



The Voice of Holy Apostles
Greek Orthodox Church of Indianapolis
Αγιοι Αποστολοι Ελληνορθοδοξη Εκκλησια Ινδιαναπολεως
+Metropolis of Detroit

4550 North Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46205

WWW.HOLYPOSTLESINDY.ORG

INFO@HOLYPOSTLESINDY.ORG

Fr. John Koen Tel: 317-908-8511

Volume 7

March 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Lord and His Mother! I hope and pray that this finds you all safe and well. I know it has been a difficult time with all the strange changes in the weather, plus various challenges in health, plus other things. So, anyway, it is now less than a month before the start of Great Lent this year. This year, our Easter (Pascha) is much later than the Western churches, but that's okay, it is what it is.

The main thing is, how do we best approach Lent? Very carefully, and with joy! It is best seen as a time for "spring cleaning", a chance to rid ourselves, if possible, of unwanted and unneeded mental and emotional baggage. It is also a chance to get rid of attitudes and habits that do not serve us (or anyone else) well. That is the best use of fasting. Not to prove anything to anyone else. Not to cause ourselves unnecessary pain or discomfort or inconvenience, but, rather, to try and find ways to become freer in Christ, lighter, less bound by things of earth that hold us back from closer union with God.

So, once again, please, understand that we are to fast according to our strengths and circumstances. Not to do things that would negatively impact our health, or make things unnecessarily difficult for others. Have a good, safe, joyous and blessed Lent!

In Christ,
Fr. John

NOTED DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

March 6: Judgement Sunday (Meatfare)

March 13: Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)

March 14: Lent begins

March 20: Sunday of Orthodoxy and Benevolent Basket is passed.

March 25: Annunciation (No service, liturgy at Holy Trinity) and Greek Independence Day

April 17: Fr. Alexis Miller and the parishioners of Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church in Crawfordsville (Carpatho-Russian) will be celebrating the liturgy with us. This is part of a Lenten effort to strengthen ties among Orthodox churches in Central Indiana.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday school will begin after Father John's sermon and will end in time to bring the children in for communion.

SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY – MARCH 6:

There will be a short General Assembly following the Divine Liturgy and coffee hour. Enclosed you will find the minutes from the last General Assembly and the agenda. Please bring them to the meeting. We need 15 for quorum.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY:

Please feel free to bring your icons to church, and especially have your children so that they may march in the procession.

The Orthodox churches will be celebrating the service at St. George at 5:00 PM with Archbishop Nathaniel presiding and preaching. We, along with two other churches are asked to bring desserts for the dinner that follows.

STEWARDSHIP FORMS:

We again want to remind you to send in your stewardships forms to the church.

LOOKING FOR CHAIRMEN:

The Parish Council is still waiting for volunteers to chair the following, or the fund raisers cannot happen. We have a chairman for Vasilopita Luncheon, but still need one for the **OPA House** and **Christmas Card**.

EASTER BREAD:

Enclosed you will find the order form for the Easter bread. It is enclosed now because the due date for them to be turned in is by Sunday, **April 3**. The bakery is requesting orders to be turned in three weeks before delivery.

SAVE THE DATE:



Plans are underway for Holy Apostles to see a matinee showing of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2" followed by a late lunch at OPA Greek Restaurant in Avon, Indiana.

The cost for tickets to the movie and lunch will be on your own.

The tentative date is Saturday, March 26, but is dependent on the release date of the movie in Indiana. Details will follow as more information becomes available.

If you are interested in attending, contact Helen Kostarides by e-mail at hkostarides@gmail.com or by phone at 317-841-8919.

EASTER EVENTS IN APRIL:

We will be looking for donations for the flowers, dyed Easter eggs, and 7 men to help with the procession.

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON APRIL 24: It will be held at Holy Apostles and sponsored by the Darzentas Family. More detail will be available in April.

HOLY UNCTION APRIL 27: Service at 6:30 PM

KOUVOUKLION DECORATING OF THE EPTAPHIOS APRIL 29: Starts at 9:00 AM, and we will also be cleaning the church as well.

HOLY FRIDAY APRIL 29: Lamentations and perifora epitafiou at 7:30 PM

HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 30: Resurrection services at 11:00 PM

IN OUR PRAYERS: Keep Ann Poulimas in your prayers after falling and breaking her knee cap. I am sure she would love to hear from you during her recovery.