

*SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017*  
*SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS*

**Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Tone**

You did abolish death by Your Cross; You did open Paradise to the thief; You did transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and did bid Your Apostles to preach that You are risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

**Apolytikion of St. John Climacus in the Fourth Tone**

With the rivers of your tears, you have made the barren desert fertile. Through sighs of sorrow from deep within you, your labors have borne fruit a hundred-fold. By your miracles you have become a light, shining upon the world. O John, our Holy Father, pray to Christ our God, to 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 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 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!"

*THIS WEEK'S SERVERS*

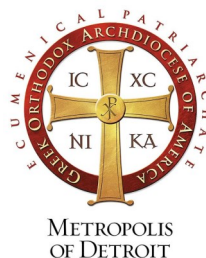
**Epistle Reader:** Maria Moore

**Prosfora:** Enosis Touliatos

**Usher Duty Team 4:** Endy Carter & Vasili Semos

**Greeters:** Pete & Jan Futris

**Coffee** will be available in Cotros Hall after Divine Liturgy



*ANNUNCIATION GREEK*  
*ORTHODOX CHURCH*

573 North Highland Street, Memphis, TN 38122

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

**SUNDAY, MARCH 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 March, we commemorate the Sunday of Saint John Climacus, Irenaeus the Hieromartyr of Hungary, 26 Martyrs in Crimea and the Synaxis in honor of the Archangel Gabriel.

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

## Epistle Reading -Hebrews 6:13-20

**Prokeimenon. Grave Tone. Psalm 28.11,1.**

The Lord will give strength to his people.

Verse: Bring to the Lord, O sons of God,  
bring to the Lord honor and glory.

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

## Gospel Reading - Mark 9:17-31

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

## 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

**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

**February:** Vicki Hoover & family

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

## 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

## FASTING THIS WEEK

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

### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

#### **Sunday, March 26 Sunday of Saint John of the Ladder**

- ◆ **Orthros** 8:45 am
- ◆ **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- ◆ **Nursery available** 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **DOP General Meeting** in Library immediately following Divine Liturgy
- ◆ **Coffee** will be available in Cotros Hall after Liturgy

#### **Monday, March 27**

- ◆ **OCF - Ole Miss** 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Fr. Vieron's Adult Greek Class** 6:30 pm

#### **Tuesday, March 28**

- ◆ **Bible Study** 6:30 pm

#### **Wednesday, March 29**

- ◆ **Service of the Ninth Hour** 5:30 pm
- ◆ **Presanctified Liturgy** 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Lenten Lecture & Dinner** 7:00 pm
  - ◆ **Speaker:** Elizabeth Hawkins, Chaplain at LeBonheur Children's Hospital
  - ◆ **Dinner** hosted by Elpis Philoptochos

#### **Thursday, March 30**

- ◆ **Girl Scouts** 4:15 pm

#### **Friday, March 31**

- ◆ **Festival Workshop- Spanakopita Prep Day** 9:00 am
- ◆ **Akathyst Hymn** 6:30 pm

#### **Saturday, April 1**

- ◆ **Festival Workshop - Spanakopita** - 9:00 am

#### **Sunday, April 2 Sundy of Saint Mary of Egypt**

- ◆ **Orthros** 8:45 am
- ◆ **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- ◆ **1 Year Memorial for Evangeline Semos**
- ◆ **40 Day Memorial for Robert "Bob" Allphin**
- ◆ **Nursery Available** 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Sunday School** 11:00 am
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by the Semos Family for the 1 year memorial of Evangeline Semos 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **GOYA Meeting** 12:00 Noon

### 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/>
- ◆ **GOYA Lenten Retreat/Lock In** - Friday, April 7 5:00 pm
- ◆ **Saturday of Lazarus, April 8**
  - ◆ **Orthos/Divine Liturgy 9:00 am**  
followed by:
    - ◆ **Pancake Breakfast**
    - ◆ **Palm Cross Making**
    - ◆ **Parish Work Day**
    - ◆ **Athenian Dance Troupe Practice - Seniors** 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Palm Sunday Luncheon and DOP Bake Sale, Sunday, April 9** in Cotros Hall immediately following Divine Liturgy
- ◆ **St. Nicholas Summer Camp** is moving to a new location, Loucon Training and Retreat Center in Leitchfield, KY this summer. Camp Dates are July 23-29, 2017 and registration is now open. Using our CampDoc online registration system, we are accepting Camper Registrations now and we will be accepting Staff Applications very soon. For this year, camper registration fees will remain the same as last year. Financial assistance will be available through the generosity of Leadership 100 and the Friends of the Metropolis. Visit the camp website at <http://www.stnicholascamp.org/> for more details.

### Memphis Greek Festival Workshop Schedule

#### Macaroons

Thursday & Friday,  
March 23 & 24  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### Sweet Bread

Friday & Saturday,  
May 5 & 6  
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

#### Chicken Prep

Wednesday, May 10  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

#### Spanakopita

Friday & Saturday,  
March 31 & April 1  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### Pre-Packs

Sunday May 7  
12:00 Noon - 5:00 pm  
Monday May 8  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### Meat Skewering

Wednesday, May 10  
3:00 pm - 8:00 pm

#### Galaktobourekio

Thursday, May 11  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### Kourambietes

Thursday & Friday,  
April 27 & 28  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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



## **Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church**

*Rev. Father Simon Thomas,*

*Parish Priest*

573 N. Highland  
Memphis, TN 38122  
Tel: 901-327-8177

**2017**

### **Lenten Lecture Series and Dinners**

#### **SPEAKERS & HOSTS**

**MARCH 1 - FR. ALEX MACKOUL**

Dinner sponsored by the Thomas Family

**MARCH 8 - REV. FR. ANGELO MAGGOS**

Dinner sponsored by AHEPA

**MARCH 15 - REV. FR. NICHOLAOS KOTSIS**

Dinner sponsored by Daughters of Penelope

**MARCH 22 - HIS EMINENCE, METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS, OF DETROIT**

Dinner sponsored by the Romanian Families

**MARCH 29 - ELIZABETH HAWKINS**

Dinner sponsored by Elpis Philoptochos

**APRIL 5 - REV. FR. STAVROS BALLAS**

Dinner sponsored by the Sinis Family