

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF LUKE, THE NATIVITY FAST BEGINS

GURIAS & THE CONFESSORS OF EDESSA; THOMAS, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's First Letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 4-10: Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 4-10.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, Chapter 10, Verses 25-37: At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν κεφ. 10, ἐδάφ. 25-37.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Six (Plagal 2):

When the angelic powers appeared at your tomb, those who guarded You became as though dead. And, standing by your sepulcher was Mary, seeking your pure and sacred body. You did vanquish Hades and, uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the Virgin bestowing the gift of life. From the dead You arose, O Lord: we give glory to You.

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμᾳ σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντὸν σου Σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ: ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωροῦμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε, δόξα σοι.

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SPANISH: Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo; danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y líbranos del Mal.

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY CLASSES: These very popular classes are taking place on a weekly basis, remotely, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Alex Kozak. If you are new to the parish or you are considering being received into the Church through baptism and/or chrismation, as an adult, we invite you to speak with Alex about your wishes and the possibility of joining the Introduction to Orthodoxy class. Please contact him at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com

TODAY'S MNEMOSYNA: Memorial prayers are being offered for the repose of the soul of our sister **Toula Georgatos**, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago and also for the repose of our sister **Catherine (Makras) King**, who also fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago. Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη! Eternal memory!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: The Parish Council will meet today, remotely. Its agenda includes the report by the Reopening Task Force, which met on Wednesday, November 12, to consider when and under what circumstances we can safely reopen for in-person worship.

DIVINE LITURGY THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21: On November 21, known as Τά εισόδια τῆς Θεοτόκου, we recall how the Virgin Mary, in anticipation of her becoming the Bearer of God in the flesh (this is the literal translation of "Theotokos"), was taken to the temple, where she was raised, until her betrothal to Joseph. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated, via streaming, beginning at 10 a.m. To participate, visit www.annunciation.org

CATHEDRAL LAUNCHES 2021 STEWARDSHIP DRIVE, BEGINNING TODAY, ENDING DECEMBER 31: Stewardship is about **involvement**: giving of one's time and talent. It's also about **money**: you give of your resources. In doing so, we give back to God that which God has given us. In this way, we become Stewards of God's grace, as we read in 1 Peter 4:10: *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful Stewards of God's grace in its various forms.* Thanks to your faith, the Cathedral has been able to meet its budgetary expenses for 2020. We now invite your support for 2021. Stewardship cards have been sent out to our Cathedral community. Please complete and return your card during our campaign, November 15 through December 31. A couple of new features this year. One is a check box asking you to identify your primary affiliation with the parish. This will help us better understand the various groups that make up the community. Another is a checkbox asking whether you would like to continue your 2021 pledge into 2022, thus facilitating your Stewardship for 2022.

LIGHT A VIRTUAL CANDLE: Thank you for lighting a virtual candle every Sunday, thus keeping hope alive. Whether you donate \$1 or \$1,000, your gift is one of faith. It helps keeps the Cathedral solvent during this universal upheaval. More importantly, it connects us to Him who is the Light of the World (John 8:12) and reminds us of our calling to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). To light your virtual candles, please visit our web site, www.annunciation.org, and click on the appropriate link, or enter <https://annunciation.org/candle>

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP: Our Reopening Taskforce met this Wednesday to consider all aspects of reopening and decided that, while our goal is to open as soon as it is safe to do so, we are not ready, just yet. Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services, remotely, through streaming.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR CHURCH REOPENING: We thank **Eleni Carter and Rada Nashawati (Paximadis)** for offering to serve as volunteers, in addition to the members of our Parish Council. If you would like to join them, please click on <https://www.annunciation.org/reopening-volunteer>.

OUR ADOPT A PAVER PROJECT: The good news is that we're at 100 pavers. Of these, 44 have been inscribed. They will be redone, in a darker color, to make them easier to read, at the same time that the remaining 56 pavers are inscribed. More good news is that the company doing the inscription is ready to resume working. They were scheduled to start two days ago, but had to postpone, because of the rain.

THINGS BEGINNING TO MOVE: The present pandemic has put everything building-related on hold but, now, things are moving. Granite along the Valencia Street walls and the stone cap have been installed. The roofing and drainage issues have been addressed. The gates are now virtually complete. The lobby doors have been installed. Stonecraft has put in the remaining pavers. We are only waiting for the final inspection of the elevator. As soon as this is done, we will obtain our certificate of occupancy for the garage, so we can open the garage to self-park. Opening the garage is necessary if we are to open up the church, as the valet can guide us where to park, but can no longer park our cars for us... As a community, we've been through much, especially when we lost everything to the earthquake, back in 1989. But, we've bounced back. It wasn't easy, but we did it, because we have faith, we have hope, and we have unity. So, too, we will weather this pandemic and return to a so called "new normal," –i.e. a community where we may do things a little differently, but with the same strong faith in God. After all, it is for Him, in Him, and through Him that we continue to exist at all. Praise God for the Gift of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we are given the faith and the vision to rebuild His Church.



"The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified."