



The Messenger

Sunday, April 30, 2023
Κυριακή, 30 Απρίλιος

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women
Κυριακή Γ' τῶν Μυροφόρων

Weekly Worship Guide

The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation • Atlanta, GA

James the Apostle and brother of St. John the Theologian, Argyra the New Martyr,
Clement the Hymnographer, Erconwald, Bishop of London

**ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!
ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!**

Today's Memorials

Service can be found on p. 127
of the Divine Liturgy Book

40 Day Memorial for Despo (Despina) Lamas
40 Day Memorial for Michael Snider
5 Year Memorial for Michael S. Moraitakis

**CHRIST IS RISEN!
TRULY HE IS RISEN!**

Today's Artoklasia

Service can be found on p. 139
of the Divine Liturgy Book

Today's Artoklasia is offered by the Danaos
Society in Honor of their Patron Saint:
Aghios Petros of Argos

Today's Coffee Hour is in Honor of our Parishioners who are Celebrating April 30th birthdays.
Hosted by the Melissas Family.

Χρόνια Πολλά! Many Years!

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women



Many women who received miracles from Christ followed Him as He traveled throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles. They ministered unto Him out of their own resources, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they went to anoint Christ's body with myrrh in His tomb early on the first day of the week (Sunday). It is because of the myrrh-oils, that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called the Myrrh-bearers. Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most holy Virgin Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called "the mother of James and Joses" (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silent (Matt 27:55-56; 28:1-10. Mark 15:40-41. Luke 8:1-3; 23:55-24:11, 22-24. John 19:25; 20:11-18. Acts 1:14).

Together with them we also celebrate the secret disciples Joseph and Nicodemus. Of these, Nicodemus was a prominent leader among the Jews and of the order of the Pharisees, educated in the Mosaic Law and instructed in Scripture. Nicodemus believed in Christ when, at the beginning of our Savior's preaching of salvation, he came to Him by night. He brought some one hundred pounds of myrrh-oils and an aromatic mixture of aloes and spices out of reverence and love for the divine Teacher (John 19:39). Joseph, who was from the city of Arimathea, was a wealthy and noble man, and one of the counselors who were in Jerusalem. He went boldly unto Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and together with Nicodemus he gave Him burial. Since time did not permit the preparation of another tomb, he placed the Lord's body in his own tomb which was hewn out of rock, as the Evangelist says (Matt. 27:60).

(Compiled by Theodore Mantzikos)

Order of Hymns Following The Small Entrance

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον. Ἦχος β'.

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον. Ἦχος β'.

Ὁ εὐσχήμων Ἰωσήφ, ἀπὸ τοῦ ξύλου καθελών, τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα, σινδόνι καθαρᾷ εἰλήσας καὶ ἀρώμασιν, ἐν μνήματι καινῷ κηδεύσας ἀπέθετο· ἀλλὰ τριήμερος ἀνέστης, Κύριε, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Ἀπολυτίκιον. Ἦχος β'.

Ταῖς Μυροφόροις γυναιξί, παρὰ τὸ μνήμα ἐπιστάς, ὁ Ἄγγελος ἐβόα· Τὰ μύρα τοῖς θνητοῖς ὑπάρχει ἀρμόδια· Χριστὸς δὲ διαφθορᾶς ἐδείχθη ἀλλότριος· ἀλλὰ κραυγάσατε· Ἀνέστη ὁ Κύριος, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Ἀπολυτίκιον. Ἦχος δ'.

Κανόνα πίστεως.

Χριστόν τον Κύριον ἐν νυκτί ἐπεσκέψατο· ἀναγέννησιν ἄνωθεν ἐκδιδάχθεις, ἐμαθήτευσεν, ὡς κεκρυμμένος ἀπόστολος. Εὐθαρσῶς διεφώνει πρὸς φαρισαίους καὶ γραμματεῖς, τον Σωτήρα διώκοντας. Ὁν νεκρὸν κάθειλεν ἐκ τοῦ Σταυροῦ, μύρα τῇ ταφῇ ἐν ἐνεγκῶν, Νικόδημος ὁ ἐνθερμος.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ. Ἦχος δ'.

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.

Κοντάκιον τῶν Κεκοιμημένων. Ἦχος πλ. δ'.

Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, ὡς ἀγαθὸς τῶν δούλων σου καὶ ὅσα ἐν βίῳ ἡμαρτον συγχώρησον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰ μὴ σὺ ὁ δυνάμενος καὶ τοῖς μεταστάσι δοῦναι τὴν ἀνάπαυσιν.

Κοντάκιον. Ἦχος πλ. δ'.

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ κατήλθες ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τοῦ Ἰδίου καθεῖλες τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητής, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξί Μυροφόροις φθελγᾶμενος. Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 2.

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, "O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!"

Apolytikion. Mode 2.

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day You arose, O Lord, and granted the world Your great mercy.

Apolytikion. Mode 2.

The Angel who had come to the sepulcher said to the Myrrh-bearing women, "Ointments are appropriate for mortal men; but Christ is indeed a stranger to decay. Now go proclaim that the Lord has risen and granted the world His great mercy."

Apolytikion. Mode 4.

A rule of faith.

You visited Christ the Lord * in the darkness of the night; * as a hidden apostle you were taught, * about the rebirth of humanity. * As a servant of salvation you boldly disagreed * with Pharisees and the Scribes, *from His death on the cross * until His burial, * you the zealous one, Nikodemos.

Apolytikion of the Church. Mode 4.

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the mystery which was hidden from eternity. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel announces the grace of this Good News. Let us also join with him, calling to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Woman full of grace; the Lord is with you.

Kontakion for the Departed. Mode pl. 4.

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

Kontakion. Mode pl. 4.

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrhbearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

Readings

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women
Κυριακή Γ' τῶν Μυροφόρων

Epistle (Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7)

Reader: Julianna Esper

PROKEIMENON: The Lord is my strength and my song.

VERSE: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "it is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel (Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid.

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 51 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK

Reminders for Receiving Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and/or chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with the clergy. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion.

Thank you.

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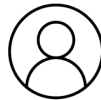
Welcome, everyone!

We extend a warm welcome to our visitors worshipping with us today in our Cathedral. You are invited to join us for our fellowship following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in Carlos Hall next to the Church. Thank you for your visit! Please stop by our hospitality table and sign the register in the Narthex.

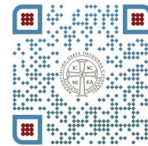
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