

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2016
Sunday of The Holy Cross

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Tone

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord has wrought might with His arm, He has trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead has He become. From the belly of Hades has He delivered us, and has granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Sun. of the Holy Cross in the First Tone

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance; grant You unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Your Cross do You preserve Your commonwealth.

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."

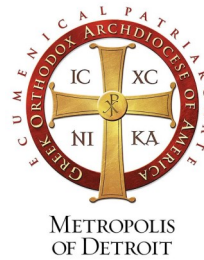
Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις· ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

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**

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, APRIL 3, 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 3rd day of the month of April, we commemorate the Sunday of The Holy Cross, Nikitas the Confessor and Joseph the Hymnographer and Theodosia and Irene the Martyrs.

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

EPISTLE READING - HEBREWS 4:14-15; 5:1-6

Prokeimenon. Plagal Second Tone. Psalm 27.9,1.

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

BRETHREN, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

Epistle Reader: Maria Moore

Prosfora: Enosis Touliatos

Usher Duty Team 1: Maria Moore, Bill Joyner, Pete Ruby

Greeters: Athena Jameson & Anastasia Terranova

Coffee is available in Cotros Hall.

PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

Today in Cotros Hall immediately following Divine Liturgy

MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 2

4:00 pm this afternoon at Malco Paradiso

GOSPEL READING - MARK 8:34-38; 9:1

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

LENTEN DIALOGUES

Wednesday, April 6, 7:00 pm

Speaker: Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers, Assistant Parish Priest at St. John Orthodox Church, Memphis, TN

Dinner Hosted by the Romanian Families of Annunciation

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

Spanakopita

Friday April 8, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Saturday April 9. 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

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, April 3 Sunday of the Holy Cross

- ◆ **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**

Monday, April 4

- ◆ **Greek School 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **OCF @ Ole Miss 5:30 pm**
- ◆ **Fr. Vieron's Adult Greek Class 6:30 pm**

Tuesday, April 5

- ◆ **Greek School 4:00 pm**
- ◆ **Elpis Board Meeting 6:30 pm**

Wednesday, April 6

- ◆ **Greek School 2:00 pm**
- ◆ **Ninth Hour 5:30 pm**
- ◆ **Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:00 pm**
- ◆ **Lenten Lecture Speaker: Rev. Father Philip Rogers of St. John Orthodox Church 7:00 pm**
- ◆ **Dinner** hosted by the Romanian Families of Annunciation

Friday, April 8

- ◆ **Spanakopita Workshop 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**
- ◆ **Greek School 4:00 pm**
- ◆ **Fourth Salutation to the Virgin Mary 6:00 pm**

Saturday, April 9

- ◆ **Spanakopita Workshop 11:00 am - 6:00 pm**

Sunday, April 10 Sunday of St. John Climacus

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **Sunday School 11:00 am**
- ◆ **Coffee Hour Open**