

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

~ a Pan-Orthodox parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese ~

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Miami
Archpriest Joseph Bittle, Pastor



MARCH 25, 2018

**THE ANNUNCIATION
TO THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS**

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

O Sovereign Lord Jesus Christ, our God,
who alone hast authority to forgive men their sins:
overlook in thy goodness and love for mankind all my offences
whether committed with knowledge or in ignorance;
and make me worthy to receive without condemnation
thy divine, glorious, spotless, and life-giving Mysteries,
not for punishment, nor for an increase of sins, but for purification and sanctification and as a
pledge of the life and the kingdom to come,
as a protection and help, and for the destruction of enemies,
and for the blotting out of my many transgressions.
For thou art a God of mercy and compassion and love for mankind, and to thee we send up
glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(*St. John of Damascus*)

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to all those worshiping with us at Holy Trinity! Please join us for coffee after the service; we look forward to getting to know you. If you are interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity or in joining our parish, please contact Fr. Joseph at trinityorthodox@sbcglobal.net. Our parish website is orthodoxarkansas.com.

About receiving Holy Communion:

The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist to be – among other things – the paramount expression of Christian unity. Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a formal unity with all the dogma, practice, and discipline of the Orthodox Church, **non-Orthodox** guests do not receive Holy Communion; and **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

(Verses for Annunciation)

Verse: Give the King Thy judgments, O God, and Thy righteousness
unto the King's Son.

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

Verse: May the mountains bring peace to Thy people,
and the little hills righteousness.

Verse: Tell forth from day to day the glad tidings of the salvation of our God.

Verse: The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not turn from it;
of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

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

SECOND ANTIPHON

(Verses for Annunciation)

Verse: He shall come down as rain upon a fleece, and as the dew which falls
upon the earth.

Refrain: O Son of God, **who wast incarnate for our sake**, save us who sing to
Thee. Alleluia.

Verse: The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle.

Verse: Our God shall plainly come, and shall not keep silence.

Verse: In His days righteousness shall shine forth; and abundance of peace,
so long as the moon endureth.

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

THIRD ANTIPHON

(Verses for Annunciation)

Verse: His Name shall be blessed forever; His Name shall continue longer than the sun.

Serbian Chant
arr. P. Drobac

Tone 4

Melody

Lyrics: To-day is the be-gin - ning of our sal - va - tion, the

Lyrics: re - vel - a - tion of the e - ter - nal - mys - ter - y! The

Lyrics: Son of God be - comes the Son of the Vir - gin, as Ga -

Lyrics: bri - el an - noun - ces the com - ing of Grace. To - geth - er

Lyrics: with him let us cry to the The - o - to - kos: "Re - joice,

Lyrics: O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you!"

Ison

Verse: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, Who only doeth wondrous things.

Verse: And blessed be His glorious Name unto the ages, and unto the ages of ages.

AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Entrance Hymn

Proclaim from day to day the good tidings of the salvation of our God. Save us, O Son of God, *Who art risen from the dead*, save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Troparion for Resurrection (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

Troparion for Annunciation (Tone 4 – Serbian Chant arrangement)

See music from Third Antiphon above.

** Note: The patronal troparion of our church temple is not sung **

Kontakion

O Champion Leader, to thee I offer thanks of victory! O Theotokos, thou hast delivered me from terror. As thou hast invincible power, O Theotokos, thou truly can set me free from all danger; set me free and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without bridegroom!

Trisagion – Kievan Chant version during Great Lent

EPISTLE: Hebrews 2:11-18 (*Annunciation*)

Brethren, He Who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have all one origin. That is why He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, “I will proclaim Thy Name to my brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will praise Thee.” And again, “I will put my trust in Him.” And again, “Here am I, and the children God has given me.” Since, therefore, the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage. For surely it is not with angels that He is

concerned but with the descendants of Abraham. Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people. For, because He Himself has suffered and been tempted, He is able to help those who are tempted.

GOSPEL: St. Luke 1:24-38 (*Annunciation*)

At that time, Elizabeth, the wife of Zachariah, conceived, and for five months she hid herself, saying, “Thus the Lord has done to me in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.” In the sixth month the archangel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. And the archangel came to her and said, “Rejoice, O favored one, the Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the archangel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for thou hast found favor with God. And behold, thou wilt conceive in thy womb and bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there will be no end.” And Mary said to the archangel, “How shall this be, since I have known no man?” And the archangel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon thee, and the power of the Most High will overshadow thee; therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the archangel departed from her.

Megalynarion of Annunciation (Tone 4)

*Proclaim, O earth, the glad tidings of great joy,
and ye heavens, praise the glory of God.*

The Theotokos, being the living tabernacle of God, shall never be touched by an unclean hand. But the lips of believers shall sing unto her ceaselessly with the voice of angels, crying joyfully: Hail, O full of grace. The Lord is with thee.

THINKING AHEAD: HOLY WEEK 2018

April 2nd – 8th

- Palm Sunday** 6:30 pm – Bridegroom Orthros
Fr. Joseph available for Confessions afterward
- Holy Monday** 6:30 pm – Bridegroom Orthros
Fr. Joseph available for Confessions afterward
- Holy Tuesday** 6:30 pm – Bridegroom Orthros
Fr. Joseph available for Confessions afterward
- Holy Wednesday** 6:15 pm – Sacrament of Holy Unction
- Holy Thursday** 9:00 am – Vespers Divine Liturgy (Mystical Supper)
6:30 pm – Passion Gospels Orthros (Crucifixion)
- Holy Friday** 9:00 am – Royal Hours
followed by decoration of the Bier
3:30 pm – Great Vespers (Taking Down from the Cross)
7:00 pm – Lamentations Orthros (at the Tomb)
- Holy Saturday** 10:00 am – Vespers Divine Liturgy (Harrowing of Hades)
with Baptisms/Chrismations
11:00 pm – Paschal Rush Service, Orthros, & Divine Liturgy (Resurrection)
followed by Blessing of Paschal Baskets and Festive Potluck

PASCHA

1:00 pm – Agape Vespers & Picnic/Egg Hunt

THIS WEEK

Great Lenten Fast

Monday, March 26	Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel; Stephen the Confessor
6:30 pm	Great Compline
Tuesday, March 27	Martyr Matrona of Thessalonika; Martyrs Philetos and Lydia; Paul, bishop of Corinth; Venerable Euthychios
Wednesday, March 28	Venerable Hilarion the New; Apostle Herodion of the Seventy; Venerable Stephen of Triglia
6:15 pm	Presanctified Liturgy (<i>remember to fast before Holy Communion</i>)
Thursday, March 29	Mark, bishop of Arethusa; Martyr Cyril the deacon of Heliopolis; Martyrs Jonah and Barachisios; Eustathios the Confessor, bishop of Bithynia
Friday, March 30	Venerable John of Sinai, author of 'The Ladder;' New-hieromartyr Zachariah, bishop of Corinth; Sophronios, bishop of Irkutsk
Saturday, March 31	LAZARUS SATURDAY - Venerable Akakios the Confessor, bishop of Melitene; Prophet Joel; repose of Innocent, metropolitan of Moscow, enlightener of the Aleuts and apostle to America; repose of Jonah, metropolitan of Moscow
9:00 am	Divine Liturgy <i>followed by Church Cleaning and Decorating</i>
6:00 pm	Great Vespers
6:45 pm	Confession
Sunday, April 1	PALM SUNDAY (TRIUMPHAL ENTRY) - Venerable Mary of Egypt
9:00 am	Church School
8:50 am	Orthros (special start time through end of Great Lent)
10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
11:30 am	Coffee Hour
12:45 pm	Meeting for Those Preparing for Baptism/Chrismation on Holy Saturday
6:30 pm	Bridegroom Orthros

* *If you would like to bring pussy willows next weekend to add to the palms ordered by the Church, please do so.*