

**Have you made
your 2017
Stewardship
Pledge Yet?**

Sunday, October 15th, 2017
Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

MEMORIAL:

1 year for the late Athanasios Provatas
May his memory be eternal!

*Please join us for coffee hour in the fellowship hall following the Divine Liturgy.
Coffee hour this week is sponsored by Merikas family in loving memory of their
husband, father, and grandfather, Christ Merikas.*

THIS WEEK AT ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

7:00 p.m. – Budget Committee Meeting

ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ 16 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

7:00 μ.μ. - Επιτροπή Προϋπολογισμού

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

6:00 p.m. – Catechism Class

7:00 p.m. – Meeting of the Parish Council

ΤΡΙΤΗ 17 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

6:00 μ.μ. – Κατήχηση

7:00 μ.μ. – Συνάντηση Δ. Συμβουλίου

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

11:30 a.m. – Mommy and Me Kickoff

ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ 21 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

11:30 π.μ. – Πρόγραμμα για νήπια

*We have within us deeply rooted weaknesses, passions, and defects. These cannot be
all cut out with one sharp motion but rather with patience, persistence, care and
attention. The path to perfection is long, but pray to God and He will strengthen you...
Do not despair if you keep falling into your old sins. Many of them are strong because
they have received the force of habit. Never let anything deprive you of hope.*

+St Nectarios of Aegina

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are glad you came, and we hope your visit was memorable and meaningful in every way. Our doors and hearts are always open to you. Please join us for fellowship following the liturgy and visit with our Clergy and with members of our parish council. They will answer questions you may have and provide you with information regarding the programs we offer.

A NOTE TO VISITORS ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION

We welcome to this celebration those Christians who are not united with us. It is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. We thank you, though, for joining us in prayer and invite you to partake of the blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. We also invite you to join us for fellowship in the church hall after Liturgy.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP IS...

...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work., for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

...caring for the needs of others.

...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.

...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.

...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.

Have you made your 2017 Contribution to YOUR Cathedral? It is never too late to commit yourself to your church! We are so close to reaching our 2017 goal! Help us make it a reality by becoming a steward today!

125th CATHEDRAL GALA CELEBRATION

Please spread the word and mark the date of the 125th Anniversary Gala Celebration for our beloved Cathedral in your calendars now! *Saturday, December 2, 2017 – The Drake Hotel. Sponsorship opportunities and invitations have been mailed!* If you have not received an invitation please contact the Cathedral office and we will have one sent to you or anyone who you would like to invite!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR SPONSORS NEEDED

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour at the Cathedral! We are in need of sponsors so that we may continue this ministry. Many Sundays through October and November are currently available. Contact the cathedral office to reserve your date!

MOMMY AND ME

A ministry of the Cathedral for parents and children 40 days – 4 years old. The program will begin *Saturday, October 22!* Please contact Fr. Stamati or Prebytera Katerina if you are a new mom looking to meet other moms!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES GOING ON NOW!

It is not too late to register your children for our religious education classes! Please visit us online for a registration form or contact the Cathedral office! Class begins after Holy Communion, the children meet at the back of the church and walk down together.

MET IAKOVOS MEMORIAL DINNER

On *Tuesday, October 24th*, a Metropolis-wide dinner will be held in memory of Met Iakovos, in celebration of Bishop Demetrios' name day, and in honor of all clergy who have served for 20 or more years. The dinner will be held at Concorde Banquets in Kildeer, IL. The Cathedral has reserved 1 table for the event, and tickets are \$100 per seat. Please contact the Cathedral office if you are interested in attending. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit the St Iakovos retreat center in Kenosha.

TODAY'S READINGS:

St. Paul's Second Letter to Titus 3:8-15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

The Gospel According to St Luke 8:5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers who attended the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the holy Patriarch Tarasius. The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI. The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted). It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18). Many of the holy Fathers who condemned Iconoclasm at this holy Council later died as Confessors and Martyrs for the holy Icons during the second wave of Iconoclasm in the 9th century. Let us give thanks today for the many beautiful icons throughout our Cathedral and in our homes that these fathers have defended and passed on to us.

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Chicago

**ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΙΕΡΑΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΕΩΣ ΣΙΚΑΓΟΥ
ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΜΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ**



Celebrating 125 years of continuous ministry



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Rev. Fr. Nicholas Nikokavouras – Dean Emeritus

FREE VALET PARKING AVAILABLE EVERY SUNDAY!