

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2015
9TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

From on high did You descent, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days have You submitted that You might free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for Translation of the relics of Stephen in the Fourth Tone

The crown of the Kingdom has adorned the brow of your head because of the contests that you have endured for Christ God, you first of the martyred Saints; for when you had censured the Jews' madness, you saw Christ your Savior standing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray to Him for us, that He would 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."

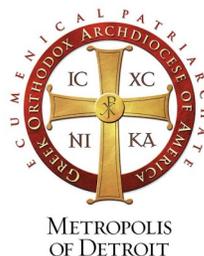
Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις· ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Grave Tone

You were transfigured on the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

DORMITION FAST BEGINS THIS WEEK

Today and Saturday, we abstain from meat, dairy and fish with wine and oil permitted. Monday through Wednesday and Friday we observe a strict fast and abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil. On Thursday, we abstain from meat, dairy with fish, wine and oil permitted.



**ANNUNCIATION GREEK
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Rev. Father Simon Thomas

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 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/chrisdated 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 2nd day of the month of August, the 9th Sunday of Matthew, we commemorate: the Translation of the Relics of Stephen the Protomartyr, the Holy Glorious New Martyr Theodore of Dardanelles and Phocas the Martyr.

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

EPISTLE READING - ACTS 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60

And Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyre'nians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cili'cia and Asia, arose and disputed with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated men, who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, and set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us." And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel. And the high priest said, "Is this so?" And Stephen said:

"Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopota'mia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Depart from your land and from your kindred and go into the land which I will show you.' Then he departed from the land of the Chalde'ans, and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living; yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him in possession and to his posterity after him, though he had no child. But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands; as the prophet says, 'Heaven is my throne, and earth my footstool. What house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?' "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth against him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

GOSPEL READING - MATTHEW 14:22-34

Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennes'aret.

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Ted Poplos

Prosforo: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 5: Bill Joyner & Naji Nassif

Greeters: Anastasia Terranova & Athena Jameson

Coffee Hour: Hosted by the Daughters of Penelope

The Coffee Hour sign up for 3rd quarter still has several openings, including but not limited to the following:

Sunday August 9

September 13

Sunday August 30

September 20

September 6

September 27

Please consider serving your parish in this way. We are also looking for a coffee hour coordinator. Please contact Father Simon if interested.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday August 2

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available 9:30am - 12noon**
- ◆ **Sunday School Registration for New Students** - See Anna Paris in Cotros Hall immediately following Divine Liturgy.

Monday August 3

- ◆ **Paraklesis (Supplication) Service 6:30pm**

Tuesday, August 4

- ◆ **Elpis Board Meeting 6:30pm** in the Library

Wednesday, August 5

- ◆ **Great Vespers 6:30pm**

Thursday, August 6

- ◆ **Feast of the Transfiguration: Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00am**

Friday, August 7

- ◆ **Paraklesis (Supplication) Service 6:30pm**

Sunday, August 9

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available 9:30am - 12noon**
- ◆ **Sunday School Registration for New Students** - See Anna Paris in Cotros Hall immediately following Divine Liturgy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Paraklesis (Supplication) Services** will begin on Monday, August 3rd. Please submit names of living for commemoration to Fr. Simon.
- ◆ **Friends of the Metropolis:** Please give prayerful thought to your donation to Friends of the Metropolis this year. Informational flyers can be found in the Narthex. You can also visit the Friends website at detroit.goarch.org/ministries/friends.

REQUESTING PRAYERS

- ◆ Vangie Vafines Lorrie Tingle

PARISH ACTIVITIES

- ◆ **Memphis Redbirds Time!** - Saturday August 22nd. \$16/tkt - See Nick Fox on Sunday in Cotros Hall to purchase tickets.
- ◆ **ELPIS Summer Picnic** Saturday August 15th - Annual Summer Party at the home of Ted & Stephanie Poplos. See email from Cyndi Detty for more details.
- ◆ **Sunday School Registration** for NEW Students will be held in Cotros Hall today and next Sunday. **Sunday School will begin the Fall Term on August 16 and Father Simon will bless the Students on that Sunday.**