



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΤΑΞΙΑΡΧΩΝ
ΤΑΧΙΑΡΧΑΕ/ARCHANGELS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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February 4, 2024

15th Sunday of Matthew

Orthros 8:45/Liturgy 9:30 AM.

Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:6-15.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from Matthew 22:35-46

Memorial

40 day - *Elfinesh Woletahamanot*

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η Μνήμη!

WEEKDAY SERVICES - Καθημερινές Λειτουργίες:

Paraklesis to the Panagia Gorgoipikoos - Every Thursday at 6 PM.

St. Haralambos - Saturday, Feb. 10th, Orthros 8:30/Liturgy 9AM.



HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, then, the light of Your divinity destroyed Hades. When You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out, "Glory to You our Christ, the Giver of Life."

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Presentation in the First Mode

Hail Virgin Theotokos full of Grace, for Christ our God, the Sun of Righteousness, has dawned from you, granting light to those in darkness. And you, O Righteous Elder, rejoice, taking in your arms, the Deliverance of our souls, who grants us Resurrection.

Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθένε, ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Ευφραίνου καὶ σὺ Πρεσβύτα δίκαιε, δεξιόμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν, χαριζόμενος ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν Ἀνάστασιν.

Seasonal Kontakion in the First Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγιάσας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεῶν εὐλογήσας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἄλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλεῖς οὓς ἠγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόνητος.

Receiving Holy Communion - We welcome to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy those Christians who are from other Christian Denominations and who are not fully united with us. Sadly, it is a consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend to you an invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is the work or action of the celebrating Community signifying a oneness of faith, life, and worship of the believing Community. Reception of Holy Communion by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, and for which we must pray. **However, all present** are welcome to partake of the Antidoro (blessed bread) which is distributed at the end of the Liturgy.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Second Mode. Psalm 117.14,18.

The Lord is my strength and my song.
Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:6-15.

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Epistle Reading

Προκείμενον. Second Mode. ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 117.14,18.

Ἴσχύς μου καὶ ὕμνησις μου ὁ Κύριος.
Στίχ. Παιδεύων ἐπαίδευσέ με ὁ Κύριος.

τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 4:6-15.

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ θεὸς ὁ εἰπὼν ἐκ σκότους φῶς λάμψαι, ὃς ἔλαμψεν ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν πρὸς φωτισμὸν τῆς γνώσεως τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν προσώπῳ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ἔχομεν δὲ τὸν θησαυρὸν τοῦτον ἐν ὀστρακίνοις σκεύεσιν, ἵνα ἡ ὑπερβολὴ τῆς δυνάμεως ἢ τοῦ θεοῦ, καὶ μὴ ἐξ ἡμῶν· ἐν παντὶ θλιβόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐ στενοχωρούμενοι· ἀπορούμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐξαπορούμενοι· διωκόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγκαταλειπόμενοι· καταβαλλόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀπολλύμενοι· πάντοτε τὴν νέκρωσιν τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι περιφέροντες, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι ἡμῶν φανερωθῇ. Αἰεὶ γὰρ ἡμεῖς οἱ ζῶντες εἰς θάνατον παραδιδόμεθα διὰ Ἰησοῦν, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ φανερωθῇ ἐν τῇ θνητῇ σαρκὶ ἡμῶν. Ὡστε ὁ μὲν θάνατος ἐν ἡμῖν ἐνεργεῖται, ἡ δὲ ζωὴ ἐν ὑμῖν. ἔχοντες δὲ τὸ αὐτὸ πνεῦμα τῆς πίστεως, κατὰ τὸ γεγραμμένον, Ἐπίστευσα, διὸ ἐλάλησα, καὶ ἡμεῖς πιστεύομεν, διὸ καὶ λαλοῦμεν· εἰδότες ὅτι ὁ ἐγείρας τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἡμᾶς διὰ Ἰησοῦ ἐγερεῖ, καὶ παραστήσει σὺν ὑμῖν. Τὰ γὰρ πάντα δι' ὑμᾶς, ἵνα ἡ χάρις πλεονάσασα διὰ τῶν πλειόνων τὴν εὐχαριστίαν περισσεύσῃ εἰς τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ.

GOSPEL

The Reading is from Matthew 22:35-46

At that time, a lawyer came up to Jesus and asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put your enemies under your feet'? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

GOSPEL

Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 22:35-46

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νομικός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ, πειράζων αὐτόν καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε, ποία ἐντολὴ μεγάλη ἐν τῷ νόμῳ; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἔφη αὐτῷ· Ἀγαπήσεις Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ καρδίᾳ σου καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ ψυχῇ σου καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ διανοίᾳ σου· αὕτη ἐστὶ πρώτη καὶ μεγάλη ἐντολή. δευτέρα δὲ ὅμοια αὐτῇ· ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. ἐν ταύταις ταῖς δυσὶν ἐντολαῖς ὅλος ὁ νόμος καὶ οἱ προφῆται κρέμανται. Συνηγμένων δὲ τῶν Φαρισαίων ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· Τί ὑμῖν δοκεῖ περὶ τοῦ Χριστοῦ; τίνος υἱὸς ἐστὶ; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· Τοῦ Δαυὶδ. λέγει αὐτοῖς· Πῶς οὖν Δαυὶδ ἐν Πνεύματι Κύριον καλεῖ αὐτόν λέγων, εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τῷ Κυρίῳ μου, κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; εἰ οὖν Δαυὶδ καλεῖ αὐτόν Κύριον, πῶς υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ἐστὶ; καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐδύνατο αὐτῷ ἀποκριθῆναι λόγον, οὐδὲ ἐτόλμησέ τις ἀπ' ἐκείνης τῆς ἡμέρας ἐπερωτῆσαι αὐτόν οὐκέτι.

Saints and Feasts



February 04

Isidore of Pelusium

This Saint was from Alexandria and was a disciple of Saint John Chrysostom. He struggled in asceticism in a monastery at Mount Pelusium, and became abbot of the monks struggling in that monastery. He wrote a great many epistles replete with divine grace, wisdom, and much profit. Over 2,000 of them are preserved in Volume 78 of Migne's *Patrologia Graeca* (PG 78:177-1646); according to some, he wrote over 3,000 epistles, according to others, 10,000. He reposed on February 4, 440.



February 05

Agatha the Martyr

This Martyr, who was from Panormus (that is, Palermo) or perhaps Catania of Sicily, was a most comely and chaste virgin. After many exceedingly harsh torments, she gave up her spirit in prison at Catania in 251, because she did not consent to the seductions of Quintian, the Governor of Sicily. At her burial, an Angel placed a stone tablet on her grave inscribed with the words, "A righteous mind, self-determining, honor from God, the deliverance of her father-land." The following year this was fulfilled when Mount Etna erupted, spewing forth violent fire from which Catania was manifestly saved by Saint Agatha's prayers. The holy Martyr Agatha, the protectress and chief patroness of Sicily, is, with perhaps the exception of Saint Agnes of Rome, the most highly venerated Virgin Martyr of the West. Saint Damasus, Pope of Rome, and Saint Ambrose of Milan both wrote in praise of her.

Sermon

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

In today's gospel passage, a teacher of the law, wanting to put Christ in a difficult position, asks Him: "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment of the Mosaic law"? Christ's answer is immediate: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. The second, just as important as the first, is to love your neighbor like yourself". Love is the first element that makes a person a social being and distinguishes him from the rest of creation. If a person does not love, then he becomes egocentric and instead of feelings, he has instincts to feed the passions that they create.

Does Love Prevail?

However, it is not at all easy to cultivate the commandment of love. That which today dominates our world and human beings' relationships is the "ego", i.e. individual interest and selfishness. So, while the relationship with God and man is a relationship of love and in fact sacrificial love, so that our lives and souls are filled, yet arrogance, the feeling of superiority dominates in our societies which, wealth and power mainly, create, but also a tendency to impose our personal, religious and socio-political views, which stem not from the values of our Greek-Christian culture, but from our personal interests and pursuits.

That is why we have distanced ourselves and - so to speak - do not care about God and, consequently, neither also about our fellow man. God is our own self, and our neighbor is only he who satisfies our personal plans and ambitions, and he remains a neighbor for as long as he serves our own desires.

God's Love Is Man's Happiness

However, we have been created by God who is love. We have innate in us the need to love and be loved, that's why we sometimes hear people complain saying "No one loves me, but I love them all." On this complaint, however, we do not understand, that above everyone and everything, God loves us. And God's love is man's happiness. Let us consider, we who may have the same complaint at certain moments in our lives. Do we respond to God's love?

God's love for us is indisputable and given. But do we love Him? Can we tell Him in our daily prayer that "even if people don't love us, they don't understand us, they don't stand by us in our difficulties, we have You. You who love us and will never leave us alone and unprotected"?

God as the Inexhaustible Source of Love.

So, when we understand this love of God, then we will love the whole world. This certainty about love and God's charity, creates spiritual joy in us, fills our soul and mind, as Christ said in the Gospel today, and we see people as a thanksgiving and a gift in our lives. Then is the moment when we thank God for His love, but also all people, because through people, we also serve and love God.

God, my beloved, is the inexhaustible source of love and forgiveness, which He offers to the

righteous and the unrighteous, to those who love Him and to those who have turned Him away from their lives. So, because God loves us, let us also try to respond to His love in one and only way.

Let us first try to love and forgive our fellow human beings and then we will understand how we will live happily in our societies and be full of Christ in our hearts.

We Welcome all who worship with us today.

Memorial

40 day – *Elfinesh Woletehamanot*

May their memory be eternal. Αιώνια η Μνήμη!

Coffee Fellowship is sponsored by the ***Woletehamanot family*** in memory of their loved one.

If you would like to sponsor a Coffee Fellowship, please contact the Office 617-924-8182.

Announcements

Godparent Sunday - February 11th: *We ask your child(ren) to invite their Godparents to attend. They can sit in Church & receive Holy Communion together. Following Communion, Godparents are asked to attend/participate in their Godchild's Sunday School class. If a Godparent cannot attend, yiayiades, papoudes, aunts, uncles or parents are invited.*

2023-2024 Capital Improvement Campaign Fund

— \$150,000

— \$75,000

— \$0



Church Capital Improvement Campaign update. To date we have raised \$38,000 of the \$150,000 we need to raise for much needed improvements to our Church. We used approved monies from the operations account for the parking lot improvement but need to repay the operations account once we have raised the money. Thank you to those that have donated! If you would like to donate please visit the Church website, click on Donate, then Capital Improvement Campaign.



Purchase Your Tickets on our Website.
Use the drop down "Menu", purchase in Taxiarchae Store.
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 24th!!!

**The Taxiarchae Church
and St. Sava Cathedral invite
you to
an evening of
music, dance, food & fun**



March 9, 2024 7 pm - 11 pm

Greek music by The Makredes Ensemble
Serbian music by - DJ
Enjoy Greek and Serbian Cuisine

Admission: \$60

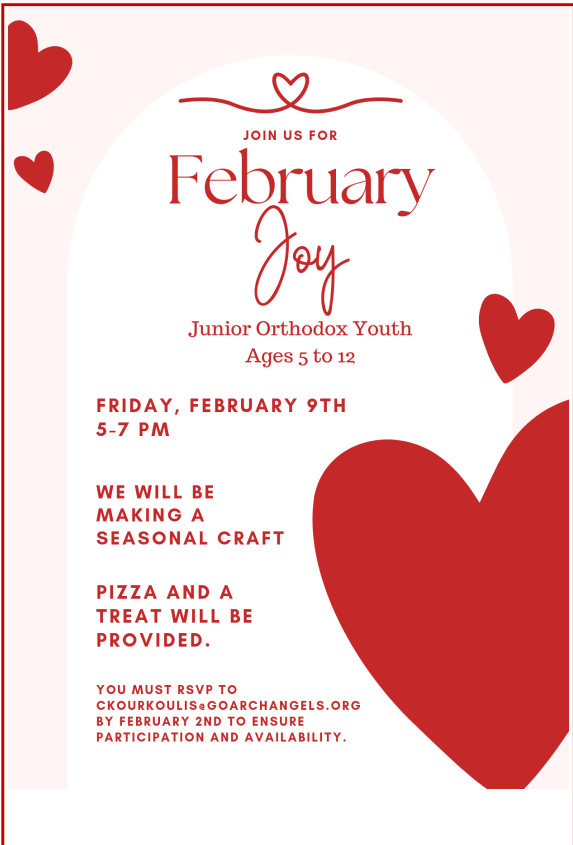
Kids 12 and under - free

MUST RSVP by February 24, 2024

Taxiarchae 25 Bigelow Ave, Watertown, MA 02472



RESCHEDULED
FAMILY MINISTRIES
A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
SLIME PARTY
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH 6-8 PM
PIZZA AND A TREAT
WILL BE PROVIDED
YOU MUST RSVP TO
CKOURKOULIS@GOARCHANGELS.ORG BY
FEBRUARY 9TH TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION
AND AVAILABILITY.



JOIN US FOR
February
Joy
Junior Orthodox Youth
Ages 5 to 12
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH
5-7 PM
WE WILL BE
MAKING A
SEASONAL CRAFT
PIZZA AND A
TREAT WILL BE
PROVIDED.
YOU MUST RSVP TO
CKOURKOULIS@GOARCHANGELS.ORG
BY FEBRUARY 2ND TO ENSURE
PARTICIPATION AND AVAILABILITY.

Taxiarchae Oratorical Date: April 21, at the conclusion of the Liturgy

Parish Chairperson: Costas Karageorgis

Contact Information: Ckarageorgis@goarchangel.com

Please contact Costas or Fr. Nenes if interested.



**JOIN THOUSANDS OF
YOUTH ACROSS
THE NATION AND
SHARE YOUR FAITH!**

2024 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

Junior Division (Grades 7-9) | Senior Division (Grades 10-12)

AWARDS

National finalists are eligible to receive the following
St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Scholarship: \$500 to \$2000
FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism: to be announced

SCHOLARSHIPS

Finalists at any level are eligible to receive the following
Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College: \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year

LOCAL INFORMATION

Parish Festival Date & Time: _____

Parish Chairperson: _____

Contact Information: _____

Find topics, tips, manual, & award info at
www.religioused.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Department of Religious Education (DRE)





CROSSROAD

Are you a high school **junior** or **senior**?

Fill your

summer
with what **counts**

Join one of our
four sessions:

SESSION 1 | Boston June 8-18

SESSION 2 | Northern California June 18-28

SESSION 3 | Boston June 22-July 2

SESSION 4 | Chicago July 6-16

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Priority: January 16, 2024

Regular: February 20, 2024

Youth Ministry

Ongoing FOOD DRIVE - Collecting for the Watertown Food Pantry

Your donation of food items can be put on the table, located in the Lobby.

We will deliver them to the Watertown Food Pantry every Tuesday.

Thank you for helping your local community!

ESPECIALLY NEEDED - CANS OF TUNA & BREAKFAST CEREAL.

As always, the Food Pantry is still in need of school snacks.

LOVE DOES NOT HURT.

INCREASED STATISTICS ON INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
[HTTPS://WWW.NEJM.ORG/DOI/FULL/10.1056/NEJMP2024046](https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMP2024046)

A pandemic within a pandemic: There are more cases of violence in the home than ever before. This means more families living in crisis.

We are collecting for monthly drop-offs each second Monday of the month, beginning with December 14th.

Items requested are:

Sanitary napkins
Shampoo
Vaseline
Cocoa butter
Baby shampoo
Baby lotion
Deodorant
Tooth brushes
Tooth paste

With any questions, please contact [REDACTED] or
Christina Kourkoulis at CKourkoulis@goarchangels.org

**RECOGNIZE.
REPORT.
PREVENT.**

FINEX HOUSE

+Finex House
PO Box 300670
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
<https://www.finexhouse.org>

Taxiarchae Hellenic Cultural Center

Planning a party or reception? Our beautiful venues are now updated and ready for any & all of your event needs, up to 500 people.

For information and assistance in planning your future event, please call Irene Apostolou Cobb at the Church Office at 617-924-8182 or email: functionmanager@goarchangels.com



DREAM IT AND IT
CAN COME TRUE!
YOUR EVENT CAN BE
EVERYTHING
YOU WISHED.

