



ST. SPYRIDON: A TRUE SERVANT OF THE LORD

As we well know, fame and position in life can often cause a person to change. St. Spyridon, certainly did not fall into that category. He was born on the island of Cyprus in the early part of the 4th century, and spent most of his life there in service to Christ and His Church. The son of a poor farmer, Spyridon lived in an area where no schools had been established. His parents recognized his brightness, however, and with the help of their parish priest, they were able to see that he received a fine secular and religious education. St. Spyridon married, and was ordained a priest. He was assigned to serve a rural community, where he soon founded a school for the neighboring farm children.

Upon the death of his wife, Spyridon was elected “Bishop of Trymithubos.” This rise in prominence had no effect on his lifestyle; he continued to live a humble, simple life. It is said that once he was invited to appear before the Emperor in his imperial court. He was dressed so shabbily that one of the soldiers on duty there thought he was a beggar and refused to let him in!

St. Spyridon was one of the 318 bishops who attended the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea in 325 AD. The minutes of the Council sessions tell us that he was instrumental in clearly defining the dogmas of the Church that were under debate at this historic gathering.

Sadly, during the latter years of his life, St. Spyridon fell victim to pagan persecution by the followers of Arius—the Alexandrian priest condemned as a heretic by the 1st Council. He spent many years in prison, all the while suffering in silence. He died in 348 AD and was buried on the island of Corfu. After some 1600 years, his body is still amazingly well-preserved and many miracles are still attributed to him by those who pray for his intercession.

To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread. *Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



December 7, 2014

10th Sunday of Luke

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10th Sunday of Luke

Commemoration of: Ambrose, Bishop of Milan; Athenodoros, Martyr of Mesopotamia; Holy Father John of Kronstadt

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Tu lithu sfragisthendos (Resurrection Hymn) Tone 1

Tou Stavrou Sou (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.

Kontakion

I Parthenos simeron Tone 3

*On this day the Virgin Maid * goes to the grotto to give birth * to the pre-eternal Word * in an ineffable manner. * Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. * Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds * Him who willed that He appear as * a newborn Child, * the pre-eternal God.*

Epistle Reading Ephesians 5:8-19

BRETHREN, Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Gospel Reading Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it

away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Activities & Announcements

Today

10th Sunday of Luke; Memorials for *Catherine Roumeliotis*, beloved Mother of Peter Coutlis and *Pauline (Panagiota) Coutlis*, beloved Aunt of Peter Coutlis; Parish Council Elections; Caroling at Leahi Hospital

✘ **Parish Council Elections**– Parish Council Elections will take place today immediately following services, down in the Bookstore. Polls will close promptly at 1 p.m. There are 5 open seats available on the Parish Council. Our candidates are as follows: **Michael Dimitrion, Roni Katsikas, Cleopatra Kritikos, Nicholas Kyriakakis, Regina Mass, Stelio Scordilis and Austin Vali**. On the ballots, you may vote for 5 or less candidates. If you vote for more than 5 candidates, your ballot will be deemed invalid.

This Week

- ✘ FRI, 12/12– St. Spyridon the Wonderworker: Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.
- ✘ SUN, 12/14– 11th Sunday of Luke; Christmas Concert with Adult and Youth Choir
- ✘ **Caroling Schedule**- Our senior choir and Sunday School are participating in caroling at several Senior Care Facilities in December, before Christmas. The schedule is as follows: **Today, December 7, 1 p.m.**, at Leahi Hospital, 3675 Kilauea Avenue; **Sunday December 14, 1:30 p.m.**, at Hale Nani Rehab. & Nursing, 1677 Pensacola Street; **Sunday, December 21, 1:15 p.m.**, at Hale Ho Aloha ICF/SNF 2670 Pacific Heights Road.

Upcoming Events

- ✘ **Special Short General Assembly Meeting**– A letter is being mailed to all our faithful stewards informing of our Special Short General Assembly to approve the 2015 Budget on Sunday, December 21st. Please make every effort to attend this brief Assembly.
- ✘ **FDI Fundraiser Glendi for Dance Group**– Saturday, January 24, 2015, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Dinner and Entertainment in Church Hall. For tickets, contact Dianna Graves or any dancer.

Words of Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

"All join to praise this holy feast (of the Nativity), beholding the Godhead here on earth and man in heaven. He who is above now, for our salvation, dwells here below; and we, who were lowly, are exalted by divine mercy."

~St. John Chrysostom