

## Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10

BRETHREN, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

**TODAY'S READER: STELLA COMINOS**

### Luke 6:31-36

The Lord said, "And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

### 40-DAY BLESSING

A 40-Day Blessing will be given to the child of God, **Spyro William**, son of Bill and Amanda Speros. May God grant him many years!



### ON VENERATING HOLY ICONS



Traditionally, we venerate an icon by making the sign of the cross and bowing from the waist, the right hand extended to touch the floor. We repeat this, kiss the icon and then make the sign of the cross and bow a third time. It is improper to kiss the face on an icon as this implies a presumptuous familiarity. We should bear in mind that the honor accorded the icon redounds to the prototype, and were the person depicted to come into our midst, awed by their sanctity we should not dare to kiss them on the cheek but would bow down and kiss their feet. If the image is depicted in full stature, we kiss the feet; if half-stature - the hand; in the case of the Icon "Not-Made-By -Hands" (Christ's head on a napkin) or the head of St John the Baptist, we kiss the hair. Needless to say, leaving lipstick smears is not only grossly irreverent, it is also disrespectful of others venerating the icon.

**PRAYER LIST:** Lee Konjas, Alexander Wadas, Constantina Speris, Joseph Papadakis, Nate Cekay, Chris Calender, Robert Shriver, Demitra Aposporos, **Dr. Joseph Paul Smith**, Vasilios, Omorfia Spathopoulos, Johnny Petratos,



### JESUS RAISES THE BAR FOR THOSE WHO FOLLOW HIM

Once again we are confronted by the seriousness of being a disciple of the Lord Jesus. Today's Gospel passage from St. Luke calls us away from complacency to action. It calls us to turn good intentions into concrete discipleship. Jesus tells us that loving those who love us is no great thing. Doing good to those who do good to us has no meaning for the disciple. Jesus raises the bar. He tells us to *love our enemies -- not simply ignore them, or tolerate them -- but to actively love them and care for them.* This saying of Jesus is one that we are tempted to dilute or cast it onto the collection of pious poetry. Nothing can be farther from the truth. Jesus unabashedly summons us, as His disciples, to the active loving of our enemies - to care, consideration, compassion, and genuine concern for those who have hurt us, offended us, or betrayed us. This demands the discipline of the Gospel. It is not something we do instinctively. It demands a movement of our will, a choice that is deliberate and compelling. Jesus calls us to love as HE loved - without condition, without hesitation. Being civil is not enough. Jesus calls us to authentic mercy, even as His Father is merciful. Think about that person(s) in your life whom you have named "your enemy." Have you reached out to him/her? Have you tried to heal the wounds? Have you attempted to smooth the way? What matters is what **YOU** do to reach out in love - not your enemy's response or reaction. Love. Be merciful. Show compassion to your enemies. If we do this sincerely, Jesus assures us that "our reward will be great and we will be sons of the Most High God." **Remember—there IS a cost to discipleship!**

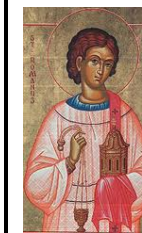


### INCREASING THE FLAME

By St. Ignatius Brianchaninov

It must be understood that it is the duty of all Orthodox believers to strive always and in every way to be united with God, their creator, benefactor and their supreme good by whom and for whom they were created...*This is because the centre and the final purpose of the soul, which God created, must be God Himself alone, and nothing else* — God from whom the soul has received its life and its nature, and for whom it must eternally live...*No unity with God is possible except by an exceedingly great love.* God loves those who love Him. He cleaves to those who cleave to Him. He gives Himself to those who seek Him. He grants fullness of joy to those who desire to enjoy His love. *To kindle in his heart such a divine love, to unite with God in an inseparable union of love, it is necessary for a man to pray often, raising his mind to God incessantly.* As a flame increases when it is constantly fed, so prayer, made often, with the mind dwelling ever more deeply in God, arouses divine love in the heart. And the heart, set on fire, will warm all the inner man, will enlighten and teach him, making him like a flaming seraph standing before God with his soul, drawing from this vision the sweetness of spiritual joy.

### ARCHDIOCESAN CHOIR SUNDAY



Today, throughout the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, we honor all those involved in the music ministry of the Church. Many thanks to our Senior choir, our Junior choir, our dedicated Psaltes, and our organists who help us lift our hearts to God in prayer. We are grateful to our music ministry people and ask God to give them health, happiness and many years!

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Offered Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. The Book of Genesis is being studied. Join us for this important journey into God's Word.

**JOY and HOPE** will be having a general meeting on Friday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. In the Founder's Hall.

## **LITTLE ANGEL**

Please note the following activities for **Little Angels**: Friday, October 7th 10:00-12:00 PM - Playgroup at St. George; Wednesday, October 12th 10:00-12:00 - Butler's Orchard - Pumpkin Patch; and Saturday, October 22nd 10:00-10:30 AM - Glen Echo Tot Theater and then play in the park and picnic.

## **50 PLUS**

Our usual first Wednesday Brunch will be held on October 5 at the Original Ambrosia Restaurant, 12015 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md at 10:00am. All are invited. A trip to the Dupont Winterthur Mansion and Longwood Gardens is planned for October 12th. Space is still available to this beautiful and interesting museum and garden. To reserve a seat please contact Maria Kopsides at 301-493-5789 as soon as possible.

## **2011 Fall Fundraiser & Raffle**

Please join us for an evening of great food, excellent music, and dancing at our Greek Night Gala ("So, You Think You Can Greek Dance?") being held on Saturday, November 12, 2011. Gala tickets and raffle tickets are available for purchase after the Divine Liturgy on Sundays during Coffee Hour. Also, for those who have already mailed in your payment, your Gala tickets can be picked up during the Coffee Hour. WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY for a successful and wonderful event!

## **NEW ADULT GREEK SCHOOL CLASS**

The Greek School of St. George will offer **Greek language classes for adults during regular Greek School time, Friday, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** For additional information, contact Lena Petropoulos at 301-774-4558 or by email at [skpetrop@comcast.net](mailto:skpetrop@comcast.net)

**LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
SON OF GOD,  
HAVE MERCY ON ME  
A SINNER!**

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

### **January 1 through September 27, 2011**

**Income \$951,642.51\***

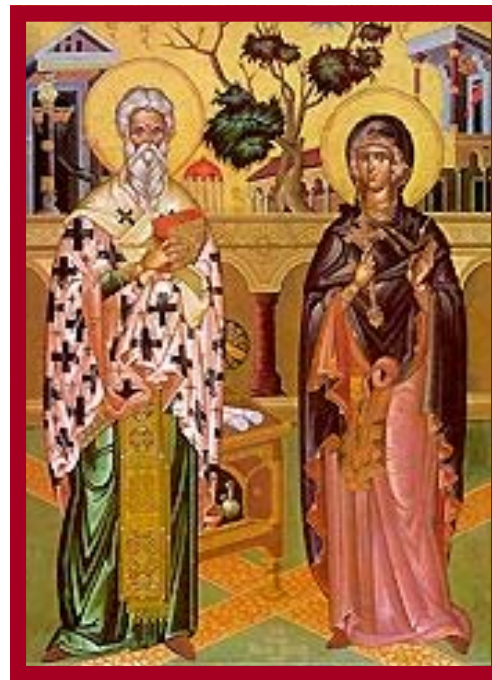
**Expenses \$936,411.68\*\***

\*Includes any income (funds received) from Stewardship, Candles, Trays, Donations, Facility Rentals, Spring Festival, Fall Fundraiser, Greek School, Pre-School Program, Other Income and Harbor School Rent.

\*\* - Includes expenses incurred (funds disbursed) for Administrative Items, Candles, Facility Rentals, Spring Festival, Fall Fundraiser, Greek School, Pre-School Program, Bookstore, Archdiocese Stewardship, For Those Who Serve, Furniture,

## **2ND SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE STS. CYPRIAN AND JUSTINA**

**OCTOBER 2, 2011**



O all venerable Cyprian,\* by describing the glory of \* those who run the race and the crown of martyrdom, \* you thus convinced godly-minded men to dare most courageously \* to embark upon the path\* of the torturous punishments \* and imprisonment \* and exposure, the icy cold, the whippings, and the painful mutilations, \* that finally lead to a martyr's death.

You preserved your virginity, \* warding off diabolical \* incantations using the trophy of the Cross \* and singing Spirit-inspired odes; \* and you were presented to \* Christ as an invincible \* holy martyr and as a most \* sacred sacrifice. \* Decorated with splendors of the virgins and the martyrs, O Justina, \* you thus obtained crowns of victory.

*(Stichera for the Holy Saints, from LAUDS)*

## **Apolytikion**

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. \* To the robber You opened Paradise. \* The lamentation of the myrrhbearing women You transformed, \* and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all \* that You had risen, O Christ our God, \* and granted the world Your great mercy.

## **Kontakion**

No longer will death's dominion have power to detain mortal men. For Christ went down and smashed and destroyed its powers. Now Hades is bound, and the Prophets in unison exult and declare: The Savior has appeared to those with faith. Come out, you faithful, to the Resurrection

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