

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 5: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever!

v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Another (St. Gregory) TONE 1: My mouth shall speak wisdom and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews 1:10 – 2:3

Brethren, God says to the Son: “You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they shall be changed. But you are the same, and Your years will not fail.” But to which of the angels He ever said: “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool”? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed by those who heard Him?

Alleluia

v: I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.

v: For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens.

v: The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Mark 2:1-12

Gospel

And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.” And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, “Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, “Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise, take up your bed and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins” – He said to the paralytic, “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” Immediately he arose, and took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”



Schedule

Sunday, March 16, 2025

St. Gregory Palamas

5:00 P.M. Vespers at St. Thomas Romanian Orthodox Church, St. Louis, MO

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 21, 2025

7:00 P.M. Vespers

Saturday, March 22, 2025

Soul Saturday

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, March 23, 2025

The Cross

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 Ss. Cyril &

Methody Bulgarian Orthodox

Church, Granite City, IL

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

The Feast of Annunciation

6:00 P.M. Vespersal Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 28, 2025

7:00 P.M. Vespers *for the departed*

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Soul Saturday

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, March 30, 2025

St. John Climacus

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 Ss

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, March 16, 2025

2nd Sunday of Great Lent; St. Gregory Palamas

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"The Lord's love is greater than a mother's love. My mother bore me in her womb, and by God's ordering gave me birth. Afterwards she nourished me, fondled me, and carried me in her arms. When I was able to walk by myself she left off carrying me in her arms, and still earlier she ceased to feed me at her breast; whilst the Lord always, so to say, carries me in His bosom; " He that eateth My flesh and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me," says He, "and I in him (St. John 6:56)"; or "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth (Revelation 3:16)." He always carries me in His arms; " I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands; thy walls are continually before Me (Isaiah 49:16)," "Upholding all things by the word of His power (Hebrew 1:3)." He is my power, my sweetness and my joy, the light of my mind and my heart. He constantly nourishes me with the many various products of earth, as a mother nourishes her child. He is my "strong food and inexhaustible drink (Acatistos to the Sweetest Lord Jesus)." Our parents leave us and we them when we grow up, for it is said: "A man shall leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife (St. Matthew 19:5)," either in the literal sense of the words, or figuratively, to Christ, which is the highest and holiest love, greater than that of a loving wife; whilst the Lord, from the beginning of our existence until our death, does not leave us for a moment - "continually before Me (Isaiah 49:16)," every moment providing for us as a bird provides for her young ones. He is our hope even in death; He is our life after death; He is our consolation at His judgment. He will not cover us with"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

Sophia	Macarius	Eva
Marie	Christiana	Catechumen Mary
Ben	John	Alexandra
Brad	Gregory	Mary Magdalene
Lorraine	Archpriest James	Diana
Carl	Amy	Barbara
Nicholas	<i>Infant</i> Sage	Elaine
<i>Newly Illumined</i> Michael	Elizabeth	Wilma
Peter	Kristine	Michael
Maria	George	April
Evelyn	Jake	Joseph
Bridget	Cecelia	Michael
Jason	Gabriella & CTBB	Barb
John	Shawn	Barbara
Hope	Reader Simeon	Mark
Subdeacon Paul	Anna	Angela
Judith	Elizabeth	Elijah
Peter	Edmund	Sophia
Rebecca	Catechumen Athanasius	Kathy
Tomas	Alex	Matushka Tanya
Rachel	Julia	Mary
Katie	Martha	Archpriest John
Veronika	Kendra	Matushka Margaret
Peter	David	Matthew
Shawn	Adina	Priest Josef
Selaphiel	Reader Stephen	Archpriest Michael
Margaret	Priest Andrew	Reader Peter
James	Popadija Joan	Patricia
		Matushka Virginia

Those in the life to come

Helen	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	Olga
Jane McGarry	Archpriest Vladimir	Cheryl
Victor	Archbishop PAUL	Nancy
Judy	Archimandrite Innocent	Magdalene
<u>Nicholas</u>	Edward	John
Matushka Olga	Francis	
Archpriest Thomas	Jean	

"shame even then (Acathistos to the Sweetest Lord Jesus), and will lead us into the eternal mansions of the heavenly kingdom." My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

Troparia

Resurrection

TONE 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, Co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His Glorious Resurrection.

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.

St. Gregory

TONE 8

O luminary of Orthodoxy, support and teacher of the Church, ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, O wonderworker Gregory, boast of Thessalonika and herald of grace, always intercede for all of us that our souls may be saved.

Kontakia

Triodion

TONE 4

Now is the time for action! Judgment is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: "Our sins are more numerous than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of All, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns."

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

St. Gregory

TONE 8

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, radiant and harmonious trumpet of theology, we praise thee in song, O divinely-speaking Gregory. As a mind standing before the Primal Mind, guide our minds to Him, Father, so that we may cry aloud to thee: "Rejoice, herald of grace."