

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017
SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESEFARE)

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.

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 ἢ 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 Plagal Second Tone

O Master, Prudence, Guide of Wisdom, Instruction to the foolish and Defender of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it discernment. Give me words, Word of the Father, for behold, I shall not keep my lips from crying out to You, "O Merciful One, have mercy on me who has fallen."

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Gabriella Graves

Prosfora: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 4: Endy Carter & Vasili Semos

Greeters: Anastasia Terranova & Phani Mitchell

Coffee Hour hosted by Scout Families

FASTING THIS WEEK

This week we begin the Fast for Great Lent by abstaining from meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil. Saturday & Sunday wine & oil are allowed.



**ANNUNCIATION GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017

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 26th day of the month of February, we commemorate Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday), Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza, the Holy Great Martyr Photine, the Samaritan Woman, Holy Martyr Theocletus and John Claphas the new Martyr.

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

Epistle Reading - Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4

Prokeimenon. Plagal Fourth Tone. Psalm 75.11,1.
Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

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

Edna Nichopoulos

Zoe Nickas

Kosta Taras - contact Loretta Taras for visiting arrangements

Presvytera Bess Vieron

Visitation Committee Volunteers for 2017

February: Vicki Hoover & family

March: Linda Nichols & Anne Schmitt

April: Cary Chiungos & Mary Katherine Taras

May: Demie Bitinis, Tricia Grantham & Emily Love

June: Despina Karas/Angela Tobias

July: Maria Moore & Diane Kavelaras

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 & Tina Liollo

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

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 26 Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare)

- ◆ **Orthros** 8:45 am
- ◆ **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- ◆ **Nursery available** 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **Scout Sunday**
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by Scout Families
- ◆ **Forgiveness Vespers** 6:00 pm

Monday, February 27 Great Lent Begins (Clean Monday)

- ◆ **Fr. Vieron's Adult Greek Class** 6:30 pm
- ◆ **Great Compline** 6:30 pm

Tuesday, February 28

- ◆ **Bible Study** 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 1

- ◆ **Service of the Ninth Hour** 5:30 pm
- ◆ **Presanctified Liturgy** 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Lenten Lecture & Dinner** with Fr. Alex MacKoul of St. John Orthodox Church 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 2

- ◆ **Girl Scouts** 4:15 pm

Friday, March 3

- ◆ **Salutations to the Virgin Mary** 6:30 pm

Saturday, March 4, Saturday of Souls

- ◆ **Orthros/Divine Liturgy** 9:00 am
- ◆ **Athenian Dance Troupe Practice**
 - ◆ **Juniors** 11:30 am - 12:00 Noon
 - ◆ **Seniors** 12:00 Noon - 2:00 pm

Sunday, March 5 Sunday of Orthodoxy

- ◆ **Orthros** 8:45 am
- ◆ **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- ◆ **Nursery available** 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **NO Sunday School today**
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by the Annunciation Elpis & DOP and the Parishioners of St. John and St. Seraphim

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 5th** We will be celebrating the Sunday of Orthodoxy along with St. John and St. Seraphim. At the conclusion of the liturgy, children from all 3 parished will make a procession with the icons. Have your child bring their favorite icon from home! Afterward we will all gather in Cotros Hall for Coffee Hour. We are requesting all Elpis members to please bring something Lenten for the Coffee Hour table
- ◆ **Memphis Greek Festival Workshops** have begun. Watch the Epistle, weekly bulletins and social media for times and dates.
- ◆ **Scholarship Information** can be found on the Parish Website at <http://goann.net/education/scholarships> and on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Annunciation-Greek-Orthodox-Church-120815681264112/>

Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday is an annual event which recognizes the good work that is done by Scouts in our community. The Scout Law says that “*a Scout is Reverent*” and the Scouts of all ages promise to do their “*Duty to God*”. These values strengthen youth character in their family, community, and faith. That is why this Sunday is set aside to honor God and to remind us that we are all His Creatures and made in His Image or more precisely-to image (reflect) Him to the world.

The following young people in our Parish are Scouts:

Gabriella Graves	Lee Couloubaritsis
Serena Guigley	Nick Douglas
Evie Guigley	Luke Farris
Katherine Schmitt	Max Graves
Kate Shipman	Jack Shipman

Kollyva Makers

If you have an interest in being a Kollyva maker for memorials, please contact us in the parish office.

LITURGICAL DONATIONS

Father Simon is often approached by parishioners wanting to donate Liturgical items. If you would like to donate towards these items, the typical cost of each item is as follows:

Wine - \$25, Oil - \$20, Incense - \$10