

THE ANNUNCIATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

15th Sunday of Luke/Fourth Sunday in Advent

Martyr Menas

The holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyr Menas (or Mina; 285-309 A.D.), the Wonder-worker, is one of the most well known Egyptian saints in the East and the West, due to the many miracles that are performed through his intercessions.

December 10, 2017

Rev. Fr. Joseph Gingrich, Parish Priest

Altar Boys: All Available

Ushers on Duty: Team 5

Epistle Reading Ephesians 6:10 – 17

Gospel Reading Luke 13:10 - 17

TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY HYMNS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE (GOSPEL) ENTRANCE

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN THE SECOND MODE

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

APOLYTIKION FOR MARTYR MENAS AND COMPANIONS IN THE PLAGAL FOURTH MODE

Since they had slain through their abstinence and struggles the fiery ragings and fierce motions of the passions, the staunch Martyrs of Christ God laid hold on the graces to drive off the pains and illnesses of the sick and work wonders both while living and after death. Strange indeed is the miracle! That these bare bones should pour forth such overflowing streams of cures. Glory be to our only God.

Δι ἐγκρατείας, τῶν παθῶν τὰς πυριφλέκτους, ἀπονεκρώσαντες ὀρμᾶς καὶ τὰς κινήσεις, τοῦ Χριστοῦ οἱ Μάρτυρες, ἔλαβον τὴν χάριν, τὰς νόσους ἀποδιώκειν τῶν ἀσθενῶν, καὶ ζῶντες καὶ μετὰ τέλος θαυματουργεῖν, ὄντως θαῦμα παράδοξον! ὅτι Ὅστέα γυμνά, ἐκβλύζουσιν ἰάματα. Δόξα τῷ μόνῳ Θεῷ ἡμῶν.

DISMISSAL HYMN FOR THE ANNUNCIATION IN THE FOURTH MODE

On this day when our salvation is crown'd for eternity, and the revelation of the Mystery of the ages. With divine grace the Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel's good tidings proclaim the news. For this we rejoice in song unto the holy Theotokos: Hail to you who are filled with grace, the Lord is with you.

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν το κεφάλαιον καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνας μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, Ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς συν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν. Χαίρει, κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σου.

SEASONAL KONTAKION IN THE THIRD MODE

On this day the Virgin cometh 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.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν Προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

EPISTLE READING

PRIEST: Let us attend.

READER: The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me sorely.

PRIEST: Wisdom

READER: The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 6:10-17.

PRIEST: Let us attend.

READER: Brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

LUKE 13:10-17

¹⁰Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath day. ¹¹Behold, there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten herself up. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her, and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity!" ¹³He laid his hands on her and immediately, she stood up straight and glorified God. ¹⁴However, the ruler of the synagogue was indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath. He said to the crowd, "There are six days in which people should work! Therefore, come on those days and be healed, not on the Sabbath day!" ¹⁵Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each one of you free his ox or his donkey from the stall on the Sabbath, and lead it out to water? ¹⁶Should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham who was bound by Satan for eighteen years, be freed from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame and all the people rejoiced over all the glorious things that were done by him

SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017

MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY

8:15 AM

MEMORIALS TODAY:

+Gust Bambakidis

1 yr.

+Vasilios Polychronis

2 yrs.

The Memorial Service is found on page 164 of the Burgundy Divine Liturgy books.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in loving memory of +Spero Alex by Sandy Alex. Altar Flowers also given in loving memory of +Gust Bambakidis by the Bambakidis family; and given in loving memory of +Vasilios Polychronis by his wife Maria; his daughter and son-in-law, Ifigenia and Daniel Poling.

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR is sponsored by the Bambakidis family in loving memory of +Gust Bambakidis and by the Polychronis family in loving memory of +Vasilios Polychronis. Fellowship Coffee Hour is hosted by GAPA.

CHOIR

The choir will go Christmas Caroling today after Divine Liturgy.

EXTEND, O LORD, YOUR MERCY AND PROTECTION UPON YOUR SERVANTS

Please pray for the health and salvation of your brothers and sisters in Christ during today's Divine Liturgy and throughout the week: *Dora Protos, Nick Kirbabis, Konstantinos Haritos, Mary Saloom, Mike Mokas, Katherine*

Xidas, Magdeline Tisinger, Lucy Fasules, Peter Mihalislis, Elli Bambakidis, Stephanie Michaelson, Mary Leakas, Maria Polychronis, Alex Gounaris, Athie Zavakos, Stephen Fricioni, John Wagner, Tom Xarhoulacos, Helen County and Evangelia Panson

MEETING AND EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11TH

Date	Event	Time	Location
Mon.	11 th Greek School	5:30 pm	Community Center
Tue.	12 th St. Spyridon Divine Liturgy	9:30 am	Church
	GAPA Christmas Party	11:30 am	Chop House
	Adult Catechism School & Pot Luck	6:30 pm	Athenagoras Room
Wed.	13 th Marian Prayer Group	3:00 pm	Church
	GOYA Boys/Girls Basketball	6:30 pm	Community Center
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Church
Thur.	14 th Young at Heart	11:30 am	Community Center
	DOP Christmas Dinner	6:00 pm	Pres. Banquet Ctr.
Sat.	16 th Pick-up Tsourekia	11:00 am	Community Center

FROM FR. JOSEPH

-Advent Fast. During this time of preparation for the birth of the Messiah Orthodox Christians are called by the Church not to eat meat, dairy products, and eggs. Fish is also forbidden on Wednesdays and Fridays. In order to show solidarity with the Advent fast no meat should be served at most parish events. This is such a small gesture that reminds us of the self-denial we are called to practice as people of faith. In our own personal lives outside of church events we do the best we can in regards to fasting. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to see me.

-Adult Catechism. Our last class for this year is this Tuesday at 6:30 PM . There will be a potluck organized by Tina Haubrock. People can come and ask any questions they want concerning our Holy Orthodox Catholic faith. This is open to all parishioners. If you haven't been coming to classes please know we would love to see you at the potluck and bring a question along with a dish to share. All food must be meat free at a minimum.

-When Sunday Catechism School is in session the order for reception of the Eucharist will be as follows: 1) Newly illumined/baptized 2) Altar Servers 3) Catechism School teachers and students 4) Choir 5) All others. This is being implemented so classes begin promptly and the time allotted for them is maximized. Last year there could be as much as a 15 minute waiting period for all students to arrive. Thank you for your cooperation.

-Friends of the Metropolis Sunday is today. Friends of the Metropolis is a program that helps keep the office and ministries or our diocesan chancery solvent. Please donate a check and have it dated January 1, 2018 in order for your name to appear in the The Shepherd's Staff.

-House Blessings. His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas would like members of the parish council or male members of the parish at large to accompany me on house blessings. Please see the house blessing schedule and volunteer with Carol as she maintains it. The schedule can be found at the candle stand/pangari in the narthex.

-**True Vine.** All submissions to the True Vine are to be in by the 10th of the month. No exceptions. We are moving to a new format and have deadlines to meet. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

-**Christmas Eve** Sunday Morning service as usual. Evening Service at 6:00 PM.

-**Christmas Day** Orthros 9:00 AM and Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT CATECHISM SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PLAY REHEARSAL INFORMATION

Catechism School Christmas play rehearsal for today, December 10th Kindergarten & First grade students will meet in the lower level GOYA room Grades 7,8,9 & 10: class is cancelled Grades 11 & 12: class will meet in the Pre-School room. Grades 2 – 5 Students participating in the Christmas Program skit (grades 2-5 only) are to meet in the GOYA room at 10am today, December 10th.

PARISH COUNCIL

There is one open position to fill for the term beginning January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2020. If you are interested in serving on Parish Council, please send your biography to Father Joseph no later than **Friday, January 5, 2018.**

PHILOPTOCHOS DECEMBER COMMUNITY CARE MINISTRY (CCM)

Schneider House of Hope, Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greene, County, provides emergency shelter to displaced families with children go from homelessness to sustainable housing. The shelter is a permanent 10-bedroom site that can serve up to 25 adults and children. The shelter is currently housing 11 adults, 9 children, and a 21 month old. The shelter offers a comprehensive continuum of services from shelter, meals, case management, housing resources, medical and employment resources. As of October 2017, Schneider House has served 33 families comprised of 107 individuals.

YOU'RE INVITED – DOP CHRISTMAS DINNER

Daughters of Penelope Christmas Dinner Thursday, December 14, 6:00 pm Presidential Banquet Center, Washington Rm. 4548 Presidential Way, \$22.00 per person DOP, AHEPA, and guest welcome. Greek chicken, roasted vegetables, Greek baked potatoes, Artisan salad, rolls, Tiramisu for dessert Vegetarian entrée also available. Wine available for purchase by the bottle. Please RSVP by Monday, Dec. 11 to Voula Zois (937) 266-4029 voula1961@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE – 2018 VASILOPITA LUNCHEON – SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

Philoptochos invites you to our Annual Vasilopita Luncheon that benefits St. Basil's Academy. Join us **Sunday, January 7, 2018.** There will be a silent auction of pitas and the popular children's bidding table, and as always, monetary donations are welcome. Menu: Greek Roast Beef, Rice Pilaf, Capri Blend Vegetables, Rolls and Butter, Spinach Salad w/ a citrus vinaigrette, Cheese Cake Assortment; Menu for Children: Chicken Tenders, Macaroni & Cheese, and Applesauce, Coffee, Lemonade, and Iced Tea. Tickets go on sale December 3, 2017. Deadline for pre-paid reservations is Sunday, December 31, 2017. **No ticket sales on the day of the event!** COST: Adults \$12/Children \$6. All tables will have a Vasilopita. RESERVE A TABLE AND BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY. For ticket sales or if you are interested in baking Vasilopita's please contact: Christa Bishop (513) 304-9128 or Angie Retzios (513) 594-5485

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BOOSALIS BAKING AND CAFÉ

Tsourekia For Christmas - Cost per loaf: \$6.00 - Deadline for orders Monday, December 11, 2017. Orders may be picked up at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community Center on Saturday Dec. 16th and Sunday Dec. 17th 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. To order, please contact Melissa DeBernardi – Smith (412) 512-5242 e-mail: myguiness14@hotmail.com

SAVE THE DATE JANUARY 19, 2018 DOP 3RD ANNUAL WINE TASTING 7:00 PM

Join Us! January 19, 2018 at 7:00 PM for An Evening of Wine Tasting...Five Wines to sample, each paired with its own small plate menu selections including music, desserts and Greek coffee Sponsored by The Daughters of

Penelope At Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community Center. Tickets \$30 Per Person. For Tickets: Thomai (937)422-4887 thomai@greeklish.org

TRANSLATOR NEEDED

Vocalink, Inc., a local translation service, has a high need for a person or persons to translate from English to Greek for a student/family that attends Beavercreek Schools. This is a paid job that pays \$18-20 per hour. They currently need help on December 13th and will need help more extensively in the Spring of 2018 when there are more tests to administer to the student. They may also need this person's services/expertise for parent-teacher conferences. If you are interested, please contact Emily Hattar at 1-513-543-8036 or locally at 223-1415

YOUTH SUNDAY SIGN-UP

New this year, the Catechism School will have students become an integral part of the life of the Church by participating in the Divine Liturgy services. They will complete their duties prior to receiving Holy Communion, where they will be dismissed to Catechism School.

Youth Sunday: there are still some open slots!! 3rd-12th graders can sign up today. Go to the Youth Sunday Sign up Table in the Memorial Hall!!

YOUTH SUNDAY DATES

January 7th, February 4th, March 4th, May 6th.

USHERS NEEDED

The Usher Teams are in need of new members. If you are interested in serving on an usher team please contact Toni Moraites at tmoraites@woh.rr.com. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve the church.

YOUNG AT HEART

The December Young at Heart luncheon will be sponsored by Philoptochos on December 14th in the Community Center at 11:30am.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

If you are visiting our Parish, please fill out the "Visitor Information Card," located in the Narthex, and hand it to one of the Welcome Committee greeters. You are welcome to come forward to receive a piece of "antidoron" (blessed bread) at the conclusion of the service and join us in the Memorial Center for our Fellowship Hour following the Divine Liturgy.

If you are a "newcomer" to our Parish, please introduce yourself to our priest. He would be most happy to schedule a time to meet with you and discuss the ministries and fellowship opportunities available within our Parish.

GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

For Orthodox Christians

When preparing to receive Holy Communion, please remain quietly in your pews until an Usher/ Parish Council Member directs you to approach from the center aisle. Your prayerful attention helps sustain the solemnity of the Divine Liturgy for those praying the "Prayers of Preparation" and following Holy Communion the "Prayers of Thanksgiving." You will find these prayers in the burgundy Divine Liturgy book located in the pew backs. The "Prayers of Preparation" begin on page 29 and the "Prayers of Thanksgiving" begin on page 40.

Please allow the acolyte to place the Holy Communion Cloth beneath your chin. This ensures that no particle of the Eucharist falls from your lips. Recite your baptismal name aloud; open your mouth wide; and close your mouth as the Communion Spoon enters your mouth. After receiving Holy Communion, blot your lips on the cloth and return to your pew by the side aisles.

You will find an acolyte offering you a bowl of antidoron from which you should take a single piece to ensure you consume all traces of Holy Communion.

For Non-Orthodox Christians

We welcome to our worship those Christians not fully united with us (canonically).

It is a consequence of the sad divisions of Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist and for which we must all pray.