

SCRIPTURE READING OF THE DAY

Galatians 1:11-19 (Epistle, Sunday After)

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

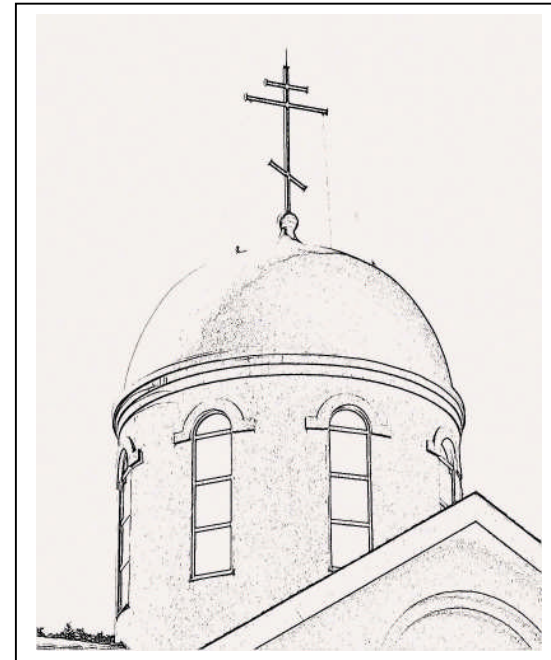
Matthew 2:13-23 (Gospel, Sunday After)

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH'S FUND-RAISING ACTIVITY!

- **Grocery Store Coupons** (Matushka Mary)
 - Shoprite, Foodtown, Pathmark, Stop & Shop
- **Dessert Rolls** - \$12 each (Cathy Berger)
 - Walnut, Walnut Chocolate Chip, Poppy, Apricot, Apricot-Walnut, Prune
- **Pierogi** - \$7/Dozen (Mary Herelick)
 - Potato & Cheese, Prune

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

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

360 Van Zile Road, Brick, New Jersey 08724

Phone: (732) 458-9032

Email: gjbretton@verizon.net

Fax: (732) 295-0007

Website: www.occa-brick.org

Archpriest Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Archpriest Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Matthew Petrides, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

December 27, 2009

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Third Day of the Feast of the Nativity. Sunday After the Nativity.

Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James (Jacob) the Brother of the Lord.

Tone 4. *Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen (34 A.D.). Ven. Theodore Graptus (“the Branded”), Confessor and brother of St.Theophanes the Hymnographer (ca. 840). St. Theodore, Archbishop of Constantinople (ca. 686).*

Today’s Readings: *Epistle:* Galatians 1:11-19
Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Upcoming Week Service Schedule:

Thursday – 5:00pm Vespers w/Litya (St. Basil and Circumcision)

Friday – 10:00am Divine Liturgy (St. Basil and Circumcision)

Saturday – 7:00pm Vespers w/General Confession

Sunday – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:5-8

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – Berger Team Next Sunday – Hascha Team

We are praying especially for: Julia Katko, Steven Murko, Robert Vessio, Pauline (Pelagia) Barnowsky, Olga Romanofsky, Marina Kupcha, Dorothy Gornick, Helen McManus, Paul Charuk, Elizabeth & David James, Anastasia Petrow, Millie Podolak, Andrew Popovchak, Tom Collins, Carol Menzel, Marie Lobb, John Alexander, Ludmilla Tjaden, and all others in our parish family who are ill, afflicted, suffering, and/or unable to attend services.

Welcome to our visitors who have joined us today for worship and prayer. We invite you to stay with us after Divine Liturgy for an Agape Coffee Hour in our Parish Hall. Please sign our guest book before you leave.

Adult Education class takes place Sundays at 9:00am in the church. We are studying the wonderful and important book, “**Partakers of Divine Nature**” by Archimandrite Christoforos Stavropoulos. **All are invited to participate.**

We are in a **fast-free period** now through the Feast of the Theophany. Meat and dairy products may be consumed on all days during this time.

Thursday, December 31 – Vespers will be held at **5:00pm** in commemoration of St. Basil the Great and the Circumcision of Our Lord. **Divine Liturgy** on Friday, January 1 will be served at **10:00am**.

Saturday, January 2 – The **Wonderworking Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God** will be at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Jersey City. A Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by His Beatitude, Metropolitan JONAH at 9:30 a.m., and he will be joined clergy and faithful from New Jersey. All are welcome to attend. Those who are unable to attend this service, may venerate the icon and participate in an Akathist service at 5:00pm at St. Vladimir Orthodox Church in Jackson, NJ.

Saturday, January 2 – The **Parish Council** will meet at 5:00pm in the parish hall.

Sunday, January 3 – **Church School and Adult Education** classes resume.

Sunday, January 10 – A **Nativity Season presentation** by the Church School children will be given during the Coffee Hour. All are encouraged to attend.

Parish calendars for the month of January are available online at the parish website, and at the candle desk at church.

Many thanks again to all those who made special donations for the **flowers** that adorn the church for the Nativity season.

Many Years!

Birthdays this week: *Monday* – Cathy Berger, Dorothy Studier. *Wednesday* – Millie Podolak.

SPECIAL CLOTHING DRIVE

A **special collection of warm clothing** is being conducted in order to provide the homeless some protection from the winter elements. For the next several weeks, we are accepting adult-sized sweaters, t-shirts, gloves, mittens, scarves, knit hats, and boots. Tami Economou, coordinator of the effort, wishes to express her heartfelt gratitude to those who have donated so generously to the Special Clothing Collection for the Homeless thus far.

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.