



*Sunday Bulletin October 28, 2018*  
*Greek Orthodox Church of the*  
*Annunciation*

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**Rev. Dr. Michael Bahlatzis, Presiding Priest-**  
**Proistamenos**

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**Epistle Reading Galatians 6:11-18**

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**Gospel Reading Luke 8:41-56**

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" Peter and those who were with him said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

*Message from Fr. Michael....*

Dearly Beloved Faithful:

OXI Day is celebrated every year in Greece on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The anniversary celebration relates to a historical event.

General Ioannis Metaxas' strong reply of 'oxi' (no) to Mussolini's request to allow Italian troops to enter Greece, during the early part of WW II. This powerful stern reply by Metaxas helped pave the way for Greece's neutral stance which it held for generations that followed. Despite the "oxi" reply, Italians invaded Greece. However, the might and fortitude of the Greeks pushed back the Italians into Albania. In 1935, King George II was restored to the Greek throne. The king appointed General Ioannis Metaxas prime minister. Nine months later, Metaxas assumed some powers of dictatorship with the king's support. This was done to prevent a coup by the communists.

On October 28, 1940, Prime Minister Metaxas rejected Italy's ultimatum. Metaxas followed through with his resistance movement road of resistance. Greek Cypriots were inspired by Greece's refusal to allow the Italian troops entry. The Greek Cypriots assumed the stance against Turkish aggression that they faced in their island nation. OXI Day is a joyous celebration throughout Greece. The OXI Day spirit and will of Hellenic people perseveres.

May our spirit of OXI be used in our Christian life in the rejection of evil. May we use our prayerful life to reject the worldly things so that we may be attended by angelic hosts to receive the King of all!

Saying "OXI" to sin, I remain

Prayerfully in His service,  
+Fr. Michael

# Holy Protection of the Theotokos



The Feast of the Protection commemorates the appearance of the most holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the tenth century, as recorded in the life of Saint Andrew the Fool for Christ's sake. While the multitudes of the faithful were gathered in church, Epiphanius, the friend of Saint Andrew, through the Saint's prayers, beheld the Virgin Mary above the faithful and spreading out her veil over them, signifying her unceasing protection of all Christians. Because of this we keep a yearly feast of gratitude, imploring our Lady never to cease sheltering us in her mighty prayers.

*In the Greek tradition, this feast is celebrated on October 28, while in the Slavic tradition, this feast is celebrated on October 1.*

## Apolytikion of Holy Protection of the Theotokos

### First Tone

O Virgin, we extol the great grace of thy Protection, which thou didst spread out like a bright cloud beyond all understanding; for thou dost invisibly protect thy people from the foe's every assault. Since we have thee as our shelter and certain help, we cry to thee with our whole soul: Glory to thy great deeds, O most pure Maid. Glory to thy shelter most divine. Glory to thy care and providence for us, O spotless one.

## Kontakion of Holy Protection of the Theotokos

### Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Let us the faithful hasten to the Theotokos now and venerate her sacred veil, as we chant unto her, singing hymns to praise and honour her, as is fitting; for she shelt'reth with her shelter and all her faithful flock and preserveth them unharmed from all calamities, as they cry to her: Rejoice, Protection most radiant.

## Rostislav, the Great Illumined Duke of Moravia

## Angelis, Manuel, George, & Nicholas, New Martyrs of Crete

## Arsenius and Athanasios of Androusa in Messenia, Patriarchs of Constantinople

FATHER MICHAEL REQUESTS...that we, as a faithful community keep the following individuals in our prayers: Lilly Kashou, Issam Kashou, Suzanne Vaishnani, daughter of Ted Simon, and Presbyteria Magdalena Michalopoulos. Please notify Fr. Michael if you have anyone else who should be included for special prayers. May they be under the grace and tender watch of our Lord.

**Please pencil in the date. The Annual Church Dance is scheduled for November 17, 2018 at the Riverdale Banquet Hall. We encourage you to send your advertisements for the yearly dance book to papatho@gmail.com. Any questions please address them to Co-Chairs Steve Anastos or Kostas Papathomas.**

He puts an end to the woman's fear ... He sets her right, in respect of her thinking to be hid ... He exhibits her faith to all, so as to provoke the rest also to emulation ...

**St. John Chrysostom**

Homily 31 on Matthew 9, 4th Century

At the same time both signifying that it is easy for Him to raise the dead ... and also teaching us not to fear death; for that it is not death, but is henceforth become a sleep.

**St. John Chrysostom**

Homily 31 on Matthew 9, 4th Century

Whether you are an Orthodox Christian, or this is your first visit to an Orthodox Church, we are pleased to have you with us. Although Holy Communion is reserved for baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians, all are invited to receive the "ANTIDORON" (blessed bread) which is not a sacrament, but is a reminder of the "agape feast" that followed worship in the early Church. After the Divine Liturgy this morning, please join us in the Church Hall for fellowship and refreshments. We hope that you will return often to worship with us, to grow in Christ and in our Orthodox Faith. For any spiritual, religious, or sacramental matters, please contact Fr. Michael (607) 795-1474. For any building, facility or church property issues, please contact the Parish Council President or a member of the council. ***Deadline for suggestions for the bulletin is 12:00 noon on Thursday.***