



The Messenger

Sunday, September 11, 2022
Κυριακή, 11 Σεπτέμβριος

Sunday before the Holy Cross
Κυριακή πρό τῆς Ὑψώσεως

Weekly Worship Guide

The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation • Atlanta, GA

Theodora of Alexandria, Euphrosynos the Cook, Demetrios & Evanthea the Martyrs & their son Demetrianos, Sergius and Herman of Valaam, Finland, Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, Deinol the First Bishop of Bangor

Today's Memorials

40 Day Memorial for Athanasios Papadias
1 Year Memorial for Mary Joanne Jones
2 Year Memorial for Athanasios (Mike) Platanis
10 Year Memorial for Emmanuel (Manoli) Platanis
21 Year Memorial for Ina Jones
23 Year Memorial for Pres. Constance Edwards
50 Year Memorial for Charlie (Constantinos) Jones
Those who lost their lives on 9/11

HOPE & JOY

In the gym today following Sunday School

Afterfeast of the Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos



Today is the Afterfeast of the Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. The Theotokos was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim and Anna. St. Anna was barren so they did not have children. Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's ability to overcome Anna's barrenness even in her old age. Ss. Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered a divine punishment for sin among the Jews at this time so Ss. Joachim and Anna endured abuse from their own people. Joachim was even turned away from the Temple in Jerusalem on one occasion because of Anna's barrenness as they were considered sinful. The pious couple prayed for a child in their extreme old age and the Lord obliged. The Archangel Gabriel was sent to them shortly thereafter bringing good news of their daughter Mary's birth and her eventual bearing of Christ. The Theotokos was born months later according to the Archangel's words.

The Nativity of the Theotokos established the conditions for God to be born as a man and live among us. The Theotokos' birth marks a change in course of human history when great promises of God's salvation of the human race and whole creation told through centuries of prophets are fulfilled for this reason.

(Adapted from the OCA website)

Order of Hymns Following The Small Entrance

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον. ᾠχος δ'.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριάι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς. ᾠχος δ'.

Ἡ γέννησίς σου Θεοτόκε, χαρὰν ἐμήνυσε πάσῃ τῇ οἰκουμένῃ· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, καὶ λύσας τὴν κατάραν, ἔδωκε τὴν εὐλογίαν· καὶ καταργήσας τὸν θάνατον, ἔδωρήσατο ἡμῖν ζωὴν τὴν αἰώνιον.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ. ᾠχος 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. ᾠχος πλ. δ'.

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

Κοντάκιον. ᾠχος δ'.

Ἰωακεῖμ καὶ Ἄννα ὄνειδισμοῦ ἀτεκνίας, καὶ Ἀδὰμ καὶ Εὐά, ἐκ τῆς φθορᾶς τοῦ θανάτου, ἠλευθέρωθησαν, Ἄχραντε, ἐν τῇ ἀγία γεννήσει σου· αὐτὴν ἐορτάζει καὶ ὁ λαὸς σου, ἐνοχῆς τῶν πταισμάτων, λυτρωθεὶς ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι· Ἡ στεῖρα τίκτει τὴν Θεοτόκον, καὶ τροφὸν τῆς ζωῆς ἡμῶν.

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 4.

The joyful news of your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with his great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Feast. Mode 4.

Your Nativity, O Theotokos, imparted joy to the entire earth, for out of you has risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He nullified the curse and instead gave His blessing; and causing death to be neutralized, He granted us eternal life.

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 4.

Both Joachim and Anna from their sterility's stigma, and Adam and Eve from their mortality's ruin have been set free, O immaculate Maid, by your holy nativity. For this do your people hold celebration, redeemed from the guilt of transgression as they cry to you, "The barren one bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life."

Readings

Epistle

Read by Alex Simitzes

PROKEIMENON: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

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

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.

Gospel

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."

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. Please let parents with their babies and the elderly approach first. Thank you.

Support our Cathedral

Welcome, everyone!

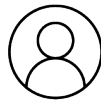
We extend a warm welcome to our visitors worshipping with us today in our Cathedral.

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.

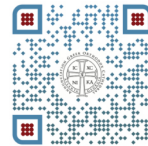
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