

# SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

SOPHRONIOS OF JERUSALEM; QUEEN THEODORA OF ARTA

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 4, Verses 14-16, Chapter 5, Verses 1-6. It is found in our books on pages 142-143.

**Ὁ Ἀπόστολος: Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 14-16, κεφ. 5, ἐδάφ. 1-6:** Ἀδελφοί, ἔχοντες οὖν ἀρχιερέα μέγαν, διεληλυθότα τοὺς οὐρανοὺς, Ἰησοῦν τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ θεοῦ, κρατῶμεν τῆς ὁμολογίας. Οὐ γὰρ ἔχομεν ἀρχιερέα μὴ δυνάμενον συμπαθεῖν ταῖς ἀσθενείαις ἡμῶν, πεπειραμένον δὲ κατὰ πάντα καθ' ὁμοίτητα, χωρὶς ἁμαρτίας. Προσερχώμεθα οὖν μετὰ παρηγορίας τῷ θρόνῳ τῆς χάριτος, ἵνα λάβωμεν ἔλεον, καὶ χάριν εὐρωμεν εἰς εὐκαιρον βοήθειαν. Πᾶς γὰρ ἀρχιερεὺς, ἐξ ἀνθρώπων λαμβανόμενος, ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπων καθίσταται τὰ πρὸς τὸν θεόν, ἵνα προσφέρῃ δῶρά τε καὶ θυσίας ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν· μετριοπαθεῖν δυνάμενος τοῖς ἄγνοοις καὶ πλανωμένοις, ἐπεὶ καὶ αὐτὸς περικείται ἀσθένειαν· καὶ διὰ ταύτην ὀφείλει, καθὼς περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ, οὕτως καὶ περὶ ἑαυτοῦ, προσφέρειν ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν. Καὶ οὐχ ἑαυτῷ τις λαμβάνει τὴν τιμὴν, ἀλλὰ καλούμενος ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ, καθάπερ καὶ Λαζάρου. Οὕτως καὶ ὁ Χριστὸς οὐχ ἑαυτὸν ἐδόξασεν γεννηθῆναι ἀρχιερέα, ἀλλ' ὁ Λαλήσας πρὸς αὐτόν, Ἰός μου εἶσύ, ἐγὼ σήμερον γεγέννηκά σε. Καθὼς καὶ ἐν ἑτέρῳ λέγει, Σὺ ἱερεὺς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 8, Verses 34-38, Chapter 9, Verse 1. It is found in our books on pages 293-295.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 8, ἐδάφ. 34-38, κεφ. 9, ἐδάφ. 1. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 292-294.**

**Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Seven (Grave):**

O Lord, by your sacred Cross You abolished death and granted to the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the Good News at your command—that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing your mercy on the world evermore.

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέφξας τῷ ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρήνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας. Ὅτι ἀνέστης, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY:** (*Sundays, 9 a.m., upstairs*). This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey. It is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith. We explore Christian theology and practice by reading selections from Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or rediscover) why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact **Alexandros Kozák** at [orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com](mailto:orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com). Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month (rather than every Sunday). The class is meeting this morning, beginning at 9 a.m.

**40 DAY BLESSING:** This morning we welcome 40 day-old Vanessa Katherine, daughter of Demo & Olivia Selianitis. Να μας ζήσει! Long life!

**SUNDAY STREETS:** Valencia Street is closed to thru traffic today. We suggest parking in the lot behind the Cathedral, as well as on adjacent streets. You may, of course, drop off individuals who have difficulty walking. Just tell the traffic person at the intersection.

**PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD:** The Philoptochos board will meet today, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

**SERVICES DURING GREAT LENT: HAIRETISMOI (SALUTATIONS) ON FRIDAY:** The Great Lent, a period of prayer, preparation, fasting, and repentance, in preparation of Holy Pascha (the Resurrection of Christ), is characterized by additional weekday services. One of these is the Service of Salutations to the Theotokos. It is conducted on the first five Fridays of Great Lent, as this Friday, March 16, culminating in the Service of the Akathist (all four Stanzas of the Salutations Service are recited), on Friday, March 23. Services begin at 7 p.m. and last about an hour.

**NEXT SUNDAY IS GODPARENTS SUNDAY:** Godparents Sunday is an opportunity for us to reconnect with our Godparents and for Godparents to reconnect with those whom we've sponsored into the Faith—our Godchildren. This year, because the Sunday immediately before Sunday is March 25<sup>th</sup> (when Godparents Sunday would normally take place) Godparents Sunday has been moved to Sunday, March 18. Just prior to Holy Communion, we will recite our baptismal vows. Do invite your Godparents/Godchildren to come to church next Sunday and to pray together, as we prepare to celebrate Holy Pascha.

**SOCKS DRIVE:** We are having a socks drive all during the month of March. The socks will be given out to our guests who come to Community Kitchen. The next Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, March 20. Won't you bring a packet of new socks, please, and leave it at the pangari. You will be helping keep someone's feet warm.

**BASKETBALL THIS WEEK:** Basketball practice will take place this Thursday, March 15, beginning at 7 p.m. JV Playoffs will take place in our gym this Saturday, March 17, beginning at 10 a.m.

**STEWARDSHIP AND YOU:** We cannot stress how important it is for everyone, age 18 and above, who considers the Cathedral to be your home parish, to support its ministries through Stewardship. For, we are a family, and a family needs all its members doing their part, in order for it to be a happy, functioning family. In an effort to properly acknowledge and thank you for your support, we have listed the names of all Stewards (through February 15) in our March *Herald*. In case you've misplaced your card or if you wish additional cards for family members, they are available at the *pangari*, as is general information about Stewardship. We also invite you to direct any questions you may have concerning our Stewardship program, to Father Stephen or a member of the Parish Council Stewardship Team. Let's make 2018 a banner Stewardship year for the Cathedral. Together, we can do it!

**CLOSER AND CLOSER:** We're in the home stretch. As you can see, we are nearing **completion of the exterior**. We've recently been awarded a conditional use permit, which will enable us to secure a third-party operator to run the parking. Tentatively, we've been given April 1, 2018 for utilization of our parking. As for the **interior**: we hope to locate a contractor by the end of 2018 for the upper interior wall installation. However, in order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. First, we have outstanding pledges, to the tune of \$550,000. May we ask you to make good on your Building Fund pledges? If you have not yet contributed, won't you consider making your gift? Your gift is fully tax deductible, to the extent allowed by law. More importantly, you will experience the joy of giving (and to such a historic undertaking!), helping make firm our presence as a Greek Orthodox house of worship in the *heart of our Great City*. In this way, we will be answering the call by God to Moses, when he said *"Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you."* (from the Septuagint: *Και ποιήσεις μοι ἅγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). (Exodus 25:8). When everything is completed, we will be able to consecrate the new Cathedral to the glory of God. Most likely, this will coincide with our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in 2021.



*"The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified."*