

# THE MESSENGER

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

**Sunday, July 1, 2018 - Κυριακή, 1 Ιουλίου 2018**

**Fifth Sunday of Matthew - Κυριακή Ε' Ματθαίου**

*Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Rome, Righteous Father Peter the Patrician, Righteous Father Leon, The Holy Two Thousand Martyrs, Mauricius the Martyr, The Twenty-Five Martyrs of Nicomedia The Righteous Father Basil, founder of the Monastery of Vathy Rjyx (Deep Creek)*

## UNMERCENARY SAINTS COSMAS & DAMIAN OF ROME



The Holy Martyrs, Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas and Damian were born at Rome, brothers by birth, and physicians by profession. They suffered at Rome in the reign of the emperor Carinus (283-284). Brought up by their parents in the rules of piety, they led strict and chaste lives, and they were granted by God the gift of healing the sick. By their generosity and exceptional kindness to all, the brothers converted many to Christ. The brothers told the sick, “It is not by our own power that we treat you, but by the power of Christ, the true God. Believe in Him and be healed.” Since they accepted no payment for their treatment of the infirm, the holy brothers were called “unmercenary physicians.”

Their life of active service and their great spiritual influence on the people around them led many into the Church, attracting the attention of the Roman authorities. Soldiers were sent after the brothers. Hearing about this, local Christians convinced Saints Cosmas and Damian to hide for a while until they could help them escape. Unable to find the brothers, the soldiers arrested instead other Christians of the area where the saints lived. Saints Cosmas and Damian then came out of hiding and surrendered to the soldiers, asking them to release those who had been arrested because of them.

At Rome, the saints were imprisoned and put on trial. Before the Roman emperor and the judge they openly professed their faith in Christ. They also, healed miraculously the emperor from an affliction he suffered. After this, Saints Cosmas and Damian were honorably set free, and once again they set about treating the sick. But what the hatred of the pagans and the ferocity of the Roman authorities could not do, was accomplished by black envy, one of the strongest passions of sinful human nature. An older physician, an instructor, under whom the holy brothers had studied the art of medicine, became envious of their fame. Driven to madness by malice, and overcome by passionate envy, he summoned the two brothers, formerly his most beloved students, proposing that they should all go together in order to gather various medicinal herbs. Going far into the mountains, he murdered them and threw their bodies into a river.

Thus these holy brothers, the Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas and Damian, ended their earthly journey as martyrs. Although they had devoted their lives to the Christian service of their neighbors, and had escaped the Roman sword and prison, they were treacherously murdered by their teacher.

The Lord glorifies those who are pleasing to God. Now, through the prayers of the holy martyrs Cosmas and Damian, God grants healing to all who with faith have recourse to their heavenly intercession.

The Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Rome should not be confused with the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Asia Minor (November 1), or the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Arabia (October 17).

**(From the website of the Orthodox Church of America)**

# ORDER OF HYMNS FOLLOWING THE SMALL ENTRANCE

## Απολυτίκιον Απολυτίκια

### Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον. ᾠχος δ΄

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

### Ἀπολυτίκιον τῶν Ἁγίων. ᾠχος πλ. δ΄

Ἅγιοι Ἀνάργυροι καὶ θαυματουργοί, ἐπισκέψασθε τὰς ἀσθενείας ἡμῶν, δωρεὰν ἐλάβετε, δωρεὰν δότε ἡμῖν.

### Κοντάκιον τῶν Κεκοιμημένων. ᾠχος πλ. δ΄

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

### 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 β΄

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε. Μὴ παρίδης ἀμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

### Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 4

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

### Apolytikion for the Saints. Mode pl. 4

Holy Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, visit our infirmities. Freely you received; freely give to us.

### 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.

### 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 4

A protection of Christians unshamable, intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, please reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: Hasten to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.



## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew - Κυριακή Ε' Ματθαίου

### TODAY'S EPISTLE READING IS FROM:

### ST. PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS 12:27-31; 13:1-8

**PROKEIMENON:** *AMONG THE SAINTS WHO ARE IN HIS LAND, THE LORD HAS BEEN WODROUS.*

**VERSE:** *OH GOD, HEAR MY CRY.*

**B**rethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

### TODAY'S GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 8:28-34; 9:1

**A**t that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

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

**DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 29 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK**





### ACOLYTES GROUP ONE

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Alex Simitzes   | Athanasios Grivakis |
| Eric Jackson    | Lucas Karatassos    |
| Jerod Spetseris | John Jackson        |
| Niko Tiliakos   | Pano Karatassos     |
| Pete Sirmans    | Peter Soulimiotis   |
| Robby Keenan    | Yanni Pothoulakis   |

### HANDMAIDENS GROUP ONE

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Alexia Spetseris  | Alexys Grivakis     |
| Elena Panos       | Anastasia Panos     |
| Natalia De Leon   | Isabella De Leon    |
| Patricia Jackson  | Katherine Spetseris |
| Sophia Karatassos |                     |

The following Parish Council members will be on duty today during the Service:  
Group: St. Gregory the Theologian

Costa Panos  
Al Galloway

Ned Biehler  
Scott Davenport

Sandy Papadopoulos  
Noula Zaharis

### 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 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.

***“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest;  
For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways,  
To give knowledge of salvation to His people  
By the remission of their sins”***

Luke 1:76-77



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

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