

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.

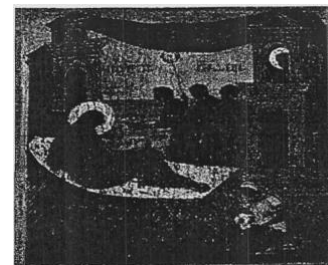
Alleluia

*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!*

The Gospel of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist 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, abut 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 tone 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, March 1, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Forgiveness Sunday

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:00 P.M. Forgiveness Vespers

Monday, March 3 – Thursday,

March 6, 2025

7:00 P.M. Compline with Canon of

St. Andrew of Crete

Friday, March 7, 2025

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, March 8, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Orthodoxy Sunday

BEGIN DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers at Assumption

Greek Orthodox Church, Town &

Country, MO

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, March 15, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, March 16, 2025

St. Gregory Palamas

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers at St. Thomas

Romanian Orthodox Church, St.

Louis, MO

Wednesday 19. 2025

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, February 23, 2025

*35th Sunday After Pentecost; The Last Judgment;
Hieromartyr Polycarp Bishop of Smyrna*

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"Concerning hypocritical prayer. Did the Pharisees think that they prayed hypocritically? They did not think so; they considered themselves to be right in their hypocrisy itself! It had become their habit; it had become, so to say, their nature; and they thought they were serving God by their prayer. Do the Christian hypocrites of the present day think that they pray and live hypocritically? They do not think so. They pray daily perhaps long; they pray out of habit with their lips, but not with their hearts, without hearty contrition, without a firm desire for amendment, and only in order to fulfil the established rule, and "think" that they do "God service (St. John 16:2)," whilst by their prayer they only incur the wrath of God. We all more or less sin in praying hypocritically, and shall be greatly censured for this. Humble yourself, consider yourself as the grass, which is nothing in comparison to the ancient oak-trees, or as a prickly thorn, which is nothing, which is worthless in comparison to the fragrant and delicate flowers; for you are indeed grass; you are indeed a prickly thorn, by reason of your passions. When you give alms to one who begs of you, and who, apparently, is not deserving of, does not require your charity - owing to which your heart grudges him the alms given - repent of this; for the Divine holy Love also bestows His blessings upon us, even when we have a sufficiency of them already. Love for your neighbor ought to say to you, "Even although he has something, still it will do no harm if I add to his prosperity (although, to tell the truth, a few pence will not greatly add to or amend his fortunes). God gives"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

Archpriest James	Reader Simeon	Michael
Myer Family	Anna	April
Kelly	Elizabeth	Joseph
Elyssa	Edmund	Michael
Marie	Catechumen Athanasius	Barb
Craig	Alex	Barbara
Ruth	Julia	Mark
Greg	Martha	Angela
Margaret	Kendra	Elijah
Carl	David	Sophia
Loraine	Adina	Kathy
Anastasia	Reader Stephen	Matushka Tanya
Amy & CTBB	Priest Andrew	Mary
Kristine	Popadija Joan	Archpriest John
George	Eva	Matushka Margaret
Lori Ann	Catechumen Mary	Matthew
Theresa	Alexandra	Priest Josef
Jake	Mary Magdalene	Archpriest Michael
Cecelia	Diana	Reader Peter
Gabriella & CTBB	Barbara	Patricia
Shawn	Elaine	Matushka Virginia
	Wilma	

"to me, why then should I not give to the needy?" I say to the needy, for who would hold out his hand without need? Had you only received gifts from God in accordance with your merits, you would have been a beggar yourself. God is bountiful to you, not in accordance with your merits, and you yourself wish that He should be bountiful. Why then, having plenty, do you not wish to be generous yourself to your brethren? Look upon everything in the world as upon a fleeting shadow, and do not cling with your heart to anything; do not consider anything in this world great, and do not lay your hopes upon anything earthly. Cling to the One imperishable, invisible, most wise God. "We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal (2 Corinthians 4:18)." 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!

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.

Those in the life to come

Victor	Aleksandra	Matushka Olga	Francis
Judy	Olivia	Archpriest Thomas	Jean
Nicholas	M. Suzanne	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	Olga
Archbishop ANASTASIOS		Archpriest Vladimir	Cheryl
Joe	<u>Robert</u>	Archbishop PAUL	Nancy
Patricia		Archimandrite Innocent	Magdalene
Donald		Edward	John