

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017

SUNDAY OF THOMAS

*Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death,
and to those in the tombs He has granted life.*

Apolytikion of Great and Holy Pascha in the Plagal First Tone

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Apolytikion for Thomas Sun. in the Grave Tone

Whilst the tomb was sealed, Thou, O Life, didst shine forth from the grave, O Christ God; and whilst the doors were shut, Thou didst come unto Thy disciples, O Resurrection of all, renewing through them an upright Spirit in us according to Thy great mercy.

Apolytikion for Great Martyr George in the Fourth Tone

Liberator of captives, defender of the poor, physician of the sick, and champion of kings, O trophy-bearer, Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Tone

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Paul Vieron

Prosfora: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 4: Endy Carter & Vasili Semos

Greeters: Anastasia Terranova & Athena Jameson

Coffee will be available in Cotros Hall.

FAST FREE WEEK

This week do not fast from meat, dairy, fish, wine or oil in honor of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



*ANNUNCIATION GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH*

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 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 23rd day of the month of April, we commemorate the Sunday of Thomas, and Groerge the Great Martyr and Triumphant.

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

Epistle Reading - Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11

Prokeimenon. Fourth Tone. Psalm 146.5;134.3.

Great is our Lord, and great is his power.

Verse: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

ABOUT THAT TIME, Herod the king laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church.

The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

Gospel Reading - John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them: "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him: "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them: "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe."

Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said: "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to Him: "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

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
Zoe Nickas
Kosta Taras - contact Loretta Taras for visiting arrangements
Presvytera Bess Vieron

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

Visitation Committee Volunteers for 2017

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

February: Vicki Hoover & family

March: Linda Nichols & Anne Schmitt

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 23 Sunday of Thomas Feast of St George the Great Martyr

- ◆ Orthros 8:45 am
- ◆ Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
- ◆ Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ Sunday School 11:00 am
- ◆ Coffee Hour open
- ◆ Daughters of Penelope General Meeting to Elect Officers 12:00 Noon

Monday, April 24

- ◆ Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm
- ◆ Fr. Vieron's Adult Greek Class 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 25

- ◆ Bible Study 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 27

- ◆ Festival Workshop - Kourambiethes 9:00 am
- ◆ Girl Scouts 4:15 pm

Friday, April 28

- ◆ Festival Workshop - Kourambiethes 9:00 am
- ◆ Elpis Philoptochos Scholarships due by 12:00 Noon today

Saturday, April 29

- ◆ Athenian Dance Troupe Practice
 - ◆ Juniors 10:00 am
 - ◆ Seniors 11:00 am

Sunday, April 30

- ◆ Orthros 8:45 am
- ◆ Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
- ◆ Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ Sunday School 11:00 am
- ◆ Coffee Hour hosted by Cyndi Detty in honor of the 2015-2017 Philoptochos Board in recognition of their service to our organization and church
- ◆ Elpis General Meeting (Election of Officers) following Coffee Hour

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **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/>

- ◆ **Announcing a NEW 2017 Church Directory!**

We are taking pictures though May!

1. After church on Sundays during the months of April & May please see Diane Kavelaras and her Directory Team in Cotros Hall to check spelling, update address(es), add/or change listings.
2. Sign up for a time slot for your family to get their picture taken! Don't wait until the last min or we will run out of time slots.
3. We need about 15-20 families to be ready to take pictures each Sunday! If you are interested in a time slot for this Sunday please email Presvytera Stephanie Thomas: s_c_thomas@yahoo.com or call 209-640-1301.
4. If you like your family's picture, you may purchase it and the digital file will be emailed to you.

Thank you, Directory Team

Memphis Greek Festival Workshop Schedule

| <u>Kourambiethes</u> | <u>Pre-Packs</u> | <u>Meat Skewering</u> |
|--|---|--|
| Thursday & Friday, April 27 & 28 9:00 am - 5:00 pm | Sunday May 7 12:00 Noon - 5:00 pm Monday May 8 9:00 am - 5:00 pm | Wednesday, May 10 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm |
| <u>Sweet Bread</u> | <u>Chicken Prep</u> | <u>Galaktoboureko</u> |
| Friday & Saturday, May 5 & 6 9:00 am - 4:30 pm | Wednesday, May 10 9:00 am - 4:00 pm | Thursday, May 11 8:00 am - 5:00 pm |

ANNUNCIATION MEMBERS

Important Festival Notes

To volunteer to help out **during** the Festival please sign up under one of the tabs at <http://bit.ly/2mbMNoA>

Please park at CHICKASAW COUNTRY CLUB or use Shuttles from: St Michael's Church, Life Church or Poplar Plaza Shopping Center. If you are working Saturday evening - wrist bands will be required after closing. Pick up your wrist band at the Welcome Center when you arrive.

FESTIVAL PRE-SALE TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW! Sundays in Cotros Hall and in the office during the week. **Presale price - \$15.00 includes:** Admission to the Festival (\$3) Dinner Meal (\$15) Small Greek Salad (\$3).