

*SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017*  
*SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN*

*Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death,  
and to those in the tombs He has granted life.*

**Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Tone**

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

**Apolytikion for Constantine and Helen in the Plagal Fourth Tone**

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

**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**

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

***THIS WEEK'S SERVERS***

**Epistle Reader:** Maria Moore

**Prosfora:** Enosis Touliatos

**Usher Duty Team 4:** Romulus Stoian & Chris Apalodimas

**Greeters:** Angela Buchanan & Friend

**Special Called Parish Assembly** immediately following Divine Liturgy

**Post Festival Luncheon & Graduation Celebration** - Kabobs, Rice, Greek salad & **Graduation cake from Elpis & DOP for Dessert.** (Donations accepted)



**ANNUNCIATION GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

**SUNDAY, MAY 21, 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 21st day of the month of May, we commemorate the Sunday of the Blind Man, Constantine and Helen, Equal-to-the Apostles, and Pachomios the Righteous New Martyr.

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

**Epistle Reading - Acts of the Apostles 26:1, 12-20**

**Prokeimenon. Fourth Tone. Psalm 18.4,1.**

Their voice has gone out into all the earth.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God.

IN THOSE DAYS, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles—to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' "Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance."

**Gospel Reading - John 9:2-38**

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe": and he worshiped him.

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

**Sunday, May 21st Sunday of the Blind Man**

**Feast of Saints Constantine & Helen**

**Graduation Sunday**

- ◆ **Orthros/Divine Liturgy** 8:45 am
- ◆ **Nursery available** 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Special Called Parish Assembly** 12:00 Noon
- ◆ **Post Festival Luncheon & Graduation Celebration** - Kabobs, Rice, Greek salad & **Graduation cake from Elpis & DOP for Dessert.** (Donations accepted)

**Monday, May 22nd**

- ◆ **Church Tour Follow-up Dinner** 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
- ◆ **Parish Council Meeting** 7:00 pm

**Tuesday, May 23rd**

- ◆ **Young at Heart Luau** 11:30 am

**Wednesday, May 24th**

- ◆ **Orthros/Divine Liturgy - Feast of the Ascension** 6:00 pm

**Thursday, May 25th**

- ◆ **Girl Scouts** 4:15 pm
- ◆ **Fr. V's Adult Greek Class Graduation** 6:00 pm

**Sunday, May 28th**

- ◆ **Orthros/Divine Liturgy** 8:45 am
- ◆ **Nursery available** 10:00 am
- ◆ **Coffee Hour** hosted by Tina Douglas in Memory of her parents' 50th Anniversary

**Monday, May 29th Memorial Day**

- ◆ **Parish & Office closed** in remembrance of those who died in service to our country

### Post Festival Food Sales

See Anna Paris for details

Meat: 5/\$10 kabobs

5/\$15 lamb chops

Pastries: Baklava- \$2.50

Koulouria - \$1.00

Kourambietes-\$1.50

Paximathia -\$1.50

### FAST FREE WEEK

This week do not fast from meat, dairy, fish, wine or oil in honor of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## 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

Zoe Nickas

Kosta Taras - contact Loretta Taras for visiting arrangements

Presvytera Bess Vieron

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

### Visitation Committee Volunteers for 2017

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

**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

**March:** Linda Nichols & Anne Schmitt

**April:** Cary Chiungos & Mary Katherine Taras

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Special Called Parish Assembly, May 21st** following Divine Liturgy
- ◆ **Parish Council Meeting May 22nd** 7:00 pm
- ◆ **Young at Heart Luncheon, May 23rd** 11:30 am
- ◆ **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 and Staff Applications now. 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.

# *From the Desk of Father Simon*

Christ is Risen!

With sadness I announce the passing of Quennie, the wife of our security guard, Sam Kyle. Queenie had been ill for some time. We offer our condolences during this time.

## **Visitation**

Saturday, May 20, 1:00 pm - 3:00  
pm  
Harrison's Memorial Chapel  
3320 Millbranch  
Memphis, TN 38116

## **Homegoing Celebration**

Monday, May 22  
Viewing 11:00 am - 12:00 Noon  
Service 12:00 Noon  
The New Olivet Worship Center  
10000 Woodland Hills Dr.  
Memphis, TN 38018  
(Where Woodland Hills Country  
Club was)

## **Burial following services**

Northridge Woodhaven  
6755 US Hwy 51  
Millington, TN 38053

**Repas @ Woodland Hills after  
burial.**

Elpis will have a tray in the Narthex on Sunday if you would like to make an offering to the Kyle Family. Please make checks out to "Elpis".

Memory Eternal,  
Father Simon