

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

SUNDAY BEFORE HOLY CROSS

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 Nativity of the Theotokos in the Fourth Tone

Your Nativity, O Theotokos, has proclaimed joy to the whole world; for from you has dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

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

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

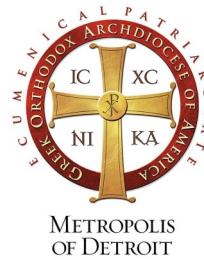
Epistle Reader: Endy Carter

Prosfora: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 4: Vasili Semos, Harry Sinis

Greeters: Pete & Jan Futris

Auxiliary Fair in Cotros Hall following Divine Liturgy



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

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 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 11th day of the month of September, we commemorate the Sunday before Holy Cross, Theodora of Alexandria, Euphrosynos the Cook, Demetrios & Evanthea the Martyrs & their son Demetrianos, Sergius and Herman of Valaam, Finland, the Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos and Deinol the First Bishop of Bangor.

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

Epistle Reading - Galatians 6:11-18

Prokeimenon. Plagal Second Tone. Psalm 27.9,1.

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

BRETHREN, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. 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. 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. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

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 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."

VISITATION COMMITTEE

The following parishioners have requested visitation. Please contact them directly to schedule visitations. For address &/or contact information please check your parish directory or contact the office.

Alec Collis

Pat Bacopulos Cooper - contact Marianthe Pilcher for visiting arrangements

George Limberakis

Ed Morrison

Edna Nichopoulos

Zoe Nickas

Sophie Theodore

Presvytera Bess Vieron

Visitation Committee Volunteers for 2016-2017

August: Stephanie Poplos & friend

September: Susanna Peters, Maria Apalodimas & Cathe Skefos

October: Sophie Theodore & Kristine Wagner

November: Connie Cotros, Loretta Taras & Tasia Vergos

December: Anastasia Terranova & Athena Jameson

January: Nancy Tashie & Jan Futris

February: Vicki Hoover & family

March: Linda Nichols & family

April: Cary Chiungos & Mary Katherine Taras

May: Demie Bitinis, Tricia Grantham & Emily Love

June: Despina Karas/Angela Tobias

July: *OPEN FOR VOLUNTEERS*

Please contact Kristine Wagner if you would like to volunteer to be on the visitation committee.

FASTING THIS WEEK

This week we observe a strict fast on Wednesday and Friday.

The rest of the week we are fast free.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 11, Sunday Before Holy Cross

- ◆ Orthros/8:45 am; Divine Liturgy immediately following
- ◆ 40 Day Memorial for Inga Boosalis
- ◆ Memorials for Jim Boosalis & John Boosalis
- ◆ Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ Sunday School 11:00 am
- ◆ Auxiliary Fair - All Church Organizations 12:00 Noon
- ◆ Athenian Dance Troupe Practice - Seniors 12:00 Noon

Tuesday, September 13

- ◆ OCF 6:00 pm
- ◆ Bible Study 6:30 pm

Wednesday, September 14 the Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross

- ◆ Orthros.Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Thursday, September 15

- ◆ Young At Heart Luncheon 11:30 am
- ◆ Girl Scouts 4:15 pm

Sunday, September 18, Sunday after Holy Cross

- ◆ Orthros/8:45 am; Divine Liturgy immediately following
- ◆ Nursery Available 9:30 - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ Sunday School 11:00 am
- ◆ Coffee Hour - Open
- ◆ GOYA Kick-Off 12:00 Noon
- ◆ More Than a Meal - Serving Team 3:00 pm
- ◆ Community Picnic & Softball Game at Houston High School (Hosted by Annunciation Men's Group and Daughters of Penelope) 4:00 pm

Monday, September 19

- ◆ Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ 2016 Annunciation Auxiliary Fair

The Fair is Coming! Step Right Up...and be part of our family in Christ!

The Annunciation Auxiliary Fair is today following the Divine Liturgy. There will be food, fun, fellowship and a chance to learn more about all the great organization of Annunciation! All organizations of Annunciation will be represented, giving each of us an opportunity to think about where God is calling us to be involved in the life of the Church.

Cotros Hall and a small area of the parking lot will be transformed into a carnival where we will have:

- Food trucks
- Bounce house
- Carnival games with prizes
- Face painting and balloon creations
- Selfie photo booth

You can check out the Food Trucks, including their menus and pricing at:

A Square Meal on Wheels (on twitter @asquaremeal1)

Island Grill (on Facebook @memphislandgrill)

Mama D's Italian Ice (on Facebook @mymamads)

For more information, please contact Linda Obradovic (mlobrad@bellsouth.net).

- ◆ **Young at Heart Luncheon** - Thursday September 15 at 11:30 am in Cotros Hall
- ◆ **GOYA Kick-Off Meeting** - Sunday September 18 at 12:00 Noon in the GOYA Room.
- ◆ **Community Picnic & Softball Game hosted by Annunciation Men's Group (AHEPA) & DOP** - Sunday September 18 4:00 pm at Houston High School Park
- ◆ **Daughters of Penelope Sisterhood Tea & Installation of Officers** - Saturday September 24 - Home of Chrysanthe Preza - Please RSVP to Chrysanthe at 901-283-1238. All ladies of the parish are welcome.
- ◆ **Elpis Philoptochos Membership Luncheon** - Sunday September 25 at 12:00 Noon at Chickasaw Country Club
- ◆ **Elpis General Meeting and Card Making with our Youth** for local veterans - Sunday October 3 following Divine Liturgy