PARISH NEWSLETTER
APRIL/MAY 2019

COMING EVENTS & GATHERINGS

Father Menelaos Hatzoglou will be on Annual leave from 1st May - 30th May 2019
In my absence Father John Kapetas will be relieving my Pastoral Duties Should you wish to contact Father John for any Parish matters or Spiritual matters please contact the Parish President Mr Theo Bacalakis on 0488 083 266

Sunday School
Every Sunday Parish Hall 9-9:50am All Ages Welcome
For further information contact Father Menelaos on 0415 936 609.

Kali Parea — Seniors Group
Every Wednesday at 11am St John’s Parish Hall Call Stella—0438 791 387 Transport Available

Greek Language School Language Classes/Dance Classes
Every Monday 4pm—6 pm Parish Hall. Enquires contact Father Menelaos Hatzoglou 0415 936 609

Holy Wednesday April 24th
Holy Unction Service 6pm.
Easter Raffle Tickets $2.00 per Ticket
Raffle Tickets to be announced Easter Sunday 28th April 2019

Who ever requires the Parish Priest, Father Menelaos to attend the cemetery for blessings.
Please contact Father Menelaos on 0415 936 609

Palm Sunday Fish luncheon April 21 following Divine Liturgy Cost: $10 All Welcome.
Easter Sunday The Vespers of Love 11:30am Following by a Paschal Luncheon All Welcome Cost: Free.

Mothers Day Morning Tea Sunday 12th May following Divine Liturgy Cost: Free all welcome

Holy Thursday April 25th Holy Unction Service 6pm.
Sunday 26th May 2019 STS CONSTANTINES & HELENS LUNCHEON PARISH HALL ALL WELCOME $10 PER PERSON.

It is with Heavy Heart that Our Primate Archbishop Stylianos of Australia has fallen asleep in the Lord May His Memory be Eternal

+++25/03/2019+++
Dear Beloved Parishioners,

Easter is fast approaching and I would like to point out the main days of Holy Week as they are significant in the Orthodox Churches Calendar. The main purpose is to give you all a clear insight on the significance of the main days of Holy Week.

To begin with, the Church began with a Lenten fasting period commencing on March 11th known as Clean Monday, the Church officiates the Pre-Sanctified Gift Divine Liturgies on Wednesday mornings as well as the Salutations of the Theotokos on Friday nights. During this time, on a nightly basis the Lenten Great Evening compline are read to prepare us for the Lenten period for Holy week.

Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday celebrates the triumphant entrance of our Lord's entrance in Jerusalem riding a donkey. His Divine Kingdom on earth is proclaimed under the branches of the palm tree as a sign of victory over the death and evil. All the Orthodox Churches are decorated with palms on Palm Sunday. The cry "Hosanna in the Highest" is offered to Christ as the Messiah for the salvation of the world. On Palm Sunday night, the Church celebrates the Bride-Groom Service in anticipation for matins for Holy Monday.

The Following Hymn is heard:

"Behold the Bride Groom comes in the midst of the night; and blessed is the servant, whom He shall find vigilant; and unworthy is he, whom he shall find heedless, beware, therefore, o my soul, that you will not be overcome by sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out from the kingdom. Wherefore, rouse yourself, crying out. "Holy, Holy, Holy are You, our God, through the protection of the Heavenly Hosts save us." This is officiated with the lights turned off. It also resembles the mystical light of Christ.

Holy Tuesday. On Holy Tuesday night, the Church celebrates the parable of the 10 Virgins, which is a well-known Parable to Christ in the Gospel of Matthew 25:1-13. The Priest alongside the chanter and the faithful chant the hymn dedicated to St Kassiani. This also is officiated with the lights turned off and just with candle lights in front of the Icon of the Bride Groom. This is to commemorate the Passion of the 10 Virgins.

Holy Wednesday. The sacrament of Holy Unction (Blessed Oil) is offered to the Baptized Orthodox Christians for healing of soul and body as well as for forgiveness in preparation for Holy Communion. The service is appointed by the Typikon for the evening recall that on this day Judas betrayed Christ, which led to Christ's arrest. The Orthodox Church also observes every Wednesday as a fasting day throughout the year. Everyone is welcome to attend this sacrament. At the end of the Service of the Holy Unction, the Priest anoints only the Orthodox Canonical Baptised persons. The Priest will anoint other Christian Denominations with oil from Christ's Vigil lamp.

Holy Thursday. On Holy Thursday morning, the Church celebrates a Vesper Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great, which leads us to the Matins service on Thursday night. On Holy Thursday night, the Church celebrates Christ's last passion on Earth. The 12 Gospels are read to signify Christ's passion. The procession of the Cross is officiated inside of the church which symbolizes Christ's walk with the Cross on His shoulder on the way to Golgotha and ready for His Crucifixion.

Good Friday. Good Friday is a strict fasting day, which commemorates the death of Our Lord Jesus Christ by crucifixion for our sins. In the morning of Good Friday, the Church officiates the Royal Hours which symbolize Christ's last hours on earth. In the afternoon, the Church observes the unrolling of Christ's body from the Cross and the placement of His body in the tomb. The 'Epitaphios' itself represents the body of Christ wrapped in bridal shroud which is walked around the church with the faithful as a procession. When the faithful return to the church, the faithful walk underneath the Epitaphio to assist them with any alignment they may have.

Holy Pascha. Holy Pascha as we all know is the Resurrection of Christ and the promise of our Resurrection into the eternal life. This day is also called 'Lambri' (Bright) as it is a day full of great joy and exhilaration. The faithful greet each other with "Christos Anesti" (Christ has Risen) and in return respond with "Alithos Anesti" (Truly He Has Risen). This is the standard greeting and response during the Easter and 40 days thereafter. On the same day, in the morning the Orthodox Church celebrates the service of love. The faithful attend and hear the Gospel readings in different languages, followed by a Paschal Luncheon, this shows humanities love for one and other, this is what Christ expects from us. No matter how many days one has fasted or has not fasted everybody is invited to this Mystical Feast. Everybody is welcome to attend this service as Easter is for all of Humanity.

In the Lord’s Richest Blessings
+Fr Menelaos
Recent Events

On Saturday 2nd February, Our Parish celebrated the feast day of the Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple with an English Divine Liturgy, followed by a Red Beret dinner, which was well attended.

On Monday February 25th, Our Greek Language and Dance Group commenced for 2019. Father Menelaos opened the Greek Language and Dance School by officiating a Holy water Service, and it is good to see our children attend Greek School. The Greek School is a part of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, therefore this year the Greek Language School students will be attending Scripture classes. We have an obligation to educate our Children about the Greek Orthodox Faith.

On Sunday 3rd March, The Parishioners and Board members enjoyed a Meat fare luncheon following the Divine Liturgy. On behalf of the Parish President Theo Bacalakis, Board members, Parish Council we would like to thank the Ladies of the Philoptochos for putting on a wonderful luncheon.

On Sunday 10th March, The Parishioners and Board members enjoyed a Cheese fare luncheon following the Divine Liturgy. On behalf of the Parish President Theo Bacalakis, Board members, Parish Council we would like to thank the Ladies of the Philoptochos for putting on a wonderful luncheon.

On Saturday March 16th, Our Parish and our Parishioners travelled to Townsville to celebrate the feast day of St Theodore’s. Following the Divine Liturgy, we all enjoyed a wonderful luncheon. On behalf of the Parish President Theo Bacalakis, Board members, Parish Council and the ladies Philoptochos, the Church Committee, the Parish President Stavros Bogiatzis and to all the ladies of the Philoptochos of Townsville for putting a beautiful luncheon and making us feel very welcome in their Parish.

Finally, on behalf of the Parish President and his family, our Board members, Parish Council, the ladies Philoptochos, St Johns Community Care Staff & Volunteers, Redlynch Child Care Centre Staff & Volunteers and to the beloved Parishioners Kali Anastasi and a Happy Easter.

UPCOMING EVENTS.

April 20th Saturday of Lazarus Matins & Divine Liturgy 7:30am Followed by cleaning of the Parish and Palm Cross Making. Please bring your children. All welcome.

April 21st Palm Sunday, there will be a Fish & Salad Luncheon in the Parish Hall. The cost is $10.00 per person, all welcome.

On Easter Sunday, there will be a service for the Hours of Love at 11:30 am. The faithful will hear the Paschal Gospel in various languages. Following the service there will be a Paschal Luncheon Free of Charge, raffle tickets will be announced and also for sale on the day, All Welcome.

Tuesday 30th April, there will be an English Divine Liturgy to commemorate the Feast day of Saints Raphael, Nicholas & Irene 6:30 pm followed by a dinner at the Red Beret. All welcome.

Sunday 12th May, Mother’s Day Morning Tea following the Divine Liturgy. All welcome.

Sunday 26th May, Saints Constantine’s & Helens Luncheon following the Divine Liturgy Parish Hall All Welcome $10 per person.

God Bless
+Fr Menelaos
GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA
PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

FELLOWSHIP 2019
LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

FELLOWSHIP RECOMMENCES SATURDAY APRIL 13TH 2019
Parish Hall
All Welcome.

Jesus said, “Wherever two or three are gathered, there I am also.”

• MONTHLY DINNERS FOLLOWING ENGLISH DIVINE LITURGIES.
• FUN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
• GROUP DISCUSSIONS
  • BOWLING
  • MOVIES

COME AND MEET NEW PEOPLE!!!!!!!
Drinks and light snacks provided
FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT FR. MENELAOS
0415 936 609

EVERY SUNDAY PARISH HALL
9.00am - 9:50am

*FUN ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN
*CHILDRENS BIBLE LESSONS
*COLOURING ACTIVITIES & LESSONS
*LEARN THE LORDS PRAYER
*ARTS & CRAFTS

For further information please contact Fr. Menelaos Hatzoglou on 0415 936 609
BRING YOUR CHILDREN ALONG - ALL WELCOME

This year the Greek school students will be attending scripture classes once a month, as it is a part of the Greek school curriculum.

An Activity Of The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Of Australia
GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA
PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CAIRNS

FATHER MENELAOS HATZOGLOU
WILL BE OFFICIATING
A ENGLISH DIVINE LITURGY
TUESDAY 30 APRIL 2019
At the Parish of St John The Baptist Redlynch
ENGLISH DIVINE LITURGY TO COMMEMORATE STS RAPHAEL, NICHOLAS AND IRENE 6:30pm

Dinner to follow Divine Liturgy at The Rib Lone star Smithfield.
All Welcome
FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT FR. MENELAOS
0415 936 609

SUNDAY 12TH MAY 2019
MOTHERS DAY MORNING TEA
FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY
ALL WELCOME

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT FATHER MENELAOS
0415 936 609
email: fr.menelaos@gopcairns.org.au
Telephone: 07 4058 1116
Fax: 07 4055 3211
AN ACTIVITY OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA
GUIDE TO FASTING

Fasting is an integral and essential part of Orthodox Christian life. There are 4 major periods of fasting during the year and a number of other days in which Orthodox Christians abstain from meat, dairy products, eggs, fish, wine and oil.

Every Wednesday and Friday (with some exceptions) is a fasting day. If a feast day falls on a Wednesday or a Friday the fasting is relaxed as indicated. With the exception of Holy Saturday we never fast from wine and oil on Saturday or Sunday because the Resurrection of Christ is celebrated on these days. Please consult your spiritual father or priest to help you apply these guidelines to your own situation.

Fasting begins Monday 11th March till Saturday April 27th  Fish allowed on Palm Sunday

Dear Parishioners,

In February at RDCC we have started our garden project at the front of our centre (frog and fairy garden) for the children to learn about sustainability and further explore their outside environment.

It has been wonderful the amount of parent input that we have received with many donations from families of ornaments, fairies, frog ornaments to put in our gardens.

This will be an ongoing project that we will continue to build on over the coming month.

At RDCC we currently still have vacancies for enrolments, we are also accepting bookings for 2020. If you know of any families who may need care from Monday-Friday.

Please contact Luci or Jo from RDCC for any enquiries of bookings.

Ph: 40552020 or via email: director@redlynchdaycarecentre.com.au.

Thank you.

Regards

Lucímer Dos Santos
Director/Nominated Supervisor
GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA
PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CAIRNS

Hours of Love Service
11:30AM
Easter Sunday 28th of April
Paschal Luncheon
All Welcome.

After Church Service
Annual Easter Raffle
Prizes: Gift Voucher

Share Your Love and Support

$2.00 per ticket
Extra tickets available on the day
ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΘΗ!!!

Happy Easter

Join us, in celebrating Easter Sunday!
An activity of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia
SUPPORTERS OF 2019

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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Thank you for your support

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