

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016

Palm Sunday

Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the First Tone

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, You did raise up Lazarus from the dead before Your Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to You, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.

Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the Fourth Tone

As by baptism we were buried with You, O Christ our God, so by Your Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising You, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Second Tone

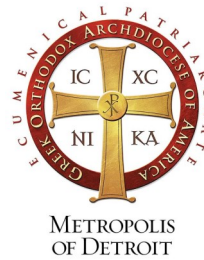
In Heaven, He is seated upon a Throne and on earth He rides upon a foal. O Christ our God, accept the praise of the Angels and the hymn of the Children who cry out to You, "Blessed are You who comes to recall Adam."

Holy Friday Excuse Notes

Please contact the office or Father Simon if you need an excuse note for Holy Friday.

FASTING THIS WEEK

Today fish is allowed.
The rest of the week 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, APRIL 24, 2016

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 24th day of the month of April, we commemorate Palm Sunday, Elizabeth the Wonderworker and Savvas the General of Rome.

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

EPISTLE READING - PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9

Prokeimenon. Fourth Tone. Psalm 117.26,1.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

His mercy endures forever.

BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

In Support

In support of our custodian, Chris Kinsey, during this difficult time for him and his family, we will have an offering tray in the Narthex today as you are dismissed from the Liturgy.

Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, palm branches are blessed in the church. We take them in order to raise them up and greet the King and Ruler of our life: Jesus Christ. We take them in order to reaffirm our baptismal pledges. As the One who raised Lazarus and entered Jerusalem to go to His voluntary Passion stands in our midst, we are faced with the same question addressed to us at baptism: "Do you accept Christ?" We give our answer by daring to take the branch and raising it up: "I accept Him as King and God!"

GOSPEL READING - JOHN 12:1-18

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Patricia Grantham

Prosfora: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 4: Vasili Semos & Harry Sinis

Greeters: Nick Fox & Nicole Fox

Palm Sunday Luncheon hosted by ELPIS Philoptochos.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 24 PALM SUNDAY

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **40 Day Blessing** for Sophia Mitchell, Daughter of Chrisian & Kristin Mitchell
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Last Day of Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **Palm Sunday Luncheon** hosted by Elpis 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Daughters of Penelope Bake Sale** 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm**

Monday, April 25 Holy Monday

- ◆ **Greek School** 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm**
- ◆ **Fr. Vieon's Adult Greek Class** 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 26 Holy Tuesday

- ◆ **Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm**

Wednesday, April 27 Holy Wednesday

- ◆ **Pre-Sanctified Liturgy** 9:00 am
- ◆ **Holy Unction** 3:30 pm
- ◆ **Holy Unction** 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 28 Holy Thursday

- ◆ **Divine Liturgy of St. Basil - Mystical Supper** 9:00 am
- ◆ **Girl Scouts** 3:30 pm
- ◆ **Service of the Passion of Christ** 6:30 pm

Friday, April 29 Holy Friday

- ◆ **Decorating the Tomb of Christ** 7:00 am - 3:00 pm
- ◆ **Royal Hours** 9:00 am
- ◆ **Apokathylosis Service - Removing Christ from the Cross** 3:30 pm
- ◆ **Lamentations Service** 6:30 pm

Saturday, April 30 Holy Saturday

- ◆ **Divine Liturgy of St. Basil - Vigil of the Resurrection** 9:00 am
- ◆ **Canon of the Resurrection** 11:00 pm

Sunday, May 1 GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

- ◆ **Resurrection Service** 12:00 am (Midnight)
- ◆ **Resurrection Meal** 2:00 am
- ◆ **Agape Vespers** 11:00 am
- ◆ **AGAPE Picnic & Children's Egg Hunt** 12:00 Noon

HOLY FRIDAY CANDLES FOR SALE

Place your request to receive one of our Holy Friday candles by contacting Joanne Gikas or Joy Touliatos before Holy Week.

Donations accepted. All money received will be placed towards Philoptochos charities.

See Reverse for Announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMPHIS GREEK FESTIVAL

Friday and Saturday May 6-7. 11:30 am - 8:00 pm
Check the Epistle, parish website and Facebook for workshop schedule and updates.

Pre-Festival Ticket Sales

Tickets for our annual Festival (May 6 & 7) are now on sale!

NEW THIS YEAR - All pre-festival tickets must be paid in advance and are non-refundable. Price of \$15 per ticket includes cost of admission, meal and a salad.

You may purchase your tickets from Tina Douglas or Rebecca Nassif on Sundays in Cotros Hall or from Erin in the church office during the week.

Festival Items, Posters & Post Cards

Our Festival short sleeve T Shirts and Hats as well as the NEW Long Sleeve T Shirts are now on sale at special CHURCH Family rates! Please see Anna Paris on **Sunday after church in Cotros Hall** if you would like to purchase any of these items.

Postcards and Posters are also available on the same table. Please feel free to take as many as you can distribute.

Nursery Available

Nursery will be available for the children of our festival volunteers. Please contact Melissa Berretta to reserve your space.

ST NICHOLAS SUMMER CAMP

Registration OPEN NOW for Summer Camp! Please visit:

<http://www.stnicholascamp.org/camper-info/>

CAMP DATES: JULY 24-30, 2016

AGES: For children 8 years old (or entering 3rd grade in Fall 2016) – 18 years old (or will be graduating High School in Spring 2016).

PRICE

\$375 Early Bird Registration (UNTIL MAY 31ST)

\$425 Normal Registration (JUNE 1ST - JULY 24TH)

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship Applications are available on the Parish website at goann.net. Please CHECK REGULARLY, so students do not miss out on opportunities.

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduates will be honored on **Sunday, May 15th** following the Divine Liturgy. ALL High School and College Graduates are encouraged to please participate in our ceremony. Whether you can attend or not, we would love to include information on your achievements. Also, we'd love to have a photo of your graduate along with their information. Please see the format below for submitting.

FULL Name of Graduate:

Full Name(s) of Parent(s):

School Graduating from:

Any Honors, Awards, Achievements:

School will be Attending/Future endeavors:

*Or for College Graduates:

Will be working/future endeavors:

* Please let us know if you will or will not be attending the **May 15th** ceremony. Any questions, please contact Kathy Zambelis at 359-1055.

Deadline

Send all information to Erin in the church office at: annunciationmemphis@gmail.com **no later than Sunday, May 8**, so it can be published on the **GRADUATES BOOKLET!** If it is not received on time, the information will only be read on Graduation Sunday, but not posted.

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Church School Tentative Dates: Monday-Friday. June 6-10, 8:45 am - 1:00 pm