother Lodge #1:

Nicholas D. Chotas, James (Demetrios) Campbell, Spyros J. Stamos, Harry (Haralambos) Angelopoulos, George A. Polos, John Angelopoulos, George Campbell and James Vlass

## THE HOLY 318 FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

On the sixth week after Easter we commemorate the Holy 318 Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council, which took place in Nicaea (a small city in Northwest part of Asia Minor) in 325 AD. For the first time, the entire Body of the Church gathered in this Council in order to articulate the very fundamental teachings of Christianity. In 325 AD, in Nicaea, the Church had to face an enemy from within. In the beginning of the fourth century a presbyter in Alexandria, Egypt, whose name was Arius, introduced a new teaching. Struggling to interpret the first chapter of John's Gospel, *"In the beginning it was the Word"* (Jn 1:1), he argued that this verse says that the Word was the very first creature of God and not begotten by God. In other words, he taught that Jesus Christ was not the Son of God, but created by God. Though this doctrine constituted an obvious deviation from the fundamental teaching, which clearly declares that Christ is the Word of God, begotten before all ages, many followed Arius, because, he, most likely, was capable of influencing a multitude of people. As these heretical teachings started to spread beyond the region of Alexandria, great unrest occurred within the Church. These was the impetus point when many bishops appealed to the Emperor asking for his help. The Emperor Constantine with no personal interference left the Church to make the decision. His role specifically, was the calling of the Council and his full sponsoring of it. Throughout the lengths and widths of the Empire, letters were sent, inviting venerable bishops and clergy to participate. Thus, 318 delegates from local Churches were gathered in Nicaea on May 20<sup>th</sup> of the year 325 AD. When Arius started to present his doctrines, his oratorical talent was revealed. Although all indications were that Arius was about to prevail, a bishop started refuting his heresies. This was Alexander of Alexandria. In fact, it was not Alexandros, but his deacon Athanasius, was not allowed to speak publicly in the presence of bishops. So, Athanasius whispered the answers to his bishop's ear and Arius started losing his arrogant confidence. Deacon Athanasius, who later became Bishop of Alexandria and is known as St. Athanasius the Great, became the Orthodox theological mind and tongue of the First Ecumenical Council. He conveyed in words what the rest of the God-bearing fathers kept in their hearts and maintained during the Council in silence and prayer. Finally, the Council of Nicaea condemned the heretical doctrines of Arius and crystallized the Orthodox teachings in a confession of faith, known as **The Nicene Creed**. The First Ecumenical Council concluded on August 25<sup>th</sup> 325 AD. During this Council the Church acquired the name *Orthodox*, as opposed to heresy, (*αἵρεσις*), since the Church has the "Right Faith" (*Ορθή Δόξα*). As the Apostles gathered together in Jerusalem and came up with one decision as equals, so the Holy Fathers did in Nicaea. In one word, the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council manifested with their example their devotion to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Christ.

# ORDER OF HYMNS FOLLOWING THE SMALL ENTRANCE

## Απολυτίκιον Απολυτίκια

### Ἀναστάσιμον Απολυτίκιον. Ἦχος πλ. β'.

Ἀγγελικαὶ Δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμά σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωροῦμένους τὴν ζωὴν, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι

### Απολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς. Ἦχος δ'.

Ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος· βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

### Απολυτίκιον τῶν Πατέρων. Ἦχος πλ. δ'.

Ὑπερδεδοξασμένος εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ φωστήρας ἐπὶ γῆς τοὺς Πατέρας ἡμῶν θεμελιώσας, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν πρὸς τὴν ἀληθινὴν πίστιν, πάντας ἡμᾶς ὀδηγήσας· πολυεύσπλαγχνε, δόξα σοι.

### Κοντάκιον τῶν Κεκοιμημένων. Ἦχος πλ. δ'.

Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, ὡς ἀγαθὸς τῶν δούλων σου καὶ ὅσα ἐν βίῳ ἥμαρτον συγχώρησον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰ μὴ σὺ ὁ δυνάμενος καὶ τοῖς μεταστασι δοῦναι τὴν ἀνάπαυσιν.

### Απολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ. Ἦχος δ'.

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

### Κοντάκιον. Ἦχος πλ. δ'.

Τὴν ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πληρώσας οἰκονομίαν, καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ γῆς ἐνώσας τοῖς οὐρανίοις, ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, οὐδαμόθεν χωριζόμενος, ἀλλὰ μένων ἀδιάστατος, καὶ βοῶν τοῖς ἀγαπῶσί σε· Ἐγὼ εἰμι μεθ' ὑμῶν, καὶ οὐδεὶς καθ' ὑμῶν.

### Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode pl. 2.

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You.

### Apolytikion for the Feast. Mode 4.

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, after You filled the Disciples with joy, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, and You blessed them and established their faith, that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

### Apolytikion for the Fathers. Mode pl. 4.

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.

### Kontakion for the Departed. Mode pl. 4.

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

### Apolytikion of the Church. Mode 4.

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the mystery which was hidden from eternity. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel announces the grace of this Good News. Let us also join with him, calling to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Woman full of grace; the Lord is with you.

### Kontakion. Mode pl. 4.

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrhbearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.



**DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 13 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK**

# *Congratulations!*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATES

Alexia Anthony	Kennesaw State University	Melina Haralabakis	<i>Oglethorpe University</i>
Eric Jackson	University of West Georgia	Kate Knudsen	<i>University of Tennessee</i>
Marika Missailidis	<i>High School Senior 2019</i>	Nikolaos Odenwelder	<i>Undecided</i>
Helena Panos	<i>Tulane University</i>	Stephanie Panos	<i>Georgia State University</i>
Nick Pappas	<i>Undecided</i>	Alexis Spell	<i>Arizona State University</i>
Katherine Spetseris	<i>University of South Carolina</i>	Alexis Vallianatos	<i>Georgia College &amp; State University</i>
Anthea Walker	<i>Georgia College &amp; State University</i>	Robert Weimar	<i>Georgia Tech</i>
Mela Xides	<i>Florida State University</i>		



## PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Anna Mae Livaditis Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000): **Charles Stewart**

*Attending Gordon State College in the fall*

Philoptochos Scholarship (\$2,000): **Andris “Andee” Poulos**

*Currently attending University of South Carolina*



## YOUTH APPRECIATION DAY & BASKETBALL LEAGUE AWARDS LUNCHEON

Today in the Kartos Ballroom following Sunday School

Don't miss this annual event honoring our 2017-2018

- Acolytes      - Handmaidens - Epistle Readers - Basketball League Players  
- Heretismi Readers      - Youth Choir      - GOYA Officers and more!

Featuring: “Most Likely To” Awards & End of Year Slide Show

**SUNDAY OF THE HOLY 318 FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**  
**Κυριακή των 318 Αγίων Πατέρων της Α' Οικουμενικής Συνόδου**

**TODAY'S EPISTLE READING IS FROM**  
**THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 20:16-18; 28-36**

**READER: KATHERINE SPETSERIS**

**PROKEIMENON:** *BLESSED ARE YOU, O LORD, THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS.*

**VERSE:** *FOR YOU ARE JUST IN ALL YOU HAVE DONE.*

**I**N THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

**TODAY'S GOSPEL READING JOHN 17:1-13**

**A**t that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made. "I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

*"Take up and read, take up and read." St. Augustine, Confessions XII*

**DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 29 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK**





### ACOLYTES GROUP THREE

Gus Karas	Alexander Vastakis
Ian Alexander	Alexandros Katsoudas
George Poulos	Evangelos Katsoudas
John Syribey	Nicholas Vastakis
Nick Karas	Nicko Kostopoulos
Robert Weimar	Theo Pappas

### HANDMAIDENS GROUP THREE

Alexis Vallianatos	Christina Pribas
Elena Karas	Dee Dee Kostopoulos
Elli Moraitakis	Phoebe Franklin
Renna Moraitakis	Zoe Franklin

The following Parish Council members will be on duty today during the Service

Group: St. Gregory the Theologian

Costa Panos  
Al Galloway

Ned Biehler  
Scott Davenport

Sandy Papadopoulos  
Noula Zaharis

### GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

*Holy Communion* is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with the clergy. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion. Please let parents with their babies and the elderly approach first. Thank you.

*“This is the faith of the Apostles.  
This is the faith of the fathers.  
This is the faith of the Orthodox.  
This is the faith on which the world is established.”*

From the Synodikon of Orthodoxy



Rev. Fr. Paul A. Kaplanis, *Dean*  
Rev. Fr. Christos P. Mars, *Presbyter*  
Elias Lampropoulos, *Pastoral Assistant*

2500 Clairmont Road N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329  
404-633-5870  
[www.atlgoc.org](http://www.atlgoc.org)