

MOSAIC

Coming together, we form an icon of God's Kingdom

Vol. 21, No. 7

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church 2501 S. Wolf Rd. Westchester, IL
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November 2016

From Father Nicholas



Determining where to invest

Would you like to know where to invest?

October is historically a challenging month for the stock market. Two of the most memorable market crashes, 1929 and 1987, occurred in October.

Although a couple of unique Octobers stand out in market history, the month often kicks off a season of relatively strong performance. "Since 1950, nearly all of the S&P 500's gains have occurred between October and April," Liz Ann Sonders, senior vice president and chief investment strategist at Charles Schwab said. That doesn't mean investors should expect smooth sailing. Uncertainty about the U.S. presidential election, the future of Federal Reserve policy and concerns about corporate earnings could all have an impact on the stock markets.

Some have concerns about the financial markets. Maybe we invest in stocks, bonds, real estate or various business ventures. Investors eagerly follow the markets. Did the stock price go up today? Did it go down? Is our business venture making a profit? Financial investments are important.

God calls us to be good stewards with all that He has given to us. On November 25, we will celebrate and remember the life of a Holy and Great Martyr who made a greater and different investment. St. Katherine invested her life in the Lord and the treasures of heaven. She was an excellent steward of God's gifts as she generously gave her time, talents and treasures.

Although Katherine lived during the fourth century, her life was similar to ours today. Katherine, daughter of King Constus, lived in Alexandria, a very cosmopolitan city and the center of Hellenistic knowledge. She

...See Fr. Nicholas on P. 2



Barbara Pappas presents the Orthodox interpretation of John's Gospel at weekly Bible studies.

Studying The Bible with Barbara Pappas

By Ellen Dimas

From a young age, Barbara Pappas wanted to understand life. It was through Scripture and the teachings of the Church that she found answers. Encouraged and excited, she wanted to share what she learned with others. This has been her mission at Holy Apostles for nearly 40 years.

In the late 70's, Barbara taught the Bible to children during Wednesday Family Nights at Holy Apostles, following a prayer service led by Fr. Bill Chiganos. In 1980, she began teaching adults and has done so ever since. Initially, she held classes throughout most of the year. Today, the Autumn Wednesday Night Bible Study, with the blessings of Fr. Nicholas Georgiou, has evolved into a seven-week format, running from early October through mid-November. Barbara begins promptly at 7:15pm and the class ends at 8:30pm, with a question-and-answer period afterwards. She has found this schedule allows

for more consistent participation and continuity.

To prepare for each year's study, Barbara conducts in-depth research. She prayerfully reads Scripture and writings of Church Fathers, particularly the Homilies of St. John Chrysostom, to whom she looks for an undistorted view of the early Church, and any other relevant sources. Most of the research tools she uses are books from her extensive home library. Occasionally, she augments this with reference materials available on-line.

In creating each lesson, Barbara seeks to engage students who are at varying levels of scriptural study. The weekly sessions are holistic. She includes references from the Old Testament, which prefigure and inform our understanding of the New Testament, as well as relevant iconography as a visual representation of Scripture, tying all that in with hymnology, the sacramental life of the Church, and Orthodox worship. This rich tapestry was

...See Bible Study on P. 4

Fr. Nicholas from P. 1

Material wealth is temporary, heavenly treasures last forever

was exceptionally well educated in Greek philosophy, medicine, rhetoric and logic.

Katherine was beautiful and came from a very distinguished, wealthy family. Many men from very wealthy families tried to marry her but she refused. The Emperor Maxentius was captivated by her beauty and intelligence. He gathered fifty of the most educated, wisest people to dispute and put her to shame.

Utilizing her great intellectual and philosophical insight, this young saint argued and brought these men to believe in Christ. They ultimately gave their lives for Christ.

Maxentius then tried to entice Katherine by promising her more riches and fame. When she refused to renounce Christ, the Emperor had her tortured and put in prison. While behind bars, Katherine brought General Porphyrios and 200 soldiers to the Christian faith. She professed her great love for Christ, was tortured on a spiked wheel and ultimately beheaded. Her wonderworking relics are preserved in Sinai.

Katherine possessed many of the blessings that we have. Sometimes we read the lives of the Saints thinking they lived differently than us. We tend to think that all the saints were poor, uneducated, country people who lived in much simpler times than we do.

Katherine led a privileged life, was well educated and lived in a cosmopolitan city. She faced many of the same temptations as we do. Because Katherine had everything she needed materially, she could have easily denied Christ. Katherine could have saved her earthly life and gone back to an easy, privileged lifestyle. Instead, she faithfully followed Christ.

Katherine's life challenges us to make a greater investment. We are reminded in the Gospel of Matthew: "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there



Gavel to Gavel



Minutes of the September Council Meeting BY PAUL KALLIS

Present: Father Nicholas Georgiou, George Alex, George Chechopoulos, Terry Chiganos, Jim Fotopoulos, Paul Kallis, Nick Kirkeles, Norman Pomrening, Alicia Magas, Ted Dress, Peter Bell, Spyro Demakis.

Financial/Treasurer's Report

✦ The comparative financial report dated August 31 was reviewed by Peter Bell. Jim Fotopoulos moved to approve the financial statements subject to year-end review. The motion passed.

Stewardship Report

✦ Stewardship Sunday is November 20.
 ✦ Norman Pomrening reviewed the Stewardship Report for August. The church received 720 pledges, three more pledges than the same period last year. The total amount pledged is \$668,000 which is \$25,000 more than for the same period last year. Total amount paid through August was \$592,000.
 ✦ Norm Pomrening made a motion to have a second collection on Sunday in order to raise funds for the Ionian Village Recovery Campaign and provide a minimum donation of \$5,000. Paul Kallis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

✦ Norm Pomrening made a motion to purchase a full page ad in the Choir Federation ad book for \$175. The motion passed.

Correspondence

✦ Lincolnshire's Ascension Church is having its Legacy Gala on Feb. 4, 2017.
 ✦ We received a thank you from Archbishop Demetrios for our donation to the St. Nicholas Shrine.

Building, Grounds and Technical

✦ Paul Kallis made a motion for Building and Grounds to spend up to \$30,000 for Phase 1 of the classroom renovation project. The motion passed.
 ✦ Nick Kirkeles made a motion for Building and Grounds to spend \$8,190 to purchase new chimes for the church. The motion passed.

Education Ministry

✦ The Greek School has 92 students enrolled with 18 in Kindergarten.
 ✦ The Sunday School has 180 students enrolled.

New Business

✦ The 2017 Budget was reviewed and approved to be presented at the General Assembly meeting.

will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:19-21)

This type of investment pays eternal dividends. Material wealth is temporary. It will pass away. We cannot take money or possessions with us. We are challenged to transcend laying up treasures in this life and to lay up eternal treasures. These treasures can be taken with us and last forever.

Katherine's life challenges us to review our own lives. What type of stewards are we? This month, we will reflect on stewardship and expressing our thanksgiving and gratitude to God. During the Feast of the Holy Cross: we read "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in

Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) God Himself gave. He provides the ultimate example and encourages us to experience the joy of giving. We, the Body of Christ, are encouraged to continue His work by giving our time, talents and treasures.

A personal finance magazine stated that a certain stock was a short term investment. St. Katherine's life challenges us to make a long-term investment. Will we invest in treasures that bring us closer to God and our true home? Will we offer our time, talents and treasures to our gracious Lord? Where will we make our investment?

Backpacks for the needy program begins with Aurora schools

Right before school started this year, a few Holy Apostles families tested a pilot program that provided school supplies to children in need. FOCUS North America helped us mobilize by providing brand new backpacks and a supply list. Interested families stepped forward to purchase supplies and stuff those backpacks to bursting!

Five families from Holy Apostles, in conjunction with a few others, filled twenty backpacks in total. The backpacks were delivered to Aurora District 131 right before school started. The school district was thrilled to receive the backpacks and supplies for their students.



Christine Drechsler delivers backpacks in Aurora for a pilot project some HA families participated in this past August.

Based on this pilot program, the Holy Apostles Missions Ministry Team is planning a church-wide backpack event next July/August.

FOCUS North America is a national movement of Orthodox Christians, united in faith and joined by a desire to provide action-oriented and sustainable solutions to poverty in communities across America. FOCUS has operations and youth volunteer experiences in more than 50 cities in the United States to help the poor and needy in North America. For more information: focusnorthamerica.org

...By Christine Drechsler



Barbara speaks to a gathering of about 60 parishioners during the second class session.

Bible Study from P. 1

The Bible study is a ministry of the Word

displayed, for example, at a recent segment on the Wedding of Cana (John 2:1-11), during which Barbara included writings of contemporary theologians on the Sacrament of Marriage, as well as a comparison of Orthodox and non-Orthodox teachings about that subject. While the weekly topic builds from the preceding one, each lesson is self-contained. Detailed notes are provided, to allow individual review, more in-depth exploration, and sharing with others. Her husband, George, is the keeper of the notes and genial host of the evening, trying to insure everyone's comfort.

Barbara considers leading Bible Study a privilege and a sacred ministry. She emphasized that everyone is welcome to participate, stating, "It is my joy to have people come and to see that they want to learn." She invokes St. Paul when she describes her sense of urgency and lifelong dedication to sharing the Word with others, "woe is me if I do not preach the gospel." (I Corinthians 9:16)



Barbara Pappas brings ancient and modern Orthodox scholars' writings to her Bible Study talks by challenging audience members to answer questions as she presents the material, above. At left, Kanella Willsey, center, raises a question about iconography of Christ and the Theotokos.

**Sixty Five
more volunteers
are needed
for Feed6 event in January**
Volunteers to date: 175 out of the 240 needed
Funds donated to date: \$8,810
out of the \$12,500 needed

Let's feed 50,000 people with Feed6! On January 21, 2017, Holy Apostles will partner with Feed6 to hold a pasta meal packing event in the multi-purpose room. Register Pappou, Yiayia, grandchildren, parents, Godparents, Godchildren, family, and friends to work side by side with the goal of curbing hunger in the Chicagoland area. Meals will be delivered to the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

Don't miss this community-wide opportunity to serve the Lord!

240 parishioners are needed for the event. \$12,500 also needs to be raised to cover the cost of the food .

Volunteers will work in two-hour shifts.

To register for your shift, go to:
www.planetreg.com/E999594419736

Donations are also gratefully accepted to underwrite this event. To donate, make checks payable to "Holy Apostles" and write "Feed6" in the memo area.

Thank you very much!

Parent University series

The Chicago Metropolitan Family Synaxis invites families to gather on Tuesday evening, November 8 to venerate the myrrh-streaming icon of St. John the Baptist at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
15625 S. Bell Road/ Lockport, IL 60491.
Fr. Sam Dimitriou will give an account of the blessings and miracles that have occurred.
The times are; 6:30pm Paraklesis,
7:15pm Discussion,
8:30pm Coffee & Fellowship

Mosaic Deadline

The deadline for the December Mosaic is Wednesday, November 9.

Baptisms

*Owen, son of
Shawn & Nicholas Fawell
Sponsor: Peter Cameron*

Weddings

None

Philoptochos fall update and news

Membership

If you were unable to attend our Annual Membership Night held on September 27, it is not too late to join Philoptochos. We welcome new and returning members. Membership envelopes and volunteer forms are available in the multipurpose room. Contact Membership Chair Alyssa Petropoulos at 630.790.9701 for more info.

Artoclasia for Veteran's Day

Philoptochos will honor all of our military veterans with an Artoclasia on Sunday, November 6. We encourage our veterans to attend this special blessing following the Liturgy.

Koukla's Kafenio

All seniors are invited to our Kafenio on Tuesday, November 15. *Sweet Reminder* will be entertaining us with all the memorable melodies you love by Peggy Lee, Patti Page, Doris Day and of course, the Andrew Sisters. Doors will open at 12 pm. Lunch will be served at 12:30 pm. Those planning to attend should RSVP by November 11 to Bess Shizas at 630.834.2186. We will be collecting items for the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. Donations of hand soap, disposable razors, shampoo, conditioner, and deodorant are welcome.

Holiday Shoppe Donations

We will be collecting monetary donations on Sundays, November 20 & 27 and December 4 to purchase toys that will be taken to Family Shelter Services for victims of domestic abuse. It is our way of spreading

some holiday cheer to our community at large. Each year this organization holds its Holiday Shoppe in which clients can come and choose age-appropriate Christmas presents, at no cost to them, for their children. Otherwise, these mothers would not have gifts to give on Christmas. To contribute, look for the Philoptochos table after church or send your donation to the church office before December 4 marked Philoptochos/Holiday Shoppe. For more information, contact Dolly Pantou at 708.829.2412.

Communion Breakfast

Please join us on Saturday, December 10 for our annual communion breakfast. The Liturgy is at 9:00 with breakfast following at 10:30. There will be a craft for the children and a visit from Santa. Kindly bring an unwrapped toy for needy children. Please make reservations with Tina Dillon at 630.832.5652 or tina660@sbcglobal.net.

Holiday Bake Sale

We will be selling delicious baked goods on Saturday, December 10 & Sunday, December 11. For those who love to bake, we welcome your wonderful cookies, cakes, Greek pastries and other holiday treats. For more info, contact Aleka Ernst at 630.561.1660.

Philoptochos Christmas Party & General Meeting

Please join us for our annual holiday party on Tuesday, December 13. It is always a wonderful evening where we can celebrate the holiday season with friends. More information to follow.

HOLY APOSTLES FAMILY SYNAXIS
INVITES YOU TO A

Father Daughter Dance



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 5 2016

FROM 6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

(OPTIONAL VESPERS AT 5:00)

AT HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH

\$15 PER FAMILY INCLUDES PIZZA, DESSERT AND ENTERTAINMENT

FATHERS WEAR YOUR SUNDAY BEST AND
DAUGHTERS CHOOSE A LOVELY DRESS!

RSVP TO HOLYPOSTLESSYNAXIS@GMAIL.COM

BRING YOUR DAUGHTERS OF ALL AGES (INFANT THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL)
GODFATHERS, HONORARY DADS & FATHER-FIGURES WELCOME, TOO!

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church **November 2016** 2501 S. Wolf Rd. Westchester, Illinois

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday School Kindergarten In The Liturgy 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Artodasia For Veterans Fellowship Hour 6	5:15pm The Way 7	FEAST DAY OF SS. COSMOS & DAMIANOS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am Tots 4:30pm Greek School 7:00pm Missions Meeting 1	1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Bible Study 6:30pm Biddy Basketball Practice 7:15pm Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Grade School Basketball Practice 2	4:30pm Greek School High School Basketball Practice 3	4:30pm Adventure Theater 4	9:00am Jr. Dance Troupe Rehearsal 11:30am Feed My Starving Children With Philoptochos 5:00pm Vespers 6:00pm Family Synaxis Daddy/Daughter Dance 5
Sunday School Kindergarten In The Liturgy 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Artodasia For Veterans Fellowship Hour 6	5:15pm The Way 7	FEAST DAY OF ARCHANGELS MICHAEL & GABRIEL 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 4:30pm No Greek School Parent teacher Conferences 8	FEAST DAY OF ST. NECTARIOS 8:00am Orthros/9am Liturgy 1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Bible Study 6:30pm Biddy Basketball Practice 7:15pm Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Grade School BB Practice 9	4:30pm Greek School PTO Meeting 5:00pm Jr. Dance Troupe Rehearsal 6:30pm High School 7:00pm Basketball Practice 10	4:30pm Adventure Theater 6:30pm GOYA Retreat At St. Iakovos Retreat Center 7:00pm Jr. GOYA 11	9:00am Jr. Dance Troupe Rehearsal All Day GOYA Retreat Continues 12
FEAST DAY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM GOYA Retreat Concludes Sunday School 2nd Grade In The Liturgy 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour 13	10:00am Tots 12:00pm Koukia's Kafenio 4:30pm Greek School 6:00pm GOYA Shopping For Needy 7:00pm Naperville Home Bible Study 14	1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Bible Study 6:30pm Biddy Basketball Practice 7:15pm Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal Grade School Basketball Practice 16	4:30pm Greek School High School Basketball Practice Parish Council Meeting 17	4:30pm Greek School High School Basketball Practice Parish Council Meeting 18	4:30pm Adventure Theater 19	9:00am Jr. Dance Troupe Rehearsal 19
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY Sunday School 4yr Olds & 1st Grade In The Liturgy 8:00am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour Greek School Bake Sale 20	PRESENTATION OF THE THEOTOKOS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 5:15pm The Way 21	EVE OF THANKSGIVING 6:00pm Divine Liturgy 1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Bible Study 6:30pm Biddy Basketball Practice 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal Grade School Basketball Practice 23	THANKSGIVING DAY 24	THANKSGIVING DAY 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 25	FEAST DAY OF ST. KATHERINE 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 25	26
FAMILY WORSHIP 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour 27	4:30pm Greek School 6:30pm GOYA Meeting 28	FEAST DAY OF ST. ANDREW 8:00am Orthros/9am Liturgy 1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Bible Study 6:30pm Biddy Basketball Practice 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Grade School Basketball Practice 30	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">A Thanksgiving Prayer</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">As we are about to partake of these gifts you have set before us, we raise up our arms to you and ask you to accept our prayer of thanksgiving along with people of every faith on this land.</p> </div>			

Memorials

Zographia Anagnos
Kleomenis Adamopoulos
Filothei Adamopoulos
Gesthemane Adamopoulos
Eleftheri Adamopoulos
Michael Goldstein
Aristidis Karalis
Paraskeva Kokinis
Stamatina Karalis
Vasilios Karalis
Gianoula Mentakis
Ida Trakadas
John Pantelis
Eleftheria Pantelis
Clara Karones
Julis Stavropoulos
Jane Adams
Tessie Andreakis
Jerry Andreakis
Michael Burtzos
Gust Tasoulis
Georgia Tasoulis
Ekaterini Andrianakos
Clara Karones

Funerals

Antoinette 'Becky' Shukas
Angie Vrettos
George Vrettos
William Pihos

SAVE THE DATE



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2017

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

**GREEK SCHOOL DINNER DANCE
THE EMPRESS BANQUETS ADDISON
PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT WILL BENEFIT
THE HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH CLASSROOM
RENOVATION AND THE GREEK SCHOOL**

Parea outing planned for December

Parea will attend *Crazy For You* on Thursday, December 8 at the Drury Lane Theater in Oak Brook. Lunch is at 11:30am, followed by the play. The cost for the lunch and play is \$50 per person. RSVP by November 5 to Mary Athans at 708.865.8519 or after the Liturgy on Sundays.

Postmaster: Please deliver by the 3rd of November

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