

ETERNITY

How long is eternity? Pondering such a concept can, indeed, give us a headache! A simple dictionary definition of the word describes it as “infinite time” or “time without a beginning or ending.” When we think of eternity in the framework of our faith, however, we focus in on 2 specific areas: eternal life in heaven or eternal damnation in hell. There is no question at all concerning where we WANT to spend eternity. The question is: How do we earn a spot in that wonderful place “where there is no longer sickness, nor sorrow, nor sighing, but life everlasting?”

Like everything else, the answer lies in the Scriptures. Christ frequently spoke of eternal life and He was quite specific as to how it can be attained. When a certain lawyer approached Him and questioned what he needed to do to inherit it, Christ told him that he must “...love the Lord with all your heart, soul, strength and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27) On another occasion when questioned in a similar manner, the Lord urged His interrogator to “keep the commandments” and to “sell what you own and give it to the poor.” Still another time, He reminded Nicodemus that “...God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but shall have everlasting life.” (John 3:15) To gain eternal life, Jesus also told His followers that they must “eat His Flesh” and “drink His Blood” - a clear reference to the reception of Holy Communion.

To sum all this up, we can confidently say that if we love God, if we follow His Divine Laws, if we care for the needs of others and live a sacramental life, we, too, will be numbered among the saints in God’s heavenly kingdom for all of eternity. Apostle Paul tells us “...eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered the heart of

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



November 1, 2020

5th Sunday of Luke

930 Lunalilo Street, Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 521-7220 www.greekorthodoxhawaii.org

Office: office@greekorthodoxhawaii.org

Fr. Alexander Leong: fralexanderleong@yahoo.com

November 1, 2020
5th Sunday of Luke

Commemoration of: Sts. Cosmas & Damian the Holy Unmercenaries and their mother Theodota

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

To fethron (Resurrection Hymn) Tone 4
Having learned the joyous news of the angel of Your resurrection, the disciple woman of the Lord, and having rejected the ancestral judgment to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim, death is despoiled Christ our God has risen granting to the world the great mercy.

Ayii Anagiri (Sts. Cosmas & Damian) Tone 8
Holy Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, visit our infirmities. Freely you received; freely give to us. (AgesInitiatives.com)

Tu Stavru Su (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 are the lover of mankind.

Kontakion
Prostasia ton Hristianon Tone 2
O protection of Christians that can not be put to shame, mediation to the Creator immovable. Do not over look, the pleading voices of those in sin, but be in time as a kind one to our help, who in faith cry out to You: Hasten to intercede and be quick to beseech. You who always protect, Theotokos, those who honor You.

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8
BRETHREN, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

Gospel Reading Luke 16:19-31
The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels

to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"

Activities & Announcements

Today

✦ **SUN, 11/1–5th Sunday of Luke/Sts. Cosmas & Damian the Holy Unmercenaries; Adult Religious Education via Zoom-** “The Fruit of the Spirit-Joy” Session 3, 1:35 p.m.; Philoptochos is taking a special offering today in honor of the Feast Day of our Patron Saints, Cosmas and Damianos. Please make checks payable to Philoptochos to help fulfill the Philanthropic Programs & Charites of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Thank you!

This Week

- ✦ **WED, 11/4– Young Adult Fellowship via Zoom 7 p.m. on “The Fruit of the Spirit – Joy” Session 1**
- ✦ **THU, 11/5– Prayer Ministry 11 a.m.**
- ✦ **FRI, 11/6– Adult Religious Education Class: Orthodoxy and World Religions 7-8:30 p.m. via Zoom. If you’re interested in attending, contact Father Alexander, fralexanderleong@yahoo.com**
- ✦ **SAT, 11/7– Great Vespers via Zoom 5:30 p.m.**
- ✦ **SUN, 11/8– Synaxis of the Archangels; Adult Religious Education via Zoom- “The Fruit of the Spirit– Peace” Session 1, 1:35 p.m.**

Philoptochos Christmas 2020 Bake Sale order forms will be available on the church website beginning mid-afternoon today. Supplies are limited. Place your order with Vicki Shiroma as soon as possible. Instructions are on the form. Mahalo!

Thanksgiving Dinner Event. Thursday, 11/26, 12noon - 3 p.m. Curbside pick-up in front of the church parking lot. To reserve your dinner, to donate food, to volunteer or for any questions, contact Peter Hwu at phwualoha@gmail.com or (808) 277-2633. Please see the flyer emailed with this bulletin for the menu and details.

Our Adult Religious Education Ministry is offering a special course, **Orthodoxy and World Religions**, presented by Robert Arakaki, Ph.D. Fridays, 7-8:30 p.m., through December 11 via Zoom. No charge. The goals of the course are to learn about other world religions and to prepare Orthodox Christians to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in a pluralistic, post-Christian society. Detailed information is available at greekorthodoxhawaii.org. If you’re interested in attending the classes, please contact Father Alexander, fralexanderleong@yahoo.com.