

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

Cross
TONE 4

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries, by bestowing on them the Invincible trophy, Thy weapon of Peace.

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 7 (Sunday After): Extol the Lord our God; / worship at His footstool for it is holy!
vs. The Lord reigns; let the people tremble!

The Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians 4:6 – 15

Epistle

Brethren: It is God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

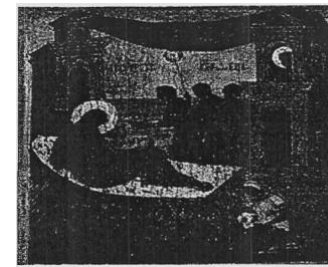
Alleluia

*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.*

Matthew 22:35 - 46

Gospel

At that time, when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Jesus a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The Lord said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'?" "If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.



Schedule

Sunday, September 10, 2023

*Festive Luncheon – following
Divine Liturgy*

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

7:00 P.M. Vespers with Great
Doxology and Procession of the
Cross

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Exaltation of the Cross

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, September 16, 2023

11:00 A.M. Parish Council
Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, September 17, 2023

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, September 23, 2023

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, September 24, 2023

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, September 30, 2023

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, October 1, 2023

*Pokrov – The Protection of the
Most Holy Theotokos*

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

October 2 – 4, 2023

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, September 17, 2023

*15th Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday After the
Exultation of the Cross; Martyr Sophia and her
three daughters Faith, Hope, and Love*

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"He who is insolent towards men is insolent towards God, as many of us are. Respect in man the grand, inestimable image of God and be forbearing towards the faults and errors of fallen man, so that God may be forbearing towards your own, because the enemy of God and of mankind, being unable to vent his malice upon God, endeavors to vent it upon his image – man, as well as all his impurities, his darkness, pride, envy, etc. Respect, therefore, man and save him; watch yourself also, do not become irritable nor malicious, do not envy, do not offend, do not lie, do not commit adultery, do not steal, and so on. Our soul is simple as thought, and rapid as thought or lightning. In an instant it can be wounded by sin and become attached to corruptible things; in an instant it can fall away from the love of God and its neighbor through a single unrighteous thought, through a single passionate desire, through a single malevolent thought, and therefore, we must constantly watch our heart, lest it should incline to words or thoughts of evil, and must ever strive to preserve it in God's simplicity and purity, and in the love of God and its neighbor. The best moments on earth are those during which we meditate upon heavenly things in general, when we recognize or defend the truth, that heavenly dweller and denizen. Only then do we truly live. Therefore, the essential interests of the soul require that we should oftener rise above the earth, upwards to heaven, where is our true life, our true country, which shall have no end. Looking upon the many various diversions of men, upon"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

Evie (<i>McDonald</i>)	Ella	Patricia	Reader Peter
Wayne	Clifford	Reader Michael	Patricia
Mary	Carolyn	Michelle	Matushka Virginia
Terry	Zoe	Mikaela	
Michaela	Deborah	Zachary	
Elizaveta	Vera	John	
Ron (<i>Capek</i>)	Matushka Ann	Cyndi	
Paul	Larissa	Diana	
Laura	Andrew	Magdalene	
Ryan	Joseph	Barbara	
Lauren	Caroline	Elaine	
Andrew	Alexandra	Victor	
Bridget	Anastasia	Wilma	
Charlotte	Michael	Michael	
Arprst Christopher (<i>Stade</i>)	Nadia	April	
Priest Joseph (<i>Strzelecki</i>)	Nwly Illumnd Evangeline	Joseph	
Popadia Joan (<i>Moulton</i>)	Rachel	Michael	
Priest Petros	Isaac	Barb	
Reader George	Dymphna	Barbara	
Marie	Justin	Mark	
David	Hope	Angela	
James	Nicholas	Elijah	
Kim	Theodora	Sophia	
Judith	Kathy	Matushka Tanya	
Subdeacon Paul	David	Mary	
Peter	Theresa	Archpriest Moses	
Rebecca	Shawn	Archpriest John	
Michael (<i>Zabinko</i>)	Gabriella	Matushka Margaret	
Reader Stephen	Catechumen Rebecca	Matthew	
Paul	Marie	Priest Joseph	
Amy	Michael	Archpriest Michael	

Those in the life to come

Katherine	<u>Gregory</u>
Kathleen	Archpriest Thomas
Aileen	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS
Matushka Katherine	Archpriest Vladimir
Nancy	Archbishop PAUL
Nun Nektaria	Archimandrite Innocent
Olga	

"their exclusive care for the flesh, one thinks: "Have these men a soul? And if they have, then why do they not care for it, why do they not think of its salvation? - for it is given up to innumerable sins which constitute its death, and eternal death. Are there indeed eternal torments and eternal bliss? And if these exist, then why do men strive so little, or do not strive at all, to escape eternal torment and to inherit eternal bliss?" This is what astonishes me. And, also, why do not men fear the terrible hour of death? For we cannot live on earth for ever. Some time our turn will come, and we shall be told: "Return ye, sons of men, unto the earth from which you were created." O, how heedless we are, how great is our pride, how manifold our passions, our attachments to the earth! Sinners, do you think that God has no means by which He can punish you? O, there are means, there are! There is the fiery Gehenna, the lake of fire, the terrible Tartarus, at which even Satan himself trembles, the worm that never dies, and the gnashing of teeth. But why do I discourse of this only to you? I ought to say the same to myself, to myself also, for I am the greatest of the sinners, for whom the torments of hell were prepared, but from which Christ, in Whom is all my hope, has saved me. But you, my brethren, have you all faith in Christ, in His Gospel? Where is your evangelical life? Who of you reads the Gospel, even daily, that greatest gift of God, and law of life? "They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one (Romans 3:12; compare Psalm 14:3)."" My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

Troparia

Resurrection

TONE 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave; seeking Thy Most Pure Body, Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee!

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.

Martyrs

TONE 5

Thou didst blossom in the courts of the Lord as a fruitful olive tree, holy martyr Sophia; in thy contest thou didst offer to Christ the sweet fruit of thy womb, thy daughters Faith, Hope, and Love. Together with them intercede for us all.

Kontakia

Resurrection

TONE 6

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty Hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race; He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Martyrs

TONE 1

The holy branches of noble Sophia, Faith, Hope, and Love, confounded Greek sophistry through Grace. They struggled and won the victory and have been granted an incorruptible crown by Christ the Master of all.