

Life Giving Fountain
Greek Orthodox Church
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SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2016

EPISTLE READING

PAGES 138 & 139

Hebrews 11:24-26; 32-40

Brethren, through faith Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-who though 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 might 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 killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, 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.

GOSPEL READING

PAGES 289 & 291

John 1:43-52

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

LENT BEGINS

Today is the First Sunday of Lent, the **Sunday of Orthodoxy**, commemorating the Restoration of the Icons and Relics. At **4:00 p.m.** today, our parish will host the **Pan-Orthodox Vespers** for the Ohio Valley. We are expecting seven priests and the Orthodox faithful from Weirton, Steubenville, Barton and Wheeling. Please join us.

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour today will be hosted by Rita Karanzas and Maria Campbell. Everyone is invited to attend.

The new coffee hour sign up sheet has been posted in the social hall. Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour.

SARRIS CANDY

Don't forget to get your Sarris Candy order today.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Helen Joseph-1208 S. Zane Hwy., Martins Ferry, OH 43935 740-633-1609
Tony Kefalos-234 East Main Street, St. Clairsville, OH 43950 740-695-1579
Thalia Giannaris-338 Sinclair Avenue, Yorkville, OH 43971
Father Menelaos Papageorgiou-Polifonti 21B 2047 Strovolos, Nicosia CYPRUS
Beverly Christakis-C/O GreenView, Room C3,4000 Massillon Rd.,Green/Uniontown, OH 44685
Ethel Augoustidis- Park Health, 100 Pine Avenue, Room 207, St. Clairsville, OH 43950
Chris Pashalis- Good Shepherd, 159 Edgington Lane, Room 103, Wheeling, WV 26003
John Mallis- 1103 Broadway Street, Martins Ferry, OH 43935

We encourage you to send a card/and or call our shut ins to let them know that they are in our thoughts and in our prayers.

This Friday is March 25th, Annunciation *Evangelismos*. We will celebrate with Divine Liturgy at 10:00. This is a Great Feast of the Church. Fasting is relaxed even though it is a Friday. Even in the monasteries this day will be celebrated with fish, a long way from the ordinary boiled vegetables and bread during monastic Lent. Enjoy the Feast. We will also celebrate this of Sunday, March 27th for the sake of those who will not be able to join us on Friday. There will be no Akathist/ *Xairitismo* on Friday evening because I must travel to St. Gregory's Monastery to join Metropolitan Savas at the Spring Pilgrimage there. Pan-Orthodox Vespers will be hosted next Sunday, March 27th at 4:00 PM in Wheeling at St. John's.

We venerate Your immaculate icon, O good Lord, and entreat You to forgive our offences, O Christ our God. By Your own choice you were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, to deliver us, whom You created, from our slavery to the foe. Therefore we cry to You with gratitude: You have filled all things with joy, O our Savior, by coming to save the world.

Τῆ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, ἀναγράφῳ σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἄλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, ἵνα κράζῳ σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.