

## WHAT'S A WEDDING WITHOUT WINE?



A wedding without wine? Unheard of! During Christ's time, wine flowed quite freely at such events, and when our Lord attends a nuptial celebration in Cana of Galilee, the unthinkable happens: the host runs out of wine! John's Gospel relates how the Blessed Mother - also in attendance - brings this "disastrous matter" to her Divine Son's attention. Jars are filled with water . . . our Lord offers a prayer and, amazingly, the guests now have wine in abundance! And not just any wine - it was apparently much better than the vintage originally served at the beginning of the festivities, eliciting the comment of the host to the bridegroom near the end of the reception: "You have kept the good wine until now."

What is the significance of this Gospel story? We are told that this was Christ's first miracle. It was a means of "manifesting His glory" and an opportunity to inspire belief within the hearts and minds of His Apostles. But there is much more to this story. Its setting is significant, for in the Old Testament, marriage feasts symbolize the union of God with Israel, His symbolic "bride." Our Lord, in effect, begins His ministry here in Cana of Galilee in an area that was predominantly Gentile territory, symbolizing the spreading of the Gospel to the entire world.

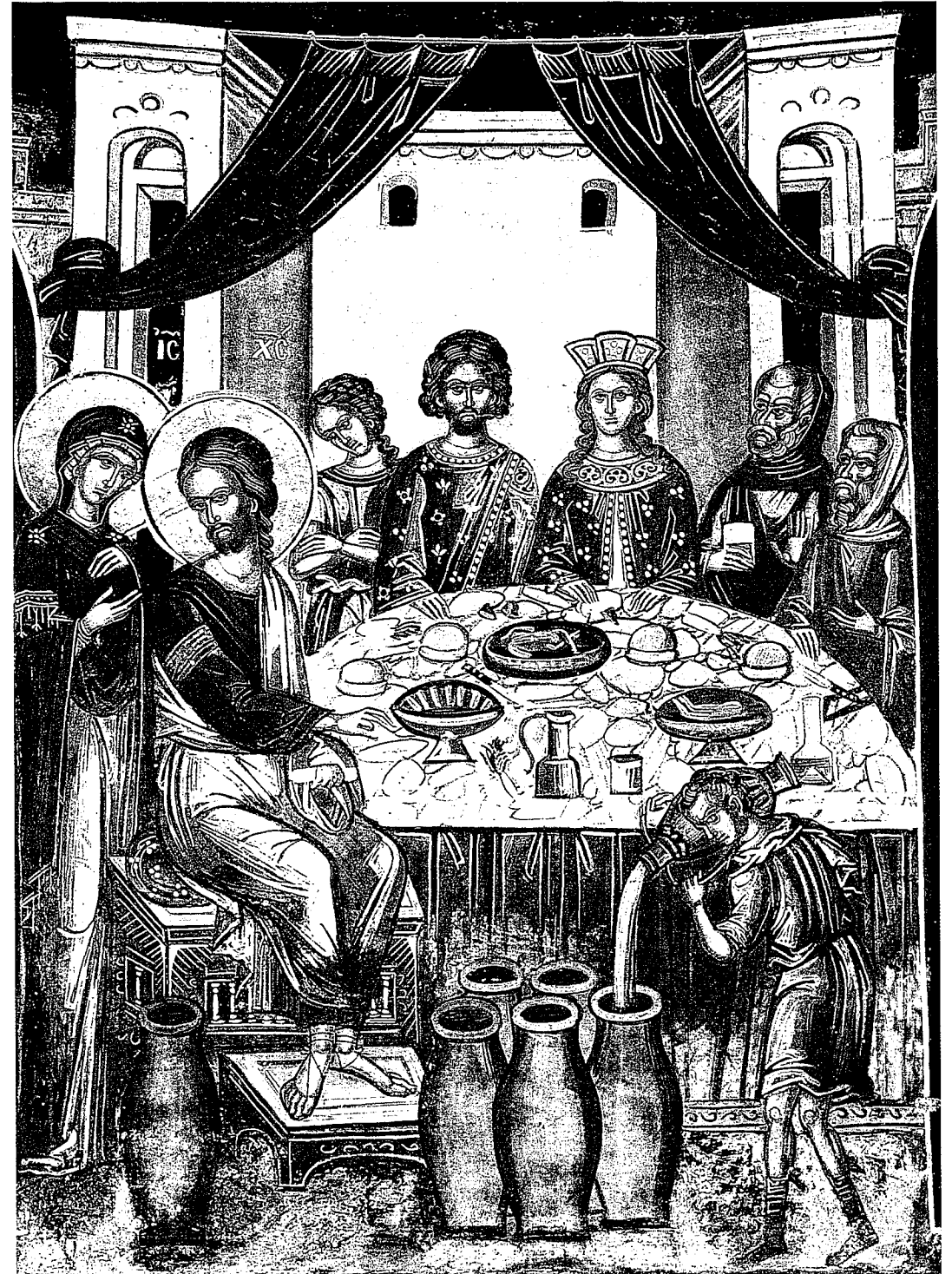
A comment made by the Virgin Mary to the servants at the wedding also merits some attention. As the servants were waiting for further instructions concerning the wine, the Theotokos tells them: "Whatever He says to you, do it!" These words are for our ears as well, for the key to a happy Orthodox Christian life is to be blindly obedient to our Lord!

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

### EPISTLE

### GALATIANS 4:22-27

BRETHREN, Abraham had two sons, one by a slave and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, the son of the free woman through promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and shout, you who are not in travail; for the children of the desolate one are many more than the children of her that is married."



# STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CATHEDRAL

Mission: To lead people to God through Orthodox Christianity and to provide ways for them to live and share God's love.

## 9<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY of MATTHEW STS. ANNA and OLYMPIAS

APOLYTIKION	Tone 8, Page 126 (hymnal)
KONTAKION	Page 224 (hymnal)
EPISTLE	Galatians 4:22-27
GOSPEL	Matthew 14:22-34 Page 78 Greek Text, Page 110
AFTER COMMUNION	Page 86 (hymnal)
ACOLYTES	Groups A & B
PROSFORA	Dorothea Christ
LIBRARY GREETER	Fay Miller
GREETER	Katy, Nicole & Athena Cramer
COFFEE HOST	No coffee host today, coffee only will be served
40-DAY BLESSING	Anna Gabriela, daughter of Michael and Kennia Papadakis



### SACRAMENT

Everyone is welcome in the Orthodox Church and may receive the blessed bread (antidoron) at the end of the service; but only practicing Orthodox Christians may receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

### CHURCH BEHAVIOR

Please be courteous to those participating in our Liturgy by turning off your cell phones. Parents, please pick up any food items dropped by your child. We encourage the use of the "Cry Rooms" or downstairs nursery whenever circumstances warrant.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

JULY 25, 2010

### SCHEDULE for the WEEK

#### Monday, July 26

9:30am	Festival Baking
6:30pm	Jr. Dance Practice
6:30pm	Sr. Dance Practice
7:30pm	Gamblers Anonymous

#### Tuesday, July 27

9:30am	Liturgy (St. Panteleimon)
6:30pm	OPA Dance

#### Wednesday, July 28

9:30am	Liturgy (St. Irene Chrysovalantou)
6:30pm	Jr. Dance Practice
6:30pm	Sr. Dance Practice

#### Sunday, August 1

9:30am	Liturgy, 40-Day Memorial (Anthe Capitan)
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### STEWARDSHIP 2010

Goal:	\$355,000
Pledges Received:	234
Pledged Amount:	\$237,630
Pledged Amount Received:	\$149,856.92
Non-pledged Cash Received:	\$37,590
Total Collected:	\$187,446.92

~ We thank you for your generous support ~

### ORTHODOX EDUCATION

We are looking for new staff members for our Orthodox Education program that begins in the fall.

If interested, please contact Caryn Cherpas at [orthodox\\_education@stsconstantine.com](mailto:orthodox_education@stsconstantine.com) or call 216-932-330, then press 5.

MATINS 8:15 AM

### FESTIVAL MEETING

Just a short note. . .we are planning a Festival Meeting for either the first or second Wednesday of August. Exact date and details will follow, but for now we are encouraging as many people to plan on attending. Volunteers are needed in all phases of the event.

### BAKERS AND GREETERS

We are in need of two Prosfora bakers and two Greeters. We can work the schedule to fit your timeframe. Please call the church office at 216-932-330.

### SYMPATHY

Our sincere sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of Emily Scocos and Helen Vrettas on the passing their sister, Diane Michaels earlier this month and to Persephone Vamvilis on the passing of her husband, Christ, last week.

May their memory be eternal.



### FLEA MARKET

Our Festival Flea Market is accepting: toys, bedding, gardening items, tools, small appliances, rugs, lamps, pots and pans, electrical items etc.

We do **NOT ACCEPT CLOTHING, SHOES OR FURNITURE**, as space and resources limits our ability to handle these items.

Tax letters regarding your donations are located in the lobby on the glass case.

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 AM

### COFFEE HOSTS NEEDED

2010 Coffee Hosts Are Needed.



The following dates are available to volunteer hosting coffee hour: August 8, 29, September 12, 19 and 26.

Contact Lynn Fikaris at 440-449-6651 or email her at: [lfikaris@yahoo.com](mailto:lfikaris@yahoo.com) reserve your date.

### FESTIVAL BAKING

If you have some extra time, come in and help us with baking. Bring your friends, neighbors and family...help is always needed and greatly appreciated.

#### JULY CALENDAR

Mon July 26 Pasta Flora & Finikia

#### AUGUST CALENDAR

Mon Aug 2 Koulourakia

Mon Aug 9 Kourembiethes & Finikia

Fri Aug 13 Prepare syrup for Baklava

Mon Aug 16 Baklava

**FESTIVAL DATES AUGUST 19 - 22**

### LIBRARY NEWS

We can satisfy all your family reading needs. Stop in. . .the Library is open each Sunday after Liturgy and weekdays from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

### CREDIT CARD SUNDAY

Next Sunday, **August 1, is CREDIT CARD SUNDAY**. Payments for Stewardship or Capital Campaign can be made privately in the church office after Liturgy.