

THE MESSENGER

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

Sunday, April 2nd, 2017 - Κυριακή, 2 Ἀπριλίου 2017

Fifth Sunday of Lent - St. Mary of Egypt

Κυριακή Ε' τῶν Νηστειῶν - τῆς Ὁσίας Μαρίας τῆς Αἰγυπτίας

St. Mary of Egypt, Titus the Wonderworker, Theodora the Virgin-Martyr of Palestine, Amphianos and Aedesios the Martyrs of Lycia

"By the intercessions of Your Holy Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen!"

Today's Memorials

Found on Page 93 of Divine Liturgy Book

4 Month Memorial for Fannie (Theofania) Sparks

1 Year Memorial for Michael Chatiras

3 Year Memorial for Victor (Vasilios) J Poulos

10 Year Memorial for Savas John Poulos

24 Year Memorial Tony (Anthony) Paris

25 Year Memorial Alice Sparks Paris

21st Century Young Adult Conference in the Making

For those of you who remember or participated in the Young Adult Conferences of the 80's and 90's, Orthodox young people in the Greater Atlanta Area are organizing a **new young adult conference**, which will take place the weekend of **October 6th-8th in Atlanta**. Since these Young Adults are just beginning this endeavor and do not have any funds, **Today all area Orthodox Churches will be taking up an offering to support this ministry.**

To learn more, please visit: connectorthodoxy.org.

EPITAPHION COLLECTION

Philoptochos begins the Epitaphion collection today and will continue on Sunday, April 9th.

Please donate at the designated tables in the Narthex and outside of Carlos Hall.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

ATTENTION: EPITAPHION COLLECTION

St. Mary of Egypt



When Mary was only twelve years old, she left her parents and departed to Alexandria, where she lived a depraved life for seventeen years. Then, moved by curiosity, she went with many pilgrims to Jerusalem, that she might see the Exaltation of the venerable Cross. Even in the Holy City she gave herself over to every kind of licentiousness and drew many into the depth of perdition. Desiring to go into the church on the day of the Exaltation of the Cross, time and again she perceived a certain invisible power preventing her entrance, whereas the multitude of people about her entered unhindered. Therefore, wounded in heart by this, she decided to change her way of life and reconcile herself to God by means of repentance. Invoking our Lady the Theotokos as her protectress, she asked her to open the way for her to worship the Cross, and vowed that she would renounce the world. And thus, returning once again to the church, she entered easily. When she had worshipped the precious Wood, she departed that same day from Jerusalem and passed over the Jordan. She went into the inner wilderness and for forty-seven years lived a most harsh manner of life, surpassing human strength; alone, she prayed to God alone. Toward the end of

her life, she met a certain hermit named Zosimas, and she related to him her life from the beginning. She requested of him to bring her the immaculate Mysteries that she might partake of them. According to her request, he did this the following year on Holy and Great Thursday. One year after this, Zosimas again went thither and found her dead, laid upon the ground, and letters written in the sand near her which said: "Abba Zosimas, bury here the body of wretched Mary. I died on the very day I partook of the immaculate Mysteries. Pray for me." Her death is reckoned by some to have taken place in 378, by some, in 437, and by others, in 522. She is commemorated also on the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent. Her life was recorded by Saint Sophronius of Jerusalem.

ORDER OF HYMNS FOLLOWING THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Απολυτίκιον Ἀπολυτίκια

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἦχος πλ. δ'

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφήν καταδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσης τῶν παθῶν, Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ὁσίας Ἦχος πλ. δ'

Ἐν σοὶ Μῆτερ ἀκριβῶς διεσώθη τὸ κατ' εἰκόνα· λαβοῦσα γὰρ τὸν Σταυρόν, ἠκολούθησας τῷ Χριστῷ, καὶ πράπτουσα ἐδίδασκες ὑπερορᾶν μὲν σαρκὸς παρέρχεται γάρ, ἐπιμελεῖσθαι δὲ ψυχῆς, πράγματος ἀθανάτου· διὸ καὶ μετὰ Ἀγγέλων συναγάζεται Ὁσία Μαρία τὸ πνεῦμά σου.

Κοντάκιον τῶν Κεκοιμημένων Ἦχος πλ. δ'

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

Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ Ἦχος 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. Ἦχος β'

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

Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode pl.4

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the passions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for the Saint Mode pl. 4

In you, O Mother, is preserved undistorted what was made in the image of God; for taking up the cross, you followed Christ and by example taught, that we should overlook the flesh, since it passes away, and instead look after the soul, since it is immortal. And therefore, O devout Mary, your spirit rejoices with the angels.

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 2

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.



DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 13 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – ST. MARY OF EGYPT
Κυριακή Ε' τῶν Νηστειῶν - τῆς Ὁσίας Μαρίας τῆς Αἰγυπτίας

TODAY'S EPISTLE READING:
ST PAUL'S LETTER TO HEBREWS 9:11-14

EPISTLE READER: NICKOLAS KOSTOPOULOS

PROKEIMENON: *Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.*

VERSE: *God is known in Judah; His name is great in Israel.*

BRETHREN, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING: MARK 10:32-45

At that time, Jesus taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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

DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 27 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK





ACOLYTES GROUP FOUR

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Jack McClure | James Kostopoulos |
| Jack Demos | Nikolaos Odenwelder |
| John Xides | Michael Costopoulos |
| Manoli Pappas | Matthew Davis |
| Teddy Gassert | William Adams |
| Yianni Pothoulakis | |

HANDMAIDENS GROUP FOUR

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Callie McBride | Elli Moraitakis |
| Callie Davis | Isabella De Leon |
| Mela Xides | Natalia De Leon |
| Paraskevi Baker | |
| Renna Moraitakis | |

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

Chris Adams
George Koulouris

Tom McBride III
George Karolis

Charlie Burland
Dimitri Shreckengost

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.

“A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit. A broken and contrite heart God will not despise.” Psalm 50 (51):17



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

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