

THE HOLY MARTYR ARTEMIUS

In the early years of the 4th century, the great persecutions of Christians were ended by the Emperor Constantine, who established Christianity as the official religion of his empire. Under his orders, pagan temples were destroyed and idol worship was abolished.

Old ways, however, do not die easily. After the death of Constantine, a bitter struggle for his throne ensued between his sons and other members of the imperial family. The ultimate winner in this battle for supreme power was Constantine's nephew Julian, who immediately renounced Christ and began a campaign to restore paganism to its former prominence.

One of the first to raise his voice in protest was **ARTEMIUS**, the regional governor of Alexandria. Artemius had been a high ranking official in the court of Constantine the Great, distinguishing himself as a military leader as well. When Julian began to torture the respected leaders of the Church, Artemius went to directly confront the Emperor. Julian urged the aged Artemius to join him in renouncing Christ, commanding him to offer sacrifice to the ancient idols. When he refused, the Emperor ordered him to submit to a series of brutal tortures. Despite suffering severely, Artemius remained steadfast in his allegiance to Christ. Julian ordered him beheaded, but Artemius left him to ponder his dying words: **"Your end is already near, and in a short time, your memory will perish with a resounding noise."** The saint's words were prophetic. In less than a year, the Emperor was killed in a fierce battle with the Persians and the new ruler quickly overturned the government's stance on the Christian Church.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho In U.S.A.



*Let us now gather
and worthily acclaim
with hymns,
the pious and crowned*
**MARTYR
ARTEMIUS,**
*the greatest
among Martyrs
and
richest bestower
of miracles,
who raised
the trophies
of victory
over the enemy;
for he intercedes
with the Lord
for us all.*



KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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>>>> NEW WEBSITE: www.theotokou.org www.facebook.com/dormitionaliquippa <<<<

October 23, 2016

Sixth Sunday of Luke

St. James the Apostle; Ignatius, Patriarch of Constantinople

TRISAGION – Major John Macroglou (33 years) “They came in peace” “Semper Fidelis”

PROSFORO – Offered by Helen Frederick

COFFEE HOUR – Hosted by Aleka Costianis and Petroula Vlahos

SPECIAL SERVICES

WED. OCT. 26	– St. Demetrios the Great Martyr	Orthros	9:00 AM	Liturgy	10:00 AM
	Bible Study				11:30 AM
FRI. OCT. 28	– Holy Protection and “OX! Day”	Orthros	9:00 AM	Liturgy	10:00 AM
	40 Day Memorial for Don Hahn following Divine Liturgy				

SPECIAL ACTIVITY

THU. OCT. 27 – IOCC Pan-Orthodox Singles Gathering in Pittsburgh, Olive or Twist, 140 6th St. 7:00 PM

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING is taking place today during Coffee Hour. Included in the meeting will be nominations of Council Members; there are seven members whose terms end this year. Included in Old Business will be an Alley Update. ***Please make every attempt to attend this meeting – it is our church!***

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS/HOSTESSES – Next Sunday, **October 30**, family of Tina Hahn; Sunday, **November 6**, Ladies Philoptochos Society; Sunday, **November 13**, Flaskos family; Sunday, **November 20**, George & Krisitine Avdellas and Maria Gregorakis; Sunday, **November 27**, Lynne, Tula & Margie Kakiou. All the remaining Sundays in 2016 have been filled with Coffee Hour volunteers; **THANK YOU** to everyone that has volunteered!

VASILOPITES – Senior Citizens are taking orders in the Community Center following Divine Liturgy; price is \$7.00/each and deadline for orders is November 9. To place your orders, please see Marsha Georgakis or call her at 724-375-7984. Baking will take place on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, November 14, 15 & 16. Everyone’s help, women and men, will be needed to help form and bake them.

STRIP DISTRICT – Senior Citizens will be taking their annual bus trip to the Strip District on Saturday, November 5. Everyone is welcome to join them on this fun shopping day; charge is \$2.00/members and \$5.00/non-members. For lunch, they will be stopping at the Olive Garden in Robinson Township. If interested in joining them, please see Marsha Georgakis or call her at 724-375-7984.

FOOD FESTIVALS – 1) Ypapanti Mini Greek Food Festival, East Pittsburgh, Saturday, October 29, 11:00 AM-7:00 PM and Sunday, October 30, 11:00 AM-6:00 PM; 2) Mediterranean Food Festival, St. George Orthodox Church, 610 Dewey Avenue, Bridgeville, PA, Friday, October 28 – Sunday, October 30, Noon to 8:00 PM.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD – Cost is \$10.00 and names are being taken by Tula Kakiou and Connie Czambel. Deadline for handing in the names is Sunday, December 4.

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held at Shadow Lakes Country Club on Sunday, December 4; if interested in attending, please see Sophie Prigorac or call her at 724-728-8615. The next Senior Citizens Meeting is Wednesday, November 2, beginning at 1:00 PM; this will be their Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon meeting.

G.A.P.A. NEWS – Mark your calendars for the Christmas Party to be held on Saturday, December 10, at Trenney’s Grill, Route 151, Hopewell. More information will follow about the Christmas Party.

THANK YOU to all those who have filled out their Stewardship Pledges for 2016. Your generosity is deeply appreciated as this is the single most important source of income for our Church. If you do not currently pledge, we encourage you to speak to Lynne Kakiou, our Financial Secretary. All pledges remain in strict confidence.

St. Paul’s Letter to the Galatians 1:11-19

BRETHREN, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man’s gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord’s brother.