

THE ANNUNCIATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Synaxis of Saint John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist, & Forerunner

*Today we celebrate the Synaxis in honor of the most sacred Forerunner,
since he ministered at the Mystery of the Divine Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Sunday, January 7, 2018

Rev. Fr. Joseph Gingrich, Parish Priest

Altar Boys	All Available
Epistle Reading	Acts 19:1-8
Gospel Reading	John 1:29-34

Ushers On Duty 4

TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY HYMNS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS:

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE (GOSPEL) ENTRANCE

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN THE PLAGAL SECOND MODE

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Ἀγγελικαὶ Δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμᾳ σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

APOLYTIKION FOR AFTERFEAST OF THE THEOPHANY IN THE FIRST MODE

When Thou wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and hast enlightened the world, glory be to Thee.

Ἐν Ἰορδάνῃ βαπτιζομένου σου Κύριε, ἡ τῆς Τριάδος ἐφανέρωθη προσκύνησις, τοῦ γὰρ Γεννήτορος ἡ φωνὴ προσεμαρτύρει σοί, ἀγαπητὸν σὲ Υἱὸν ὀνομάζουσα, καὶ τὸ Πνεῦμα ἐν εἴδει περιστεράς, ἐβεβαίου τοῦ λόγου τὸ ἀσφαλές. Ὁ ἐπιφανεὶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τὸν κόσμον φωτίσας δόξα σοί.

APOLYTIKION FOR SUN. AFTER NATIVITY IN THE SECOND MODE

O Joseph, proclaim the wonders to David, the ancestor of God. Thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; thou hast given glory with the shepherds; thou hast worshipped with the Magi; and thou hast been instructed through an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Εὐαγγελίζου Ἰωσήφ, τῷ Δαυὶδ τὰ θαύματα τῷ Θεοπάτορι· Παρθένον εἶδες κυοφορήσασαν, μετὰ Μάγων προσεκύνησας, μετὰ Ποιμένων ἐδοξολόγησας, δι' Ἀγγέλου χρηματισθεὶς. Ἰκέτευε Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

APOLYTIKION FOR SYNAXIS OF JOHN THE FORERUNNER IN THE SECOND MODE

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; for thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the Prophets, since thou was granted to baptize in the running waters Him Whom they proclaimed. Wherefore, having contested for the truth, thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

Μνήμη δικαίου μέτ' ἐγκωμίων, σοὶ δὲ ἀρκέσει ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Κυρίου Πρόδρομε, ἀνεδείχθης γὰρ ὄντως καὶ Προφητῶν σεβασμιώτερος, ὅτι καὶ ἐν ρείθροις βαπτίσει κατηξιώθης τὸν κηρυττόμενον. Ὅθεν τῆς ἀληθείας ὑπεραθλήσας, χαίρων εὐηγγελίσω καὶ τοῖς ἐν ᾅδῃ, Θεὸν φανερωθέντα ἐν σαρκί, τὸν αἴροντα τὴν ἀμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου, καὶ παρέχοντα ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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 της σωτηρίας ημών το κεφάλαιον και του απ' αιώνας μυστηρίου η φανέρωσις, Ο Υιός του Θεού, Υιός της Παρθένου γίνεται, και Γαβριήλ την χάριν ευαγγελίζεται. Διό και ημείς συν αυτώ τη Θεοτόκω βοήσωμεν. Χαιρε, κεχαριτωμένη, ο Κύριος μετά σου.

SEASONAL KONTAKION IN THE FOURTH MODE

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

Ἐπεφάνης σήμερον τῇ οἰκουμένη, καὶ τὸ φῶς σου Κύριε, ἐσημειώθη ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ἔν ἐπιγνώσει ὑμνούντάς σε. Ἦλθες ἐφάνης τὸ Φῶς τὸ ἀπρόσιτον.

EPISTLE READING

PRIEST: Let us attend.

READER: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. Oh God, hear my cry.

PRIEST: Wisdom

READER: The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8.

PRIEST: Let us attend.

READER: Brethren, it happened that, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul had passed through the upper country and arrived in Ephesus. And finding some disciples, ²he asked them, "Did you receive [the] Holy Spirit when you believed?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit!" ³Paul asked them, "Then into what were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus Christ." ⁵After hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied. ⁷They were about twelve men in all. ⁸Then Paul visited the synagogue and spoke boldly for a period of three months, debating and presenting arguments concerning the Kingdom of God.

JOHN 1:29-34

The next day, John saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is the one of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who is ranked before me, because he was before me.' ³¹I did not know him, but for this reason I came baptizing in water: so that he would be revealed to Israel." ³²John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven and remain on him. ³³I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize in water said to me, 'Upon whom you will see the Spirit descending and remaining, this is he who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴Moreover, I myself have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY

8:15 AM

YOUTH SUNDAY

Catechism School Classes resume today.

The students will be passing a tray at the conclusion of Father Joseph's sermon to defray the Catechism School expenses!!

The Annual Vasilopita Luncheon and Silent Auction benefiting St. Basil Academy takes place today following the Divine Liturgy. We will hold our traditional auction of Vasilopitas. Fr. Joseph will also cut the community Vasilopita and distribute pieces to the various parish ministries and organizations.

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 Zvakos, Stephen Fricioni, John Wagner, Tom Xarhoulacos, Helen County, Evangelia Panson and Marilyn Lusa*

MEETING AND EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8TH 2018

Date	Event	Time	Location
Mon. 8 th	House Blessings: Centerville-Bellbrook Greek School (Vasilopita/Holiday party) Community Sandwich Making	5:30pm 6:30pm	Athenagoras Room Community Center
Tue. 9 th	House Blessings: Centerville-Bellbrook		
Wed. 10 th	House Blessings: Oakwood-Kettering Marian Prayer Group	3:00pm	Church
Thur. 11 th	House Blessings: Oakwood-Kettering AHEPA/DOP Mtg.	6:30pm	Athenagoras Room
Fri. 12 th	OPA Mtg.	5:45pm	Athenagoras Room

FROM FR. JOSEPH

-Congregating in the Community Center. When Divine Services are being held people are only to be in the Community Center if they have a reason to be. Reasons would include but are not limited to meal preparation, Catechism School, coffee hour set up, etc. To come to the parish to socialize **only** and not worship the Lord is a sin of omission because one is failing to take the needed action they ought to take. We were only created to give glory to God: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Moving forward all people are to be in Divine Services unless their service to the Lord brings them to the Community Center.

-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.

-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.

-Parish Council Oath of Office and Executive Council Elections. Starting this Sunday and moving forward the Parish Council Oath of Office and Executive Council Elections will no longer be held on Vasilopita Sunday. This is being done for several reasons: 1) The Parish Council is working in the kitchen helping to feed over 200 people. Having them come back into the church for an oath and then go to another meeting for elections, then to go back to the kitchen is just too much of an undertaking. 2) As just stated the Parish Council must convene and elect our Executive Council Officers. This is something that should never be rushed as the Executive Council is an extremely important ministry of our parish. It is best that the Parish Council gather on a Sunday when there are no other major tasks for them, and that there be ample time for all to convene and vet candidates. 3) I, as the priest, want to dedicate my time fully to Vasilopita Sunday and not be pulled away from it in order for the elections to be done “quickly”. It is best to do one major task well and try to enjoy one’s time while doing it.

-Godparent Anyone wishing to be a Godparent to an adult convert woman please come and see me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE JOY COURTYARD AND MEMORIAL GARDEN

Construction on The Joy Courtyard and Memorial Garden is in full swing. If you would like to place an order for a brick or paver for phase 3 of the installation, please contact Deb Pulos at 937-478-2367, or debrapulos@mac.com. Order forms are available in the community center lobby. Orders placed now will be installed in May 2018. Deadline is January 14th. Thank you.

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.

2018 PARISH CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE

The 2018 Annunciation Parish calendar is now available for pick-up. This valuable resource contains the Feasts and Fasts of the Church, Daily Scripture Readings, and much more. This year’s Parish Calendar has been provided by Marker and Heller Funeral Home. We express our sincere appreciation for their generosity.

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:

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

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

GAPA

There will not be a January meeting for GAPA. Instead we will have lunch at Olive's Mediterranean Grill on Saturday, January 20th at 11:30am. Reservations needed in advance to give restaurant a headcount. Please RSVP to Linda Kididis by January 18th at: 937.836.1526 .

**JANUARY
12-14, 2018**
Panagia
Pantovasilissa
Church
Lexington, KY

COST: \$35.00 (youth & adults)
All youth ages 8-18 are invited to our annual winter youth retreat celebrating faith and fellowship. Retreat will include workshops, discussions, a dinner/dance, and Divine Liturgy as a church family!

ACCOMMODATIONS
A block of rooms has been secured at Home2Suites for \$114/night. For reservation directions, download the Retreat Info Packet.

**ST. NICHOLAS
WINTER YOUTH
RETREAT**

REGISTER AND RESERVE HOTEL ROOMS BY JANUARY 6TH.
VISIT WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/WINTERRETREAT

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.