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A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America • Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America His Grace Bishop ANTHONY, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Toledo

TONE 3

**DECEMBER 9, 2018** 

**EOTHINON 6** 

## CONCEPTION OF THE THEOTOKOS BY RIGHTEOUS ANNA 10<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

PROPHETESS HANNAH (ANNA), MOTHER OF SAMUEL THE PROPHET
FATHER STEPHEN THE NEWLY APPEARED



CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION IN JERUSALEM

# STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY CHOIR APPRECIATION SUNDAY

According to the ancient tradition of the Church, since Saint Anna, the Ancestor of God, was barren, she and her husband Joachim remained without children until old age. Therefore, sorrowing over their childlessness. they be sought God with a promise that, if He were to grant them the fruit of the womb, they would offer their offspring to Him as a gift. God, hearkening to their supplication, informed them through an Angel concerning the birth of the Virgin. And thus, through God's promise, Anna conceived according to the laws of nature, and was deemed worthy to become the mother of the Mother of our Lord, who was born nine months later, on September 8.

# LITURGY VARIATIONS

### 3<sup>RD</sup> ANTIPHON: TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (TONE 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and become the first-born

from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

### APOLYTIKIA AFTER THE ENTRANCE

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 3)**

Let the heavens rejoice....

## **Schedule of Regular Weekly Services**

**Sundays:** Matins, 8:50 AM Confession:

**After Saturday Vespers** 

Divine Liturgy, 10 AM

**During Sunday Matins** 

Saturdays:

Wednesdays: Vespers, 6:30 PM Great Vespers, 5 PM Or by Appointment

Remember to turn cell phones off!

See Calendar for Feast Days and Other Weekday Services Scheduled

#### **Order for Holy Communion**

Members of the Orthodox Church age seven and above must prepare for Holy Communion with a recent confession, prayer, fasting from all food and drink from midnight (unless medical condition preclude it), being in church before the Epistle and Gospel readings, and being at peace with everyone.

**CHILDREN** going to church school and their teachers should come down the center aisle first. (Small children may need to be assisted by their parents.)

**ALL OTHERS** should wait until an usher dismisses your row from the center aisle. Then return to your place by a side aisle for the prayers of thanksgiving and the final blessing and dismissal. Please let choir members pass when they come down for Communion.

## A Warm Welcome to Our Guests

We are glad you are worshipping with us. Please note that participation in Holy Communion is limited to members of the Orthodox Church in good standing, who have prepared through prayer, fasting and confession.

For all others: though we cannot share Communion with you—since it is an expression of membership and full unity in faith—you are welcome to come forward after the dismissal, receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread (from the large bowls). Please also sign our guest book, and introduce yourself to Fr. Nabil during the coffee hour. You may inquire with him how you can become a member.

#### **Troparion for the Conception of the Theotokos (Tone 4)**

Today the bonds of barrenness are broken; God has heard the prayers of Joachim and Anna. He has promised them beyond all their hopes to bear the Maiden of God, by

whom the uncircumscribed One was born as mortal Man. He commanded an angel to cry to her: "Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you!"

#### Troparion for St. George (Tone 4, Russian)

As Deliverer of captives and Defender of the poor, Healer of the infirm, Champion of kings, victorious Great-Martyr George,

intercede with Christ, our God, for our souls' salvation.

#### Kontakion for the Conception of the Theotokos (Tone 4)

Today the universe rejoices, for Anna has conceived the Theotokos through God's

dispensation, for she has brought forth the one who is to bear the ineffable Word.

#### **SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

#### Prokeimenon (Psalm 63.10, 1 LXX; Tone 7)

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord.

Verse: O God, hear my prayer.

## St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians (4.22-27; Conception of the Theotokos)

BRETHREN, Abraham had two sons, one by a slave and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, the son of the free woman through promise. Now this is an allegory: these two women are two covenants. One is from Mt. Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she

corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren One who do not bear; break forth and shout, you who are not in travail; for the children of the desolate one are many more than the children of her that is married."

#### From the Gospel according to St. Luke (13:10-17; 10th Sunday of Luke)

AT THAT TIME, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or

his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him."

## **HOLY OBLATIONS AND PRAYER REQUESTS**

- By Dean, Beth and Nathan Flaris, in memory of Lauretta Hood.
- By Jennine Basham, in memory of Nathan Saleh.
- By Gregory and Barbara Mitchel, for the health of Nyla Erler.
- By Tony and Janis Saliba in memory of Issa Issa, Nathan Saleh and Lauretta Hood.
- By Salim and Paula Najjar, for the health of Trenton Wesley and Joseph Pertile, and in memory of Janice Beveridge and Lauretta Hood.

A sign-up sheet for baking and offering the prosphora (altar bread) is posted on the bulletin board, next to the elevator. You can also contact Thelma Hoover at (317) 782-1633.

#### **CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY**

All church school classes will prepare for the Christmas Pageant, which they will offer immediately after Liturgy.



## FOR THE FIRST ORTHODOX SAINT OF AMERICA



Known as the "Wonderworker of All America," we celebrate the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of St. Herman Alaska at **6 pm Wednesday, December 12.** 

Dinner and a Presentation by Our Mission Team that we sent to Kodiak in June will follow.

"From this day, from this hour, from this minute, let us strive to love God above all and to fulfill His holy will."

~ St. Herman of Alaska

### STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Our pledge drive culminates today, our annual "Stewardship Commitment Sunday," where we make our pledges, followed by a brunch as a token of our appreciation for <u>you</u> and your sacrifices for God's work.

This is the day we all renew our commitments to God's church by turning in our pledge cards today (or mailing them back as soon as possible). This commitment is in the form of our annual stewardship pledge. This is the pledge we make to continue the operational support of our new church for the coming year and needs to be kept separate from the building fund pledge.

At the dismissal, Fr. Nabil and our parish council will begin with depositing their pledge cards, and we ask everyone to follow suit. We would like to receive all pledge cards on this day (otherwise, please mail them back to church as soon as you can).

The Stewardship Ministry Team, Duke Haddad and Patrick Koers Offer unto God
thanksgiving:
and pay thy vows
unto the most High:
And call upon me
in the day of trouble:
I will deliver thee,
and thou shalt glorify me.
Psalms 50:14-15



"I/we pledge a reasonable and fair share of the blessings received from God as a token of thanksgiving and in support for His Holy Church."

#### PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS: PRE-CHRISTMAS FAST

November 15 marked the first day of the **NATIVITY FAST**, which runs for forty days, until Christmas. During this time, we abstain from meat and dairy products. Then the last few days of the fast—Dec. 20-24—become stricter, when fish, wine and oil are also excluded. Everyone should also plan to make their confession sometime during the fast.

## Please Join Us for Fellowship after the Liturgy

The ushers will hand you the announcements bulletin as you exit via the north (side) doors of the nave, following the dismissal and verbal announcements.



#### Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

# ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

December 9, 2018

#### Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy and Christ-loving Faithful of our Archdiocese:

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I pray you and your families are well as we prepare to receive the incarnate Lord in our midst and in our hearts.

As we make our way through this beautiful season of fasting and preparation for the Nativity of our Lord in the flesh, we cannot but feel inspired by the beautiful hymns of our Church that are an integral part of this season. The Christmas Canon, "Christ is Born, glorify Him!" and the beautiful Kontakion of this holy period, "Today the Virgin comes unto the cave" are but two of many such hymns that we love to sing and hear. For us as Orthodox Christians, these hymns give depth and meaning to the season and to what we believe about the God-man.

As we listen to these hymns and others throughout the Church year, we are so grateful to our choirs and chanters, and especially to those who lead them. The work and effort they put into preparing for the services is a labor of love. On the archdiocesan level, we have promoted the continued education of these leaders through our Sacred Music Institute so that they can become more and more educated in the music and traditions of our Church. Through such institutes and workshops, they are also able to share their experiences with others so that, together, we can build strong choirs and chanters throughout the archdiocese. To this end, we are grateful to our department chairman, Mr. Paul Jabara, and all who help him in the Department of Sacred Music.

With that in mind, we set aside one Sunday in December each year to honor our choirs and chanters. This year, that day is Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Let us use this day to honor them and say thank you for their effort to enrich our worship through the proper singing of our sacred music throughout the year. May God grant them many years!

Wishing you all a blessed remainder of the Fast and, in advance, a blessed feast, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America



On account of the Presentation by our Alaska Mission Team this Wednesday, we are postponing the final sessions of our Fall Adult Study program one week.

Wednesdays, Dec. 19, 7:15 to 8:30 p.m.

Option 1 Spirituality (Sexuality, Marriage, Family, Sickness, Suffering, Death, Judgment)

**Option 2** Orthodox Holy Places around the World: Holy Places in America

# Christmas Eve Schedule: Monday, December 24

With the angels, the shepherds, the wise men and all the saints, then, let us come to adore Him Christmas Eve.

**Royal Hours of Christmas** 8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m. **Divine Liturgy** (Paramon of Christmas)

While we encourage all to come to both the morning and night services (which are not the same), this may be an excellent opportunity for young children and entire families to celebrate the birth of Christ together, especially if attendance at

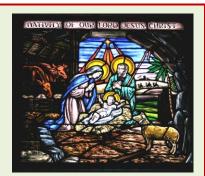
the late service be impossible.

8:30 p.m. **Christmas Matins** 

10:00 p.m. CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGY

> In celebration of the Feast and as a token of our love and appreciation of you. Fr. Nabil and Khouriyah Elaine will host dinner in the church hall immediately

following Liturgy, assisted by our parish council.



#### PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please include in your daily prayers the following—those struggling with acute illness and those newly departed this life—from our parishioners and those for whom they have requested our prayers. (Names are kept for 40 days, the date indicated after the name, and may be renewed upon request.)

#### LIVING

Metropolitan Paul and Archbishop John

Fr. Joseph Shaheen, in rehab. following surgery, 12/10 Salim Najjar, 1/15

Carol Abraham, Carmel Care Rehab., 1/8

C. Edward Edge, 12/25

Elias AlTawil, Carmel Care Rehab., 12/15

Fouad Fred Musleh, Copper Trace Rehab., 12/15

**Thomas** Fedor and **Christine** Cataldo, Liza Nahas' father and aunt, 1/17

**Susan** Moore and **Andrea** Tabanelli, Joanne Beck's sister and sister-in-law, 1/7

Alexandru, friend of Jeff Beck, 12/21

Jean Llewelyn, friend of Natalie Ashanin, 12/13

Kevin Kelly, Leo Khamis' teacher, 12/10

Neil and Themia Sandven, cousins of Kh. Elaine Hanna, 12/10

Trenton Wesley, deployed in Afghanistan

Those displaced by earthquakes in Alaska and fires in California

All those suffering from illness, violence or want throughout the world

#### **DEPARTED**

Fr. Stephen Rhudy, 12/21

President George H. W. Bush, 1/9

**Hani** Sarweh, cousin of Oussama, Samer and Amer Nahas. 12/25

Mohy Saleh, Iman Kiritsis' father, 1/16

Lauretta Hood, Joanne Beck's mother, 1/6

William McKnight, 1/5

James VanHorn, friend of Brian Phillips, 12/24

Richard Arbuckle, Michael's father, 12/22

Janice Elaine Beveridge, James' mother, 12/20

Fawwaz Dahdal, father of Zain Ishak and Sherin

Khamis, 12/18

Nathan Saleh, grandson of Marcele Saleh and nephew

of Iman Kiritsis, 12/18

Nadia Hanna, Fr. Nabil's aunt, 12/17

The victims of violence in California, Pittsburgh, Egypt, Syria and throughout the world

## ST. GEORGE PARISH CALENDAR

December 2018	
Sun. 9	Stewardship Commitment Sunday Choir Appreciation Sunday Matins, 8:50 am Choir practice, 9 am Divine Liturgy, 10 am Church School classes Church School Pageant Stewardship Appreciation Brunch
Wed. 12	Eve of the Feast of St. Herman of Alaska  Divine Liturgy, 6 pm  • Presentation by Alaska Mission Team • Teen SOYO Gathering
Sat. 15	Charity Gift Delivery, 10 am Great Vespers, 5 pm Confessions heard afterwards
Sun. 16	Matins, 8:50 am Choir practice, 9 am Divine Liturgy, 10 am
Tue. 18	Parish Council, 7 pm
Wed. 19	Eve of the Feast of St. Ignatius of Antioch  Divine Liturgy, 6 pm  Dinner  Basics of Orthodox Christianity  "Where in the World?" class
Sat. 22	Great Vespers, 5 pm • Confessions heard afterwards
Sun. 23	Matins, 8:50 am Choir practice, 9 am Divine Liturgy, 10 am Christmas Caroling to shut-ins

See the full calendar and the latest additions and updates at www.stgindy.org/calendar