

**JUNE, 2018**

**Sunday of All Saints  
June 3**



**Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἦχος δ΄.**

Τῶν ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ κόσμῳ Μαρτύρων σου,  
ὡς πορφύραν καὶ βύσσον τὰ αἵματα,  
ἡ Ἐκκλησία σου στολισαμένη,  
δι' αὐτῶν βοᾷ σοι· Χριστέ ὁ Θεός,  
τῷ λαῷ σου τοὺς οἰκτιρμούς σου κατάπεμψον,  
εἰρήνην τῇ πολιτείᾳ σου δώρησαι,  
καὶ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**Apolytikion, Mode 4**

Ton en ὄlo to κόσmo Martíron sou,  
os porfíran ke vísson ta émata,  
i Ekklesía sou stolisaméni,  
di' aftón voá si, Christé o Theós,  
to laó sou tous iktirmoús sou katápempson,  
irínin tin politía sou dórise,  
ke tes psychés imón to méga éleos.

**Apolytikion, Mode 4**

Your Church is arrayed in the holy blood of Your Martyrs  
who witnessed throughout the world,  
as though in purple and fine linen.  
Through them she cries to You, Christ our God,  
"Send down to Your people Your tender love,  
grant peace from above to Your commonwealth,  
and to our souls Your great mercy."

**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA  
METROPOLIS OF DENVER**

**ST. NICHOLAS GREEK  
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**CHURCH BULLETIN**

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**Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

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**ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ  
ΔΙΑ ΤΟ ΜΗΝΑ ΙΟΥΝΙΟΥ ΤΟ 2018  
ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - 9:00 Π.Μ.; ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ – 10:00 Π.Μ.**

**3 Ιουνίου** Κυριακή Α΄ Ματθαίου (Τῶν Ἁγίων Πάντων)  
Τῶν Ἁγίων Μαρτύρων Λουκιλλιανοῦ, Παύλης καὶ τῶν σὺν αὐτοῖς  
νηπίων Κλαυδίου, Ὑπατίου, Παύλου καὶ Διονυσίου.

**ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ:** Ἑβραίους 11:33-12:2  
**ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ:** Ματθαίου 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

**10 Ιουνίου** Κυριακή Β΄ Ματθαίου  
Τῶν Ἁγίων Μαρτύρων Ἀλεξάνδρου καὶ Ἀντωνίνης. Τοῦ Ἁγίου  
Ἱερομάρτυρος Τιμοθέου, Ἐπισκόπου Προύσης. Θεοφάνους καὶ  
Πανσέμνης Ὀσίων.

**ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ:** Ῥωμαίους 2:10-16  
**ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ:** Ματθαίου 4:18-23

**17 Ιουνίου** Κυριακή Γ΄ Ματθαίου  
Τοῦ Ἁγίου ἐνδόξου Μάρτυρος Ἰσαύρου καὶ τῶν σὺν αὐτῷ  
Βασιλείου, Ἰννοκεντίου, Ἑρμείου, Φήλικος καὶ Περεγρίνου καὶ  
τῶν Ἁγίων Μαρτύρων Μανουήλ, Σαβέλ καὶ Ἰσμαήλ.

**ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ:** Ῥωμαίους 5:1-10  
**ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ:** Ματθαίου 6:22-33

**24 Ιουνίου** Τό Γενέθλιον τοῦ τιμίου καὶ ἐνδόξου Προ φήτου, Προδρόμου καὶ  
Βαπτιστοῦ Ἰωάννου. Τοῦ Ὀσίου Πατρός ἡμῶν Ἀθανασίου τοῦ  
Παρίου.

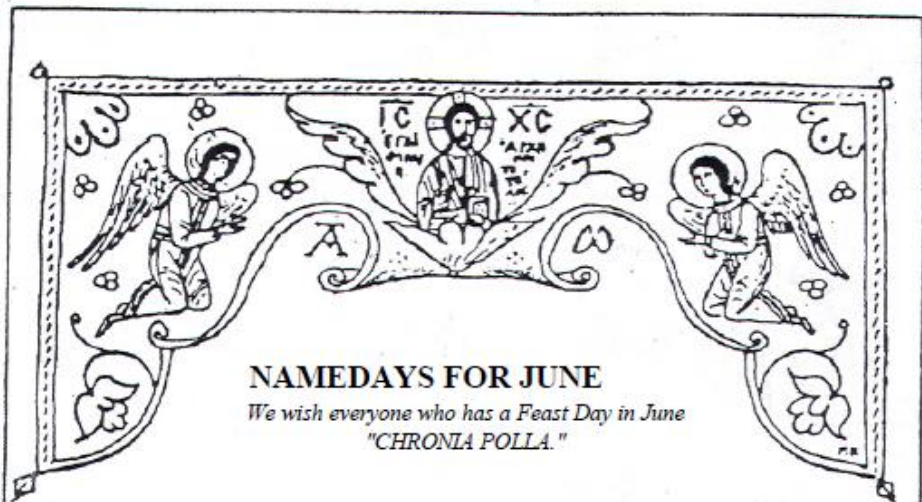
**ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ:** Ῥωμαίους 13:11-14:4  
**ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ:** Λουκᾶ 1:25,57-68,76-80

**ΚΑΘΗΜΕΡΙΝΕΣ ΕΟΡΤΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΕΣ  
ΤΟΥ ΜΗΝΟΥ ΙΟΥΝΙΟΥ, 2018**

6	Ιουνίου	Τετάρτη	Μικρός Παρακλητικός Κανών	6:00 μ.μ.
9	Ιουνίου	Σάββατον	Μέγα Έσπερινόν	5:00 μ.μ.
13	Ιουνίου	Τετάρτη	Μικρός Παρακλητικός Κανών	6:00 μ.μ.
16	Ιουνίου	Σάββατον	Μέγα Έσπερινόν	5:00 μ.μ.
20	Ιουνίου	Τετάρτη	Μικρός Παρακλητικός Κανών	6:00 μ.μ.
23	Ιουνίου	Σάββατον	Μέγα Έσπερινόν	5:00 μ.μ.
27	Ιουνίου	Τετάρτη	Μικρός Παρακλητικός Κανών	6:00 μ.μ.
29	Ιουνίου	Παρασκευή	Τῶν Ἁγίων Ἀποστόλων Πέτρου καί Παύλου	
29	Ιουνίου	Παρασκευή	Όρθρος	8:30 π.μ.
29	Ιουνίου	Παρασκευή	Θεία Λειτουργία	9:30 π.μ.
30	Ιουνίου	Σάββατον	Μέγα Έσπερινόν	5:00 μ.μ.

**WEEKDAYS SERVICES FOR  
THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2018**

6	June	Wednesday	Small Paraklesis	6:00 p.m.
9	June	Saturday	Great Vespers	5:00 p.m.
13	June	Wednesday	Small Paraklesis	6:00 p.m.
16	June	Saturday	Great Vespers	5:00 p.m.
20	June	Wednesday	Small Paraklesis	6:00 p.m.
23	June	Saturday	Great Vespers	5:00 p.m.
27	June	Wednesday	Small Paraklesis	6:00 p.m.
29	June	Friday	The Holy Apostles Peter and Paul	
29	June	Friday	Orthros	8:30 a.m.
29	June	Friday	Divine Liturgy	9:30 a.m.
30	June	Saturday	Great Vespers	5:00 p.m.



**June 3rd .....SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Gloria Bechara</b> | <b>Horacio Ortiz</b>  |
| <b>Athena Collins</b> | <b>Lillian Stievo</b> |

**June 29th .....SAINTS PETER AND PAUL THE APOSTLES**

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Peter Abdalla</b> | <b>Paul Livaditis</b> |
| <b>Peter Doas</b>    | <b>Paul Sissamis</b>  |

**Christ is in our midst!**

**About this time of year I have frequently written a warning about taking a summer vacation from church. It sounds something similar to this. Now is the season we enter into a “summer mind set” as we take a break in our catechism classes, as the academic school year comes to an end, as some graduate to go on to the next chapter in their lives, and as some go away for extended or short vacations. While the respite is refreshing, also we enter a “summer lull”. Unfortunately, some use this time period to take a vacation from church. While this might be understandable it has its downsides. Satan does not take a summer vacation. When we stay away from regular worship we make ourselves more vulnerable to Satan’s attacks. How would we feel if God took a summer vacation and we had an urgent need arise?**

**We face a dangerous and insidious trap of opening the door to Satan’s deception from taking this summer off. First, taking a summer break from church feels good. We can sleep in and have a lazy Sunday. Satan reminds us how nice it feels to miss church and even deceives us into thinking we can be just as spiritual by praying at home. Second, it opens the door to prioritizing our leisure over our spirituality and before we know it, our following Christ becomes much less important in our lives. God commands our spirituality to be a constant part of our lives. Unlike sports, no “off season” exists in our following Christ. Finally, we risk coming back spiritually weaker when the summer ends.**

**For those that are traveling, safe travels and καλό ταξίδι.**

**Let me encourage everyone to keep up their church attendance and not take a spiritual vacation. Let us honestly reflect on our spiritual commitments. Let us continue to rejoice in the joy of the risen Lord.**

**Blessings of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

*+ John Hayden Haly*



## Sunday of All Saints

On the Sunday following Pentecost, we commemorate all the Saints of the Church, which is why this day is referred to as “The Sunday of All Saints.” The Church established the commemoration of this present feast after Pentecost, the day of the descent of the Holy Spirit, in order to show that the coming of the Holy Spirit worked enormous deeds not only through the Holy Apostles but through the lives of thousands of men, women and children, who over the centuries, have given their lives completely and totally to God, and in return have been given the honor of being elevated to the rank of Sainthood.

In every generation God raises up Saints in the Church in order to encourage the fainthearted, invigorate the slothful, educate the ignorant, and to prove that no matter what life a person once led, and what sort of sins one participated in the past, through repentance holiness is attainable. The Church is full of Saints who were people that were once thieves, murderers and harlots, people who were once self-serving and dishonest, full of passions, such as greed, envy and lust. It is not without purpose that the lowliest and often despised of society became the greatest soldiers in God’s army. This is to show that with God there is no favoritism.

Both rich and poor have become saints. Both men and women have become saints and perhaps nearly every ethnic group in the world can boast of at least one person in their culture who has become a saint. One does not need to have a certain amount of money, or to be of a particular ethnic group, or to be connected with a certain individual in order to pursue and attain holiness. What is required and what the Saints exemplified is an undying love for and devotion to God and to the following of His Holy Commandments.

The Saints also teach us that in order to be truly identified as a Christian, we must be willing to let go of the world because we cannot be attached to the things of this life and at the same time pursue a life in Christ. This is clearly stated in I John Chapter Two where we read, “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.”

We are also reminded that while we are in the world we are not of the world. That is to say, while we are here temporarily, we will make use of things necessary for our life, but let us not forget that we are sojourners here, nomads. Our home is the Kingdom of God, which is where our true citizenship lies. The Saints whom we remember on this day never forgot this truth. They came to realize the vanity of this world and how quickly time passes. Being ordinary people just like you and I, they became extra-ordinary once they gave their lives to God and then struggled to live a lifetime of repentance. They took to heart the passage from 1st Peter, “As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, You shall be holy, for I Am holy.” They, as all of us should, read these words as one’s given specifically to them. As they read these words they must have thought, “My Lord and God is calling me, specifically me, to do this!”

One contemporary father, who was recently glorified in the Church, Justin Popovich, has this to say: “To become completely holy, both in soul and in body, is our vocation. This is not a miracle, but rather the norm, the rule of faith. The commandment of the Holy Gospel is clear: as the One who has called you is Holy, so you be holy in all manner of life. And that means that according to Jesus Christ, Who having become man, and showed forth in Himself a completely holy life, has the right to command this from us.”

Our Lord is calling us to Himself, to live as He lived when He was on earth. And He can ask this from us because He became a man taking on flesh and living in this world with all its temptations and evil. You may say, but He was also God, and you would be correct. However, He never calls us to something that is impossible. And indeed, even though it is impossible for us to become holy on our own, with His help, all things are possible. So in essence He calls us to be holy, and yet at the same time He says, and I will help you attain this state, but, you must want this too. You must believe that it is possible through Me.

St. Justin Popovich reminds us that “Christians, having united themselves spiritually and by Grace to the Lord Jesus Christ, and with the help of faith, will receive from Him the holy energies needed to live a holy life.” So let us take the shining examples of the saints whom we remember on the Sunday of All Saints, recall the works they did through the power given to them from above, and let us pursue a life of holiness for this is what God call us to. Let us hold close to our hearts the epistle reading on the Sunday of All Saints found in St. Paul’s letter to the Hebrews, so that they can become aflame with love for the saints:

“BRETHREN, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, and ill-treated – of whom the world was not worthy – wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith. Amen.”

Fr. Timothy Pavlatos

<http://stjohngoc.org/sunday-of-all-saints/>

## Η Κυριακή των Αγίων Πάντων

του Κωνσταντίνου Αθ. Οικονόμου, δασκάλου

**ΓΕΝΙΚΑ:** Η Κυριακή των Αγίων Πάντων είναι η τελευταία Κυριακή του «Πεντηκοσταρίου». Με αυτήν τελειώνει ο κινητός κύκλος των εορτών που άρχισε από την Α΄ Κυριακή του Τριωδίου (Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου). Η Κυριακή των Αγίων Πάντων είναι η σφραγίδα της εορταστικής αυτής περιόδου, που μας παρουσιάζει τους καρπούς του Αγίου Πνεύματος, τους Αγίους Πάντες. Είναι απόδειξη του έργου της Εκκλησίας και παρουσιάζει όσους αγαθά αγίασε το Πνεύμα το Άγιο στον κόσμο.

**ΤΟ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΚΟ ΤΗΣ ΕΟΡΤΗΣ:** Η Εορτή των Αγίων Πάντων τους πρώτους αιώνες ήταν εορτή μόνο των Μαρτύρων. Το Τυπικό της Αγίας Σοφίας της Κωνσταντινουπόλεως κατά τον Ι΄ αιώνα, προβλέπει σύναξη και παννυχίδα στη Μεγάλη Εκκλησία, και στο ναό των Αγίων Μαρτύρων. Η εορτή ονομάζεται “των Αγίων Πάντων” και το συναξάρι επισημαίνει ότι κατ' αυτήν επιτελείται η μνήμη «των αγίων και καλλινίκων μαρτύρων των εν πάση τη οικουμένη κατά διαφόρους καιρούς μαρτυρησάντων υπέρ του ονόματος του Μεγάλου Θεού και Σωτήρος Ημών Ιησού Χριστού». Η Εορτή των Αγίων Πάντων θεσπίσθηκε επί Λέοντος του Σοφού.

Μετά το θάνατο της ευλαβούς συζύγου του Θεοφανούς, έκτισε ναό με σκοπό να τον τιμήσει στο όνομά της. Όταν ανακοίνωσε στην Εκκλησία το σκοπό του, του υποδείχθηκε ότι πρέπει να περάσει χρόνος για να αποκτήσει αυτή το «τίμιον και σεβάσιμον». Ο Βασιλεύς υποτάχθηκε και αφιέρωσε το ναό στη μνήμη και τιμή πάντων των Αγίων των απανταχού της γης.

**ΓΙΑΤΙ ΚΑΘΙΕΡΩΘΗΚΕ Η ΕΟΡΤΗ:** Έστω κι αν η εορτή ξεκίνησε για τους Αγίους Μάρτυρες και επεκτάθηκε στη συνέχεια για Πάντες τους Αγίους, οι Άγιοι Πατέρες θέσπισαν τη συλλογική αυτή εορτή για να μας δείξουν ότι κατεβαίνει το Άγιο Πνεύμα στον κόσμο και ανεβαίνει στον ουρανό ο χοϊκός άνθρωπος. Οι πριν αποξενωμένοι από το Θεό γίνονται “ένα” με αυτόν, έχοντας τη δυνατότητα να γίνουν Άγιοι. Και έτσι η ανθρωπότητα διά των Αγίων Πάντων αναπλήρωνει το πεπτωκός εκείνο τάγμα των Αγγέλων. Ακόμη, επειδή υπάρχουν πολλοί άγνωστοι και αφανείς άγιοι, γνωστοί στο Θεό, «νέφος μαρτύρων», αυτούς τους αγνώστους τιμά η Εκκλησία. Είναι, θα λέγαμε, το μνημείο του Αγνώστου Στρατιώτη της Ορθοδοξίας η παρούσα εορτή. Η εορτή καθιερώθηκε ακόμη διότι κρίθηκε επιβεβλημένο να συναθροισθούν όλοι οι γνωστοί και άγνωστοι Άγιοι σε μια κοινή εορτή για να υπογραμμισθεί μ' αυτόν τον τρόπο ότι όλοι μαζί αγωνίσθηκαν για ένα Χριστό, σε ένα κοινό στάδιο της αρετής και υπό ενός Τριαδικού Θεού στεφανώθηκαν και συνέστησαν την «μίαν Εκκλησίαν», προτρέποντας και εμάς να αγωνιστούμε με όλες μας τις δυνάμεις «τον ίσον αγώνα» με αυτούς, ώστε και εμείς να μπορέσουμε να συναριθμηθούμε μετά των Αγίων του. Τέλος η εορτή συνεστήθη ακόμη για τους “επιγενησομένους αγίους”, αυτούς δηλαδή που θα γίνουν στη συνέχεια άγιοι. Θα λέγαμε ότι η εορτή έχει και προληπτικό χαρακτήρα εφόσον υπάρχει η δυνατότητα να περιλαμβάνει κάθε πιστό του σήμερα και του αύριο.

**ΕΠΙΛΟΓΙΚΑ:** Μάρτυρες του Χριστού και Άγιοι δεν είναι μόνο εκείνοι που έχυσαν το αίμα τους για την πίστη του Χριστού. Μάρτυρες είναι όλοι όσοι αγωνίσθηκαν και αγωνίζονται τον αγώνα της

Χριστιανικής ζωής με ακρίβεια και συνέπεια. Είναι αυτοί που αναδεικνύουν το μαρτύριο του πνεύματος, αυτοί που καθημερινά βιώνουν τη χαρμολύπη του λόγου του Σταυρού, αυτοί που σταυρώνουν τα πάθη τους και την κακία τους.

**ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟ:** Των εν όλω τω κόσμω Μαρτύρων σου, ως πορφύραν και βύσσον τα αίματα, η Εκκλησία σου στολισαμένη, δι' αυτών βοά σοι, Χριστέ ο Θεός. Τω λαώ σου τους οικτιρμούς σου κατάπεμψον, ειρήνην τη πολιτεία σου δώρησαι, και ταις ψυχαίς ημών το μέγα έλεος.

**ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΗ:** Στην εικόνα της σύναξης των Αγίων Πάντων, το άνω τμήμα το καταλαμβάνει σε κυκλική διάταξη η δόξα του Χριστού στο κέντρο, και γύρω οι χοροί των δικαίων. Η Ετοιμασία του θρόνου βρίσκεται πάνω από τη δόξα και οι δύο προφήτες Δαβίδ και Σολομών γονατιστοί με ανοιχτά ειλητάρια. Κάτω εικονίζεται ο παράδεισος και οι προπάτορες Αβραάμ, Ισαάκ και Ιακώβ καθισμένοι σε θρόνους. Μεταξύ τους παρεμβάλλεται ο ληστής, ντυμένος μόνο με περιζώμα και κρατώντας το σταυρό. Δηλαδή, γυμνός από αρετές, αλλά πρώτος στο παράδεισο.

**Father John will be out of town on Sunday, June 3, 2018 and Sunday, June 24, 2018.**

**On Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Fr. Florin Craioveanu, of St. John the Theologian parish in Webster, Texas will substitute.**

**On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Fr. Dimitri Ntovas from St. Basil the Great parish in Houston, Texas will substitute.**

**If the services of a priest are needed, please contact Parish Council President George Spentzos.**

## **My Earthly Dad**

By Mary Fairchild

With these three words,  
"Dear Heavenly Father,"  
I begin my every prayer,  
But the man I see  
While on bended knee  
Is always my earthly dad.

He is the image  
Of the Father divine  
Reflecting the nature of God,  
For his love and care  
And the faith he shared  
Pointed me to my Father above.

## **Nativity of John the Baptist and Forerunner**

**June 24**

He that was greater than all who are born of women, the Prophet who received God's testimony that he surpassed all the Prophets, was born of the aged and barren Elizabeth (Luke 1: 7) and filled all his kinsmen, and those that lived round about, with gladness and wonder. But even more wondrous was that which followed on the eighth day when he was circumcised, that is, the day on which a male child receives his name. Those present called him Zacharias, the name of his father. But the mother said, "Not so, but he shall be called John." Since the child's father was unable to speak, he was asked, by means of a sign, to indicate the child's name. He then asked for a tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And immediately Zacharias' mouth was opened, his tongue was loosed from its silence of nine months, and filled with the Holy Spirit, he blessed the God of Israel, Who had fulfilled the promises made to their fathers, and had visited them that were sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, and had sent to them the light of salvation. Zacharias prophesied concerning the child also, saying that he would be a Prophet of the Most High and Forerunner of Jesus Christ. And the child John, who was filled with grace, grew and waxed strong in the Spirit; and he was in the wilderness until the day of his showing to Israel (Luke 1:57-80). His name is a variation of the Hebrew "Johanan," which means "Yah is gracious."

<https://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints?contentid=98>

**Το Γενέθλιο του Αγίου Ιωάννη  
Προδρόμου και Βαπτιστού  
24 Ιουνίου**

Την ημέρα αυτή η Αγία μας εκκλησία εορτάζει το γενέσιο του ενδόξου Προφήτου Προδρόμου και Βαπτιστού Ιωάννη. Ο πατέρας του Ζαχαρίας, ήταν ιερέας. Κάποια ημέρα την ώρα του θυμιάματος, είδε μέσα στο θυσιαστήριο άγγελο Κυρίου, ο οποίος του ανήγγειλε ότι θα αποκτούσε γιο τον οποίο θα ονόμαζε Ιωάννη. Ο Ζαχαρίας σκίρτησε από χαρά , αλλά δυσπιστούσε. Η γυναίκα του ήταν ηλικιωμένη και στείρα και άρα ήταν αδύνατο να κυοφορήσει και αυτές τις αμφιβολίες τις εξέφρασε στον άγγελο ο οποίος του απάντησε ότι το παιδί θα γεννηθεί και εκείνος θα τιμωρηθεί για την απιστία του, παραμένοντας κωφάλαλος μέχρι να πραγματοποιηθεί η βουλή του Θεού. Πράγματι η γυναίκα του η Ελισάβετ συνέλαβε και μετά από εννέα μήνες γέννησε γιο. Οκτώ ημέρες μετά τη γέννηση κατά την περιτομή του παιδιού οι συγγενείς, θέλησαν να του δώσουν το όνομα του πατέρα του δηλ. Ζαχαρία. Όμως ο Ζαχαρίας έγραψε επάνω στο πινακίδιο το όνομα Ιωάννης. Αμέσως λύθηκε η γλώσσα του και όλοι οι παριστάμενοι πλημμύρισαν χαρά κι ελπίδα, διότι κατάλαβαν ότι γεννήθηκε ο Πρόδρομος της παρουσίας του αναμενόμενου Μεσσία. Ο Ιωάννης δε διέθετε μόνο το χάρισμα της προφητείας, αλλά αξιώθηκε και τη μεγαλύτερη χαρά και τιμή. Βάπτισε το Μεσσία Χριστό, τον οποίο και ομολογούσε σ' όλη του τη ζωή.

<http://www.saint.gr/622/saint.aspx>



## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DENVER

May 8, 2018  
Feast of  
Saint John the  
Theologian

PROTOCOL 18-02  
Reverend Fathers of  
the Metropolis of Denver,

### CHRIST IS RISEN!

As you know from your seminary days, members of the Greek Orthodox Church have certain responsibilities regarding their being faithful to the sacraments. Anyone who has dealt with a divorce, including the priest who must deal with couples in crisis, can certainly testify to the sad truth that it is heartbreaking, especially in a spiritual sense. Many times, one or both persons in a couple feel as if, in the matter of divorce, they have been abandoned by the Church, and possibly even God, as a divorce is devastating to all concerned. This is where the matter of an ecclesiastical divorce is part of the path toward healing. As the clergy are certainly aware, an ecclesiastical divorce is considered an extension of the sacrament of Confession; however, many people do not realize this.

There are certain restrictions for those who have been civilly divorced:

1. Those who are only civilly divorced cannot be sponsors at Orthodox weddings, nor can they be godparents at Orthodox Baptisms.
2. They cannot have an ecclesiastical wedding without having first received a church divorce.
3. They cannot be members of a parish council.
4. Most importantly, they are not to receive Holy Communion because it could harm them spiritually. The bottom line is that divorced persons, indeed, all members of the Church, must be spiritually faithful to all of the sacraments of the Church.

It appears that there are a great many who are church members and yet do not know these things. Consequently, it has become rather common for a couple, one or both of them civilly divorced, who make plans to be married on a certain day for an ecclesiastical wedding, without even asking the priest of their parish if he is able to celebrate the sacrament of marriage. In the last several years, the Metropolis Office has received repeated submissions of affidavits for weddings where one or the other of the couple has no idea of what they must do before remarrying, and then they need the church divorce first. In many instances, the priest does not even know if a civil divorce has already been finalized, and there is no opportunity to speak with the couple and perhaps help them work through serious issues and possibly assist in a reconciliation.

When people understand this, and then are able to receive and participate in the sacraments, it is obvious that they understand that God still loves them. Comments such as "I did not realize how much better I would feel" or "I am so grateful to my priest for suggesting that I undertake



from the date of the request for the divorce, keeping in mind the next date of the scheduled Tribunal. This is so that the Metropolis can verify that all necessary documentation, including a response from the respondent, is on file in the Metropolis Office.

Furthermore, because of the great distances across this Metropolis, I do not insist that either the petitioner or the respondent appear in person for the Spiritual Tribunal. However, I do welcome letters from either person, marked CONFIDENTIAL, before the date of the Tribunal at which the petition will be considered.

I believe that making this change to include scheduled Tribunals will be beneficial, not only to the Metropolis Office, but also to the clergy who are tasked with assisting parishioners in fulfilling their request. I recommend that you inform your parishioners, from the pulpit and in your parish bulletins and newsletters, of the fact that there will be scheduled Tribunals throughout the year. Possibly, you may wish to make copies of this directive to give to those who have questions about the Metropolis procedures, which must conform with those of the Archdiocese. As always, if you have questions or concerns about the procedures to follow, please contact the Metropolis Office.

With Paternal Blessings,

*Metropolitan Isiah of Denver*  
✠ Metropolitan Isiah of Denver

This letter is to be disseminated to all parishioners and published in all parish bulletins of the Metropolis of Denver

this, even though it did bring out painful memories" are acknowledgements that marriage is a spiritual lifestyle. Spiritual relationships, when broken, necessitate spiritual healing.

Therefore, in order to provide proper ecclesiastical permission and resolution for these requests for divorces, and to stress the seriousness of such petitions and, in addition, and to make this an easier process for the priests, the following directives are to be followed, effective immediately:

1. As of the date of this protocol, there will be three ecclesiastical Tribunals scheduled during the year. This year's next Tribunal is scheduled for the first Thursday in October. Thereafter, the three Tribunals will take place on the first Thursdays of February, June and October.
2. All of the documents required for making the request must be presented at the same time, to be received at the Metropolis Office at least 60 days prior to the date of the next scheduled Tribunal.
3. The necessary documents include:
  - a) A letter from the priest, including the reason for the civil divorce, and confirming that the petitioner has received the sacrament of reconciliation through holy confession or counseling.
  - b) A letter from the petitioner.
  - c) The original marriage certificate from the metropolis where the marriage took place, or an official transcript verified by the office of that metropolis.
  - d) A copy of the civil divorce, including signatures and the date the civil divorce was finalized.
  - e) The name and reliable current address of the former spouse. If there is a reason for not being able to supply this, the information must be included in the priest's letter.
  - f) In addition, if any of the documents are in a language other than English, they must be translated accurately and notarized by an official notary, with copies of both the original and the translations submitted.
  - g) The fee must be in the form of either a bank check or a money order, payable to the Metropolis of Denver; if there is a reason why the petitioner cannot afford this amount, this should also be noted by the priest in his letter.
  - h) The petitioner should be informed, when making a request for a new ecclesiastical divorce, that no arrangements, including the submission of an affidavit for a marriage, may be made until after the divorce decree issued by the Metropolis Office is received by the priest.
4. In addition to all prerequisites, please inform the petitioner that the final decree will be available not earlier than two months

**GRADUATES:**

On May 12, 2018, Minas Tsambounieris, son on Emmanuel and Irene Tsambounieris, graduated from Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi with a Bachelor of Political Science Degree. In the fall, Minas will be entering Holy Cross Theological Seminary in Brookline, Massachusetts to obtain a Master of Divinity Degree. Congratulations!

On June 2, 2018, Zoe Piperis, daughter of Vasilios and Anastasia (Soula) Piperis, graduated from Veterans Memorial High School. In the fall, Zoe will be attending Texas A & M University – Corpus Christi, pursuing a major in biomedical sciences. Congratulations!

**END OF CATECHISM SCHOOL:**

Sunday, May 27, 2018, was the last day of the Catechism School classes for the current school year. Certificates and awards were presented to the Catechism School pupils after the Divine Liturgy. We would like to thank this year's teachers: Kindergarten – Constance Sanchez and Sophia Sanchez; First Grade – Zoe Piperis and Sophia Piperis; Second Grade – Carrie Holmes; Third Grade – Laila Coalson; and Sixth Grade – Maria Stendebach; and Substitute Teacher- Amanda Pollakis. We also express our appreciation to Maria Sissamis for serving as the Catechism School Superintendent.

**BIRTH:**

On May 18, 2018, Greg and Christy Solis welcomed the birth of their third child, Anathasius Gregory Solis. Athanasius weighed 8 pounds 11 ounces and measured 19.5 inches. Congratulations!

**CHRISMATIONS:**

On May 27, 2018, Kenneth Boggs and Dominic Deganutti were chrismated into the Orthodox faith. Kenneth was given the name 'Nektarios' by his sponsor Greg Solis. Dominic was given the name 'Lazarus' by his sponsor Brad Holmes. Congratulations!

**MEMORIAL AND TRISAGION SERVICES:**

On May 6, 2018, a Memorial Service was said for the repose of the soul of Sofia Lignou, mother of Venetia Lignou and Maria Sissamis. May her memory be eternal!

On May 13, 2018, a Memorial Service was said for the repose of the soul of Ann Lipchik. May her memory be eternal!

**MEMORIAL AND TRISAGION SERVICES,continued:**

On May 13, 2018, a Memorial Service was said for the repose of the soul of Betty Whitaker. May her memory be eternal!

On May 13, 2018, a Memorial Service was said for the repose of the soul of Rev. Fr. Ronald Hazuda. May his memory be eternal!

On May 20, 2018, a Memorial Service was said for the repose of the soul of Dimitrios Smoudyannis. May his memory be eternal!

On May 20, 2018, a Trisagion Service was said for the repose of the soul of Nick Shibylo. May his memory be eternal!

**COFFEE HOUR:**

- June 3 .....Hodis family
- June 10 ..... Bill Chriss
- June 17 (Father’s Day) ..... OPEN
- June 24 .....Hartofilax family

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Congratulations to the following who will be celebrating their wedding anniversary in June:

- Christopher and Samia Palfreyman..... June 6, 2008
- Angelo and Maria Papakostas ..... June 7, 1986
- George and Virginia Aspras ..... June 9, 2013
- Mike and Lynda Eliades..... June 13, 1996
- Emmanuel and Sophia Roussakis ..... June 16, 1963
- Benito and Latife Medina..... June 24, 2006
- Corbett (Butch) and Helen Pool ..... June 26, 1999
- Mike and Tracy Ignatiades ..... June 27, 1987
- Charles and Olga Cofas..... June 29, 1968

**BIRTHDAYS:**

We congratulate the following who will celebrate their birthdays in June.

- Nellie Spentzos.....June 4<sup>th</sup>
- Freida Hallick.....June 4<sup>th</sup>

**BIRTHDAYS, continued:**

Yousef Bandak .....	June 5 <sup>th</sup>
William C. Hartofilax .....	June 8 <sup>th</sup>
Robin Allen .....	June 11 <sup>th</sup>
Maria Papakostas.....	June 12 <sup>th</sup>
Ruby Rose Dennis .....	June 15 <sup>th</sup>
Vasili Daniskas .....	June 16 <sup>th</sup>
Gerald Rogen .....	June 17 <sup>th</sup>
Irene Petroula Livaditis Miura.....	June 18 <sup>th</sup>
Evan Strates.....	June 19 <sup>th</sup>
Austin Dean Jones.....	June 19 <sup>th</sup>
Virginia Piperis .....	June 19 <sup>th</sup>
George Abraham Coalson .....	June 20 <sup>th</sup>
Olga Petrakis .....	June 20 <sup>th</sup>
Angelo Petrakis .....	June 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Pauline Hallick .....	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Christina Lymberry McIntyre.....	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Irene Baker .....	June 25 <sup>th</sup>
Ailana Schoelles .....	June 26 <sup>th</sup>
Robert Rubio, Sr. ....	June 27 <sup>th</sup>
William P. Sissamis.....	June 27 <sup>th</sup>
Dimitra Nicole Aldridge .....	June 28 <sup>th</sup>
Jorja Nicole Doas (Mc Allen, TX) .....	June 28 <sup>th</sup>

**IN LOVING MEMORY:**

Each month we will mention our loved ones who have fallen asleep in the Lord during that month. If anyone is left out please let us know so they will be included in the future. (The Editor)

Polyxene K. Marinakou (Laredo, Texas).....	June 1, 1951
Virginia Christos (Victoria, Texas) .....	June 1, 2001
George I. Tsambourieris (Greece).....	June 1, 2006
Nicholas Sflotos .....	June 3, 1967
Mike Chakur .....	June 4, 1965
Paul A. Kairis .....	June 4, 2005
Apostolos Mistiloglo .....	June 4, 2002
Elsie Adams .....	June 5, 1987
Corbett Pool, Sr. ....	June 5, 2015
Betty Zampikos .....	June 6, 2005

**IN LOVING MEMORY, continued:**

Anastasios Kaminopoulos .....	June 6, 2002
Tom Spentzos .....	June 6, 2014
Apostolos S. Stamatakis.....	June 8, 1996
Jamal Abdalla .....	June 8, 2008
Martina Chapa Molina.....	June 9, 1995
Sam Bassous .....	June 10, 1994
Adell Samman Botary.....	June 10, 1997
Haralambos Corovinis.....	June 13, 1958
Venetia Haby .....	June 13, 1998
Elias G. Habeeb .....	June 14, 1956
Nicholas Adams .....	June 14, 1988
Sam Bournias .....	June 14, 1935
Jim Sahadi .....	June 15, 1965
Katherine Cazassis.....	June 16, 1991
Anna Collins .....	June 16, 2012
Helen Govatos.....	June 17, 2006
Stavroula Gouziotis.....	June 18, 2000
Paraskevas Skevos .....	June 19, 1963
George Kapotes .....	June 20, 1953
Irene Hartofilax .....	June 21, 2016
James Adams.....	June 22, 1998
Haralambos (Bobby) Virginis.....	June 23, 1954
Elias Gatouras .....	June 25, 1990
Tom Spiro (McAllen, Texas).....	June 25, 1987
Lily Kavakos .....	June 25, 1995
Genna Demetra Doussis .....	June 25, 2004
Bennie Corovinis .....	June 25, 2006
June Nicols.....	June 27, 1985
Harry Andrews.....	June 27, 2000
William Kandis (Victoria, Texas).....	June 29, 1997
Athanasios Lambropoulos .....	June 30, 1953
Konstantinos D. Lontos .....	June 30, 1999
Dr. Antonio Joannidis.....	June , 1990
Silvia Lucia Eftimescu .....	June , 2006

*May their memory be eternal!*

## June 2018 BULLETIN SPONSOR

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The Parish Council




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