

*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.*

**Kontakia**

*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***

**Wednesday, March 23, 2022**

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

**Friday, March 25, 2022**

*Annunciation*

4:00 P.M. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup> Hours

6:00 P.M. Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

**Saturday, March 26, 2022**

*Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel*

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, March 27, 2022**

*The Cross*

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers at Ss. Cyril and Methody, Granite City, IL

**Wednesday, March 30, 2022**

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

**Friday, April 1, 2022**

7:00 P.M. Vespers with Panikhida

**Saturday, April 2, 2022**

*Soul Saturday*

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

3:30 P.M. Church School

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, April 3, 2022**

*St. John of the Ladder*

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers at Holy Trinity Serbian, St. Louis, MO

**Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

6:00 P.M. Presanctified Liturgy

**Nativity of the Virgin Mary**

**Orthodox Church**

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

**Sunday, March 27, 2022**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Great Lent; The Cross**

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

"Let that which tranquillizes my thoughts and my heart be committed to writing as a memorial to me of the constant peace of my heart amidst the cares and vanities of life. What is it? It is the Christian saying, full of living trust and wonderful soothing power: "The Lord is everything to me." This is the priceless treasure! This is the precious jewel, possessing which we can be calm in every condition, rich in poverty, generous and kind to other people in the time of our wealth, and not losing hope even after having sinned. "The Lord is everything to me." He is my faith, my trust, my love, my strength, my power, my peace, my joy, my riches, my food, my drink, my raiment, my life, in a word, mine all. Thus, man, the Lord is everything to you; and you must be everything to the Lord. And, as all your treasure is contained in your heart and in your will, and God requires from you your heart, having said: "My son, give Me thine heart (Proverbs 23:26)," therefore, in order to fulfil God's gracious and perfect will, renounce your own corrupt, passionate, seductive, will; do not know your own will, know only God's will. "Not my will, but Thy will be done." There is absolutely nothing for a Christian to be proud of in accomplishing works of righteousness, for he is saved, and is being constantly saved, from every evil through faith alone, in the same manner as he accomplishes works of righteousness also by the same faith. "For by"

**Prayer Requests**

*Those in this earthly life*

David	Alexander	Angela
Adina	Nicholletta	Elijah
Randy	Christine	Sophia
Mary	Chelsea	Matushka Tanya
Clarita	Farah	Mary
Linda	Nolan	Met. HERMAN (BP)
Walter	Chuck ( <i>Causey</i> )	Archpriest Moses (BP)
Joan	Amy	Archpriest John (BP)
Scott	Janet	Matushka Margaret (BP)
Melissa	Diana	Matthew (BP)
Helen	Catechumen Peter	Priest Josef (BP)
Karen	Natalia	Archpriest Michael (BP)
Pamela	Amy	Archpriest Gregory (BP)
Brock	Michael	Deacon Paul (BP)
Jackson	Joseph	Deacon Peter (BP)
Thomas	Andrew	Deacon Michael (BP)
Jane	Magdalene	Matushka Virginia (BP)
Justin	Subdeacon Charles	Mary (BP)
Joseph	Deborah	Zoe (BP)
Joyce	Michael	Noah (BP)
Candace	Victor	Marie (BP)
Maria	Wilma	Paul
Archbishop PAUL	Michael	Mary
Andrew ( <i>Craig Rydgig</i> )	April	Nicholas
Larry	Joseph	Andrew
Franklyn	Michael	Anthony
Jacob	Barb	Christopher
Ann	Barbara	Jackie
Mark	Mark	

*Those in the life to come*

Thomas	Archpriest Vladimir
Margarette	Galina
Merle	
<u>Valery</u>	
Archpriest Thomas	
Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	

"grace are ye saved through faith; and that (faith itself) not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:8, 9)." So that no one can be proud of anything. It is only when we pray fervently, only then that we feel calm, warm, at ease, and bright in soul, because then we are with God and in God; but as soon as we cease thus praying, then temptations and various troubles begin. O, most blessed time of prayer! Love for God begins to manifest itself and act in us when we begin to love our neighbor as ourselves, and not to spare either ourselves or anything belonging to us for him, as the image of God; when we endeavor to serve him for his salvation in everything that we can; when, for the sake of pleasing God, we refuse to gratify our appetites, our carnal vision, our carnal wisdom, which is not subjected to the wisdom of God. "For he that loveth not his brother, whom he hath seen, how can he love God, Whom he hath not seen (St. John 4:20)?" "They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh, with the affections and lusts (Galatians 5:24)." Ask the Lord for whatever you desire. God the Father has but to desire to accomplish your request. The Son, the Creator and the Holy Ghost, the Accomplisher, being always with Him and in Him, as He Himself is in Them, are always ready to accomplish the desire of the Almighty and All good Father; for They Themselves are one with Him in goodness and omnipotence. You ought not to keep God's gifts to yourself, but should diffuse them upon others. Nature herself is an example to you; the sun does not keep the light to itself, but diffuses it upon the earth and moon. Pastors especially ought not to keep their - or, rather God's - light to themselves, but should abundantly diffuse the light of their intelligence and knowledge upon others." *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!