

EPISTLE St. John's First Universal Letter 1:1-7

THAT WHICH WAS from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life - the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us - that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

TODAY'S READER: MANOLI ANAGNOSTIADIS

GOSPEL Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8

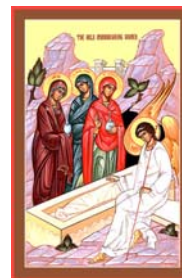
At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

MEMORIALS

Memorials will be held today for **Greg L. Spyridon (40 Days)** requested by Barbara Spyridon Pope, his sister; and for **Triantafilos Karambouslis (40 Days)**, requested by his daughters, Vasiliki Grigoriopoulos and Christina Plosiou. May their memory be eternal!



PRAYER LIST: Sandi Treer, Constantina Speris, Spiro Gianniotis, Ralph Vallone, Christopher Bacas, Antonia "Nitsa" Kempf, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Argie Palaios, Katherine Panagakos, George Virvan, Mariah Smiley, Doris Webb, the child Camille Feruzzi, 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 Lance Corporal Brett Hughes, and Lt. Cmdr. Michael Starsiak



Imagine the scene. The women friends of Jesus make their way to His tomb to anoint his lifeless body as was the Jewish custom. Thoughts running through their minds — profound sadness at His death, a feeling of abandonment by One who promised to be always with them, a sense of futility as they pondered the huge stone in front of the tomb and the question of who would remove it. Who would allow them this one final act of love for Him who was their life? Between Jesus and their act of love stood what seemed an immovable object. This they thought as they journeyed towards the cold tomb. Yet they were determined to keep journeying, keep moving towards the impossible, keep hoping that somehow the enormous weight of all of history's sin, symbolized by that huge stone, would be lifted away. And so it was. They came to the tomb not only to find the stone-obstacle removed, but their Lord Risen from the dead and gone before them into Galilee. Once again the Divine Lover anticipated their human needs. Once again God made the first move. Once again He saw into the weakness and sadness of their hearts and entered to heal, to embrace, to redeem. So it is with our spiritual lives. Often weighed down by discouragement, a sense of spiritual distance from the Divine Lover, a persistent sin or habit or state of soul that causes us to doubt things could ever be different again — into that mess comes the Risen Lord to heal. He makes that first move and saves us the labor of removing that obstacle by ourselves. What is the stone in your life? What is it that you need removed and healed? Before even you ask Him — He will lift it from your soul. Christ is Risen! *The empty tomb is the promise!*



ST. JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN

Saint John remained in Jerusalem in the service our Lord's Mother until her Dormition. Shortly thereafter, St John departed with his disciple St Prochoros to the East where he preached throughout Asia Minor and especially in Ephesus. During the second persecution of Christians St John was sent to Rome to stand trial before the then Emperor Domitian. He was tortured and cast into a vat of boiling oil from which he came forth unscathed. The Emperor, having failed in his futile attempts to bring any harm towards our great Saint, banished him into exile on the island of Patmos. It is here that our Lord revealed to Saint John all that is to come until the end of time and instructed him to write it down. Following our Lord's instructions Saint John composed all the things which he had seen into the book known as the Apocalypse (the book of Revelation). Upon the death of the Emperor, Saint John returned to Ephesus where he then wrote his Gospel and his three Catholic Epistles. Instructed him to write it down. Following our Lord's instructions Saint John composed all the things which he had seen into the book known as the Apocalypse (the book of Revelation). Upon the death of the Emperor, Saint John returned to Ephesus where he then wrote his Gospel and his three universal Epistles.

O Divine John, whose heart penetrated the Eternal Mysteries of our salvation, pray for us to God that our souls may be saved!

A PRAYER TO BE SAID BY MOTHERS



O Lord Jesus Christ our God Who didst come into this world not to be ministered unto but to minister and to give Thy life as a ransom for many. Help me, I beseech Thee in my ministry of caring for the children Thou hast given me. Enable me to be patient in tribulations, to instruct with a meek and gentle spirit, to reprimand with inner tranquility and a sober mind, and to serve in humility of heart with love. May I thus live in Thee alone, by Thee alone and for Thee alone showing forth Thy virtues and leading my family upon the path of Thy saving commandments. That we may glorify Thee together with Thine unoriginate Father and Thine all-holy Spirit both in this world and that which is to come. Amen.

To all the mothers of our Parish Community, we wish you a blessed Mother's Day and ask the Holy Theotokos to protect you and bring you peace!

BIBLE STUDY TO RESUME

The study of the Gospel of St. John will resume on Thursday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Join us to complete this important study of the most "theological" of the Holy Gospels.

GRADUATION INFORMATION

Graduation Sunday is May 22. We need the following information: for HIGH SCHOOL graduates: student name, graduating from what high school, going to what college/university, subject major. For GRADUATE and POST GRADUATE: student name, graduating from what college/university, what degree, and future plans. Please email the information to Chrysostom (cgunning@stgeorge) BY FRIDAY, MAY 13, AT THE ABSOLUTE LATEST!

50 PLUS CLUB

We wish to thank Basil Assimakopoulos and his daughter for the wonderful presentation on "My Life in Constantinople and Byzantium". Also thanks to the many who were able to attend. OUR ANNUAL POTLUCK PARTY DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO MAY 18 at 11:30am. As always, please bring a special dish for all to share and enjoy. Achilles Papaefthimiou will entertain us with his lively music. There will be usual singing and dancing. All are welcome. REMINDER: We are still accepting donations (no clothing) for Yia-Yia's Attic, today.

In response to continued inquiries regarding church financials, the Church is publishing weekly and year-to-date operating income and expenses in the Sunday bulletin. God bless you and thank you for your support.

April 27 through May 3, 2011

Income \$ 12,999.21*
Expenses \$ 47,476.27**

January 1 through May 3, 2011

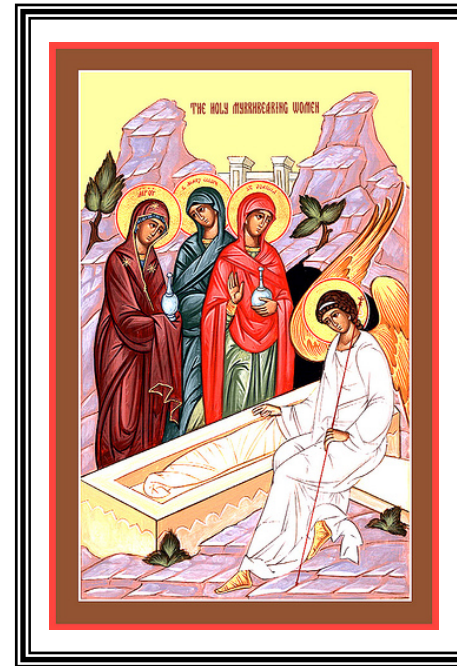
Income \$380,633.90*
Expenses \$393,371.61**

*- Includes any income from Stewardship, Candles, Trays, General Donations, Facility Rentals, Spring Festival, and Harbor School Rent.

** - Includes expenses incurred (funds disbursed) for Administrative items, Candles, Facility Rentals, Spring Festival, Archdiocese Stewardship, For those Who Serve, Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment, Liturgical, Maintenance, Mortgage Interest, Program Expenses, Taxes & Insurance, and Utilities.

**SUNDAY OF THE MYRRHBEARING WOMEN
ST. JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN**

MAY 8, 2011



The Holy Myrrhbearers are those who selflessly sacrificed all for precious myrrh with which to anoint and care for the Body of Christ, and then announced the Resurrection of the Crucified, when others hid for fear of the Jews. All of them should have been in fear of the Jews who hated Christ. And yet they loved Christ to such a degree that they feared not and they all revealed the Truth of His Crucifixion and Resurrection and suffered for it. We are all myrrhbearers. We know and confess the Truth of His Crucifixion and Resurrection. It falls to us to care for the Church which is crucified by the world to this day. When our Orthodox values are under attack, we need the courage of these holy women to stand up against our fear and against the threats of society around us to proclaim that there IS another way of living – the way of the Crucified and Risen Lord..

APOLYTIKION FOR HOLY MYRRHBEARERS

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee. Glory... The noble Joseph, taking Thine immaculate Body down from the Tree, and having wrapped It in pure linen and spices, laid It for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day Thou didst arise, O Lord, granting great mercy to the world. Both now... Unto the myrrh-bearing women did the Angel cry out as he stood by the grave: Myrrh oils are meet for the dead, but Christ hath proved to be a stranger to corruption. But cry out: The Lord is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

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