

### EPISTLE Hebrews 13:7-16

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

**TODAY'S READER: MICHAEL KITSOULIS**

### GOSPEL Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

### MEMORIAL

Today a Memorial Service will be offered for **Despina Kavalakis (1 Year)** and **Achilles Perdikaris (13 Years)**, requested by Debbie and Tom Anderson. May their memories be eternal!



### 40 DAY BLESSING

A 40 Day Blessing will be given to the child of God, **Andrew Anastasios**, son of Tom and Dana Manatos. May God grant him many years!

### IN PRAISE OF THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS

Let us worthily honor the preachers of grace, The resounding trumpets of the Spirit of God, The mighty thunders roaring with the awesome Gospel, Proclaiming the glory of God to the ends of the earth: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, The three bright stars of the Holy Trinity. Let us honor the champions of the Trinity, The teachers of true worship, The three apostles who walked in the spirit of the Twelve, The rivers of Eden overflowing with living water, Renewing the face of the earth with streams of theology, Guiding the world to a new birth of faith. Let us sound the trumpet with joy. Let us celebrate the feast of our teachers with gladness and song. Let us praise the three rivers of doctrine who revive our weary hearts. They faithfully proclaimed the mysteries of the Holy Trinity. Bless the wise hierarchs, all you who love wisdom. Let the priests magnify these three great pastors. They bring riches for the poor in spirit, They intercede for the sinners, The comfort the afflicted and guard those who travel, Let us cry out to them, for they are quick to hear our desperate entreaties: O Holy Teachers, save us from an evil generation and from eternal death.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2: FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD  
ORTHROS 8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 A.M.**

**PRAYER LIST:** Artie Constantinides, Stephen Alfieris, Antonia "Nitsa" Kempf, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Argie Palaios, Katherine Panagakos, George Virvan, George Speris, Mariah Smiley, Doris Webb, the child Camille Feruzzi who is gravely ill, the child Heather Greene, Irene Pappas, Marty Levine, Lindsey Reijsoo, the child Ashley Lyvers, the child Alexis Ross, Joseph Papadakis, the child Joseph Saxon, Francine Bruggeman, Stephanie Skanderis, Georgia Haldas, Eric Ricasa, Milton Kayafas, Mary Agis, Maureen Shriver, Tiffany Keiker, Mary O'Hara, William Coulopoulos, Matina Mantis, and Robert Shriver. **US ARMED FORCES:** Rev. Fr. John Kalantzis, Lt. Nicholas Karnaze, Spc. Spiro Nino, John Xanthakos, Colonel James Karas, and Gary Hogman (Iraq) and his wife Cindy, 2nd Lt. Phillip Natsios, Private Louis Tiches, EG Robert Stock, and PFC Brett Hughes.



### THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS: MEN OF THE CHURCH NOT THE ACADEMY

Today the Holy Church celebrates the feast of the three holy hierarchs: Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia; Gregory the Theologian, bishop of Nazianzus and archbishop of Constantinople; and John Chrysostom of Antioch, also archbishop of Constantinople. This day is known in the Orthodox Church as the celebration of Orthodox letters, the feast of theological studies and ecclesiastical schools. Let us who love their words come together with hymns, To honor the three great torch-bearers of the Triune Godhead, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom. These men have enlightened the world with the rays of their divine doctrines. They are flowing rivers of wisdom, Who have filled all creation with springs of heavenly knowledge. They ceaselessly intercede for us before the Holy Trinity. The three holy hierarchs were very different types of people. Basil the Great (d. 379) was a diligent churchman, a solid thinker, a compassionate pastor, a staunch defender of orthodoxy and a monastic leader. Gregory the Theologian (d. 389) was his best friend. They met together at the university of Athens where they studied literature, rhetoric and philosophy, only to abandon everything for the sake of following Christ. After spending time together in monastic solitude, Basil took up the task of defending the divinity of Christ as defined by the council of Nicea. He became a bishop and forced his reluctant friend also to enter the episcopate and to light for the orthodox faith. Gregory was a delicate man, a contemplative and a poet. He was easily offended and often insulted. As a pastor he was less than a success. But as a theologian, he was the greatest. His homilies on the Holy Trinity, delivered to a tiny group of faithful orthodox Christians in Constantinople when the cathedral and the masses of the people were in the hands of ilie Anian heretics, remain classics of Orthodox theology. John Chrysostom (d. 407) was fiery preacher. He is called Chrysostom, which means golden-tongued," because of his remarkable oratorical gifts. Saint John was solidly orthodox in all of his teachings, but is not considered primarily as a theologian. He is remembered and praised more for his teachings on the Christian life, his prophetic denunciations of in justice and evil, his pastoral care for the poor and oppressed, and his fearless opposition to those who would distort and betray the gospel of Christ, especially those in high places of power and responsibility. He died in exile, expelled from his church, in 407. The three holy hierarchs were surrounded by small groups of faithful supporters, including members of their families, who assisted and inspired them in their work. Basil's mother and grandmother, Emmelia and Macrina, as well as his sister Marcrina, are canonized saints of the Church, together with his brother Gregory of Nyssa. Both he and his brother Gregory considered their sister Macrina as their greatest teacher. Gregory the Theologian's mother Nonna is also a canonized saint. In his funeral oration for her, the holy father said that his mother gave him everything that he had in the Lord, including not only his physical life, but his spiritual life as well. Gregory's sister Theosebia, who some think was Gregory of Nyssa's wife, was praised by her brother as "greater than the priests," together with her sister Gorgonia. John Chrysostom's mother Anthusa is also a canonized saint of the church. His best friend and co-worker was the deaconess Olympiada (or Olympia), to whom he addressed his most moving letters at the end of his life. Thus we see that these great bishops, theologians and preachers were not alone in their efforts. They were in a real sense the products of a community of faith, devotion and learning; as well as its leaders and teachers. In contemplating the lives and works of Basil, Gregory and John we realize, more than anything else, how a small group of faithful people can do much for the edification of the Church and the salvation of souls. We see also how no one can live in isolation, how even the greatest of the saints needed other saints to inspire and encourage them, to instruct and support them in their service. We see as well that intelli-gence and learning are not enough. Peoples' minds must be devoted to God and to divine wisdom and truth, but one must love God not only with all one's mind, but with all one's heart, soul and strength as well. *The three holy hierarchs were men of ascetic discipline and fervent prayer. They were men of the Church, and not of the academy.* And they were men who were willing not only to preach, but to practice what they preached; not only to talk but to work; and not only to work but to suffer for the Word of God Who came himself into the world not only to preach, but to suffer and die for the sake of the salvation of all. The times in which the three hierarchs lived were terrible times for the Church, certainly not less dark and depressing than the present times, and perhaps even more so in many respects. But these men, and the women who stood with them, were able to persevere faithfully to the end. It is because of these people in the past that we have Christian life in the Church today. *O lumenaries of Heaven's Son, pray to God that we may be saved!*

### PASTORAL VISITATIONS

Please inform the Church Office 301-469-7990 (ext 300) of any loved ones who are hospitalized or "shut-ins," so they may be visited and receive the grace of Holy Communion.

### STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON

The Stewardship Luncheon will be held TODAY IN THE GRAND HALL. This year's honorees are: Philios Angelides, Gus and Margaret Geckos, and Joanne Johnson.

### BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

A study of the Holy Gospel according to St. John the Theologian is held every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Join us for this excellent study!

### FAMILY LUNCHEON FOR BEDIANI ORPHANAGE — FEBRUARY 6

On February 6 a family luncheon to benefit Bediani Orphanage will be sponsored by the Sunday School for the St. George Community. "Lawrence the Magician" will entertain us. \$12 for Adults,; \$7 for children under 12, children under 3 no charge. Please make your reservations during coffee hour or email Marianne at [mjchenevey@gmail.com](mailto:mjchenevey@gmail.com).

### GODPARENT-GODCHILD SUNDAY — FEBRUARY 6.

Godparents/Honorary Godparents are encouraged to attend the Divine Liturgy together with their Godchild, reaffirm their Baptismal commitments, and visit his/her Sunday School class. Sunday School students will be sitting with their class. Grades K-3 in the Church. Grades 4-12 in the Chapel. Please make your reservations for the luncheon which benefits Bediani Orphanage.

### 50 PLUS CLUB

The Annual Valentine Party will be held on February 9th at 11:30am at the Mykonos Restaurant, 121 Congressional Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852. There is a charge of \$25 which will cover all costs- full course meal, tax, and tip. There is no additional charge for the great company and fellowship! If you have any questions please call Maria Kopsidas 301-493-5789.

### GREEK SCHOOL FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS

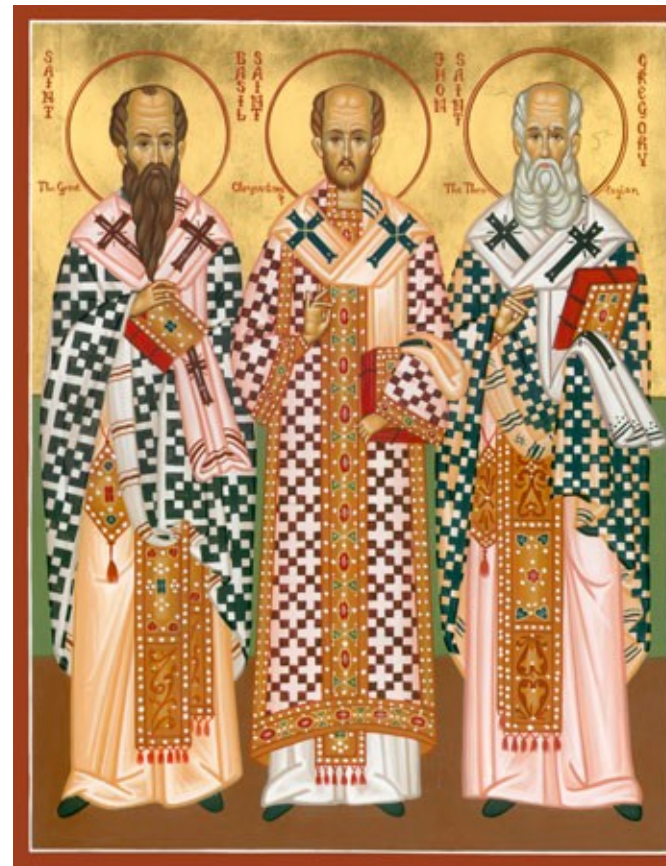
The Greek School for Pre-schoolers is now accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year! Open registration is held from 1/19-2/22/2011. Please fill out the registration form (available on the church website) and follow the directions on the form. If you have any questions, contact Christina Stayeas @ [christinastayeas@yahoo.com](mailto:christinastayeas@yahoo.com) or Vasilia Contos @ [contosgeorge@hotmail.com](mailto:contosgeorge@hotmail.com). Classes fill up quickly so don't delay!

### LITERARY LUNCHEON IN APRIL

Mark your calendars for the Second Annual Literary Luncheon - featuring Ted Leonsis, Robert Krantz, Nick Tsiotos, and Eva Kalivas. Saturday, April 2, 2011 at 11:30am. At the Bethesda Country Club. For more information, go to [www.philologians.com](http://www.philologians.com) or call (301) 469-7990. Tickets \$65.

## FEAST OF THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS

JANUARY 30, 2011



### APOLYTIKION OF THE SAINTS

Those three magnificent luminaries of the trisolar Godhead, who lit up the whole world with rays of divine doctrines; those mellifluous rivers of wisdom, who irrigated all creation with the waters of the knowledge of God; Basil the Great, and Gregory the Theologian, and the illustrious John, whose tongue produced golden words! Let all of us who are enamored of their words come together and sing hymns to honor them. For they are ever interceding with the Trinity on our behalf.

### Resurrectional Aplytikion

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of resurrection; and He became the first-born from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

### Resurrectional Kontakion

From the tomb You rose today, O Lord of tender compassion, also from the gates of death You led us out, O our Savior. On this day is Adam dancing and Eve rejoices, and with them together Patriarchs and the Prophets are unceasingly extolling the divine power of Your authority.

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