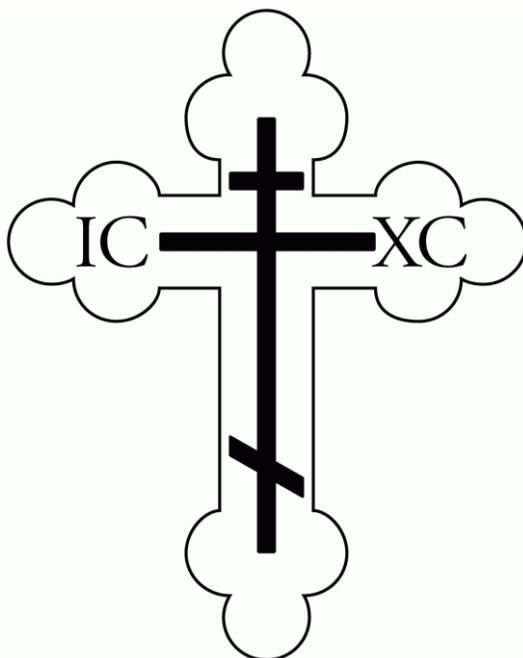


# HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

*1812 Watt St., Little Rock, AR 72227 +224-3330  
V. Rev. Fr. Joseph Bittle, Pastor*



**JUNE 25, 2017**

**LEAVE-TAKING (APODOSIS) OF THE FORERUNNER'S NATIVITY**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

## Preparing to Worship the Thrice-Holy God

### *Upon Entering the Church*

I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy;  
and in thy fear I will worship toward thy holy temple.

*(Ps. 5:7)*

### *A Prayer before Holy Communion*

Come, O you people, let us sing a song to Christ our God, Who divided the sea, and made a way for the nation which He had brought up out of the bondage of Egypt; for He is glorious.

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.*

May Thy holy Body be for me the bread of eternal life, O gracious Lord, and may Thy precious Blood be a remedy for my many forms of sickness.

*Cast me not away from Thy Face, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.*

Defiled by misguided deeds, wretched as I am, I am unworthy, O Christ, to partake of Thy immaculate Body and divine Blood, but make me worthy of them.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O blessed Bride of God, O good land which produced the unploughed Corn which saves the world, grant that I may be saved by eating it.

*(Canon of Preparation for Holy Communion, Ode 1)*

### A Word for Newcomers

A warm welcome to all those worshipping with us at Holy Trinity! If you are from a non-Orthodox background you may see many new and unfamiliar things. Rest assured that everything has a solid biblical foundation and a long history among Christian people. Please join us for coffee after the service, and feel free to ask Fr. Joseph any questions you may have.

**About receiving Holy Communion:** The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist, or Lord's Supper, to be – among other things – the paramount expression of Christian unity. Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a formal unity with all the dogma and practice and discipline of the Orthodox Church, **non-Orthodox** guests do not receive Holy Communion. **Orthodox** communicants are reminded that we approach the Chalice with due preparation including recent Confession, keeping the appointed fasts of the Church, and appropriate prayers of *preparation* for the reception of Holy Communion and *thanksgiving* after.

**DIVINE LITURGY of  
ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

*Variable Hymns and Readings*



**FIRST ANTIPHON**

*Verse: It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy name,  
O Most High.*

**Refrain:** *Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

*Verse: To proclaim in the morning Thy mercy, and Thy truth by night.*

*Verse: Upright is the Lord our God, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.*

*Glory to the . . . Now and Ever . . .*

**SECOND ANTIPHON**

*Verse: The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty;*

*the Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself.*

**Refrain:** *O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee.  
Alleluia.*

*Verse: For He established the world which shall not be shaken.*

*Verse: Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days.*

*Glory to the . . . Now and ever . . . Only begotten Son ...*

### THIRD ANTIPHON

**The Beatitudes:** In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,  
for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when men shall revile you and shall persecute you  
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake;  
Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

### AFTER LITTLE ENTRANCE

#### **Troparion for Resurrection (Tone 2)**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

#### **Troparion for Nativity of Forerunner (Tone 4)**

O prophet and Forerunner of Christ God's coming to us, \* all we who with longing now extol thee are at a loss to honor thee worthily. \* For thy mother's barrenness and father's long silence, \* by thine all-renowned and hallowed birth, were both ended, \* and the Incarnation of the Son of God is preached unto all the world.

**Troparion for Pentecost, patronal feast of the parish (Tone 8)**

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fisherman as most wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

**Kontakion for Theotokos (Tone 2)**

O undisputed intercessor of Christians, O mediatrix who is unrejected by the Creator, turn not away from the voice of our petitions though we be sinners. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith, for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who didst ever intercede for those who honor thee.

**EPISTLE: Romans 5:1-10 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. after Pentecost)**

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

**GOSPEL: St. Mathew 6:22-33** (*3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. of Matthew*)

The Lord said, “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.”

***As we move into the summer months, it is good to be reminded that appropriate church attire should reflect:***

- \* Our RESPECT for God's house;
- \* Our RESPECT for the coming of Jesus the Bridegroom to us in Holy Communion;
- \* Our RESPECT for our brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ; and
- \* Our RESPECT for our own bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit.

---

Note that the room used as a library and classroom will be closed for the next few weeks as it is both rearranged and as Fr. Joseph uses it to do some office sorting.

---

“The Lord greatly loves the repenting sinner and mercifully presses him to His bosom: "Where were you, My child? I was waiting a long time for you." The Lord calls all to Himself with the voice of the Gospel, and his voice is heard in all the world: "Come to me, my sheep. I created you, and I love you. My love for you brought Me to earth, and I suffered all things for the sake of your salvation, and I want you all to know my love, and to say, like the apostles on Tabor: Lord, it is good for us to be with You.""

~ *St. Silouan the Athonite (+1938)*



## THIS WEEK

*Last Day of Apostles Fast will be Wednesday;*

*Friday is regular fast day.*

Monday, June 26	<i>David of Thessalonika; John, bishop of the Goths</i>
Tuesday, June 27	<i>Sampson the host of strangers; Mary and Joanna the myrrhbearers</i>
Wednesday, June 28	<i>Translation of the relics of Cyrus and John the unmercenary healers; Martyrs Papios and Paul; Moses the anchorite; Venerable Simeon; Sergios and Herman, wonderworkers of Valaam</i>
<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Vesperal Divine Liturgy</b>
Thursday, June 29	<b>SS. PETER &amp; PAUL</b>
<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Men's Fellowship</b> -- continuing Ch. 2, from page 56, in "The Christian Old Testament" by Fr. Lawrence Farley
Friday, June 30	<i>Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles. New-martyr Michael</i>
Saturday, July 1	<i>Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian, martyrs in Rome; Newmartyr Constantine; translation of the relics of John of Rila from Tmovo to Rila</i>
<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Great Vespers</b>
<b>6:45 pm</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
Sunday, July 2	<b>LORD'S DAY</b>
	<i>Commemoration of the placing of the Robe of the Theotokos in Blachernae. Juvenaly, archbishop of Jerusalem; the Newmartyrs of Samothrace; repose of Job, first patriarch of Moscow</i>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Orthros</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>
<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>