

Ecumenical Patriarchate
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey
ASCENSION

Greek Orthodox Church
FAIRVIEW - NEW JERSEY
Weekly Bulletin
Sunday, November 1, 2020
5th Sunday of Luke



Οικουμενικόν Πατριαρχεῖον
Ιερὰ Μητρόπολις Νέας Ιερσέης
Ελληνική Ορθόδοξη Εκκλησία
ΘΕΙΑΣ ΑΝΑΛΗΨΕΩΣ
ΦΕΡΒΙΟΥ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ
ΕΒΔΟΜΑΔΙΑΙΟ ΔΕΛΤΙΟ
ΕΝΗΜΕΡΩΣΗΣ

Rev. Christos L. Pappas, Protopresbyter



**Light a Candle & Say a Prayer at
Ascension Church, Fairview, NJ**

*"I am the light of the world;
he who follows me will not walk in darkness
but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)*

To light a candle, please click the link below
and after you select the candle(s)
that you would like us to light and before pressing the
"Place Order" button,
please submit the names of your loved ones,
those who are alive and/or those
who have departed this life.
Your candles will be lit at the next Liturgy or service.
Thank you and God bless!

<http://ascensionfairviewnj.square.site/>

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Κυριακή, 1^η Νοεμβρίου, 2020

Ε' Λουκά

8:30 π.μ. – 11:30 π.μ. Όρθρος, Θ. Λειτουργία

Ημέρα της Φιλοπτώχου

12:00 μ.μ. Γενική Συνέλευση

Δευτέρα, 2 Νοεμβρίου, 2020

Ακίνδυνος, Ελπιδοφόρος και οι συν αυτώ

9:00 π.μ. – 12:00 π.μ. Όρθρος, Θ. Λειτουργία

(Στην Αγία Τριάδα – Καθεδρικός - Νέα Υόρκη)

Εορτή του Αρχιεπισκόπου Αμερικής Ελπιδοφόρου

Τρίτη, 3 Νοεμβρίου, 2020

6:00 μ.μ. Παράκληση

Τετάρτη, 4 Νοεμβρίου, 2020

Ελληνικό Σχολείο – Διαδικτυακή διδασκαλία

Παρασκευή, 6 Νοεμβρίου, 2020

Ελληνικό Σχολείο – Διαδικτυακή διδασκαλία

Κυριακή, 8 Νοεμβρίου, 2020

Ζ' Λουκά – Σύναξις Ταξιδαρχών Μιχαήλ και Γαβρίηλ

8:30 π.μ. – 11:30 π.μ. Όρθρος, Θ. Λειτουργία

7:00 μ.μ. Εσπερινός Αγίου Νεκταρίου

(Ναός Αγ. Γεωργίου – Κλίφτον)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, November 1st, 2020

5th Sunday of Luke

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Orthros, Divine Liturgy

Philoptochos Day

12:00 noon General Assembly Meeting

Monday, November 2, 2020

Akindynos, Elpidophoros and Companions

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. Orthros, Divine Liturgy

(Holy Trinity Cathedral)

Nameday of

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

6:00 p.m. Paraklisis

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Greek School Virtual Teaching

Friday, November 6, 2020

Greek School Virtual Teaching

Sunday, November 8, 2020

7th Sunday of Luke – Synaxis of the Archangels

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Orthros, Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers of Nectarios the Wonderworker

(St. George Church – Clifton)

Prokeimenon. Mode 4.

Psalm 15.3,8

Among the saints who are in his land, the Lord has been wondrous.

Verse: I see the Lord before me continually.

The reading is from

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8

Brethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος δ'.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 15.3,8

Τοῖς ἀγίοις τοῖς ἐν τῇ γῇ αὐτοῦ ἐθαυμάστωσεν ὁ Κύριος.

Στίχ. Προωρώμην τὸν Κύριον ἐνώπιόν μου διαπαντός.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 12:27-31, 13:1-8 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, ὑμεῖς δὲ ἐστε σῶμα Χριστοῦ, καὶ μέλη ἐκ μέρους. Καὶ οὓς μὲν ἔθετο ὁ θεὸς ἐν τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ πρῶτον ἀποστόλους, δεύτερον προφήτας, τρίτον διδασκάλους, ἔπειτα δυνάμεις, εἶτα χαρίσματα ἰαμάτων, ἀντιλήψεις, κυβερνήσεις, γένη γλωσσῶν. Μὴ πάντες ἀπόστολοι; Μὴ πάντες προφῆται; Μὴ πάντες διδασκαλοὶ; Μὴ πάντες δυνάμεις; Μὴ πάντες χαρίσματα ἔχουσιν ἰαμάτων; Μὴ πάντες γλώσσαις λαλοῦσιν; Μὴ πάντες διερμηνεύουσιν; Ζηλοῦτε δὲ τὰ χαρίσματα τὰ κρείττονα. Καὶ ἔτι καθ' ὑπερβολὴν ὁδὸν ὑμῖν δείκνυμι. Ἐὰν ταῖς γλώσσαις τῶν ἀνθρώπων λαλῶ καὶ τῶν ἀγγέλων, ἀγάπην δὲ μὴ ἔχω, γέγονα χαλκὸς ἡχῶν ἢ κύμβαλον ἀλαλάζον. Καὶ ἐὰν ἔχω προφητείαν, καὶ εἰδῶ τὰ μυστήρια πάντα καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν γνῶσιν, καὶ ἐὰν ἔχω πᾶσαν τὴν πίστιν, ὥστε ὅρη μεθιστάνειν, ἀγάπην δὲ μὴ ἔχω, οὐθέν εἰμι. Καὶ ἐὰν ψωμίσω πάντα τὰ ὑπάρχοντά μου, καὶ ἐὰν παραδῶ τὸ σῶμά μου ἵνα καυθήσωμαι, ἀγάπην δὲ μὴ ἔχω, οὐδὲν ὠφελοῦμαι. Ἡ ἀγάπη μακροθυμεῖ, χρηστεύεται· ἡ ἀγάπη οὐ ζηλοῖ· ἡ ἀγάπη οὐ περπερεύεται, οὐ φυσιοῦται, οὐκ ἀσχημονεῖ, οὐ ζητεῖ τὰ ἑαυτῆς, οὐ παροξύνεται, οὐ λογίζεται τὸ κακόν, οὐ χαίρει ἐπὶ τῇ ἀδικίᾳ, συγχαίρει δὲ τῇ ἀληθείᾳ, πάντα στέγει, πάντα πιστεύει, πάντα ἐλπίζει, πάντα ὑπομένει. 8 Ἡ ἀγάπη οὐδέποτε ἐκπίπτει· εἴτε δὲ προφητεῖαι, καταργηθήσονται· εἴτε γλῶσσαι, παύσονται· εἴτε γνῶσις, καταργηθήσεται.

The Gospel According to Luke 16:19-31

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 16:19-31 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα
Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ἄνθρωπος δέ τις ἦν πλούσιος, καὶ ἐνεδιδύσκετο πορφύραν καὶ βύσσον εὐφραινόμενος καθ' ἡμέραν λαμπρῶς. πτωχὸς δέ τις ἦν ὀνόματι Λάζαρος, ὃς ἐβέβλητο πρὸς τὸν πυλῶνα αὐτοῦ ἡλκωμένος καὶ ἐπιθυμῶν χορτασθῆναι ἀπὸ τῶν ψιγίων τῶν πιπτόντων ἀπὸ τῆς τραπέζης τοῦ πλουσίου· ἀλλὰ καὶ οἱ κύνες ἐρχόμενοι ἀπέλειχον τὰ ἔλκη αὐτοῦ. ἐγένετο δὲ ἀποθανεῖν τὸν πτωχὸν καὶ ἀπενεχθῆναι αὐτὸν ὑπὸ τῶν ἀγγέλων εἰς τὸν κόλπον Ἀβραάμ· ἀπέθανε δὲ καὶ ὁ πλούσιος καὶ ἐτάφη. καὶ ἐν τῷ ᾄδι ἐπάρας τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ, ὑπάρχων ἐν βασάνοις, ὤρᾳ τὸν Ἀβραάμ ἀπὸ μακρόθεν καὶ Λάζαρον ἐν τοῖς κόλποις αὐτοῦ. καὶ αὐτὸς φωνήσας εἶπε· πάτερ Ἀβραάμ, ἐλέησόν με καὶ πέμψον Λάζαρον ἵνα βᾶψῃ τὸ ἄκρον τοῦ δακτύλου αὐτοῦ ὕδατος καὶ καταψύξῃ τὴν γλῶσσάν μου, ὅτι ὀδυνῶμαι ἐν τῇ φλογὶ ταύτῃ. εἶπε δὲ Ἀβραάμ· τέκνον, μνήσθητι ὅτι ἀπέλαβες σὺ τὰ ἀγαθὰ σου ἐν τῇ ζωῇ σου, καὶ Λάζαρος ὁμοίως τὰ κακά· νῦν δὲ ὧδε παρακαλεῖται, σὺ δὲ ὀδυνᾶσαι· καὶ ἐπὶ πᾶσι τούτοις μεταξὺ ἡμῶν καὶ ὑμῶν χάσμα μέγα ἐστήρικται, ὅπως οἱ θέλοντες διαβῆναι ἔνθεν πρὸς ὑμᾶς μὴ δύνωνται, μηδὲ οἱ ἐκεῖθεν πρὸς ἡμᾶς διαπερῶσιν. εἶπε δέ· ἐρωτῶ σὺν σε, πάτερ, ἵνα πέμψῃς αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρός μου· ἔχω γὰρ πέντε ἀδελφούς· ὅπως διαμαρτύρηται αὐτοῖς, ἵνα μὴ καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔλθωσιν εἰς τὸν τόπον τοῦτον τῆς βασάνου. λέγει αὐτῷ Ἀβραάμ· ἔχουσι Μωϋσέα καὶ τοὺς προφήτας· ἀκουσάτωσαν αὐτῶν. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν· οὐχί, πάτερ Ἀβραάμ, ἀλλ' ἐάν τις ἀπὸ νεκρῶν πορευθῇ πρὸς αὐτούς, μετανοήσουσιν. εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ· εἰ Μωϋσεὺς καὶ τῶν προφητῶν οὐκ ἀκούουσιν, οὐδὲ ἐάν τις ἐκ νεκρῶν ἀναστῇ πεισθήσονται.

Cosmas and Damian (Asia Minor)



The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas and Damian were natives of Asia Minor, brothers by birth, and physicians by profession. Their feast day is November 1. They are known for their [charitable](#) medical service.

Life

Sts. Cosmas, Damian and their mother St Theodota were natives of Asia Minor (some sources say Mesopotamia). Their pagan father died while they were still quite small children. Their mother raised them in Christian piety. Through her own example, and by reading holy books to them, St Theodota preserved her children in purity of life according to the command of the Lord, and Cosmas and Damian grew up into righteous and virtuous men.

Trained and skilled as physicians, they received from the Holy Spirit the gift of healing people's illnesses of body and soul by

the power of prayer. They even treated animals. With fervent love for both God and neighbor, they never took payment for their services. They strictly observed the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Freely have you received, freely give." (Mt. 10:8). The fame of Sts Cosmas and Damian spread throughout all the surrounding region, and people called them unmercenary physicians.

Once, the saints were summoned to a grievously ill woman named Palladia, whom all the doctors had refused to treat because of her seemingly hopeless condition. Through faith and through the fervent prayer of the holy brothers, the Lord healed the deadly disease and Palladia got up from her bed perfectly healthy and giving praise to God. In gratitude for being healed and wishing to give them a small gift, Palladia went quietly to Damian. She presented him with three eggs and said, "Take this small gift in the Name of the Holy Life-Creating Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Hearing the Name of the Holy Trinity, the unmercenary one did not dare to refuse.

When St Cosmas learned what had happened, became very sad, for he thought that his brother had broken their strict vow. On his deathbed he gave instructions that his brother should not be buried beside him. St Damian also died shortly afterward, and everyone wondered where St Damian's grave should be. But through the will of God a miracle occurred. A camel, which the saints had treated for its wildness, spoke with a human voice saying that they should have no doubts about whether to place Damian beside Cosmas, because Damian did not accept the eggs from the woman as payment, but out of respect for the Name of God. The venerable relics of the holy brothers were buried together at Thereman (Mesopotamia).

Many miracles were worked after the death of the holy unmercenaries. There lived at Thereman, near the church of Cosmas and Damian, a certain man by the name of Malchus. One day he went on a journey, leaving his wife all alone for what

would be a long time. He prayerfully entrusted her to the heavenly protection of the holy brothers. But the Enemy of the race of mankind took on the appearance of one of Malchus' friends, and planned to kill the woman. A certain time went by, and this man went to her at home and said that Malchus had sent him to bring her to him. The woman believed him and went along. He led her to a solitary place intending to kill her. The woman, seeing that disaster threatened her, called upon God with deep faith.

Two fiercesome men then appeared, and the devil let go of the woman and fled, falling off a cliff. The two men led the woman home. At her own home, bowing to them deeply she asked, " My rescuers, to whom I shall be grateful to the end of my days, what are your names?"

They replied, "We are the servants of Christ, Cosmas and Damian," and became invisible. The woman with trembling and with joy told everyone about what had happened to her. Glorifying God, she went up to the icon of the holy brothers and tearfully offered prayers of thanksgiving for her deliverance. And from that time the holy brothers were venerated as protectors of the holiness and inviolability of Christian marriage, and as givers of harmony to conjugal life. From ancient times, their veneration spread also to Russia.

The Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Asia Minor should not be confused with the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Rome (July 1), or the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Arabia (October 17).

Άγιοι Κοσμάς και Δαμιανός οι Ανάργυροι και θαυματουργοί

Οι Άγιοι Κοσμάς και Δαμιανός κατάγονταν από την Ασία. Οι γονείς τους ήταν άριστο πρότυπο χριστιανών συζύγων.

Όταν η μητέρα τους Θεοδότη (βλέπε [2 Ιανουαρίου](#)) έμεινε χήρα, αφιέρωσε κάθε προσπάθεια της στη χριστιανική ανατροφή των δυο παιδιών της, Κοσμά και Δαμιανού. Τους δύο αδελφούς διέκρινε μεγάλη ευφυΐα και επιμέλεια, γι' αυτό και σπούδασαν πολλές επιστήμες. Ιδιαίτερα όμως, επιδόθηκαν στην ιατρική επιστήμη, την οποία εξασκούσαν σαν διακονία φιλανθρωπίας προς τον πλησίον. Θεράπευαν τις ασθένειες των ανθρώπων, και ιδιαίτερα των φτωχών, χωρίς να παίρνουν χρήματα, γι' αυτό και ονομάστηκαν Ανάργυροι. Πολλοί ασθενείς που θεραπεύθηκαν ήθελαν να τους ευχαριστήσουν. Αλλά αυτοί, δε δέχονταν τις ευχαριστίες και απαντούσαν με τον ορθό λόγο της Αγίας Γραφής: «Ἡ εὐλογία καὶ ἡ δόξα καὶ ἡ σοφία καὶ ἡ εὐχαριστία καὶ ἡ τιμὴ καὶ ἡ δύναμις καὶ ἡ ἰσχὺς τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων» (Αποκάλυψη Ιωάννου, ζ' 12). Δηλαδή, όλος ο ύμνος και η δόξα και η σοφία και η ευχαριστία και η τιμή και η δύναμη και η ισχύς, ανήκει στο Θεό μας, στους αιώνες των αιώνων.

Έτσι ταπεινά αφού διακόνησαν σε όλη τους τη ζωή τον πλησίον, πέθαναν ειρηνικά και ετάφησαν στην τοποθεσία Φερεμά.

Ο Άγιος Ακίνδυνος και οι συν αυτό Μάρτυρες Πηγάσιος, Ανεμπόδιστος, Ελπιδοφόρος και Αφθόνιος ήταν όλοι αξιωματούχοι του Πέρση βασιλιά Σαπώρ του Β'. Σε αυτή την ανάρτηση θα γνωρίσετε τη ζωή, τη δράση, την προσφορά και προ πάντων το μαρτύριο των Αγίων Ακινδύνων. Το 330 μ.Χ., επειδή ομολόγησαν ότι είναι χριστιανοί, συνελήφθησαν και μαρτύρησαν σκληρά. Είναι αλήθεια ότι οι Πέρσες γνώρισαν τον Χριστό από την πρώτη στιγμή της Πεντηκοστής μία και ανάμεσα σε αυτούς που άκουσαν με τα αυτιά του στο πρώτο εκείνο κήρυγμα των θείων Αποστόλων ήταν και Πέρσες.



Η Εκκλησία του Χριστού στην Περσία εδραιώθηκε και άνθισε και αυτό ήταν που μισήθηκε από το διάβολο και διώχθηκε σκληρά από τα όργανά του. Όργανό του ήταν και ο βασιλιάς Σαβώριος ο Δεύτερος, ο οποίος κήρυξε φοβερότατο διωγμό κατά των Χριστιανών.

Οι Άγιοι Ακίνδυνοι οι Μάρτυρες

Οι Άγιοι Μάρτυρες Ακίνδυνος, Πηγάσιος, Ανεμπόδιστος, Ελπιδοφόρος και Αφθόνιος – [2 Νοεμβρίου](#).

Οι τρεις αυτοί Άγιοι μάρτυρες Ακίνδυνος, Πηγάσιος και Ανεμπόδιστος ήταν ζηλωτές της αληθινής πίστης και παρότρυναν τους χριστιανούς να περιφρονούν τα βασιλικά διατάγματα και να μένουν σταθεροί στην πίστη τους. Αξιωματούχοι του Πέρση βασιλιά Σαβωρίου, ο Ακίνδυνος, ο Πηγάσιος και ο Ανεμπόδιστος, το 330 μ.Χ. ομολόγησαν με γενναιότητα ότι είναι Χριστιανοί, και γι' αυτό συνελήφθησαν και μαστιγώθηκαν σκληρά μήπως έτσι προδώσουν την πίστη τους. Μάταια όμως, αφού βίωναν με θέληση όλο το νόημα της Ενανθρώπησης του Υιού και Λόγου του Θεού.

Στη συνέχεια, τους υποχρέωσαν να μπουν μέσα στις φλόγες μιας μεγάλης φωτιάς, αλλά με τις θερμές δεήσεις τους προς το Θεό προκάλεσαν θύελλα με βροχή, που έσβησε τη φωτιά. Το θαύμα αυτό έγινε αιτία να αναβληθεί η θανατική ποινή και μάλιστα, με το φωτισμό του Αγίου Πνεύματος, να ασπαστεί το Χριστιανισμό ο ειδωλολάτρης Αφθόνιος και να βαπτιστεί κι εκείνος στο όνομα της Παναγίας Τριάδας. Ωστόσο μετά από μερικές μέρες, ύστερα από τις ατυχείς προσπάθειες να τους αλλάξουν το χριστιανικό φρόνημα, διατάχθηκε ο αποκεφαλισμός του Αφθονίου, ο οποίος με σταθερή πίστη στο ιερό Ευαγγέλιο, δήλωσε την αδυναμία της ειδωλολατρίας απέναντι στη χάρη του παντοδύναμου Τριαδικού Θεού.

Ο Ελπιδοφόρος, ο οποίος όχι μόνο ήταν πιστός στο Χριστό, αλλά και πρώτος της Συγκλήτου, κλήθηκε με διάφορα μέσα να αλλάξει την πίστη του. Απάντησε τότε πως πιστεύει στο Χριστό, διότι Αυτός είναι «η οδός και η αλήθεια και η ζωή». Έτσι, διατάχθηκε η θανάτωσή του μαζί με άλλους επτά χιλιάδες Χριστιανούς.

Ο Ακίνδυνος, ο Πηγάσιος και ο Ανεμπόδιστος ρίχτηκαν σε λάκκο με θηρία, αλλά έμειναν αβλαβείς και τα θηρία με ηρεμία απέναντί τους. Το θαύμα αυτό οδήγησε τη μητέρα του βασιλιά στην Εκκλησία και στο να ασπασθεί το Χριστιανισμό. Στο τέλος οι Μάρτυρες ρίχτηκαν σε φλογισμένο καμίνι, για να λάβουν τον αμαράντινο της δόξης στέφανο. Οι κίνδυνοι εξακολουθούν και σήμερα να είναι πολλοί και οι δοκιμασίες αρκετές, παρά την αύξηση της γνώσης και των επιστημονικών επιτευγμάτων, τις συνεχείς διακηρύξεις περί ανθρωπίνων δικαιωμάτων, αλλά και τις προσπάθειες των κοινωνιών για επικράτηση της ειρήνης και της αλληλεγγύης στη λεγόμενη μεταμοντέρνα εποχή μας. Έχοντας ως πρότυπα ήρωες και μάρτυρες της Πίστεως, όπως είναι «το πεντάριθμον σύνταγμα των μαρτύρων» που εορτάζουμε σήμερα, ο άνθρωπος αντλεί θάρρος από την αγάπη του Σωτήρος Χριστού και με πίστη και καθαρό μυαλό μετανοεί, συγχωρεί και με ελπίδα προχωρεί δημιουργικά στη ζωή του, έτοιμος να αντιμετωπίσει κάθε κίνδυνο και δοκιμασία.



Sts. Akindynos, Pegasios, Aphthonios, Elpidophoros, Anempodistos and their fellow Martyrs of Persia - Commemorated on November 2nd

"They were all Christians from Persia and suffered during the reign of King Sapor in the year 355. The first three [Sts. Akindynos, Pegasios and Anempodistos] were servants at the court of this same king but secretly served Christ their Lord. When they were accused and brought to trial before the king, he asked them where they came from. To this they replied: "Our fatherland and our life is the Most-holy Trinity, one in Essence and undivided, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God." The king subjected them to cruel tortures but they endured all heroically, with

psalmody and prayer on their lips. During the time of their torture and imprisonment angels of God appeared to them many times, and one time the Lord Christ Himself appeared to them as a man ``with a face radiant as the sun." When one of the torturers, Aphthonius, beheld a miracle, when boiling lead did no harm to the martyrs, he believed in Christ and cried out: ``Great is the Christian God!" For this, he was immediately beheaded, and many others saw and believed.

Then the king ordered that Acyndinus, Pegasus and Anempodistus be sewn into animal skins and cast into the sea. But St. Aphthonius appeared from the other world with three shining angels, and led the holy martyrs to dry land and set them free. Elpidophorus was one of the king's nobles. When he revealed that he was a Christian and denounced the king for his slaughter of innocent Christians, the king condemned him to death and Elpidophorus was beheaded along with seven thousand other Christians. Then those first three martyrs [Sts. Acyndinus, Pegasus and Anempodistus] were finally thrown into a burning furnace along with twenty-eight soldiers and the king's mother, since they also believed in Christ-and thus, in the flames, they gave up their righteous souls into the hands of the Lord."

"Many holy martyrs joyfully received their executioners who were seeking them, and treated them hospitably in their homes while they themselves prepared for death. To entertain one's mortal enemies-is this not an expression of great love toward

one's enemies? When King Sapor harshly tortured Acyndinus, Pegasus and others with them, he suddenly went mad, became dumb and unable to speak, and began to claw his face with great fury. Seeing his tormentor in such despair, St. Acyndinus wept and prayed to God for the king and said, ``In the name of Jesus Christ the Lord, speak!" and the king's tongue was loosed and he began to speak. Here is an example of true love for one's enemies!"

"Two churches were dedicated in their honour in Constantinople. As is often the case in church hymns, there is a play on the meanings of the Saints' names here. Acindynus means "unimperilled"; Pegasus is derived from pegazo--"to gush forth"; Aphthonius is derived from aphthonos-"abundant"; Elpidophorus means "hope-bearing"; Anempodistus means "unhindered." These are all Greek translations of their Persian names."

Ascension Church Pandemic Appeal Offering

Thank you for your contribution to Ascension Church during these unprecedented times. Your support is greatly appreciated and will help maintain our Community as it belongs to each of us. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. God bless!

Donation amount

\$50

\$100

\$250

\$500

\$0.00

Donate

<http://ascensionfairviewnj.square.site/>

Ascension Catechism Online Get Together

Start date: Sunday, October 4, 2020 at 1:00PM

I urge all parents to complete the Catechism Registration Form as soon as possible in order not to miss the first day.

Please reach out to the Catechism Teacher as soon as possible with the following information: Your Name, Child's Name, Email Address, and Telephone Number. This will ensure that the teacher has the necessary information so your child will be able to join the Catechism group on the first day. (You should receive a link to your email the day before the group meets. If you do not receive it, reach out to your child's teacher.)

Pre-K and Kindergarten	Vicky Sekkas	vsekkas@gmail.com
1 st & 2 nd Grades	Maria Bonitsis	mariakbonitsis@gmail.com
	Eugenia Mihalatos	eugenia70@yahoo.com
3 rd & 4 th Grades	Michaela Toumazou	m.liperis@outlook.com
5 th & 6 th Grades	Elizabeth Baltzis	elizabethbaltzis@gmail.com
7 th & 8 th Grades	Stacy Pinou-Melinzanis	pinoustacy@hotmail.com
9 th – 12 th Grades	Noelle Mironis	noelle.ioanna@gmail.com

[“ALL GREEK SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE AN INVITATION TO JOIN”](#)

WE WILL MEET AS FOLLOWS:

Sun. Oct. 4 and Sun. Oct. 18 at 1:00 pm
Sun. Nov. 1, Sun. Nov. 15, and Sun. Nov. 29 at 1:00 pm
Sun. Dec. 6 and Sun. Dec. 20 at 1:00 pm

We are all looking forward to working with your children, keeping a strong connection with God, Father Chris, their friends, and teachers. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Thank you, Addie Toumazou, 201-365-8907, addietoumazou@hotmail.com

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info@ascensionfairview.org

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, November 1, 2020

5th Sunday of Luke

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ, 1^η Νοεμβερίου, 2020

Ε' Λουκά

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ΜΝΗΜΟΣΥΝΑ

Μέλη της Φιλοπτώχου

Members of the Philoptochos

40 μέρες: Σπυριδούλα Κανδυλιώτη

40 days: Spyridoula Kandiliotis

5 χρόνια: Ελένη Μιχάλη

5 years: Eleni Michalis

26 χρόνια: Βασίλειος Μιχάλης

26 years: Vasilios Michalis