

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2015**

**SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS**

**Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Tone**

You did abolish death by Your Cross; You did open Paradise to the thief; You did transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and did bid Your Apostles to preach that You are risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

**Apolytikion for the Holy Cross in the First Tone**

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance; grant You unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Your Cross do You preserve Your commonwealth.

**Apolytikion for Martyr Eustathius & His Companions in the Fourth Tone**

Your Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for You received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from You, our immortal God. For since they possessed Your strength, they cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since You are merciful.

**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."

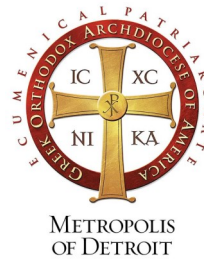
Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις· ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαίρει κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

**Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Tone**

Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

**FASTING THIS WEEK**

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



**ANNUNCIATION GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 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 20th day of the month of September, we commemorate the Sunday after Holy Cross, Eustathius the Great Martyr, his wife and two children, Our Righteous Father Eustathius, Archbishop of Thessalonica and Hilarion the New Martyr of Crete.

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

## EPISTLE READING - GALATIANS 2:16-20

<sup>16</sup>Brethren, you know that a man is not justified<sup>[a]</sup> by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. <sup>17</sup>But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup>But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. <sup>19</sup>For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup>I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

### 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 - A great opportunity to see the many organizations and activities our church offers. Find out what you are passionate about and get involved!

◆ **More than a Meal** 3:00 - 5:00pm

◆ **Annual 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

### THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

**Epistle Reader:** Ted Poplos

**Prosfora:** Enosis Touliatos

**Usher Duty Team 5:** Maria Moore & Peter Melonas

**Greeters:** Pete & Jan Futris

**Coffee Hour:** Hosted by Harry & Cathe Skefos to Honor of Her Mother, Maria Hetos, on her 96th Birthday.

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

**September 27**

**November 1**

**November 15**

**November 29**

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

## GOSPEL READING - MARK 8:34-38; 9:1

<sup>34</sup>The Lord said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? <sup>37</sup>For what can a man give in return for his life? <sup>38</sup>For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." <sup>1</sup>And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

#### **Sunday September 20**

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30 am - 12 noon
- ◆ **Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by Harry & Cathe Skefos to honor her mother, Dr. Maria Hetos on the occasion of her 96th Birthday
- ◆ **GOYA Meeting** 12 noon in the GOYA Room
- ◆ **Auxiliary Fair** 12 noon in Cotros hall
- ◆ **More than a Meal** 3:00 pm
- ◆ **Annual Community Picnic & Softball Game** sponsored by AHEPA & DOP 4:00 pm at Houston High School Park.

#### **Monday September 21**

- ◆ **Parish Council Meeting** 6:15 in the Library

#### **Saturday September 26**

- ◆ **Prosfora Workshop** with Enosis Touliatos 9:00 am in the kitchen

#### **Sunday September 27**

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30am - 12 noon
- ◆ **Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** - TBD
- ◆ **Elpis Annual Membership Luncheon** 12 noon at Chickasaw Country Club