

January 10, 2015

Fr. Nikolaos Galanopoulos, D Phil.  
Greek Orthodox Church of the Assumption  
Route 23, Windham, NY, 12496

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we entered the New Year it is necessary to give thanks to the Lord for the abundance of the gifts he bestowed on us both individually and collectively. It is also appropriate to ask for the extension of His uncreated Grace upon all of us in order to meet the challenges of the New Year in every aspect of our lives.

We completed the Christmas – Epiphany liturgical cycle, followed through “a lull” and subsequently we will enter into the Great Lent and the Paschal period. Life in our Church is intimately linked with these cycles and they offer the opportunity for reflection upon imperceptible as well as the significant changes in our lives and environment. Through them we perceive the significance of the themes of fall, death, regeneration and the final triumph of life, all greatly compressed and contained within the yearly celebrations. These themes are independent of social, economic or political tribulations. The arrival of Lent with its penitential spirit in approximately a month should therefore not come as a surprise and outside influences should not detract us from our self-examination and the exercise of metanoia, experiences divorced from the surrounding time and space. As we become aware of our short sojourn in this world we should consider the prayers and petitions heard in our services asking of the Lord for peaceful times and we should try our best to implement these petitions in our daily lives.

For the upcoming months the following services will be held:

**EXPANDED PROGRAMME UNTIL MARCH 2015**

<b>DATE AND TIME</b>	<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>FEAST</b>
<b>Monday, 2/2/2015 9:00 am</b>	<b>Matins, Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>Presentation to Temple</b>
<b>Saturday, 2/14/2015 9:00 am</b>	<b>Matins, Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Souls</b>
<b>Saturday, 2/21/2015 9:00 am</b>	<b>Matins, Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Souls</b>
<b>Friday, 2/27/2015 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Apodeipnon</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Salutations to V. Mary</b>
<b>Saturday, 2/28/2015 9:00 am</b>	<b>Matins, Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Souls</b>
<b>Friday, 3/6/2015 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Apodeipnon</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Salutations to V. Mary</b>
<b>Friday, 3/13/2015 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Apodeipnon</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Salutations to V. Mary</b>
<b>Friday, 3/20/2015 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Apodeipnon</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Salutations to V. Mary</b>
<b>Wednesday, 3/25/2015 9:00 am</b>	<b>Matins, Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>Annunciation to V. Mary</b>
<b>Friday, 3/27/2015 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Apodeipnon</b>	<b>Akathist Hymn</b>

Faithfully in Christ,

Fr. Nikolaos Galanopoulos

10 Ιανουαρίου 2015

π. Νικόλαος Γαλανόπουλος

Ἑλληνικός Ὁρθόδοξος Ἱ. Ναὸς Κοιμήσεως τῆς Θεοτόκου

Route 23, Windham, NY, 12496

Ἀγαπητοὶ ἐν Κυρίῳ ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφαί.

Μὲ τὴν εἴσοδό μας εἰς τὸ Νέον Ἔτος εἶναι πρέπον νὰ εὐχαριστήσωμε τὸν Κύριον διὰ τὴν ἀπλόχερον παροχὴν τῶν δώρων Του πρὸς ὅλους ἡμᾶς, τόσον εἰς τὸν καθένα προσωπικῶς ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰς ὅλους ὁμαδικῶς. Εἶναι ἐπιπλέον πρέπον ὅπως ζητήσωμε τὴν παροχὴν τῆς ἀκτίστου Θείας Χάριτός Του ὥστε νὰ ἀνταποκριθῶμεν πρὸς τὰς ἐρχομένας δυσκολίας τῆς ζωῆς κατὰ τὸ Νέον Ἔτος.

Ἔχομεν συμπληρώσει τὸν λειτουργικὸν κύκλον τῶν Χριστουγέννων καὶ Θεοφανείων, ὁ ὁποῖος συνήθως ἀκολουθεῖται ἀπὸ μίαν περίοδον ἡρεμίας καὶ συνεχίζεται μὲ τὴν περίοδον τῆς Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστῆς καὶ τοῦ Πασχαλίου Κύκλου. Ἡ ζωὴ εἰς τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν εἶναι ἀρρήκτως συνδεδεμένη μὲ τοὺς κύκλους αὐτοὺς, οἱ ὅποιοι προσφέρουν τὴν εὐκαιρίαν ἐσωτερικοῦ ἐλέγχου καὶ ἐξετάσεως ἀσημάντων καὶ σημαντικῶν ἀλλαγῶν εἰς τὴν ζωὴν μας καὶ τὸ περιβάλλον μας. Διὰ τῶν κύκλων αὐτῶν ἀντιλαμβανόμεθα τὴν σημασίαν τῶν θεμάτων τῆς πτώσεως, τοῦ θανάτου, τῆς ἀναδημιουργίας καὶ τοῦ τελικοῦ θριάμβου τῆς ζωῆς, συμπυκνωμένων καὶ περιεχομένων ἐντὸς τῶν ἐτησίων ἐορτασίμων περιστάσεων. Αὐτὰ τὰ θέματα εἶναι ἀνεξάρτητα τῶν κοινωνικῶν, οἰκονομικῶν καὶ πολιτικῶν δυσκολιῶν. Ἡ ἄφιξις τῆς Μ. Τεσσαρακοστῆς, τῆς κατ' ἐξοχὴν περιόδου τῆς συγγνώμης εἰς ἓνα περίπου μῆνα πρέπει νὰ εἶναι ἀναμενομένη ἐνῶ αἱ ἐπιρροαὶ τοῦ περιβάλλοντος δὲν πρέπει νὰ ἀναστείλουν τὴν ἐξέτασιν τοῦ ἑαυτοῦ μας καὶ τὴν ἐφαρμογὴν τῆς μετανοίας, ἐμπειρίας ἀνεξαρτήτους τοῦ περιβάλλοντος χώρου καὶ χρόνου. Ὅσο περισσότερο ἀντιλαμβανόμεθα τὴν ἐφημερότητα τοῦ ταξιδίου μας εἰς τὸν κόσμον αὐτὸν τόσο ὀφείλομε νὰ συνυπολογίσωμε τὰς κατὰ τὰς Θείας Ἀκολουθίας προσευχὰς καὶ αἰτήσεις αἰτουμένας καιροῦς εἰρηνικοῦς ἐν Κυρίῳ καὶ ἀξιοποιοῦντες αὐτὰς εἰς τὴν καθημερινότητά μας.

#### ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ Ι. ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ ΜΕΧΡΙ ΜΑΡΤΙΟΣ 2015

ΗΜΕΡΟΜΗΝΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΩΡΑ	ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΑ	ΕΟΡΤΗ
Δευτέρα 2/2/2015 9:00 πμ	Ὁρθρος, Θ.Λειτουργία	Ἵπαπαντὴ Σωτῆρος
Σάββατο 14/2/2015 9:00 πμ	Ὁρθρος, Θ.Λειτουργία	Α' Ψυχοσάββατο
Σάββατο 21/2/2015 9:00 πμ	Ὁρθρος, Θ.Λειτουργία	Β' Ψυχοσάββατο
Παρασκευή 27/2/2015 7:00 μμ	Ἀπόδειπνον	Α' Χαιρετισμοί
Σάββατο 28/2/2015 9:00 πμ	Ὁρθρος, Θ.Λειτουργία	Γ' Ψυχοσάββατο
Παρασκευή 6/3/2015 7:00 μμ	Ἀπόδειπνον	Β' Χαιρετισμοί
Παρασκευή 13/3/2015 7:00 μμ	Ἀπόδειπνον	Γ' Χαιρετισμοί
Παρασκευή 20/3/2015 7:00 μμ	Ἀπόδειπνον	Δ' Χαιρετισμοί
Τετάρτη 25/3/2015 9:00 πμ	Ὁρθρος, Θ.Λειτουργία	Εὐαγγελισμὸς Θεοτόκου
Παρασκευή 27/3/2015 7:00 μμ	Ἀπόδειπνον	Ἀκάθιστος Ὑμνος

Ἐν Κυρίῳ,

π. Νικόλαος Γαλανόπουλος