



**St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church**  
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**Sunday, February 3, 2019**

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

**Commemoration: Symeon & Anna the Prophetess, Stamatios, John & Nicholas**

**Orthros Gospel: Third**

**Tone: Third**

**Epistle Reading: According to St. Paul's Second Letter to the Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2**

Brethren, working together with him, 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.

**Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 6:1-10 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα**

Ἀδελφοί, συνεργοῦντες δὲ καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν μὴ εἰς κενὸν τὴν χάριν τοῦ θεοῦ δεῖξασθαι ὑμᾶς - λέγει γάρ, Καὶρῶ δεκτῶ ἐπήκουσά σου, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ σωτηρίας ἐβοήθησά σοι· ἰδοῦ, νῦν καιρὸς εὐπρόσδεκτος, ἰδοῦ, νῦν ἡμέρα σωτηρίας - μηδεμίαν ἐν μηδενὶ διδόντες προσκοπήν, ἵνα μὴ μωμηθῆ ἡ διακονία· ἀλλ' ἐν παντὶ συνιστῶντες ἑαυτοὺς ὡς θεοῦ διάκονοι, ἐν ὑπομονῇ πολλῇ, ἐν θλίψεσιν, ἐν ἀνάγκαις, ἐν στενοχωρίαις, ἐν πληγαῖς, ἐν φυλακαῖς, ἐν ἀκαταστασίαις, ἐν κόποις, ἐν ἀγρυπνίαις, ἐν νηστείαις, ἐν ἀγνόητι, ἐν γνώσει, ἐν μακροθυμίᾳ, ἐν χρηστότητι, ἐν πνεύματι ἀγίῳ, ἐν ἀγάπῃ ἀνυποκρίτως, ἐν λόγῳ ἀληθείας, ἐν δυνάμει θεοῦ, διὰ τῶν ὄπλων τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῶν δεξιῶν καὶ ἀριστερῶν, διὰ δόξης καὶ ἀτιμίας, διὰ δυσφημίας καὶ εὐφημίας· ὡς πλάνοι καὶ ἀληθεῖς· ὡς ἀγνοοῦμενοι, καὶ ἐπιγινωσκόμενοι· ὡς ἀποθνήσκοντες, καὶ ἰδοῦ, ζῶμεν· ὡς παιδευόμενοι, καὶ μὴ θανατούμενοι· ὡς λυπούμενοι, αἶψα δὲ χαίροντες· ὡς πτωχοί, πολλοὺς δὲ πλουτίζοντες· ὡς μηδὲν ἔχοντες, καὶ πάντα κατέχοντες.

**Gospel Reading: According to Matthew 25:14-30**

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed?'"

Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

**Thank You to the Following Stewards of St. John's Parish:**

Parish Council Member on Duty: Themis Vrantzis  
 Prosforon brought by: Sandy Sarandos  
 Coffee Hour by: Georgis Sourlis / Pat Mavroidis  
 Today's Second Tray will benefit the Building Fund

**Schedule of Services and Community Events**

**Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

- Orthros 9:00 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
- Sunday School following Divine Liturgy
- Swearing In of the 2019 Parish Council following Liturgy
- Greek School 12:30 to 2:30 pm
- Souper Bowl of Caring. Please support GOYA and place can goods in Narthex

**Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>:**

- Parish Council Meeting: 6:00 pm

**Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>:**

- Festival Meeting: 7:00 pm

**Community News and Events**

**"Go Red for Women"** The month of February has been designated as American Heart Month by the National Heart Association. Philoptochos is asking that all women wear Red on Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, to raise awareness about Cardio Vascular Disease and Save Lives.

**Souper Bowl Sunday 2019:** Our GOYA is teaming up with IOCC this Souper Bowl of Caring. Rally your parish and church youth to champion this social service ministry by collecting can good donations on Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please bring nonperishables for a local food bank and place in the Narthex.

**SAVE THE DATE: COMMUNITY VALENTINE'S DAY BRUNCH~ Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>:** The Brunch will begin immediately following Divine Liturgy Service. The cost: \$10 per Adult and \$6 per child (under 10). See Parish Council for tickets or call church office. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

**Philoptochos Membership Luncheon:** Our membership drive will officially begin at our Luncheon, February 14<sup>th</sup>: 11:00 to 1:30 pm. Luncheon will be at The Dune's Golf and Beach Club. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Please RSVP to Penny Vlandis at 843-497-5607

**ICONS:** Icons are available for sale in the Narthex cabinet. Contact a Philoptochos member if interested.

**MORE than MEALS:** If you know of someone in our parish who has had surgery, is alone or could just use a hot meal please contact Virginia Theodore at 843-390-4004 or the church office .February 12<sup>th</sup> will be next workday.

**HOPE & JOY MINISTRY:** An e-tool REMIND has been set up for the Hope/Joy ministry. To join, parents need to text @joyandh to 81010. Next outing will be Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Ripley's Aquarium after church. See Voice for further information or contact Elena at [elenacastanes@gmail.com](mailto:elenacastanes@gmail.com) or Dr.Vasilios@aol.com.

**GOYA TALENT SHOW:** Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 pm. All children in the area, grades 4 through 12 are invited. Contact Sonila Merkouris at 973-902-1625. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

**ST. JOHN'S RELIGIOUS BOOKSTORE AND GIFT SHOP:** A variety of books, icons, instructional guides, Orthodox literature, worship greeting cards, bracelets, olive oil soap, "A Voyage in Greek Cooking", St. John's parish cookbook is available. Contact Loretta Siotka at 843-399-8955.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Stewardship forms for 2019 were mailed to all parish members. Please return as soon as possible. Additional forms are available at the Pangari.