

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

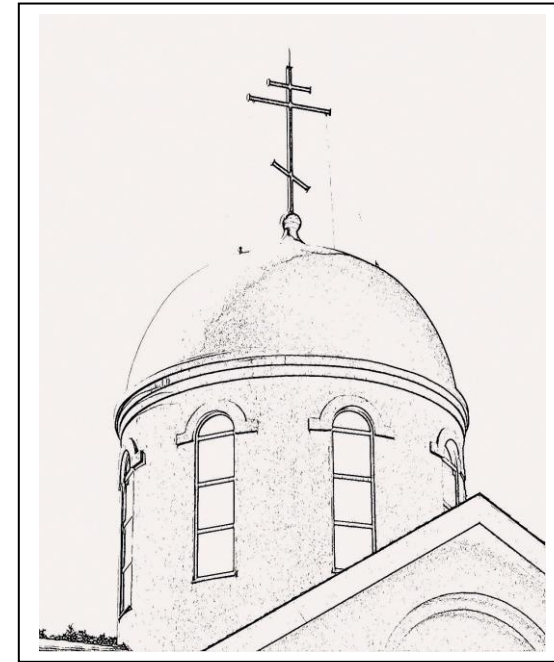
**Galatians 6:11-18 (Epistle – Sunday before the Feast)** Brethren: See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 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.

**2 Corinthians 4:6-15 (Epistle)** Brethren: It is the God Who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that He Who raised the Lord Jesus shall raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

**John 3:13-17 (Gospel – Sunday before the Feast)** 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 22:35-46 (Gospel)** Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son? And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

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

Fr. Deacon Alexander Smida, *Deacon*

Tara Paxton, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

September 9, 2018

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Sunday Before the Elevation of the Cross. Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos.**

*Tone 6. Uncovering of the Relics of St. Theodosius, Archbishop of Chernigov (1896). Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna. Martyr Severian of Sebaste (320). Ven. Joseph, Abbot of Volótsk (1515). Ven. Theophanes the Confessor and FASTER, of Mt. Diabenos (ca. 300). Martyrs Chariton and Straton. Bl. Nicetas the Hidden, of Constantinople (12th c.). Commemoration of the Third Ecumenical Council (431).*

### Today's Readings:

**Epistle:** Galatians 6:11-18 and 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

**Gospel:** John 3:13-17 and Matthew 22:35-46

### Upcoming Service Schedule:

**Today – 9:00am** Divine Liturgy

**Thursday – 7:00pm** Great Vespers w/Litya (Exaltation of the Cross)

**Friday – 9:30am** Divine Liturgy (Exaltation of the Cross)

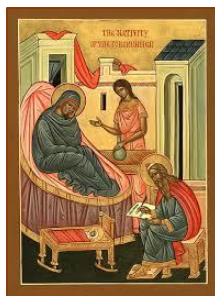
**Saturday – 7:00pm** Great Vespers

**Sunday – 9:00am** Divine Liturgy

### Next Sunday's Readings:

**Epistle:** Galatians 2:16-20 and 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

**Gospel:** Mark 8:34-9:1 and Matthew 25:14-30



*Nativity of the Most-holy Theotokos*

### Coffee Hour Teams:

*Today – TEAM B (Nilsen, Christos)*

*Next Sunday – TEAM C (Morris, Diaz, Price)*

*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: **Betty James, Olga Kornafel, Tom Collins, Tom Kopec, Walter Romanofsky, Liz Petrides, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Ron Madensky, Andy Popovchak, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, and Catherine Ratushnuk.** Also, keep in your prayers our Diocesan Chancellor, the **Mitred Archpriest Joseph Lickwar.**

## Annunciations

**TODAY** – We continue the schedule of beginning the Divine Liturgy at 9:00am. In a change from our parish's usual practice, **we will continue this schedule going forward** for the foreseeable future. Please make note of this change.

**TODAY** – The **first session of Church School will take place at 11:00am.** This is a **change** from the past practice of holding Church School before the Divine Liturgy.

**THIS TUESDAY** – The **Parish Council** meets at 6:30pm at the Parish Rectory.

**THIS FRIDAY** is the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.** Great Vespers w/Litya will be served **Thursday evening at 7:00pm.** Divine Liturgy will be served on **Friday at 9:30am.** There will be **NO agape meal** after the Divine Liturgy on Friday.

**THIS SATURDAY** – Our parish will again have a booth at the **Point Pleasant Beach Festival of the Sea.** This is a great way to gain awareness of and visibility for the parish. Please speak with Matushka Mary if you would like to help out at the event.

**Sunday, September 30** is the date for this year's **Annual Ethnic Fair and Gift Auction.** Please invite friends and family to the event which takes place from **12noon to 6:00pm.** **Flyers for the event** will be available this week for distribution.

We are accepting **donations for the Gift Auction** to be held in conjunction with the Annual Ethnic Fair. Please speak with Olga Pasick or Cathy Berger if you would like to make a donation. We are also **accepting food and cash donations for the food portion of the event.** A **sign-up sheet** is located in the narthex. Please help out however you are able. At the event, we will need **servicing and clean-up help.**

### 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.

### MANY YEARS!

#### Birthdays

*Today* – Linda Washenko

*Thursday* – Ann Marie Gahr

#### Wedding Anniversaries

*Today* – Marie & Brian Price (#51)

*Monday* – Mary & Ben Horne (#1)

*Wednesday* – George & Carole Stavrou (#50)

*Wednesday* – Alan & Elaine D'Alessandro (#37)

*The Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors program is an essential vehicle for funding the activities and programs of our diocese. Please consider participating in the program. Brochures are located by the bulletin board in the parish hall or at the diocesan website at [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org).*