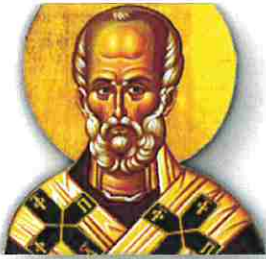


**Sunday, June 25, 2023 - THIRD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

**The Holy Martyrs Fevronia and Orentius of Anatolia, along with his six brothers**

**Orthros Gospel 3**

**Tone 2**



**WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL!**

*VISIT [www.stnickspgh.org](http://www.stnickspgh.org) TODAY for news and updates about our parish!*

CLERGY: Rev. Fr. Christopher Bender and Rev. Dn. Robert Lykos

Father's Cell & Email: 724-630-3483; [frchbender@verizon.net](mailto:frchbender@verizon.net)

PROTOPSALTIS: Amy Hogg

CHANTER: Steve Andrews

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews

ORGANIST: Roseanne Yu

Questions about our Parish? Email [church@stnickspgh.org](mailto:church@stnickspgh.org) or call 412-682-3866

***Our Sunday worship schedule: June 18 – August 30: Orthros 8:15 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.***

**WELCOME, VISITORS!** You are honored guests here at St. Nicholas Cathedral and welcome at all our services. We invite you to receive the Holy Eucharist (Communion) if you are an Orthodox Christian who has prepared yourself through fasting, prayer, and confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are Orthodox but have not prepared, we respectfully invite you instead to come forward at the end of the service for a blessing by the priest and a piece of blessed bread (antidoron).

**Our Mission & Vision Statements**

The **MISSION** of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral is to Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a Spirit of Unity and Love for All through Worship, Service, Education, Fellowship and Outreach.

Our **VISION** is to be a Welcoming and Growing Parish, Striving to Live the New Life in Christ according to the Teachings and Traditions of the Greek Orthodox Faith.

Watch Sunday services, which are still streaming live from St Nicholas Cathedral at [www.stnickspgh.org/](http://www.stnickspgh.org/) and click on "Live Streaming Click Here."

On-Line Giving donations are up and running on our web page [www.stnickspgh.org](http://www.stnickspgh.org) by clicking please donate button - or you may access the donation page by using <https://abundant.co/stnickspgh/give>

**TODAY: PLEASE WELCOME HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SAVAS**

**PLEASE JOIN US for coffee and fellowship in the Large Hall following services hosted by the Parish Council.**

**THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS**

- **Tuesday, June 27, 2023:** Basketball Open Gym 7:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, June 29, 2023:** Apostles Fast End
- **Sunday, July 2, 2023:** Trisagion Service for Conrad (Kostantinos) Mitchell (3 yrs) and Renee (Irin) Mitchell (31 years).

**Father Bender away June 23 – 27, 2023**

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**GOYA NEWS**

**Coffee Hour Trays Needed** – Have extra glass/plastic trays laying around, please donate them to be used during coffee hour on Sundays. We need to replenish our supply. Please bring them to the church office.

**Pastitsio Sale** - GOYA is selling their annual frozen 9 by 13 pans of Pastitsio for \$35.00. For Pastitsio pickups, call the church office or contact Alea Melacrinis Mavrogeorgis via text 412-726-5940. Please identify who you are in a detailed message. Checks can be made to St. Nicholas GOYA or cash is also acceptable.

## Sunday, June 25, 2023 - THIRD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

The Holy Martyrs Fevronia and Orentius of Anatolia, along with his six brothers

Orthros Gospel 3

Tone 2

*The Resurrection hymn in Tone 2 is chanted while the clergy exit the Altar at the Small Entrance:*

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, "O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!" [GOASD]

*The Entrance Hymn with the Gospel is heard next:*

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα. Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. [GOA] We sing to You, Alleluia

*After the Resurrection hymn is repeated, This is followed by the usual troparion for our Patron, St. Nicholas:*

The truth of things have revealed you to your flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause you have achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty.

O Father and Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτίσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

*Finally, we hear the usual Kontakion for this season:*

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης, ἁμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθὴ, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

O Protection of Christians that never falls, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you. [SD]

**TODAY'S EPISTLE READING: Rom. 5:1-10** Ἀδελφοί, δικαιοθέντες ἐκ πίστεως εἰρήνην ἔχομεν πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν διὰ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, δι' οὗ καὶ τὴν προσαγωγὴν ἐσχίκαμεν τῇ πίστει εἰς τὴν χάριν ταύτην ἐν ἣ ἑστήκαμεν, καὶ καυχώμεθα ἐπ' ἐλπίδι τῆς δόξης τοῦ Θεοῦ. Οὐ μόνον δέ, ἀλλὰ καὶ καυχώμεθα ἐν ταῖς θλίψεσιν, εἰδότες ὅτι ἡ θλίψις ὑπομονὴν κατεργάζεται, ἡ δὲ ὑπομονὴ δοκιμὴν, ἡ δὲ δοκιμὴ ἐλπίδα· ἡ δὲ ἐλπίς οὐ καταισχύνει, ὅτι ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐκκέχυται ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν διὰ Πνεύματος ἁγίου τοῦ δοθέντος ἡμῖν· ἔτι γὰρ Χριστὸς ὢντων ἡμῶν ἀσθενῶν ἔτι κατὰ καιρὸν ὑπὲρ ἁσεβῶν ἀπέθανεν. Μόλις γὰρ ὑπὲρ δικαίου τις ἀποθανεῖται· ὑπὲρ γὰρ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ τάχα τις καὶ τολμᾷ ἀποθανεῖν· συνίστησιν δὲ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἀγάπην εἰς ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεὸς ὅτι ἔτι ἁμαρτωλῶν ὢντων ἡμῶν Χριστὸς ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν ἀπέθανεν. Πολλῷ οὖν μᾶλλον δικαιοθέντες νῦν ἐν τῷ αἵματι αὐτοῦ σωθησόμεθα δι' αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῆς ὀργῆς. Εἰ γὰρ ἐχθροὶ ὄντες κατηλλάγημεν τῷ Θεῷ διὰ τοῦ θανάτου τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ, πολλῷ μᾶλλον καταλλαγέντες σωθησόμεθα ἐν τῇ ζωῇ αὐτοῦ.

**Brethren**, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. [RSV]

**TODAY'S GOSPEL READING:** Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ὁ λύχνος τοῦ σώματός ἐστιν ὁ ὀφθαλμός· ἐὰν οὖν ὁ ὀφθαλμός σου ἀπλοῦς ᾖ, ὅλον τὸ σῶμά σου φωτεινὸν ἔσται· ἐὰν δὲ ὁ ὀφθαλμός σου πονηρὸς ᾖ, ὅλον τὸ σῶμά σου σκοτεινὸν ἔσται. εἰ οὖν τὸ φῶς τὸ ἐν σοὶ σκότος ἐστί, τὸ σκότος πόσον; Οὐδεὶς δύναται δυοὶ κυρίοις δουλεύειν· ἢ γὰρ τὸν ἓνα μισήσει καὶ τὸν ἕτερον ἀγαπήσει, ἢ ἐνὸς ἀνθέξεται καὶ τοῦ ἑτέρου καταφρονήσει· οὐ δύνασθε Θεῷ δουλεύειν καὶ μαμωνᾷ. Διὰ τοῦτο λέγω ὑμῖν, μὴ μεριμνᾶτε τῇ ψυχῇ ὑμῶν τί φάγητε καὶ τί πίνητε, μηδὲ τῷ σώματι ὑμῶν τί ἐνδύσησθε· οὐχὶ ἡ ψυχὴ πλεόν ἐστιν τῆς τροφῆς καὶ τὸ σῶμα τοῦ ἐνδύματος; ἐμβλέψατε εἰς τὰ πετεινὰ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, ὅτι οὐ σπεύρουσιν οὐδὲ θερίζουσιν οὐδὲ συνάγουσιν εἰς ἀποθήκας, καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ὁ οὐράνιος τρέφει αὐτά· οὐχ ὑμεῖς μᾶλλον διαφέρετε αὐτῶν; τίς δὲ ἐξ ὑμῶν μεριμνῶν δύναται προσθεῖναι ἐπὶ τὴν ἡλικίαν αὐτοῦ πηχυν ἓνα; καὶ περὶ ἐνδύματος τί μεριμνᾶτε; καταμάθετε τὰ κρίνα τοῦ ἀγροῦ πῶς αὐξάνει· οὐ κοπιᾷ οὐδὲ νήθει· λέγω δὲ ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐδὲ Σολομὼν ἐν πάσῃ τῇ δόξῃ αὐτοῦ περιεβάλετο ὡς ἐν τούτων. Εἰ δὲ τὸν χόρτον τοῦ ἀγροῦ, σήμερον ὄντα καὶ αὔριον εἰς κλίβανον βαλλόμενον, ὁ Θεὸς οὕτως ἀμφιέννυσιν οὐ πολλῶ μᾶλλον ὑμᾶς, ὀλιγόπιστοι; μὴ οὖν μεριμνήσητε λέγοντες, τί φάγωμεν ἢ τί πίνωμεν ἢ τί περιβαλώμεθα; πάντα γὰρ ταῦτα τὰ ἔθνη ἐπιζητεῖ· οἶδεν γὰρ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ὁ οὐράνιος ὅτι χρήζετε τούτων ἀπάντων. ζητεῖτε δὲ πρῶτον τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ τὴν δικαιοσύνην αὐτοῦ, καὶ ταῦτα πάντα προστεθήσεται ὑμῖν.

**The Lord said,** "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." [RSV]

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**2023 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex**  
**(Just ask a member of Parish Council)**

If you have already submitted your 2023 Stewardship Commitment, THANK YOU! If not, please take the time to make financial Stewardship Commitment today and complete the talent portion of the card to enable OUR Community to grow and carry on the mission of our faith.

**HELP US REACH/ EXCEED OUR GOAL!!**



*Giving Thanks,*  
**Eucharistic  
Stewardship**

| <u>2023</u>    | <u>STEWARDSHIP</u>                  |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total Stewards | 235 (GOAL 300)                      |
| Total Pledged  | \$119,563.00<br>GOAL (\$230,000.00) |
|                |                                     |
| Avg. Pledge    | \$742.63                            |

**YOUTH SAFETY WORKERS**

Who is considered a Youth Safety Worker?

**All Clergymen (Bishops/Priests/Deacons, both Active & Retired)**

**Pastoral Assistants & Youth Directors**

**People assisting, in any ministry, where the participants are under 18 years of age or in high school, whichever is later.**

**Including Parish Youth Safety Administrators, Church School Teachers, Dance Directors, Greek School Teachers, Youth Advisors (including Chaperones & Drivers) and Parish Council.**

**Even... Parents who occasionally help-out but are alone with other people's children.**

Each Youth Safety Worker is required to register yearly with the church.

Registration is available through the church office. In addition, all Youth Safety Workers are required to take two courses (on-line training platform) annually and to complete a background check every other year.

Here is the website: Please register at <https://ncsrisk.org/goarch/>. The first course, Youth Safety, has two parts. The second course, Youth Worker Regulations, has one part. Prompt completion is necessary as one cannot participate in any youth programs without being registered, having a background check, having PA state clearances, and completing the two courses.

Those interested in becoming a Youth Safety Worker and have not started the process or need to determine what documentation you need to complete, please contact Taki Darakos, [edarakos@aol.com](mailto:edarakos@aol.com), 412-944-4961.



**SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2023**

The Food Festival is over, and it was a success!  
So, Parish Council would like to invite you to a

**THANK YOU  
LUNCHEON**

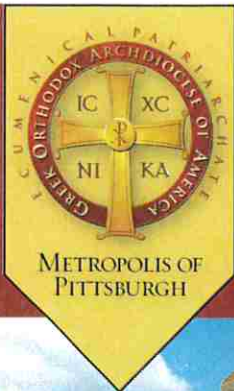


**Food Festival  
Financials will be  
presented.**

For more  
information contact:  
**Michelle Kotsagrellos**  
412-680-1416

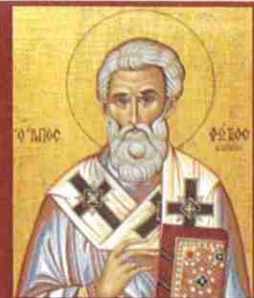
**COME & WELCOME**  
**FATHER ELEFThERIOS, PRESBYTERA ELLIE,**  
**THOMAS, ANASTASIA, MARINA & BASIL**  
**TO**  
**ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL**





VOLUME 7 NO. 3 ISSUE: 54

JULY 2023



# A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

## NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



### NEW METROPOLIS CENTER UPDATE: WE ARE BREAKING GROUND!

Archon Nick Lekas



With our astounding fundraising success at the end of last year (God's Grace), as of the beginning of 2023, we began the search

in the Greater Pittsburgh area, seeking recommendations for general contractors from a network of primary and secondary sources. The goal was to develop hard bids from no less than three general contractors that; 1) were proven capable of the size of this project, 2) were available to build this spring/summer and 3) showed heart for this beautiful endeavor. General contractors came and went and finally by the end of March we received five signed bids ranging from \$10M-\$12M.

In January, we transferred our prayers from asking for help with funding, and instead for assistance with finding good people to carry this project forward into the construction phase. Our prayers led us to a Greek Orthodox family-owned, second-generation general contractor from Pittsburgh whose offices are minutes away from the site. Learning that they are heavily invested in their parish community, (Holy Cross, Pittsburgh), and after repeated interviews among all the general contractors who submitted bids, we found that Liokareas Construction from Bethel Park, PA was not only a great fit but showed the heart for our faith-based project that no one else could. With recent archdiocesan approval of the project, we are awarding the contract to brothers Peter and Nick Liokareas, and expect to break ground this summer!



John Liokareas with his son Peter



With this in mind, let us live with no regrets as we enter this new stage of the campaign for the New Metropolis Center.

Visit: [www.pittsburgh.goarch.org/pledge](http://www.pittsburgh.goarch.org/pledge) or scan the QR code to pledge/donate and learn more.

Thank you all for your support and prayers. Archon Nick Lekas



[pittsburgh.goarch.org](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org)



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, Morgantown, WV

# Feast Day Liturgy & Picnic

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 2023

DIVINE LITURGY: 10:30AM | PICNIC: 1:30PM

at Westside Senior Center - 500 DuPont Rd, Westover, WV 26501

(Hint: We are in the Pavilion out back)



FOOD,  
FELLOWSHIP  
AND  
FUN!

Special  
Invitation to



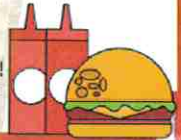
RSVP by August 16th to:  
[agocmorgantownwva@gmail.com](mailto:agocmorgantownwva@gmail.com)

WVU Orthodox Christian  
Fellowship Students

Welcome Back Sunday!

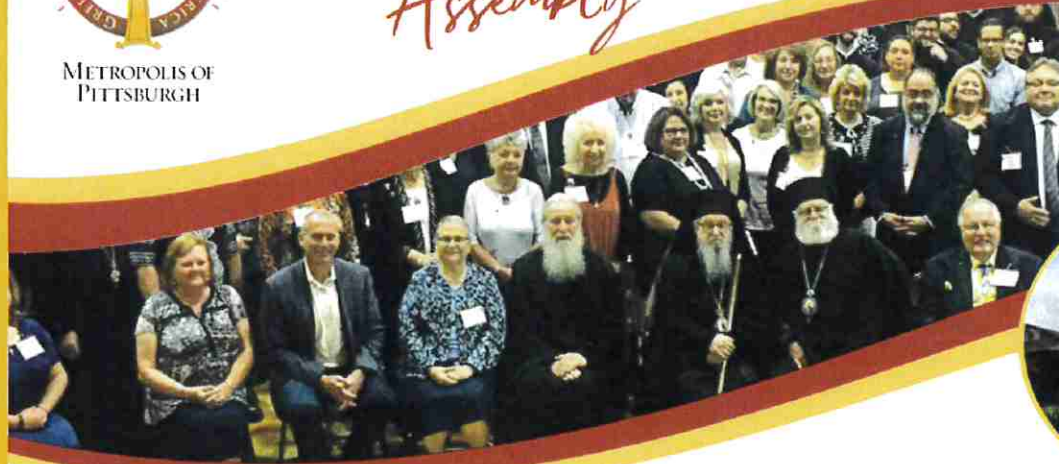
We ♥ You!

WVU Alumni reconnect Sunday!  
We invite all alumni to attend our  
Feast Day Liturgy & Picnic.



## 2023 CLERGY-LAITY

Assembly



Save  
The  
Date



Sts. Helen & Constantine Greek Orthodox Church,  
1001 E Wyomissing Blvd, Reading, PA 19611-1763

SEPT | 28-30 | 2023

[pittsburgh.goarch.org/clergy-laity](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org/clergy-laity)

For more info contact: Louise Henry 412 621 5529 | [lhenry@pittsburgh.goarch.org](mailto:lhenry@pittsburgh.goarch.org)



### SUPPORT HIS EMINENCE AND OUR METROPOLIS MINISTRIES

It costs approximately \$1,000 per day to operate our Metropolis - including Metropolitan Savas's Archpastoral visitations, preparations for summer camp and GOYA retreats, our vital registry, and more. Please consider sponsoring a day in the life of the Metropolis:

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh, 5201 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

412-621-5529 (Main) 412-465-0460 (Camp) 412-621-8543 (Youth)

[pittsburgh.goarch.org](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org)

[info@pittsburgh.goarch.org](mailto:info@pittsburgh.goarch.org)



# June/July 2023

| SUN   | MON   | TUES   | WED | THURS                        | FRI | SAT    |
|---|---|--|-----|------------------------------|-----|--------|
| <b>25 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b><br><br>Orthros 8:15 am<br>Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. | 26  | <b>27 Open Gym</b><br>7:00 p.m.                | 28  | <b>29 APOSTLES FAST ENDS</b> | 30  | 1 JULY |
| FR. BENDER AWAY   |   |  |     |                              |     |        |
| <b>2 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b><br>Orthros 8:15 a.m.<br>Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.    | 3   | <b>4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Independence Day</b> | 5   | 6                            | 7   | 8      |
| <b>9 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b><br>Orthros 8:15 a.m.<br>Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.    | 10  | <b>11 OPEN GYM</b><br>7:00 p.m.                | 12  | 13                           | 14  | 15     |
| <b>16 Sunday of the Holy Fathers</b><br>Orthros 8:15 a.m.<br>Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.         | <b>17 Parish Council Meeting</b><br>6:30 p.m. | <b>18 OPEN GYM</b><br>7:00 p.m.                | 19  | 20                           | 21  | 22     |
| <b>23 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b><br>Orthros 8:15 a.m.<br>Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.   | 24  | <b>25 OPEN GYM</b><br>7:00 p.m.                | 26  | 27                           | 28  | 29     |
| <b>30 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b><br>Orthros 8:15 a.m.<br>Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.   | 31  |  |     |                              |     |        |