

*SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016*  
*Sunday of Saint John of the Ladder*

**Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone**

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.

**Apolytikion for Sun. of St. John Climacus in the Plagal Fourth Tone**

With the streams of your tears, you did cultivate the barrenness of the desert; and by your sighings from the depths, you did bear fruit a hundred-fold in labours; and you became a luminary, shining with miracles upon the world, O John our righteous Father. 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 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, APRIL 10, 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 10th day of the month of April, we commemorate the Sunday of St. John Climacus, Gregory N, The Holy Martyr and Patriarch of Constantinople, Terence and his Companions beheaded at Carthage, Holy Father Theona, Archbishop of Thessalonica and the 150 and more Righteous Martyr Fathers of the Sacred Monastery of Pantocrator Daou Pentelis.

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

## EPISTLE READING - HEBREWS 6:13-20

**Prokeimenon. Fourth Tone. Psalm 103.24,1.**

O Lord, how manifold are your works.

You have made all things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

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.

## 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 15 & 16, 9:00 am - 4:00 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.

## 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."

## THIS WEEK'S SERVERS

**Epistle Reader:** Maria Moore

**Profora:** Enosis Touliatos

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

**Greeters:** Athena Jameson & Anastasia Terranova

**Coffee is available in Cotros Hall.**

## LENTEN DIALOGUES

**Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 pm**

**Speaker:** Andrew & Leah Horvath, Orthodox approach to missionary work

**Dinner** Hosted by Elpis Philoptochos

## *THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE*

### **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 - Coffee will be available in the Hall.**

### **Monday, April 11**

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

### **Tuesday, April 12**

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

### **Wednesday, April 13**

- ◆ **Greek School 2:00 pm**
- ◆ **Ninth Hour 5:30 pm**
- ◆ **Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:00 pm**
- ◆ **Lenten Lecture and Dinner 7:00 pm**

### **Friday, April 15**

- ◆ **Spanakopita Workshop 9:00 am**
- ◆ **Greek School 4:00 pm**
- ◆ **Akathyst Hymn 6:00 pm**

### **Saturday, April 16**

- ◆ **Spanakopita Workshop 9:00 am**

### **Sunday, April 17**

- ◆ **Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy following**
- ◆ **Nursery Available 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **Sunday School 11:00 am**
- ◆ **Coffee Hour hosted by Pete Ruby in Memory of Katerina Ruby 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **Daughters of Penelope Monthly Meeting 12:00 Noon**
- ◆ **More Than a Meal 3:00 pm**