

Cross
TONE 1

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries and by virtue of Thy Cross preserve Thy habitation.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion

Cross
TONE 7

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden; it has mysteriously been quenched by the wood of the Cross! The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; for Thou, O my Savior, has come and cried to those in hell: "Enter again into paradise."

In the place of the Trisagion (i.e. "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!") We sing:

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, and Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify! *(After each – we make a full prostration – head to the ground and stand back up)*

Prokeimenon

TONE 6: O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!
vs. To Thee, O Lord, will I call, O my God, be not silent to me!

Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews 4:14 – 5:6

Brethren: Seeing that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weakness, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You." As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

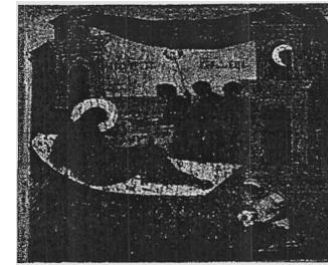
Alleluia

*v: Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased of old.
v: God is our King before the ages: He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.*

Mark 8:34-9:1

Gospel

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste of death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."



Schedule

Sunday, March 19, 2023

The Cross

Town Hall Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers *St. Thomas the Apostle Romanian Orthodox Church, St. Louis, MO, 6501 Nottingham Ave, 63109*

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 24, 2023

6:00 P.M. Bible Study

7:00 P.M. Vigil (Compline and Matins)

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Annunciation of the Theotokos

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

6:00 P.M. Vespers *at St.*

Michael's Orthodox Church, St. Louis with Archbishop DANIEL

Sunday, March 26, 2023

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy *at St.*

Michael's Orthodox Church, St.

Louis with Archbishop DANIEL

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

Michael's Orthodox Church, St. Louis

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 31, 2023

Rest of St. Tikhon of Moscow

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 1, 2023

9:00 A.M. Parish Cleanup

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, March 19, 2023

3rd Sunday of Great Lent; The Cross

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"You are angry with your neighbor, your brother, and say of him: "He is such and such - a miser, malicious, proud," or that he has done this and that, and so on. What is that to you? He sins against God, and not against you. God is his Judge, not you; unto God he shall answer for himself, not to you. Know yourself, how sinful you are yourself, what a beam you have in your own eye; how difficult it is for you to master and get the better of your own sins; how afflicted you yourself are by them; how they have ensnared you - how you wish for indulgence from others towards your own infirmities. And your brother is a man like you; therefore you must be indulgent to him as to a sinful man, similar in everything to yourself, as infirm as you; love him, then, as yourself, listening to the Lord saying: "These things I command you, that ye love one another (St. John 15:17)"; and as you pray for yourself, that the Lord may help you to root out your own cruel and incurable passions, so pray also for your brother, that the Lord may free him from the flattery and corruption of his passions, from their darkness and oppression. We must remember that we are one sinful body, more or less infected in our members by the breathing of the "common enemy - the Devil"; and that of ourselves, without God's grace, we are powerless to free ourselves from this deadly and darkening breathing; only the Holy Ghost by His breathing can drive away this demoniacal darkness of the passions, through the power of the Lord Jesus Christ's sufferings upon the cross. We must therefore humbly pray to the Lord, in the spirit of brotherly love, for all our brethren and for all people, that they may escape from the darkness of the"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

Tom	Brian	Maria
Nancy	Subdeacon Gregory	Elaine
Susan	Shawn	Victor
Cathy	Gabriella	Wilma
Shawn	Catechumen Rebecca	Michael
Yulia	Marie	April
Michaela	Michael	Joseph
Barbara	Reader Michael	Michael
Charlotte (Anne)	Michelle	Barb
Janet	Mikaela	Barbara
Don	Zachary	Mark
Mark	Ron	Angela
Christine	Beverly	Elijah
Ian	Dymphna & CTBB	Sophia
Alexander	Justin	Matushka Tanya
Nicole	Hope	Mary
Terry	Nicholas	Archpriest Moses
Carole	Theodora	Archpriest John
Neil	Presbytera Irené	Matushka Margaret
Pamela	John	Matthew
Raymond	Cyndi	Priest Joseph
Abba Thomas	Diana	Archpriest Michael
Sarah	Amy	Matushka Virginia
Infant Miles	Michael	Paul
Cody	Joseph	Mary
Tiffany	Andrew	Nicholas
Haylee & CTBB	Magdalene	Andrew
Subdeacon Andrew	Barbara	Anthony
Theresa	Rebecca	Christopher
Lori Ann	Nancy	Jackie

Those in the life to come

Rebecca	Archbishop PAUL
Clarita	
Jeffery	
<u>Jennifer</u>	
Archpriest Thomas	
Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	
Archpriest Vladimir	

"passions and their great attractiveness, in which they delight, not knowing their destructiveness; for instance; the rich man rejoices in his wealth; the ambitious one - in his distinctions; the glutton - in his food, drink, and dainties; the malicious - in his malice; the envious - in the sufferings of the victim of his envy; and so on. As the Lord hears every word of the prayer, "God, have mercy upon me," and fulfils every word (this is from experience), if only we speak from the depths of our heart; so, likewise, He hears and fulfils all the words of other prayers, even our own particular sincere prayers. O, Lord, Who so graciously heareth us, glory to Thee! "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you; for every one that asketh receiveth. (St. Matthew 7:8)." Only pray in the simplicity of your heart, and without doubting. By striking our bodily structure with sickness, the Lord crushes the old, sinful, carnal man, in order to give strength to the new man, whom we have weakened by the works of the flesh: gluttony, slothfulness, amusements, and manifold sinful attachments and passions. "For when I am weak, then am I strong (2 Corinthians 12:10)." Therefore, we must accept every malady with gratitude. God's Saints are great through their spiritual disposition, through their faith, their firm trust in God, and their burning love to God, for Whose sake they despised all earthly things. O, how null we are, compared to them; how unlike unto them! They are great by their great deeds of abstinence, vigilance, fasting, unceasing prayers, their diligence in studying the Word of God, and in pious meditation. O, how unlike we are to them! How deeply we must venerate them! With what reverence we must ask for their prayers for us! But in no case must we regard them lightly, irreverently, remembering their godliness and their union with the Godhead. I thank Thee, my Lord, my Master, and my Judge, for teaching me how to pray simply to Thee, for hearing my calling upon Thee, for saving me from sins and sorrows, and for rightly directing my ways. I called upon Thee (in the sin of my wickedness) in the words of the church prayer; "O, Lord, our God, Who grantest forgiveness unto men through repentance . . ." And as soon as I finished this prayer, peace and lightness established themselves in my soul (29th June 1864). Do not listen to the calumnies of the enemy against your neighbor, his abominations, his various wickednesses, and his pride. Look upon everybody simply, respectfully, as upon the image of God; and do not think any evil of him without reason." My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

Troparia

Resurrection

TONE 7

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death! To the thief, Thou didst open Paradise! For the myrrhbearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy! And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art Risen, granting the world great mercy!