

Kontakia

Resurrection

TONE 2

Hell became afraid, O Almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee! And the world, O my Savior praises Thee forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Martyrs

TONE 4

The Lord snatched thee from the temporal army making thee a fellow inheritor of the eternal, O Menas; together with Hermogenes and Eugraphus with whom thou didst suffer, thou hast been granted an incorruptible crown.

Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

TONE 4

By thy Nativity, O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to thee: The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

Prokeimenon

TONE 2: The Lord is my strength and my song, / He is become my salvation.
Vs. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

The Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Ephesians 6:10 – 17

Epistle

Finally, my *Brethren*: be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

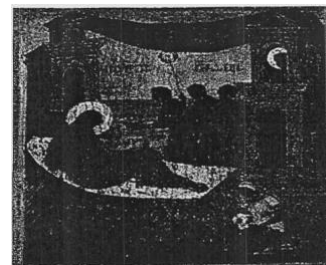
Alleluia

*May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the Name of the God of Jacob protect thee!
v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call upon Thee!*

The Gospel according to Apostle and Evangelist Luke 17:12 - 19

Gospel

At that time Jesus, as He: entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” So when He saw them, He said to them, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?” And He said to him, “Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.”



Schedule

Saturday, December 16, 2023

11:00 A.M. Parish Council Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, December 17, 2023

9:15 A.M. Church School

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Friday, December 22, 2023

10:00 A.M. Royal Hours

7:00 P.M. Vespers

Saturday, December 23, 2023

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, December 24, 2023

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

2:00 P.M. Vespers

7:00 P.M. Vigil (*Compline & Matins*)

Monday, December 25, 2023

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 30, 2023

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, December 31, 2023

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Friday, January 5, 2024

6:00 A.M. Matins & 1st Hour

8:00 A.M. Royal Hours

1:00 P.M. Vespersal Divine Liturgy St. Basil the Great with Great Blessing of Waters

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, December 10, 2023

27th Sunday After Pentecost; Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugraphus of Alexandria; St. Joasaph, bishop of Belgorod

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"Do not hasten to eat and drink, but rather hasten to perform God's service; and when performing God's service, do not think of food and drink. Think well before Whom you stand, with Whom you are conversing, to Whom you are singing praises; be wholly in God, belong wholly to Him alone, pray with all your heart, sing with all your heart, serve for your neighbor as you would serve for yourself, gladly, heartily, not with a divided heart and thoughts. Lord! Help us; for without Thee we can do nothing (St. John 15:5). When the heart is pure, then the whole man is pure; when the heart is unclean, the whole man is unclean: "for out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witnesses, blasphemies ... (St. Matthew 15:19)" but the saints all acquired pure hearts by fasting, vigilance, prayer, pious meditation, by reading the Word of God, martyrdom, labor, and sweat; and the Holy Ghost abode in them, cleansed them from every impurity, and sanctified them by eternal sanctification. Strive also, above all, for the cleansing of your heart. "Make me a clean heart, O God (Psalm 51:10)." Do not value God's Sacraments at the price of gold and silver. That which you have freely received, be also ready to freely give. Leave the reward for your labor to the free-will of those who receive the Sacraments, and labor for those who give, or can only afford to give you, the smallest remuneration for your spiritual labor, as willingly as for those who offer you a large remuneration. During God's work do not think of silver; do not offend the Holy"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

David	Theresa	Wilma
Adina	John	Michael
Ioan	Mark	April
Christopher	Reader George	Joseph
Rebecca	David	Michael
Donna	Shawn	Barb
Andrea	Gabriella	Barbara
Jacob	Catechumen Rebecca	Mark
Melia	Marie	Angela
Rachel	Michael	Elijah
Dorothy	Patricia	Sophia
Reader Stephen	Alexandra	Matushka Tanya
Michael	Reader Michael	Mary
Andrea	Michelle	Archpriest Moses
Teo	Mikaela	Archpriest John
Ronald	Zachary	Matushka Margaret
Priest Joseph	John	Matthew
Presbytera Irené	Cyndi	Priest Joseph
Ioannis	Diana	Archpriest Michael
Matushka Irene	Barbara	Reader Peter
Priest Andrew	Elaine	Patricia
	Victor	Matushka Virginia

Those in the life to come

Archpriest Michael	Matushka Olga	Francis
Protodeacon Nicholas	Archpriest Thomas	Jean
Ioannis	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	Edward
Randall	Archpriest Vladimir	Nancy
Vincent	Archbishop PAUL	Magdalene
Julia	Archimandrite Innocent	
<u>David</u>	Olga	

"Ghost, and do not sell God's gifts, lest your silver be the cause of your own destruction. Ah, indeed some really do sell, and others buy, or think of buying, the gifts of the Holy Ghost for silver, like Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8:18-24). Food and drink must only be used for strengthening our powers, and not as dainties, and we must not eat when nature does not require it. Many of us (and I myself the first), if we do not repent and correct ourselves, will be condemned for having eaten and drunk unseasonably, and thus for having lived, having understanding, like the brutes that have no understanding, and for having darkened our foolish hearts. You have amused yourselves with food and drink, and have often eaten and drunk when there was no need for you to eat and drink; "Woe unto you that are full! For ye shall hunger (St. Luke 6:25)." "Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts as in a day of slaughter (James 5:5)." You must pay most strict and active attention to this your daily action of eating and drinking, for from food and drink, from their quality and quantity, your spiritual, social, and family activity very greatly depends; "Take heed to your selves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness (St. Luke 21:34)." Tea and coffee also pertain to drunkenness if indulged in unseasonably and to excess. O, woe unto us who are full now, and frequently look neglectfully upon God's gifts. Through our flesh, and in general through our materiality, the Devil acts injuriously upon us. Thus, through wine, tea, coffee, through dainties, through money, dress, etc. he inflames our passions. Therefore we must guard against drinking much wine, tea, or coffee, and against eating dainties, especially without other substantial, solid, and wholesome food. These dainties must only be used after everything, and in most moderate quantity. Behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat (St. Luke 22:31)." It is he who so greatly distracts our thoughts in the temple during Divine service and at home during prayer; it is he who draws away our thoughts from God, from our souls and the souls of others, from heavenly and eternal things; it is he who occupies us with earthly trifles or with earthly vanity, with earthly nothingness, with earthly allurements, with food, drink, dress, houses, etc. We must pray for each other, that our faith should not fail, as the Savior prayed for Peter." My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

Troparia

Resurrection

TONE 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Martyrs

TONE 8

Having slain the fiery ragings and fierce movements of the passions though their ascetic labors, the Martyrs of Christ, Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugraphus, received grace to dispel the afflictions of the infirm and to work wonders both while alive and after death. It is a truly great wonder that bare bones pour forth healing. Glory to our only God and Creator.