



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

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

William Kallas, Pastoral Assistant

Sunday, Decem- ber 16, 2018

Eleventh Sunday
of Luke

Holy Bread

Enosis Touliatos

Ushers

Demie Bitinis

Diane Kavelaras

Naji Nassif

Epistle Reader

Sophia Douglas

Sermon

Rev. Father Simon

Thomas

Coffee Fellowship

Daughters of Pe-

nelope Christmas

Bake Sale

Welcome to the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church. We are blessed that you have come to our worship service, and hope that you will be both enlightened and inspired. Every Sunday we celebrate 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 attending an Orthodox Church for the first time, our service may be foreign and perplexing to you. We assure you that everything we do is firmly rooted in the Scriptures. Please feel free to participate to the level that you feel comfortable.

The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist – the Lord's Supper – to be, among other things, the paramount expression of Christian unity. The unfortunate reality of our day is that the various segments of Christendom are not unified with the historic Orthodox Faith. We fervently pray for this unity as noted in every service of the Orthodox Church. *Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a unity with all the dogma and practices of the Orthodox Church, non-Orthodox guests do not receive Holy Communion.* All guests are invited to receive the blessed bread at the end of the service.

First Antiphon

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us!

Verse 1: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name.

Psalm 102:1

Verse 2: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He has done for you.

Psalm 102:2

Verse 3: The Lord in heaven has prepared His throne, and His kingdom rules over all.

Psalm 102:17

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Second Antiphon

Save us, O Son of God, Who arose from the dead. We sing to You: Alleluia

Verse 1: Praise the Lord, O my soul; I will praise the Lord in my life; I will chant unto my God for as long as I have my being.

Psalm 145:1-2

Verse 2: Blessed is He of whom the God of Jacob is his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God.

Psalm 145:5

Verse 3: The Lord shall be King unto eternity; your God, O Zion, from generation to generation.

Psalm 145:10

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Third Antiphon

Apolytikion of the Sunday

Verse: This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. Let the heavens and the earth praise Him.

Psalm 117:24; Psalm 68:34

Resurrectional Apolytikion

Sung before and after the Small Entrance in the Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spoke to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Hymn for Eleventh Sunday of Luke

Sung after the hymn above in the Second Mode

By faith did You justify the Forefathers, when through them You did betroth Yourself aforetime to the Church from among the nations. The Saints boast in glory that from their seed there is a glorious fruit, even she that bore You seedlessly. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

Hymn of the Annunciation

Sung after the hymn above in the Fourth Mode

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

Sung after the hymn above in the Third Mode

On this day the Virgin comes 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.

**Sunday, December 16,
2018**

Haggai the Prophet
St. Modesto, Archbishop
of Jerusalem

**Monday, December 17,
2018**

Daniel & the Three Holy
Youths
St. Dionysios of Zakynthos

**Tuesday, December 18,
2018**

St. Sebastian & his Com-
panions
St. Michael Synkellos the
Confessor

**Wednesday, December
19, 2018**

St. Voniface of Tarsus
St. Gregentius, Bishop of
Ethiopia

**Thursday, December 20,
2018**

The Forefeast of the Nativ-
ity
St. Ignatios the God-
Bearer

**Friday, December 21,
2018**

Forefeast of the Nativity
St. Juliana & 630 Com-
panions

**Saturday, December 22,
2018**

St. Anastasia the Great
Martyr
St. Chrysogonos the Mar-
tyr

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

**Prokeimenon. Mode 4.
Daniel 3.26,27**

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.
Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

**The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:4
-11**

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Sunday, December 16, 2018

Fast Day (Wine and Oil Allowed) | Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.

Monday, December 17, 2018

Fast Day (Wine and Oil Allowed) | Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

Strict Fast | Refrain from meat, fish, oil, wine, dairy, and eggs.

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Strict Fast | Refrain from meat, fish, oil, wine, dairy, and eggs.

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Fast Day (Wine and Oil Allowed) | Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.

Friday, December 21, 2018

Strict Fast | Refrain from meat, fish, oil, wine, dairy, and eggs.

Saturday, December 22, 2018

Fast Day (Wine and Oil Allowed) | Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.

Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

Visitation Committee

December: Anastasia Terranova & Athena Jamison

January: Nancy Tashie, Jan Futris & Tina Liollo

February: Vicki Hoover & Evangelina Panas

March: Elaine Daniels & Maria Wasserman

April: Cary Chiungos & Mary Katherine Taras

May: Demie Bitinis, Tricia Grantham, Emily Capadalis Love, & Georgia Karris

June: Despina Karas & Angela Tobias

July: Maria Moore & Diane Kavelaras

August: Linda Nichols, Anne Schmitt, & Debbie Bookas

September: Susanna Peters & Cathe Skefos

October: Sophie Theodore & Kristine Wagner

November: Loretta Taras & Tasia Vergos

The following members of our parish family have requested visitation. For address and/or contact information please check your parish directory or contact the Church Office.

Alec Collis
Maria Hetos
Stella Nichols

Georgia Smith
Jimmy Smith
Kosta Taras

Please contact Kristine Wagner if you would like to volunteer to be on the 2018-2019 Visitation Committee, a ministry of the Elpis Philoptochos.

Announcements

- ◆ **Christmas Pageant**, Sunday, December 16th, after Services, in Church Nave.
- ◆ **Stewardship Sunday**, December 16th in Cotros Hall after Christmas Pageant
- ◆ **DOP Christmas Bake Sale**, Sunday, December 16th, 12:00 Noon in Cotros Hall
- ◆ **New Year's Eve Party**, Monday, December 31st, 7:00 pm after Divine Liturgy. Space is limited to 150 people so make your Reservations soon. Payment will be required when Reservation is made. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Please see Kathy Zambelis in Cotros Hall on Sundays or call Erin in the Parish Office during the week.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

"STEWARDS OF OUR FAITH:

All Things are Possible to the One Who Believes in Christ" (Mark 9:23)

You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World!

The base from which we serve as the Voice of Christ in a Changing World is the parish. A strong parish provides opportunities for sharing the Good News of Christ, for welcoming those that are searching for a spiritual home, and a base from which we are sent out into the world. The parish also provides a place for worship, community and education in the faith. To be stewards of the Gospel, we need to be stewards of our parish. This requires the vision and inspiration to see the parish, not as it is, but as it could be. We are called to offer ourselves and our treasure to make our local church all that it can be.

Let us prepare for the Nativity of our Lord with prayer and meditation.

Every creature made by you offers you thanksgiving. The angels offer you a hymn, the heavens, a star, the magi, gifts, the shepherds, their wonder, the earth, its cave, the wilderness, a manger, and we offer to you, a Virgin Mother.

Orthodox Christian Vesperal Hymn

As we bring 2018 to a close and due to the 31st falling on a Monday, we ask that you fulfill your 2018 commitment by December 23rd. Also, if you haven't received a 2019 Stewardship commitment form, please reach out to Erin in the office...It is much appreciated by The Annunciation Parish.

It's God's home...It's our home.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, December 16th, Eleventh Sunday of Luke

- † Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am
- † Nursery Available 10:00 am—12:00 Noon
- † NO Sunday School until New Year
- † Christmas Pageant after Liturgy
- † DOP Christmas Bake Sale 12:00 Noon in Cotros Hall
- † GOYA Meeting Y2AM 12:00 Noon in GOYA Room
- † Stewardship Sunday 12:-00 Noon in Cotros Hall

Monday, December 17th, Feast of Saint Dionysios

- † Orthros 9:00 am
- † Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
- † Byzantine Chant Class (Basic Melodies) 5:00 pm in the Library

Tuesday, December 18th

- † Library Open 10:00 am—2:00 pm
- † Parish Council Meeting/Christmas Party 6:15 pm at Jim's Place Grille

Thursday, December 20th

- † Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 23rd, Sunday Before Nativity

- † Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am
- † Nursery Available 10:00 am—12:00 Noon
- † NO Sunday School until New Year
- † Byzantine Chant Class (Liturgical Structure) 12:00 Noon in the Library