

THE MESSENGER

Weekly Worship Guide of The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, Atlanta Georgia

Sunday, August 13th, 2017 - Κυριακή, 13η Αὐγούστου 2017
10th Sunday of Matthew - Κυριακή Ἰ' Ματθαίου

Apodosis of the Feast of the Transfiguration, Translation of the Relics of St. Maximos the Confessor, Irene and Evdokia the Queens, Seridos the Abbott of the Monastery in Gazas, Dorotheos and Dositheos the Righteous.

Sunday School

Our 2017-2018 Sunday School Meet & Greet will be held today.

There will be a Dedication Service in the Cathedral. Following the prayer of thanksgiving you may go to the Sunday School classrooms for the Meet & Greet. This is an opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom and meet your child's teachers. Classes will be held for 20 minutes.

Registration forms are available in the Sunday School office and on the Cathedral website.

GOYA Oath of Office

We Congratulate the Newly Elected GOYA Board:

President: Katherine Spetseris

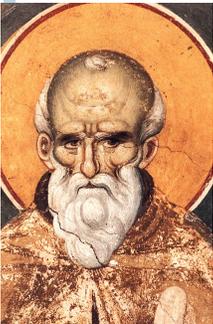
Vice President: Christina Nastopoulos

Secretary: Isabella Reynolds

Treasurer: Anthea Walker

Historian: Penelope Melissas

St. Maximus the Confessor



Saint Maximus the Confessor was born in Constantinople around 580. He received an excellent education, studying philosophy, grammar, and rhetoric. When Saint Maximus entered into government service, he became first secretary and chief counselor to the emperor Heraclius (611-641). Saint Maximus soon realized that the emperor and many others had been corrupted by the Monothelite heresy, which was spreading rapidly through the East. He resigned from his duties at court, and went to the Chrysopolis monastery, where he received monastic tonsure.

In defending Orthodoxy against the "Exposition," Saint Maximus spoke to people in various occupations and positions. The Monothelite heretics said that in Christ there was only one divine will ("θέλημα") and only one divine energy ("ἐνέργεια"). The struggle of Orthodoxy with heresy was particularly difficult because in the year 630, three of the patriarchal thrones in the Orthodox East were occupied by Monothelites: Constantinople by Sergius, Antioch by Athanasius, and Alexandria by Cyrus. Saint Maximus traveled from Alexandria to Crete, where he began his preaching activity. The saint spent six years in Alexandria and the surrounding area. Saint Maximus then asked Saint Martin the Confessor (April 14), the successor of Pope Theodore, to examine the question of Monothelitism at a Church Council. The Lateran Council was convened in October of 649. The Council condemned Monothelitism. The false teachings of Patriarchs Sergius, Paul and Pyrrhus of Constantinople, were also anathematized.

When Constans II received the decisions of the Council, he gave orders to arrest both Pope Martin and Saint Maximus. The emperor's order was fulfilled only in the year 654. Saint Maximus was accused of treason and locked up in prison. In 656 he was sent to Thrace, and was later brought back to a Constantinople prison. The saint and two of his disciples were subjected to the cruelest torments. Each one's tongue was cut out, and his right hand was cut off. Then they were exiled to in Scythia (Ukraine), enduring many sufferings and difficulties on the journey.

After three years, Saint Maximus reposed his soul in the Lord in 662. Saint Maximus has left to the Church a great theological legacy. His memory is celebrated on January 21st and the translation of his relics on August 13th.

(From the website of the Orthodox Church of America)

ORDER OF HYMNS FOLLOWING THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Απολυτίκιον Απολυτίκια

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον ᾠχος α΄

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν· διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι ζωοδότα. Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε φιλόανθρωπε.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς ᾠχος βαρῦς

Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθὼς ἠδυναντο. Λάμπσον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἁμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ αἰδίων, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ ᾠχος δ΄

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἢ 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. ᾠχος βαρῦς

Ἐπὶ τοῦ ὄρους μετεμορφώθης, καὶ ὡς ἐχώρουν οἱ Μαθηταί σου τὴν δόξαν σου, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός ἐθεάσαντο, ἵνα ὅταν σε ἴδωσι σταυρούμενον, τὸ μὲν πάθος νοήσωσιν ἐκούσιον, τῷ δὲ κόσμῳ κηρύξωσιν, ὅτι σὺ ὑπάρχεις ἀληθῶς, τοῦ Πατρὸς τὸ ἀπαύγασμα.

Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode 1

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, * and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. * You rose on the third day, O Lord * and Savior, granting life unto the world. * For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Life-giver: * Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; * glory to Your kingdom; * glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind.

Apolytikion of the Feast. Mode grave

You were transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples Your glory as much as they could bear. Do also in us, sinners though we may be, shine Your everlasting light, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Giver of light. Glory to You.

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. Mode grave

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance.



10th Sunday of Matthew - Κυριακή Ι' Ματθαίου

TODAY'S EPISTLE READING IS FROM:
ST. PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS 4:9-16

PROKEIMENON: *Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us..*

VERSE: *Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous*

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 17:14-23

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."

"Take up and read, take up and read." St. Augustine, *Confessions XII*

DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 19 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK





ACOLYTES GROUP TWO

Nicholas Pappas
Charlie Nelms
Niko Reynolds
Christopher Harakas
Peter Kessler
Konstantine Vlahos

Michael Michaels
Platon Constantinides
Nikolaos Constantinides
Spears Vavalides
Pete Constantinides

HANDMAIDENS GROUP TWO

Ariana Nasoulis
Bella Reynolds
Isabella Pappas
Zoe Nelms

Christina Nastopoulos
Gabiella Pappas
Marcella Vlahos

The following Parish Council members will be on duty today during the Service:

Demetri Hadjisimos
Irene Fotos

Read Davis
Stephen Georgeson

Nickitas Demos
Greg Koutrelakos

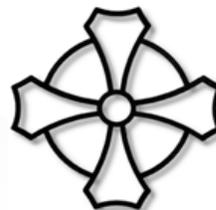
GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and 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.

WELCOME EVERYONE!

Welcome everyone! We extend a warm welcome to our visitors worshiping with us today in our Cathedral. You are invited to join us for the Fellowship Hour at the end of the Divine Liturgy in Carlos Hall next to the Church. Thank you for your visit! Please stop by our Newcomers table and sign the register in the Narthex.

"For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. "
- (2 Peter 1:16)



Rev. Fr. Paul A. Kaplanis, *Dean*
Rev. Fr. Christos P. Mars, *Presbyter*
Elias Lampropoulos, *Pastoral Assistant*

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