

**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.

**tone 3:** Great is our Lord and abundant in power; / His understanding is beyond measure!  
vs. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

**First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians 8:8 – 9:2**

*Brethren:* Food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

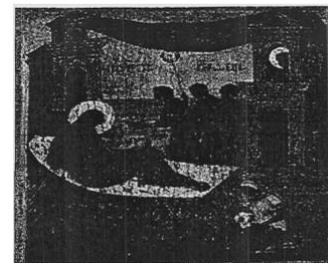
*Alleluia*

*v: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!  
v: Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!*

**Matthew 25:31-46**

*Gospel*

At that time, the Lord said, "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see you sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirst or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."



*Schedule*

**Saturday, February 29, 2020**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, March 1, 2020**

*Forgiveness Sunday*

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,**

**Thursday, March 2-5, 2020**

7:00 P.M. Great Compline with  
Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

**Friday, March 6, 2020**

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

**Saturday, March 7, 2020**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, March 8, 2020**

*Orthodoxy Sunday*

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers at St. Nicholas  
Greek Orthodox Church, St.

Louis, MO followed by rite of  
Triumph of Orthodoxy

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020**

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Divine  
Liturgy

**Friday, March 13, 2020**

7:00 P.M. Vespers followed by  
*Panikhida for the departed*

**Saturday, March 14, 2020**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy  
followed by *Panikhida for the  
departed*

**Nativity of the Virgin Mary**

**Orthodox Church**

**416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060**

**Sunday, February 23, 2020**

*35<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost; Last Judgement; St.  
Polycarp of Smyrna*

[www.nativityofthevirgin.com](http://www.nativityofthevirgin.com)

"All my happiness and unhappiness are contained in the thoughts and inclinations of my heart. If the thoughts and inclinations of my heart are in accord with God's truth or with the will of my God, then I am at rest, filled with divine light, joy, and blessedness; if not, I am uneasy, filled with spiritual, soul-corrupting darkness, heaviness, and despondency. If I completely change the false, impious thoughts and inclinations of my heart into true ones, pleasing to God, then I again obtain rest and blessedness. My neighbor is a being with equal rights as myself, a man, like me also made after the image of God; and as he is the same as I am, I must love him as I love myself. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, (St. Matthew 22:39)" - therefore I must watch over him as over my own flesh and blood, behave lovingly, gently, and kindly to him, forgiving him his thoughts as I should willingly forgive myself my own, as I long for forgiveness or indulgence from others towards my own weaknesses - that is, that other people should not even notice them, as though they did not exist, or that they should notice them gently, kindly, pleasantly, and benevolently. In order to communicate of the life-giving Sacrament with undoubting faith and to vanquish all the wiles, all the calumnies of the enemy, represent to yourself that that which is received by you from the Cup is "He Which is" - that is, alone existing. If the disposition of your thoughts and of heart is such, then by receiving the Holy Mysteries you will obtain peace, joy, and new life, and will recognize in your heart that the Lord"

## ***Prayer Requests***

### ***Those in this earthly life***

Melissa	Christean	Elijah
Michael	Eric	Sophia
Rachel	Kristina	Mary
John	Patricia	Matushka Tanya
Terry	Vanca	Archpriest John
Mary	Antoinette	Matushka Margaret
Elizaveta	Magdalene	Matthew
Michaela	Sarah	Protopresbyter Radomir
Linda	Ava	Archpriest Joseph
Mark	Subdeacon Paul	Archpriest Moses
Ellis Family	Judith	Priest Josef
Sandra	Peter	Matushka Virginia
Becky	Rebecca	Archpriest Vladimir
Ruth	Irene	Archprst Christopher <i>Phillips</i>
Jason	Emily & Child to be born of her	Archpriest Gregory
Elijah	Michael	Archpriest Myron
Xander	Jacob	Archpriest Philip
Kevin	David	Priest Benjamin
William	Marie	Deacon Nicholas
Christine	Reader George	Deacon Paul
Andrew	George	Deacon Paul
Sarah	Catechumen Kristine	Deacon Gregory
Suzan	Janet	Matushka Snezana
Andrew	Victor	Matushka Melania
Sarah	Wilma	Helen
Elmer	Michael	Theodore
Tim	April	Paul
Janet	Joseph	Mary
Livinia	Michael	Nicholas
Ian	Barb	Anne
Katrina	Barbara	Andrew
Kamari	Mark	Anthony
Michael	Angela	Christopher
Alexander		Jackie

### ***Those in the life to come***

Linda	Richard	Archpriest Thomas
Elizabeth Ann	Hailee	
Archpriest John	Christopher	
Mirza	Priest Michael	

"truly and essentially dwells within you, and you in the Lord. This is from experience. In praying to Our Lady, you call Her an abyss of mercies and bounties. Try yourself to be like Her, as far as lies in your power, in mercy and bountifulness in regard to those who have need of your mercy and bounties. Do not be angry with them, do not despise them, but love them the more they require your help. Consider their position clearly and soberly according to the teaching of the Gospel, often putting yourself in their place - and our Lady will multiply Her mercies upon you. Your words are unequal: some vivify, and others slay your soul, or, perhaps that of your neighbor. Therefore, it is said: "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt. (Colossians 4:6)" "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. (Ephesians 4:29)" The incorporeal enemy enters the heart of man through satiety and drunkenness - this can be felt by anyone who is observant. This is the reason why, with the growth of drunkenness, the inclination to drunkenness increases so terribly (because the power of the enemy over the man increases) - this is why you notice in drunkards a power involuntarily drawing them to satisfy their passion or their inward craving for wine. The enemy is in the hearts of these unhappy people. How can the demon of drunkenness be driven out? By prayer and fasting. The enemy enters the hearts of men because they have given themselves up to a carnal mode of life - to gluttony, and because they do not pray. It is, therefore, natural that he can be driven out from them by opposite means - that is, by prayer and fasting." *My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt*

### **TROPARIA**

*Resurrection*

#### **TONE 3**

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the first-born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy!

*Nativity of the Virgin Mary*

#### **TONE 4**

Thy Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from thee, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

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

### **KONTAKIA**

*Last Judgment*

#### **TONE 1**

When Thou, O God, shall come to earth with glory, all things shall tremble and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat; the books shall be opened and the hidden things disclosed! Then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O righteous Judge!

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