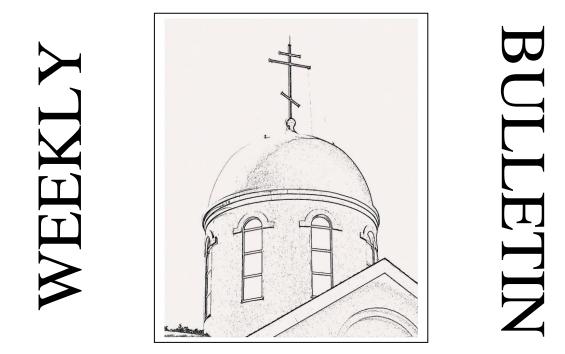
### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Galatians 6:11-18 (Epistle, Sunday Before)** 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.

**1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (Epistle)** Brethren: I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast -- unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

John 3:13-17 (Gospel, Sunday Before) At that time, the Lord said: "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.

**Matthew 19:16-26 (Gospel)** At that time, a young man came to Jesus, bowing to Him and saying: "Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And He said to him, "Why do you ask Me about what is good? One there Is Who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to Him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to His disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it shall be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."



Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery. The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you!

Troparion of the Annunciation to the Theotokos

# ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey of the Orthodox Church in America

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> Thomas Berger, *Senior Warden* Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

#### September 11, 2016 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Sunday after the Nativity of the Most-Holy Theotokos

**Tone 3. Sunday before Exaltation.** Ven. Theodora of Alexandria (474-491). Translation of the Relics of Ven. Sergius and Herman, Wonderworkers of Valaam. Martyrs Demetrius, his wife Euanthia, and their son Demetrian, at Skepsis on the Hellespont (1st c.). Martyrs Diodorus, Didymus, and Diomedes, of Laodicea. Martyr Ia and 9,000 Martyrs with her, of Persia (362-364). St. Euphrosynus the Cook, of Alexandria (9th c.). The Weeping "KAPLUNOVSKAYA" Kazan' Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (1689).

#### **Today's Readings:**

*Epistle:* Galatians 6:11-16 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 *Gospel*: John 3:13-17 and Matthew 19:16-26

#### **Upcoming Service Schedule:**

Tuesday – 6:15pm Panikhida Tuesday – 7:00pm Great Vespers (*Exaltation of the Holy Cross*) Wednesday – 9:30am Divine Liturgy (*Exaltation of the Holy Cross*) Saturday – 7:00pm Great Vespers Sunday – 10:00am Divine Liturgy



#### Next Sunday's Readings:

Nativity of the Most-Holy Theotokos

*Epistle:* Galatians 2:16-20 and 1 Corinthians 16:13-24 *Gospel:* Mark 8:34-9:1 and Matthew 21:33-42

Keep up on OCA news by visiting <u>www.oca.org</u>, diocesan news by visiting <u>www.nynjoca.org</u>, and parish news by visiting <u>www.occa-brick.org</u>.

### Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – TEAM C Next Sunday – TEAM D

If you have volunteered to participate on a team, please note your team's letter designation, and plan to help when your team is scheduled. Many thanks!

Welcome to our visitors who have joined us today for worship and prayer. We invite you to stay with us after today's services for an Agape Coffee Hour in our Parish Rectory. Please sign our guest book before you leave, tell your friends and family members about us, and bring back one or two of them on your next visit!

### **Special Prayers**

We pray for <u>all</u> our fellow parishioners, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: Nancy Fabricius, Julia Katko, Arnold Katko, Dorothy Gornick, Tom Collins, Tom Kopec, Walter Romanofsky, Millie Podolak, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Millie Hladick, Ron Madensky, Andy Popovchak, Dorothy Studier, Mary Bionde, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, and Catherine Ratushnak.

### Annunciations

**TODAY** - We complete our **summer service schedule** with Sunday Divine Liturgy beginning at **9:00am** preceded by the Third Hour at 8:45am.

<u>TODAY</u> – A **Parish Picnic** will be held on this day behind the rectory following the Divine Liturgy. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided, and all else will be provided by you, our parish family members. **Please stay and join us** for this fellowship event. **Many thanks** to those who have helped make this event happen!

**TODAY** – We will take orders for **Mum (chrysanthemum) plants** as part of a fall plant sale put on by the **Church School**. Please **see Richard Hascha** after Divine Liturgy for prices and orders.

 $\underline{\text{TODAY}}$  – We remember in our prayers those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of  $\frac{9}{11}$ . May their memory be eternal!

**<u>THIS TUESDAY</u>** – A **Panikhida** to commemorate +Alexandra Kulinyi, +David Pasick, and +James Martin will be served before Great Vespers at 6:15pm.

THIS TUESDAY - Festal Great Vespers will be served at 7:00pm.

<u>THIS WEDNESDAY</u> is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, one of the 12 Major Feasts of the Church. Divine Liturgy is served at 9:30am. An Agape Coffee Hour will follow in the parish rectory.

<u>Next Sunday, September 18</u> – The **regular service schedule** begins with **Divine Liturgy at 10:00am** preceded by the Third Hour at 9:45am.

<u>Sunday, September 25</u> – The 2016-7 Church School and Adult Education season will begin. At 9:00am, both groups will gather in the church for the service of Proskomedia. Youth Sunday will also resume on this day. Classes will begin the following Sunday.

**Building Project Update** – Framing of the new Parish Hall building will begin this week! This is a very exciting step in the process. Please continue to support the project **prayerfully and financially**!

Our updated Parish Directory is coming soon. If you did not sit for a photo and would like to have your photo included in the directory, please provide Fr. Gary with a good quality jpeg file by the end of this week.

## MANY YEARS

<u>Birthdays this week</u>

*Tuesday* – Ann Marie Gahr *Wednesday* – Dorothy Gornick

Wedding Anniversaries this week

Monday – Elaine & Alan D'Alessandro (#35) Monday – Carole & George Stavrou (#48)

#### **OUTREACH**

- Food Pantry donations are always accepted. Place nonperishable food items in blue bin in the narthex
- Clothing donations are accepted on the last Sunday of each month. Place donations next to the food pantry bin.