

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

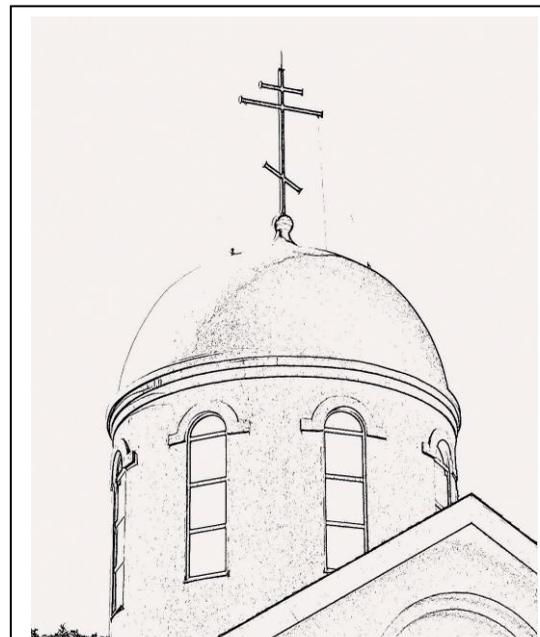
Ephesians 6:10-17 (Epistle) Brethren: Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Luke 17:12-19 (Gospel) At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

We are in the midst of the **Nativity Fast**. It is a time for us to reflect on our God-given gifts, especially His ultimate gift to us - His Only-begotten Son whose entrance into the world we prepare for. Through His Church, God gives us opportunities to know Him and love Him. During this fasting period, Our Lord calls us to abstain from a way of eating that feeds our passions. He calls us to build up our prayer and worship life that draws us closer to Him. And He desires that we perform acts of charity and mercy as proof that we understand the importance of His life-giving call for us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Please take advantage of this gift that is the Nativity Fast. It is offered as a gift to us to help us along the road to salvation. Please receive it and put it to use in your life!

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 supporting the DDB.

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. Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Fr. Deacon Alexander Smida, *Deacon*

Thomas Berger, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

December 10, 2017

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 2. Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugephus, of Alexandria (ca. 313). St. Joasaph, Bishop of Belgorod (1754). Martyr Gemellus of Paphlagonia (ca. 361). Ven. Thomas of Bithynia (10th c.). Bl. Jovan (John), King of Serbia (1503) and his parents, Stephen (1446) and Angelina Brancovich.

Today's Readings:

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17

Gospel: Luke 17:12-19

Upcoming Service Schedule:

Tuesday – 7:00pm Akathist (*St. Herman of Alaska*)

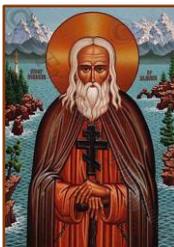
Saturday – 7:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Next Sunday's Readings:

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

Gospel: Luke 14:16-24



St Herman of Alaska

Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – TEAM D (Paxton, May, Alpaugh)

Next Sunday – TEAM E (Bass, Petrides)

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

*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!*

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, Kathy Diaz, Walter Romanofsky, Millie Podolak, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Ron Madensky, Andy Popovchak, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, Suzanne Hanas, and Catherine Ratushnak.**

Annunciations

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

- **A Coat Drive** is currently taking place at the parish. Please bring all donations of new or lightly used coats to the parish hall by today. Many thanks to all who participated in helping those in need stay warm this winter.
- **Dessert Rolls** are nearly sold out. Only a very few remain. Please see Cathy Berger or Olga Pasick to secure one of them before they are gone.
- **Grocery Gift Cards** for Shop Rite and Stop & Shop are continually available for purchase during Coffee Hour. The parish receives 5% back from every purchase.

THIS TUESDAY is the **Feast of St. Herman of Alaska**. An Akathist to St. Herman will be served tonight at 7:00pm. All are invited to commemorate this first person who labored in America to be glorified (canonized) a saint.

Next Saturday – Christ the Saviour Church in Paramus holds their own **Cookie Walk** from 10am – 4pm. An event flyer is posted on the parish hall bulletin board.

Next Sunday - The popular **Parish Car Clinic** will return after the Divine Liturgy. **Air pressure, oil levels, and coolant levels** will all be inspected and brought up to spec on any parishioner's vehicle.

Many thanks to all who helped make yesterday's **Annual Parish Cookie Walk** a great success. There were many who baked, advertised, set-up and broke down the hall, and were present for the event. **There are still cookies available.** They may be purchased during Coffee Hour.

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the **repose of +Anna Dahulich, the mother of Archbishop Michael**. Viewing and services will take place in Binghamton, NY, this Monday and Tuesday. May her memory be eternal!

There will be **two Parish Council positions** that will becoming vacant next year. Especially needful is for a person to fill the **Treasurer** position. If you have a desire to serve on the Parish Council and/or need more information, please speak with Father Gary as soon as possible. The formal election of Parish Council members will take place at our **Annual Parish Meeting in January**.

MANY YEARS!

Birthdays this week:

Tuesday – George Smith

Wednesday – Michael Ciorlian

OUTREACH

- **Christmas Food Drive** donations will be accepted **through next Sunday**. Please take a designated paper bag and fill it with some of the items listed on the attached flyer. All donations will be delivered to a local food ministry. Many thanks for your participation in this effort.