

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 2016
Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

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.

**Apolytikion for Sun. of St. Gregory Palamas
in the Plagal Fourth Tone**

Light of Orthodoxy, pillar and teacher of the Church, adornment of monastics, invincible champion of theologians, O Gregory you wonderworker, boast of Thessalonica, herald of grace: ever pray 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."

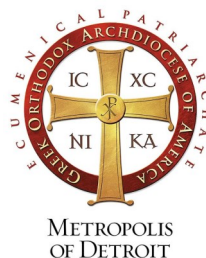
Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις· ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Tone

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

FASTING THIS WEEK

Today and Saturday wine and oil are allowed.
The rest of the week we observe a strict fast.



**ANNUNCIATION GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 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 13th day of the month of March, we commemorate the Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas, the Holy Matrona of Thessalonica and Paul, Bishop of Corinth.

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

EPISTLE READING - HEBREWS 1:10-14; 2:1-3

Prokeimenon. Second Tone. Psalm 117.14,18.

The Lord is my strength and my song.

Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

"IN THE BEGINNING, Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?

Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Scott McKee

Prosfora: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 4: Vasili Semos & Harry Sinis

Greeters: Andrew & Tina Douglas

Greek Independence Day Luncheon hosted by Daughters of Penelope

LENTEN DIALOGUES

Wednesday, March 30

Speaker: Mother Nektaria of St. Paul Skete, Grand Junction, Tennessee
Dinner Hosted by the Daughters of Penelope

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Sunday, April 3rd immediately following Divine Liturgy

MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 2

4:00 pm Sunday Afternoon April 3rd at Malco Paradiso - Tickets available today in Cotros Hall.

GOSPEL READING - MARK 2:1-12

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-he said to the paralytic-"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship Applications are now available on the Parish website at goann.net. The Scholarship page is updated on a regular basis as we find more information for available scholarships. Please CHECK REGULARLY, so students do not miss out on opportunities.

UPCOMING FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

Sweet Bread 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday & Saturday, April 1 & 2

SAVE THE DATE:

Memphis Greek Festival Friday and Saturday May 6-7. Check the Epistle, parish website and Facebook for Workshop schedule and updates.

PRE-FESTIVAL TICKET SALES

Tickets for our annual Festival (May 6 & 7) are now on sale!

NEW THIS YEAR - All pre-festival tickets must be paid in advance. Price is \$15 per ticket.

In order to get a faster, more accurate accounting of our festival profits this year, tickets will NOT be given out on consignment. You may purchase your tickets from Tina Douglas or Rebecca Nassif on Sundays in Cotros Hall or from Erin in the church office during the week. Purchase tickets for the amount you need. All tickets are non refundable. Remember that the Pre-Festival ticket purchases make wonderful gifts and are a great value, as they include the cost of admission as well as a salad with the dinner meal.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 27 Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **Sunday School 11:00 am**
- ◆ **Greek Independence Day Luncheon** hosted by Daughters of Penelope 12:00 Noon

Monday, March 28

- ◆ **Greek School 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **Studies in the Faith 6:00 pm**
- ◆ **Fr. Vieron's Adult Greek Class 6:30 pm**

Tuesday, March 29

- ◆ **Greek School 4:00 pm**

Wednesday, March 30

- ◆ **Greek School 2:00 pm**
- ◆ **Ninth Hour 5:30 pm; Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:00 pm**
- ◆ **Lenten Lecture Speaker: Mother Nektaria of St. Paul Skete in Grand Junction, Tennessee 7:00 pm**
- ◆ **Dinner** hosted by the Daughters of Penelope

Thursday, March 31

- ◆ **Girl Scouts 3:30 pm**

Friday, April 1

- ◆ **Sweet Bread Workshop 9:00 am**
- ◆ **Greek School 4:00 pm**
- ◆ **Third Salutation to the Virgin Mary 6:00 am**

Saturday, April 2

- ◆ **Sweet Bread Workshop 9:00 am**

Sunday, April 3

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **Sunday School 11:00 am**
- ◆ **Parish General Assembly and Renovation Loan Note Burning 11:30 am**
- ◆ **GOYA Meeting 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **Special Presentation of My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 at Malco Paradiso 4:00 pm**