

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015
11th Sunday of Luke

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Tone

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord has wrought might with His arm, He has trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead has He become. From the belly of Hades has He delivered us, and has granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for the Holy Forefathers in the Second Tone

By faith did You justify the Forefathers, when through them You did betroth Yourself aforetime to the Church from among the nations. The Saints boast in glory that from their seed there is a glorious fruit, even she that bore You seedlessly. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

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."

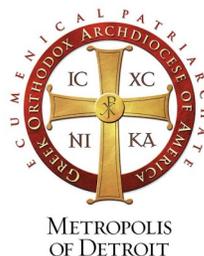
Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις· ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Third Tone

On this day the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

FASTING THIS WEEK

Today, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Wine & Oil are allowed. Monday, Wednesday and Friday we observe a strict fast.



**ANNUNCIATION GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest
Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 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 December, we commemorate Herman the Wonderworker of Alaska & First Saint of America, the Holy Martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene, Mardarius and Orestes of Greater Armenia, Lucia the Virgin-Martyr and Gabriel the Hieromartyr, Archbishop of Serbia.

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

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 13

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **1 Year Memorial** for Jerry Stamson
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30 am - 12 Noon
- ◆ **Sunday School Christmas Pageant** immediately following Divine Liturgy
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by Stephanie and Billy Johnson in Memory of her **brother, Jerry Welsh**
- ◆ **DOP Christmas Bake Sale** 12:00 Noon in Cotros Hall
- ◆ **Athenian Dance Troupe Practice** - (Juniors 12:30 pm) (Seniors 1:30 pm)

Monday, December 14

- ◆ **Greek School** 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Studies in the Faith Class** 6:00 pm in Cotros Hall

Tuesday, December 15

- ◆ **Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon** 11:30 am at Chickasaw Country Club

Wednesday, December 16

- ◆ **Greek School** 2:00 pm
- ◆ **Parish Council Christmas Party & Meeting** 6:00 pm at Ciao Bella

Friday, December 18

- ◆ **Greek School** 4:00 pm

Saturday, December 19

- ◆ **JOY Event ZOO LIGHTS** 6:00 pm at the Zoo Entrance

Sunday, December 20

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **40 Day Blessing** for Vito & Sophia, Son & Daughter of Conan & Brianna Kay Castellucci
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30 am - 12 Noon
- ◆ **Sunday School OUT until January 10th**
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by Kellye, Luke & Summer Farris & the Melonas Family in Honor of Phil's IRONMAN Triathlon Completion
- ◆ **GOYA Meeting** 12:00 Noon in the GOYA Room

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Andrew Douglas

Prosfora: Enosis Toulaiatos

Usher Duty Team 6: Maria Moore & Peter Melonas

Greeters: Sarkis & Jenny Kish

Coffee Hour hosted by Stephanie and Billy Johnson in Memory of her brother, Jerry Welsh

EPISTLE READING - COLOSSIANS 3:4-11

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scyth'ian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

GOSPEL READING - LUKE 14:16-24

The Lord said this parable, "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'" For many are called but few are chosen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Christmas Eve Reception** immediately following Divine Liturgy
- ◆ **Christmas Morning Orthros/Divine Liturgy** 9:00 am
- ◆ **GOYA Trip to Nashville** for Predators Game December 28
- ◆ **Orthros/Divine Liturgy** New Year's Eve 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon** Tuesday, December 15 11:30am at Chickasaw Country Club
- ◆ **JOY Event - Zoo Lights** Saturday, December 19th. Meet at Zoo at 6:00 pm. See Presvytera Stephanie for details.
- ◆ **Royal Hours/Vespers/Liturgy** Christmas Eve 5:00 pm.