

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS:

TODAY! Greek Independence Day Presentation (hosted by Greek School)

- +24 March** **Joint Vespers of the Annunciation Feast in Buffalo (via travel bus) - contact Church Office to reserve your place on the bus. \$25 per person - bus will leave the church parking lot at 4:00 PM**
- +25 March** **Liturgy of the Annunciation at Annunciation, 10 AM**
- +26 March** **Presanctified Liturgy, 6:00 PM at Annunciation**
- 27 March **Sunshine Club Meeting and Lenten Lunch (11:00 am)**
- +28 March** **Fourth Salutations to the Theotokos, 6:00 PM at the Holy Spirit**
- +2 April** **Presanctified Liturgy @ Annunciation 6pm**
- +4 April** **Akathistos Service @ Annunciation - 5pm**
- 5 April **Western New York SJC District Level Oratorical Festival @ Holy Spirit**
- 5 April **Lenten Movie Night: The Prince of Egypt (1998) (Youth/Teen)**
- 9 April **Young Adult Meet-Up: Trivia Night**
- 12 April **Saturday of Lazarus, Breakfast and making palm crosses**
- +13 April** **PALM Sunday. Luncheon immediately following Divine Liturgy**
- +14-19 April** **HOLY WEEK**
- 18 April **Holy Friday Youth Retreat - 9am - 3pm**
- +20 April** **PASCHA and Easter Egg Hunt**



Sunday School after Holy Communion

Greek School Classes (4th-7th), Every Wednesday 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM.

On-going adult Orthodox study programs:

- **Bible Study, 7:00 PM**
- **Orthodox Questions and Answers every Thursday, YouTube, 7:00 PM.**
- **On-Line Orthodox Catechism on our website under the EDUCATION tab.**



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Presiding Priest: Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Secretaries: Lena L. Livecchi and Leslie Fitzsimmons

Office Email: Office@agocroc.org

Phone: 585.244.3377

Web: www.AnnunciationRochester.org

23 March 2025

SAINTS AND FEASTS CELEBRATED TODAY: Sunday of the Holy Cross; The Holy Righteous Martyr Nicon and His 199 Disciples; Anatolios & Protoleon the Martyrs converted by the martyrdom of St. George; Luke the New Martyr of Mytilene

APOLYTIKION Resurrectional (Mode pl. 2)

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμα σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἀχραντὸν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

APOLYTIKION for the Feast

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

APOLYTIKION for our parish (Mode 4)

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of a mystery which was hidden from eternity. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son and Gabriel announces the Grace of this good news. Let us also join with him, calling to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O woman full of Grace; the Lord is with you.

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

KONTAKION (Mode pl. 4)

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassail-

able, From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Τῆ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, Ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἄλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, Ἵνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

Prokeimenon (Psalm 27)

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: To You, O Lord, I cry; O my God, may You not pass over me in silence.

THE EPISTLE READING:

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews. Heb. 4:14 – 16; 5:1 – 6

Brethren, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

Ἀδελφοί, ἔχοντες ἀρχιερέα μέγαν διεληλυθότα τοὺς οὐρανοὺς, Ἰησοῦν τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ, κρατῶμεν τῆς ὁμολογίας. οὐ γὰρ ἔχομεν ἀρχιερέα μὴ δυνάμενον συμπαθεῖσαι ταῖς ἀσθενείαις ἡμῶν, πεπειραμένον δὲ κατὰ πάντα καθ' ὁμοιότητα χωρὶς ἁμαρτίας. προσερχώμεθα οὖν μετὰ παρρησίας τῷ θρόνῳ τῆς χάριτος, ἵνα λάβωμεν ἔλεον καὶ χάριν εὖρωμεν εἰς εὐκαιρον βοήθειαν. Πᾶς γὰρ ἀρχιερεὺς ἐξ ἀνθρώπων λαμβανόμενος ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπων καθίσταται τὰ πρὸς τὸν Θεόν, ἵνα προσφέρῃ δῶρά τε καὶ θυσίας ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν, μετριοπαθεῖν δυνάμενος τοῖς ἀγνοοῦσι καὶ πλανωμένοις, ἐπεὶ καὶ αὐτὸς περικείται ἀσθένειαν· καὶ διὰ ταύτην ὀφείλει, καθὼς περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ, οὕτω καὶ περὶ ἑαυτοῦ προσφέρειν ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν. καὶ οὐχ ἑαυτῷ τις λαμβάνει τὴν τιμὴν, ἀλλὰ καλούμενος ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ, καθάπερ καὶ Ἀαρών. οὕτω καὶ ὁ Χριστὸς οὐχ ἑαυτὸν ἐδόξασε γεννηθῆναι ἀρχιερέα, ἀλλ' ὁ λαλήσας πρὸς αὐτόν· υἱός μου εἶ σύ, ἐγὼ σήμερον γεγέννηκά σε· καθὼς καὶ ἐν ἑτέρῳ λέγει· σὺ ἱερεὺς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ.

THE GOSPEL READING:

The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Mark. Mk. 8:34 – 38; 9:1

The Lord said: “If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” And he said to them,

“Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.”

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ὅστις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἀκολουθεῖν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι, ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν· τί γὰρ ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἔαν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἔαν ἐπαισχυνηθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνηθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

Sources: GOA Chapel: <https://www.goarch.org/chapel>; Stanley and Nancy Takis, <https://newbyz.org>; GOA Digital Chant Stand: <https://dcs.goarch.org/goa/dcs/servicesindex.html>.

