

Announcements

Blessing of the 5 Loaves, Artoklasia: The Artoklasia is presented today by Georgia Antonopolous in honor of St. Dionysios of Zakynthos.

Coffee Hour is sponsored today by the Paladino family in honor of their loved ones.

Vasilopita: Vasilopita orders will be available for pick-up on today, December 18th after Divine Liturgy.

Christmas Donations: We are asking all Assumption families to give a Christmas donation this year. This year we need everyone's help. Thank you for your generosity!

2016 Stewardship: Please make your 2016 Stewardship commitment by the end of December. Assumption currently has 375 pledged families; however, we need to have at least 400 by the end of this year. It is vital that all families make a stewardship donation and return it to the Church as soon as possible. Thank you for supporting Assumption Church.

Gift Cards Needed: Fr. Joseph needs gift cards Walmart to give to those in need for the holidays. Please bring cards to the church office. Any denomination greatly appreciated.

Holiday Service Schedule: Please note that there will not be evening Divine Liturgies on Christmas Eve or New Years' Eve because both Christmas and New Years fall on Sundays this year. Great Vespers will be held on both Saturday evenings.

Taramasalata: Philoptochos is selling Taramasalata for \$5 per jar. Please contact Georgia Antonopoulos at 314-638-2835 or the Church office at 314-966-2255.

New Air Conditioner: The air conditioning unit for the Philoptochos Room was recently replaced with a new unit. The Men's Kafenio made a generous donation to help cover the cost, but more help is needed to cover the total amount. If you would like to help, please make donations payable to Assumption, and write "Air Conditioner" in the memo line.

The Holy Monastery of the Annunciation of the Theotokos in Ormylia, Greece has a Philanthropic center called "Panagia Philanthopini - Our Lady who Loves Mankind," whose mission is to comfort and alleviate the suffering of the poor and working class public without preference to race, religion, gender, or creed. The director of this center is Charles Anthony, a former parishioner of the Assumption Church. During this holy season, we will have a collection to help the children's programs at this center. Please make checks payable to "The Assumption Church" and mark it for "the Ormylia Foundation". Thank you for your support.

December 18: The Holy Martyr Sebastian and Those With Him

This Saint, who was from the city of Milan, was a member of the Senate as well as a zealot for the faith of Christ, and had converted many to the knowledge of God. When Diocletian and Maximian began a persecution against the Christians, Saint Sebastian was arrested and pierced with sharp arrows, and the bones of his body were shattered with clubs; and being cut into pieces, he gave up his spirit to God in the year 288. Together with him there were others also who died while enduring various tortures. Their names are Marcellinus and mark the brethren, Tranquillinus their father, Nicostratus and his spouse Zöe, Tiburtius, Claudius, Castulus, and Castor.

Excerpted from: The Great Horologion or Book of Hours, Trans. Holy Transfiguration Monastery. Holy Transfiguration Monastery Press, Brookline, MA, 1997.

Sunday Bulletin

December 18, 2016



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

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Fr. Joseph Strzelecki

Fr. Anastasios Theodoropoulos

Ἀπολυτικὸν τῶν Πατέρων.

Ἦχος β΄.

Μεγάλα τὰ τῆς Πίστεως κατορθώματα!
ἐν τῇ πηγῇ τῆς φλογός, ὡς ἐπὶ ὕδατος
ἀναπαύσεως, οἱ Ἅγιοι τρεῖς Παῖδες
ἠγάλλοντο· καὶ ὁ Προφήτης Δανιήλ,
λεόντων ποιμὴν, ὡς προβάτων ἐδείκνυτο.
Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἱκεσίαις Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον
τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Apolytikion for the Fathers

Mode 2

Magnificent are Faith's accomplishments!
The three holy Youths exultingly stood in the
fountain of fire as if beside the still waters of
rest. And Daniel the Prophet was shown to be
a shepherd of lions. At their entreaty, O Christ
God, save our souls.

Welcome to all our visitors.

Welcome to the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. We are honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. It is our hope that your visit here will bring you many blessings from God and that you will visit with us again soon. Please join us for coffee hour in the Church Hall.

Eleventh Sunday of Luke

Epistle Reading: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-40

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel"(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

In Our Prayers:

Ollie (Alexander) Aslan, Nora Bangert, Constantine Bellos, Tom Dubis, Seraphima Henderson, Achilles Kirkou, Jean Kotakis, Michael Labis, George and Janice Paradissis, Elaine Scott, Chris & Despina Zeris.

Memorials & Trisagia

December 18

1-year Memorial for Angelo Palladino, son of Stella Palladino, brother of Kathy Palladino and Iakavos Palladino

17-year Memorial for George Palladino, husband of Stella Palladino, father of Kathy Palladino and Iakavos Palladino

Calendar of Events

Sunday, Dec 18:	<u>Genealogy of Christ</u> (Wine & Oil) 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Divine Liturgy & Sunday School 12:00 pm Sunday School Christmas Pageant & Social
Monday, Dec 19:	St. Boniface of Tarsus; Bishop Gregentius of Ethiopia (Wine & Oil)
Tuesday, Dec 20:	Forefeast of the Nativity; St. Ignatius the God-Bearer (Wine & Oil) 8:30 am Orthros No Greek School 6:30 pm Vespers 7:20 pm Bible Study
Wednesday, Dec 21:	Forefeast of the nativity; St. Juliana & 630 Companions (Fast) 8:30 am Orthros 2:00 pm Kafenio
Thursday, Dec 22:	St. Anastasia the Great Martyr; St. Chrysogonos the Martyr (Wine & Oil) 8:30 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 6:30 pm Vespers
Friday, Dec 23:	Ten Martyrs of Crete (Fast) 9:00 am Great Hours and Typica 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Friday Luncheon
Saturday, Dec 24:	<u>Christmas Eve; St. Eugenia the Nun-martyr of Rome</u> (Wine & Oil) 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Great Vespers
Sunday, Dec 25:	<u>Holy Nativity</u> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Divine Liturgy



Come, then, let us observe the Feast. Truly wondrous is the whole chronicle of the Nativity. For this day the ancient slavery is ended, the devil confounded, the demons take to flight, the power of death is broken, paradise is unlocked, the curse is taken away, sin is removed from us, error driven out, truth has been brought back, the speech of kindness diffused, and spreads on every side, a heavenly way of life has been planted on the earth, angels communicate with men without fear, and men now hold speech with angels.

- Nativity Sermon of St John Chrysostom