

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 2015
SUNDAY BEFORE HOLY CROSS

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Tone

Angelic powers were above Your tomb, and they that guarded You became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Your immaculate Body. You have despoiled Hades and were not tried thereby. You did meet the Virgin and did grant us life. O You Who did arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for Forefeast of the Exaltation in the Second Tone

We offer You in mediation the life-giving Cross which, of Your goodness, You have given unto us, the unworthy, O Lord. Save Your hierarchs and Your flock, and grant You peace through the Theotokos, O only friend of man.

Apolytikion for the Consecration of the Church in the Fourth Tone

You have shown the earthly beauty of the holy tabernacle of Your glory to be like unto the splendour of the heavenly firmament, O Lord. Strengthen it for ever and ever, and accept our prayers which we unceasingly offer therein unto Thee, through the Theotokos, O You Who are the Life and Resurrection of all.

Hymn of the Annunciation in the First Tone

Today is the beginning of our salvation and the revelation of the mystery before the Ages. The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel proclaims the great grace. Therefore, with him let us cry out unto the Theotokos, "Hail, Rejoice, O highly favored one; the Lord is with you."

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις· ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Tone

The Church is shown to be a many-lighted heaven that does shine a guiding light upon all them that do believe; wherein while standing we cry aloud: Do You Yourself now establish this house, O Lord.

FASTING THIS WEEK

Monday, Wednesday and Friday we observe a strict fast and abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil. The rest of the week is fast free.



**ANNUNCIATION GREEK
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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

We welcome you to the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church and are blessed that you have come to our worship service. We hope that this worship experience is both enlightening and inspirational. Each Sunday is the day in which we commemorate the Resurrection of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. The Christian Orthodox Church is the Church of the Resurrection and we rejoice in the Lord's triumph over death.

If you are a visitor to our Parish we encourage you to follow the Divine Liturgy book to assist you in following the Liturgy. Please understand that the Christian Orthodox Church does not practice inter-communion with other Christian denominations. Though we may share a common belief in the Holy Trinity, our churches are not yet one in faith and practice. We believe that Holy Communion is not the means to Christian unity but it is in fact the fullest expression of that unity. We fervently pray for this unity as noted in every divine service of the Orthodox Church. Please do not approach for Holy Communion if you are not a baptized/chrismated Orthodox Christian. Feel free to contact Father Simon if you desire to learn more about the Christian Orthodox Church, the Church of the New Testament.

We would like to remind all Orthodox Christians to be spiritually prepared and in proper canonical standing with the Church in order to partake of the Holy Eucharist.

THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

On this the 13th day of the month of September, we commemorate the Sunday before Holy Cross, the Consecrations of the Church of the Holy Resurrection, Cornelious the Centurion & Martyr, Aristides the Philosopher and Hierotheos the Righteous of Iverson Monastery, Mount Athos.

By their holy intercessions, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

EPISTLE READING - GALATIANS 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. ¹⁴ But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which^{la} the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷ Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hunger Action Month Memphis Food Bank - Bring non-perishable food items to fellowship hall any time in September. Food will be delivered to the Highland Heights Food Bank.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sunday September 20th

- ◆ **Auxiliary Fair** after Liturgy
- ◆ **More than a Meal** 3:00 - 5:00pm
- ◆ **Community Picnic & Softball**

Game sponsored by AHEPA & DOP 4:00pm at Houston High School Park

Monday September 21st

- ◆ **Parish Council Meeting** 6:15pm

Saturday September 26th

- ◆ **Prosfora Bread Workshop** 9:00am

Sunday September 27th

- ◆ **Elpis Annual Membership Luncheon** 12noon at Chickasaw Country Club

GOSPEL READING - JOHN 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 13

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **40 day Memorial - Evangeline Vafinis**
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30 am - 12 noon
- ◆ **Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **Grandparent Luncheon (Honoring Seniors 90+)** 12 noon
- ◆ **Pneumonia Shots/Shingles Shots/Flu Shots** available today - *Please bring Medicare or Insurance cards.*

Monday September 14

The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross

- ◆ **Othros/Divine Liturgy** 9:00 am
- ◆ **Studies in the Faith Class** 6:00 pm

Thursday September 17

- ◆ **Young at Heart Luncheon** 11:30 am
- ◆ **Girl Scouts** 3:30 pm

Saturday September 19

- ◆ **Wedding** 5:00 pm
- ◆ **Wedding Reception** 6:00 pm

Sunday September 20

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30 am - 12 noon
- ◆ **Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by Cathe Skefos
- ◆ **GOYA Meeting** 12 noon
- ◆ **Auxiliary Fair** 12 noon
- ◆ **More than a Meal** 3:00 pm
- ◆ **Community Picnic & Softball Game** sponsored by AHEPA & DOP 4:00 pm

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Cathe Skefos

Prosforo: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 5: Bill Joyner & Naji Nassif

Greeters: Anastasia Terranova & Phani Mitchell

The Coffee Hour sign up still has several openings, including but not limited to the following:

September 27 October 18 November 1 November 15

Please consider serving your parish in this way. We are also looking for a coffee hour coordinator. Please contact Father Simon if interested.