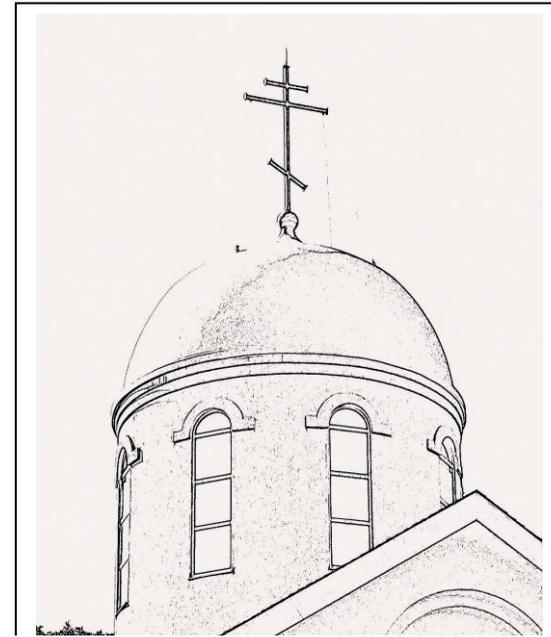


## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**2 Corinthians 11:31 - 12:9 (Epistle)** Brethren: The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He Who is blessed forever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

**Luke 8:5-15 (Gospel)** The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." As He said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." And when His disciples asked Him what this parable meant, He said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." And He said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

WEEKLY



BULLETIN

*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!*

*Preparation of the Annunciation to the Theotokos*

## ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

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Very Rev. Fr. Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Very Rev. Fr. Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Fr. Deacon Alexander Smida, *Deacon*

Thomas Berger, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

October 15, 2017

## NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Tone 2. Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council. Ven. Euthymius the New, of Thessalonica, Monk of Mt. Athos (889). Martyr Lucian, Presbyter of Antioch (312). St. John, Bishop of Suzdal' (14th c.). Hieromartyr Lucian, Presbyter of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—1243). Martyrs Sarbelius and Bebaia (Barbea) of Edessa (2nd c.). St. Sabinus, Bishop of Catania (760).*

### Today's Readings:

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9 and Hebrews 13:7-16

**Gospel:** Luke 8:5-15 and Luke 17:1-13

### Upcoming Service Schedule:

**Saturday – 7:00pm** Great Vespers

**Sunday – 10:00am** Divine Liturgy

### Next Sunday's Readings:

**Epistle:** Galatians 1:11-19

**Gospel:** Luke 16:19-31



*Holy Fathers of the  
7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical  
Council*

### Coffee Hour Teams:

*Today – TEAM A (Pasick, Stavrou Families)*

*Next Sunday – TEAM B (Nilsen, Christos)*

*Please pray for those who have willingly chosen to not worship and pray with us this morning. We pray that those sitting in darkness will see a great light – the light of the Risen Christ!*

*Keep up on OCA news by visiting [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org), diocesan news by visiting [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org), and parish news by visiting [www.occa-brick.org](http://www.occa-brick.org).*

**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 Hall. 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 **all** our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: **Dorothy Gornick, Tom Collins, Tom Kopec, Walter Romanofsky, Millie Podolak, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Ron Madensky, Andy Popovchak, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, Suzanne Hanas, and Catherine Ratushnik.**

## Annunciations

**TODAY** - We continue the **usual Sunday schedule** with Divine Liturgy served at 10:00am preceded by the Third Hour read at 9:45am.

**TODAY** – **Church School** classes take place in the Parish Hall at 8:45am. The **Adult Education Class** meets in the church at 9:00am. **There will be NO Adult Education Class next Sunday.**

**TODAY** – The **Saint Catherine Society** will meet in the Parish Hall after Coffee Hour.

**THIS TUESDAY** – The **Parish Council** will meet in the Parish Hall at 6:30pm.

**THIS SATURDAY** – A retreat entitled **BECOMING A HEALING PRESENCE: A Retreat with Dr. Albert Rossi** will take place at the Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross, 11 Wilkins Station Rd., Medford, NJ. A flyer for the event is posted in the church narthex and in the parish hall. All are welcome to participate. Registration is to be made at: [www.holycrossmedford.org](http://www.holycrossmedford.org).

**Sunday, November 5** - An **informal talk** regarding the parish's **New Hall project**, originally scheduled for last Sunday, will take place on this day during Coffee Hour. We will talk about the current status of the project and the future outlook for its use. Please bring questions.

The **activity of our diocese** is funded mostly by monies donated by the parish faithful through proportional giving. However, additional funding is necessary to support diocesan activities such as youth retreats, mission building, seminarian scholarships, and more. **Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors** is the vehicle for collecting additional donations from those who can make them. Please visit the diocesan website or speak with Father Gary or Matushka Mary for more information on the DDB.

### **Troparion – Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council**

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God!

Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.

Through them Thou hast guided us to the true Faith.//

O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

### **MANY YEARS!**

**Birthdays this week:**

*Monday* – Tom Berger

*Wednesday* – Arthur Mari

**Wedding Anniversaries this week:**

*Wednesday* - Sever & Cristina Ciorlian

(#26)

### **OUTREACH**

- **Food Pantry donations** are *always* accepted. Place non-perishable 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.