

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

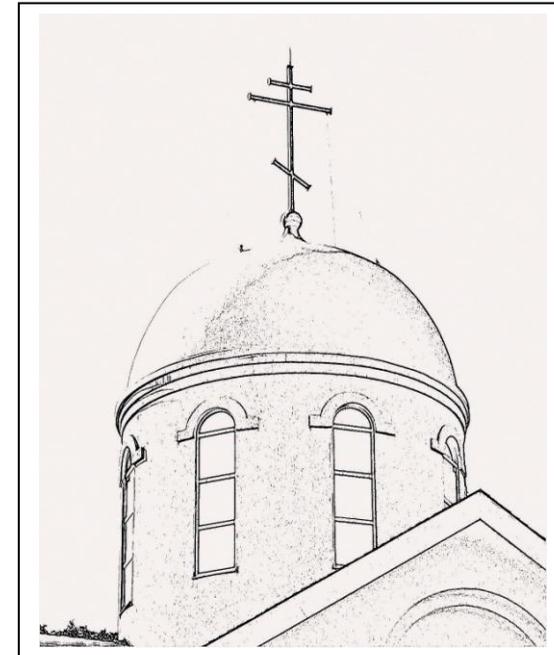
**Colossians 3:4-11 (Epistle)** Brethren: When Christ Who is our life appears, then you also shall appear with Him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

**Luke 14:16-24 (Gospel)** The Lord said this Parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray thee, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray thee, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what thou hast commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

*Please pray for those who cannot be with us in worship. Pray fervently also for those who willfully choose not to be in church for divine services. May they come to the realization that it is through life in the Church that we truly come to know God and be saved!*

**Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage invite you to participate in a matching grant program. The 1-for-1 donation match will last until December 31. Please make an online donation now, or send a check to: Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage, P.O. Box 120028, Chula Vista, CA 91912. For more details, visit the organizations website at [www.projectmexico.org](http://www.projectmexico.org).**

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!**

**Troparion of the Annunciation to the Theotokos**

## ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

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Archpriest Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Archpriest Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Richard Hascha, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

December 14, 2014

## TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Sunday of the Forefathers

**Tone 2.** *Martyrs Thyrsus, Leucis, and Callinicus of Apollonia (249-51). Martyrs Apolonius, Philemon, Arianus and Theoctychus, of Alexandria (286-287).*

#### Today's Readings:

*Epistle:* Colossians 3:4-11

*Gospel:* Luke 14:16-24

#### Upcoming Week Service Schedule:

**Saturday – 7:00pm** Great Vespers

**Sunday – 10:00am** Divine Liturgy

#### Next Sunday's Readings:

*Epistle:* Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

*Gospel:* Matthew 1:1-25



The Holy Forefathers

*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). Be sure also to visit [Ancient Faith Radio](#) to visit to hear Orthodox music and presentations on topics of the Faith!*

#### Coffee Hour Teams:

*Today – TEAM A    Next Sunday – TEAM B*

*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!*

#### **Special Prayers**

We pray for **all** our fellow parishioners, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: **Julia Katko, Dorothy Gornick, Tom Collins, Carol Menzel, Walter Romanofsky, Millie Podolak, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Stephanie Smida, Andy Popovchak, Dorothy Studier, George Stavrou, Mary Bionde, and Catherine Ratushna.**

**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!

## Annunciations

**TODAY** – Holy Cross Church, 11 Wilkins Station Road in Medford NJ, hosts an **Advent Vespers** service at 6:00pm preceded by a **Choral Prelude** beginning at 5:30pm. The evening will also feature a talk on “**Incarnation and the Christian in Society**” followed by refreshments. All are welcome to attend.

**THIS MONDAY** – The **Parish Council** meets at the parish hall at 6:30pm.

**Tuesday, December 24** - A parish **Holy Supper** will be held in the Church Hall beginning at 5:00pm. **All are invited** to attend this traditional Christmas Eve meal. This is a pot-luck meal consisting of many foods. A sign-up sheet for food items is located in the narthex. We expect 40-50 attendees, so please plan your food contribution accordingly.

**Many thanks** to those who donated cookies and otherwise participated in yesterday's annual **St. Catherine Society Cookie Walk**. The event was again a wonderful success. Cookies are still available at \$10 per container. Please visit the cookie table in the Parish Hall to make your selections and purchases.

We are in the midst of the **Nativity Fast** and are instructed by the Church to refrain from consuming meat and dairy products, pray more fervently, and be more cheerful and abundant in our giving. All of this is to be done in preparation of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ's coming into the world to save us. Please contact Father Gary with any questions concerning this wonderful opportunity to draw ever closer to God.

**Dessert Rolls** are available for sale at **\$12 per roll**. Please see **Cathy Berger or Olga Pasick** to make your purchases.

Father Gary will hear **confessions** during the Nativity Fast as usual – after Great Vespers on Saturday and eves of feasts, or by appointment any other time. Please use this time of the Nativity Fast to prepare yourself and come to the sacrament of confession.

*Many Years!*

*Birthdays this week:*

*Today – Michael Ciorlian*  
*Tuesday – Lillian Loika*  
(mother of Joann Hayford)

#### 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.