

September 9, 2018

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America

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The Gospel according to Saint Luke

24:1-12 (4th Matins Gospel)

Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’” And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles. And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them. But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Uncovering of the Relics of St. Theodosius, Archbishop of Chernigov (1896). Sunday before Elevation. Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna. Martyr Severian of Sebaste (320). Ven. Joseph, Abbot of Volótsk (1515). Ven. Theophanes the Confessor and Faster, of Mt. Diabenos (ca. 300). Martyrs Chariton and Straton. Bl. Nicetas the Hidden, of Constantinople (12th c.). Commemoration of the Third Ecumenical Council (431)

FIRST ANTIPHON

O Lord, remember David // and all his meekness.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Lo, we heard of it in Ephratha: // we found it in the woods! **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

Glorious things are spoken of you, // O City of God!
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; // God shall help her right early!
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

SECOND ANTIPHON

The Lord has sworn and oath to David // from which He shall not turn back!
O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee! Alleluia!

Of the fruit of your body // I will set upon your throne!
O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee! Alleluia!

There I will make the horn of David to flourish: // I have ordained a lamp for My anointed!
O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee! Alleluia!

For the Lord has chosen Zion, // He has desired it for His habitation!
O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee! Alleluia!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and wast crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON

Here will I dwell for I have desired it!

(Tone 4) Your nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Your birth, O Theotokos, has brought joy!

(Tone 4) Your nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

The Most High has sanctified His tabernacle!

(Tone 4) Your nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

TROPARIA

(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!

(Tone 4) Your nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

(Tone 4) In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, O Holy Father Nicholas, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

KONTAKION

(Tone 4) By your nativity, O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: the barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone: O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!

v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE

GALATIANS (6:11-18) *Brethren:* See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Alleluia, Tone 1

v. I have exalted one chosen out of My people.

v. For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN (3:13-17)

Jesus answered Nicodemus, saying: “No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.”

Instead of “It is truly meet...” we sing, “Magnify, O my soul” Magnify, O my soul, the most glorious Nativity of the Mother of God. Virginitly is foreign to mothers; childbearing is strange for

virgins. But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished! For this, all the earthly nations unceasingly magnify you!

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary (September 8) The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind. The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Saints Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Saints Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feastdays at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

Saint Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Saint Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion. www.oca.org

September 9, 2018



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitrie, Fr. Anthony, Aaron, Rimi, Allen, Deborah, JoAnn, Susan,
Luba, Kosta, David, Anna, Walt, Vladimir, Dorothy, Michael, Allison,
Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette, Christopher, Marcia, Nicholas, Margaret, Joseph,
Greg, Gladys, my family and friends

Special Intention

Alex & Angelo Popoff

Joe Tome

Joe Tome

Dorothy & family

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Norma Salim Lazar. Blessed Repose ~Memory Eternal (4 yrs.)

Dorothy & family

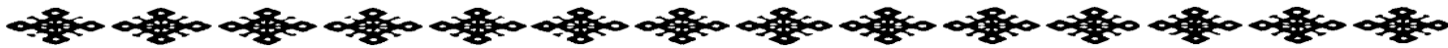
ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR

Joseph Goodman Blessed Repose~Memory Eternal (4 yrs.)

Dorothy & family

Goldie Johnson Blessed Repose~Memory Eternal (40 days)

Dorothy & family



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors. Please join us in our fellowship hall.

 **COFFEE & DESSERTS** are provided today by the Goodman & Brown family in memory of Joseph Goodman and Goldie Johnson.

PARKING LOT RE-PAVING The proceeds from last year and this year’s Macedonian Open will go towards the re-paving of the entire parking lot which will cost over \$100,000. With capital improvement funds and other funds on hand, that leaves a shortfall of \$35,000. If anyone would like to donate or dedicate a memorial fund or make an anonymous donation to the Capital Improvement Fund (formerly Parish Pride), please contact the office. To date \$4,390 has been donated to the project not including any funds from the Macedonian Open. The re-paving will start on September 12th.

RIB DINNER FUNDRAISER

We will have a rib dinner on September 30. We are doing advanced ticket sales so that we know how many to purchase. Ticket sales begin today. We will also have chicken dinners but we need to know how many. Cost \$14 per adult dinner; meals for children 10 and under are free. We’ll have coleslaw, baked beans, bread and dessert and beverage included. **All proceeds are designated to the parking lot.**

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting **toothpaste & tooth brushes** for the month of September. Place the items in the blue box in the Parish Hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

FOOD DRIVE Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

WORK READY ROOM Catholic Charities Work Ready Room wants your new & gently used career clothes to help individuals in need! i.e. Khakis, Scrubs, Shoes, Work Boots, Dress Pants & Collared Shirts. For more information call 810-265-7025. Donations can be dropped off Mon-Fri at 812 Root St, Flint.

KONEVETS QUARTET CONCERT Please help spread the word by posting the flyers for this event. The flyers are in the Parish Hall.

Weekly Schedule:

Today Parastas for Joseph Goodman (4 yrs.)

Monday, Sept. 10 Father in Toledo

Tuesday, Sept. 11
6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 12 LEAVETAKING OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Adult Ed. Classes

Thursday, Sept. 13 FOR THE FEAST OF THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

6:30 pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers & Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene

Saturday, Sept. 15

5 pm Vespers

Sunday, Sept. 16

9:30 am Third Hour
10 am Divine Liturgy
Church School
3 year Parastas for Sophie Stavridis
Nominating Committee Meeting following Parastas

Offerings for the week September 2, 2018

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$ 2,346.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 4,034.03
	\$-1,688.03

60 people were in attendance on Sunday, September 2.

“When your children are still small, you have to help them understand what is good. That is the deepest meaning of life.” **St. Paisios**