

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2015
SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Tone

When You did descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then did You slay Hades with the lightning of Your Divinity. And when You did also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to You.

Nicholas the Wonderworker in the Fourth Tone

The truth of things has revealed you to your flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause, you have achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty. O Father and Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

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 Third Tone

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

FASTING THIS WEEK

Fish is allowed all week except Wednesday when wine and oil are allowed and on Friday when we observe a strict fast.



ANNUNCIATION GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH

573 North Highland Street, Memphis, TN 38122
Phone: (901) 327-8177 † FAX: (901) 327-4440
www.goann.net † annunciationmemphis@gmail.com
Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest
Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 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/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 6th day of the month of December, we commemorate Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra and Nicholas the New Martyr of Asia Minor.

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

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday December 6

- ◆ Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following
- ◆ 40 Day Memorial for George Laskaris
- ◆ Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12 noon
- ◆ All Sunday School Classes will meet in High School Classroom for Pageant Practice
- ◆ AHEPA Pancake Breakfast 12:00 Noon
- ◆ Election of Parish Council during Breakfast
- ◆ General Assembly immediately following Breakfast
- ◆ GOYA Christmas Caroling meet at Church at 2:30pm
- ◆ Elpis & DOP Christmas Party 3:00 pm at Elaine Otto's Home

Monday December 7

- ◆ Greek School 12:00 Noon

Tuesday December 8

- ◆ Greek School 3:00 pm

Wednesday December 9

- ◆ Greek School 2:00 pm

Thursday December 10

- ◆ Girl Scouts 3:30 pm

Friday December 11

- ◆ DOP cooking for Christmas Bake Sale

Saturday December 12

- ◆ Orthros/Divine Liturgy for St. Spyridon the Wonderworker 9:00 am
- ◆ DOP cooking for Christmas Bake Sale
- ◆ Blessing of the Animals 11:00 am in the Parking Lot
- ◆ Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal 12:00 Noon

Sunday December 13

- ◆ Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following
- ◆ 1 Year Memorial for Jerry Stamson
- ◆ Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12 Noon
- ◆ Sunday Scholl Christmas Pageant immediately following Divine Liturgy
- ◆ Coffee Hour hosted by Stephanie and Billy Johnson in Memory of her brother, Jerry Welsh
- ◆ DOP Christmas Bake Sale 12:00 Noon in Cotros Hall
- ◆ Athenian Dance Troupe Practice - (Juniors 12:30 pm) (Seniors 1:30 pm)

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Scott McKee

Prosfora: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 5: Bill Joyner & Naji Nassif

Greeters: Anastasia Terranova & Athena Jameson

AHEPA Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for St. Nicholas National Shrine at the World Trade Center

EPISTLE READING - HEBREWS 13:17-21

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Verse: What shall I render to the Lord for all that he has given me?

Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL READING - LUKE 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **AHEPA Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for St. Nicholas Shrine** Sunday, December 6 in Cotros Hall
- ◆ **General Assembly to Approve Budget** Sunday, December 6 in Cotros Hall immediately following Divine Liturgy
- ◆ **Election of Parish Council** before General Assembly Sunday, December 6, in Library
- ◆ **GOYA Christmas Caroling** Sunday December 6 - See GOYA advisors for details.
- ◆ **Elpis & DOP Christmas Party** Sunday December 6 3:00 - 5:00 pm at the home of Elaine Otto
- ◆ **Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon** Tuesday, December 15 11:30am at Chickasaw Country Club
- ◆ **JOY Event - Zoo Lights** Saturday, December 19th. Meet at Zoo at 6:00 pm. See Presvytera Stephanie for details.