



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

William Kallas, Pastoral Assistant

Sunday, Decem- ber 23rd, 2018

Sunday Before Na-
tivity

Holy Bread

Enosis Touliatos

Ushers

Chris Apalodimas

John Kay

Harry Sinis

Epistle Reader

Scott McKee

Sermon

William Kallas, Pas-
toral Assistant

Coffee Fellowship

Hosted by 2019 Io-
nian Village Trip
Participants

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 Fifth Mode

Let us worship the Word, O you 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.

Hymn for the Forefeast of the Nativity

Sung after the hymn above in the Fourth Mode

Be you ready, Bethlehem, Eden has opened unto all. Ephratha, prepare yourself, for now, behold, the Tree of life has blossomed forth in the cave from the Holy Virgin. Her womb has proved a true spiritual Paradise, wherein the divine and saving Tree is found, and as we eat thereof we shall all live, and shall not die as did Adam. For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforetime.

Hymn for the Holy Fathers

Sung after the hymn above in the Second Mode

Great are the achievements of faith! In the fountain of flame, as by the water of rest, the Three Holy Children rejoiced. And the Prophet Daniel proved a shepherd of lions as of sheep. By their prayers, O Christ our God, save our souls.

Hymn of the Annunciation

Sung after the hymn above in the Fourth Mode

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 23,
2018**

The Ten Martyrs of Crete
Consecration of Hagia
Sophia

**Monday, December 24,
2018**

St. Eugenia, the Nun-
martyr of Rome

**Tuesday, December 25,
2018**

Nativity of Jesus Christ
Adoration of the Magi:
Melchior, Gaspar, & Bal-
thasar

**Wednesday, December
26, 2018**

Synaxis of the Theotokos
St. Euthenios, Bishop of
Sardis

**Thursday, December 27,
2018**

St. Stephen, First Martyr
St. Theodore the Confes-
sor

**Friday, December 28,
2018**

20,000 Martyrs in Nico-
demia
St. Glykerios the Martyr

**Saturday, December 29,
2018**

14,000 Infants (Holy Inno-
cents)
St. Marcellus, the Right-
eous

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-40

**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 Hebrews 11:9-
10; 32-40**

BRETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Sunday, December 23, 2018

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

Monday, December 24, 2018

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

Tuesday, December 25, 2018

Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Wednesday, December 26, 2018

Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Thursday, December 27, 2018

Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Friday, December 28, 2018

Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Saturday, December 29, 2018

Fast Free | No fasting restrictions.

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

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

- ◆ **Coffee Fellowship Fundraiser for the 2019 Ionian Village Trip Participants**, Sunday, December 23rd at 12:00 Noon in Cotros Hall
- ◆ **Christmas Eve Reception** hosted by Elpis Philoptochos, Monday, December 24th, 8:00 pm in Cotros Hall **following Divine Liturgy**
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **The Parish Offices will be closed** Monday, December 24th—Wednesday, December 26th to celebrate Christmas.
- ◆ **The Parish Offices will be closed** on Tuesday, January 1st, to celebrate the New Year.
- ◆ **Feast of the Epiphany Weekend services:**
 - Friday, January 4th:*
Royal Hours 9:00 am,
 - Saturday, January 5th:*
Orthros 9:00 am, **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am, **Blessing of the Waters** 11:00 am, at Annunciation, followed by the **Blessing of the Mississippi River** 12:30 pm at the boat launch of the Greenbelt Park at Harbortown. Barbeque lunch & fellowship will be held at St. John Orthodox Church afterwards.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, December 23rd, Sunday Before Nativity

- † Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am
- † Nursery Available 10:00 am—12:00 Noon
- † NO Sunday School
- † Byzantine Chant Class (Liturgical Structure) 12:00 Noon in the Library
- † Coffee Fellowship hosted by 2019 Ionian Village Trip Participants

Monday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Parish Offices Closed to Celebrate Christmas

- † Royal Hours 9:00 am
- † Vespers Liturgy 6:30 pm
- † Christmas Eve Reception 8:00 pm

Tuesday, December 25th, HOLY NATIVITY Parish Offices Closed to Celebrate Christmas

- † Orthros 8:30 am
- † Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Wednesday, December 26th Parish Offices Closed to Celebrate Christmas

Thursday, December 27th, Feast of Saint Stephen

- † Orthros 9:00 am
- † Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Friday December 28th, † Vasilopita Baking 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Sunday, December 30th

- † Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am
- † Nursery Available 10:00 am—12:00 Noon
- † NO Sunday School
- † Coffee will be available in Cotros Hall

Monday, December 31st, New Year's Eve

- † Orthros 5:00 pm
- † Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm
- † New Year's Eve Party & Marquerade Ball 7:00 pm

Tuesday, January 1st, Circumcision of Christ, Feast of Saint Basil the Great New Year's Day

- † Parish Offices Closed