



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

Sunday, September 9, 2018

Sunday Before Holy Cross

Holy Bread

Enosis Touliatos

Ushers

Endy Carter

Ted Poplos

Vasili Semos

Epistle Reader

Maria Moore

Coffee Fellowship

Auxiliary Fair hosted by Elpis

Philoptochos

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

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

Verse 1: Lord, remember David and all his weakness.

Psalm 131:1

Verse 2: Behold, we heard of it in Ephratha; we found it in the fields of the wood.

Psalm 131:6

Verse 3: Glorious things have been spoken of you, O city of God.

Psalm 86:3

Verse 4: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved.

Psalm 45:5

*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: The Lord swore in truth to David, and He will not annul it.

Psalm 131:11

Verse 2: Of the fruit of your body will I set a King upon your throne.

Psalm 131:11

Verse 3: There will I cause a horn to spring up to David: I have prepared a lamp for mine annointed.

Psalm 131:17

Verse 4. For the Lord has elected Zion, he has chosen her for a habitation for himself.

Psalm 131:13

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

Your Nativity O Theotokos heralded joy to the whole universe for from you rose the Sun of righteousness, Christ our God. He canceled the curse and poured forth his grace; He vanquished death and granted us eternal life.

Verse: For the Lord has elected Zion, he has chosen her for a habitation for himself. The Most High has sanctified His tabernacle. Holy is Your temple, wonderful in righteousness.

Psalm 131:13; Psalm 45:4; Psalm 64:5

Resurrectional Apolytikion

Sung before and after the Small Entrance in the Sixth Mode

Angelic powers were above Your tomb, and they that guarded You became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Your immaculate Body. You have despoiled Hades and were not tried thereby. You did meet the Virgin and did grant us life. O You Who did arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to You.

Hymn for Nativity of the Theotokos

Sung after the hymn above in the Fourth Mode

Your Nativity, O Theotokos, has proclaimed joy to the whole world; for from you has dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

Hymn for Joaquim & Anna

Sung after the hymn above in the Second Mode

As we celebrate the memory of Your righteous ancestors, O Lord, through them we beseech You to 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 εὐαγγελίζειται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Seasonal Kontakion

Sung after the hymn above in the Fourth Mode

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

**Sunday, September 9,
2018**

Sts. Joachim & Anna
St. Severianos of Sebaste

**Monday, September 10,
2018**

Sts. Menodora, Metro-
dora, Nymphodora the
Martyrs
St. Poulcheria the Empress

**Tuesday, September 11,
2018**

St. Theodora of Alexan-
dria
St. Euphrosynos the Cook

**Wednesday, September
12, 2018**

St. Autonomos the Hiero-
martyr
St. Cournoutos, Bishop of
Iconium

**Thursday, September 13,
2018**

Memorial of Founding Ho-
ly Resurrection of Christ
Church

**Friday, September 14,
2018**

Exaltation of the Holy
Cross

**Saturday, September 15,
2018**

St. Nikitas the Great Martyr
St. Philotheos the Right-
eous

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

**Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2.
Psalm 27.9,1**

O Lord, save your people and bless your inher-
itance.

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

**The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians
6:11-18**

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Sunday, September 9, 2018 **Gospel: John 3:13-17**

Today is Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Monday, September 10, 2018

Today is Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Today is Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

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

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Today is Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Friday, September 14, 2018

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

Saturday, September 15, 2018

Today is Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Visitation Committee

September: Susanna Peters & Cathe Skefos

October: Sophie Theodore & Kristine Wagner

November: Loretta Taras & Tasia Vergos

December: Anastasia Terranova & Athena Jamison

January: Nancy Tashie, Jan Futris & Tina Liollo

February: Vicki Hoover & Evangelina Panas

March: Linda Nichols, Anne Schmitt, & Debbie Bookas

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: Elaine Daniels & Maria Wasserman

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

Sophie Theodore

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

- ◆ **Parish Auxiliary Fair, Sunday, September 9th 12:00 Noon** in Cotros Hall
- ◆ **Father Simon's Weekly Bible Study** has resumed for the Fall Session.
We meet every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in Cotros Hall. You are welcome to bring meatless pot-luck to share with the group.
- ◆ **Elpis Philotochos Membership Luncheon, Sunday, September 16th 12:00 Noon** at Chickasaw Country Club
Breakfast & Salad Buffet—\$25.00. Please RSVP TO Sophie Theodore
- ◆ **Young at Heart Fall Kick-Off Luncheon, Thursday, September 20th, at 11:30 am** in Cotros Hall
- ◆ **Community Picnic & Softball Game sponsored by AHEPA & Daughters of Penelope, Sunday September 23rd 4:00 pm** at Houston Levee Park.
Thank you to the Vergos Family (aka—Rendezvous) for donating the barbeque dinner! All Free!
- ◆ **Daughters of Penelope Sisterhood Luncheon, Sunday, September 30th at 1:00 pm** at the home of President Phani Mitchell.
All ladies of our Community, ages 18 and over, are invited. Please feel free to bring a friend. For more information, please contact Anastasia Teranova at 901-361-4382.
- ◆ **St. Photios Greek Orthodox Shrine Annual Essay Contest**
The St. Photios Foundation, Inc. invites all 13-19 year olds to submit a 1,000 word essay to the St. Photios Essay Committee for the Annual Essay Contest. Prizes are awarded to the top three essays: 1st Place: \$500/2nd Place \$250/3rd Place \$100. For more information, please visit the website at <http://stphotios.org/assets/files/2018-19%20Essay%20Contest.pdf>.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, September 9th, Sunday Before Holy Cross

- † Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am
- † Nursery Available 10:00 am
- † Sunday School 11:00 am
- † Auxiliary Fair hosted by Elpis Philoptochos 12:00 Noon in Cotros Hall
- † DOP General Meeting 12:00 Noon in the Library

Tuesday, September 11th

- † Library Open 10:00 am—2:00 pm
- † Elpis Board Meeting—6:30 pm in Library

Wednesday, September 12th

- † Bible Study 6:30 pm in Cotros Hall

Thursday, September 13th

- † Orthros 6:00 pm
- † Divine Liturgy for the Elevation of the Venerable and Life Giving Cross 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 15th

- † Moynihan Family Chrismations 3:00 pm

Sunday, September 16th, Sunday after Holy Cross

- † Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am
- † Nursery Available 10:00 am
- † Sunday School 11:00 am
- † Elpis Philoptochos Membership Luncheon 12:00 Noon at Chickasaw CC
- † More Than a Meal—Cooking Team 12:00 Noon in the Kitchen
- † More Than a Meal—Serving Team 3:00 pm at Grace-St. Luke's Church