

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

Sunday, September 6, 2020 - The Parable of the Vineyard

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 4.

Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae



Hymns for Today

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

O Michael, commander of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech thee: by thy prayers encompass us beneath the wings of thine immaterial glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to thee: // Deliver us from all harm, for thou art the commander of the Powers on high!

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

O Michael, commander of God’s armies and minister of the divine glory, prince of the bodiless angels and guide of mankind; ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy, // as the supreme commander of the Bodiless Hosts.

Epistle Reading - 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love. I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The salutation with my own hand – Paul’s. If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 21:33-42

Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.’ So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?’ They said to Him, “He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone which the builders rejected Has

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: *A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting.*

become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE

(Services livestreamed on Facebook & Youtube)

TODAY: 8:40 AM Hours, Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 AM,
Prayer for Children Returning to School

Parastas Today After Liturgy

40th day Parastas for Magdalena
Offered by Irene Dutko and Family

+++

NATIVITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Services to be held at Holy Resurrection Cathedral

MON, September 7th @ 6 PM - Great Vespers

TUES, September 8th @ 9 AM - Divine Liturgy

NOTE: Fr. Gregory and the faithful at Holy Resurrection look forward to welcoming us to celebrate the Nativity of the Mother of God with them. The Cathedral observes social distancing with masks and temperature checks. Please only sit in the pews with the cushions down.

+++

SAT, September 12: 5:00 PM Great Vespers

SUN, September 13: 8:40 AM Hours, 9 AM Divine

Liturgy, Vespers for The Feast of the Cross, Parish Council Meeting with Coffee Hour at the Pavillion

MON, September 14: 9 AM Liturgy for Feast of the Cross

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Theodore & Elenor Sovryda, Nadine Breisch, Rosalie Bagenski, Sonja & Leanne Kay, Stephen & Mary Krill, Anna Hutz Lahr, Brian Cawley, Josie Bissett, Lisa & Scott Harvey, Daniel & Shannon Bissett, Rebecca King, Connie Padrezas, Delores Karas, Joan Belcher, Antonette Terry, Archpriest Daniel & Matushka Myra Kovalak, Mary DeBenedetto, Violet Filipi, Karl Pfeiffenberger, Lisa Vallone, Christopher Polk, Emma St. Romain & Infant, Catherine, Diane Welgus, Danny Gobish, Lorraine Pace, Anastasia Homick, Camden Thomas, Dr. Peter Kaminski, Peter Holoviak & Family **Departed:** Martin Taylor, Sky Kincaid, Kelly Purcell, Magdalena

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PETER HOLOVIAK

As you may have heard Peter Holoviak has been diagnosed with cancer. Further tests conducted this week will reveal the stage of Peter's cancer and the subsequent plan for fighting it. Myself and the Holoviak family would like to humbly request that all of you please pray for Peter and his family throughout the course of this week (and beyond). May Our Lord bring Peter through this battle and back to perfect health to the Glory of Jesus Christ. Amen.

“According to thy mercy, pour out upon me, who am miserable, at least one small drop of grace to make me understand and be converted, that I might make at least some small effort to correct myself. For if thy grace does not illumine my soul, I will not be able to see the carelessness and negligence that the passions have produced in me through my apathy and recklessness.”

+ St. Ephraim the Syrian

Altar Server Schedule

Sunday, Sept 6: Alec B, Kaleb D, Andrew C

Sunday, Sept 13: Alex H, Tommy D, Andrew N

Sunday, Sept 20: Christopher D, Symeon C, Ephraim N

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, September 13th @ 11:30 AM (approx)
Immediately following Services

Another meeting of the parish council will be held on September 13 following Divine Liturgy and vespers services. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the future of our heating and air conditioning system. A meeting was initially held this past week however, lack of a quorum prevented a thorough discussion and vote.

Due to the significance of this issue we ask all council members to do their best to attend this follow-up meeting to provide input and vote. The meeting will be held in the church pavilion. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. The outcome of this meeting will be presented during the annual parish meeting on October 4.

Annual Parish Meeting

October 4, 2020

Annual Parish Meeting to be held on October 4 immediately following services. To allow for social distancing this meeting will be held in the church pavilion. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

CALLING ALL HELPERS FOR AN OUTDOOR BI-WEEKLY COFFEE HOUR! We are looking for volunteers to donate coffee and put out chairs for outdoor coffee hour. If you would be willing to help in either of these areas please speak with Fr. Innocent, Joanne Dutko or Alexanne Conklin.

HELP US COMPLETE OUR PARISH DIRECTORY!

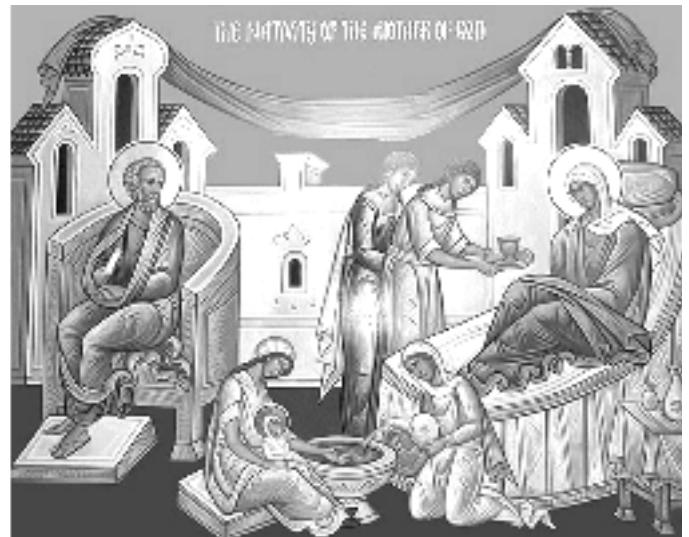
We are in the final stages of completing a Parish directory that can be distributed among all the faithful of Holy Trinity. Having a Parish directory will help us to stay better connected with one another as a parish family - especially in the midst of these challenging times. To complete the directory we need 2 things from each of

you. The first is to confirm the information we have on file for you and your family. The second is for you to give the parish permission to include you (and your family) in the directory. We will not include your contact information in the directory without your permission. Please take a look at the copy on the podium in the vestibule, make necessary corrections to your listing, and write YES or NO to give (or not give) permission to be included. Once the directory is complete, each person or family included in the directory will receive a copy. The directory will not be posted online or distributed outside of the parish. If you are not yet able to come to church, give Fr. Innocent a call or email to review your information. Thanks!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES SHEET ON THE PODIUM:

Things being as they are, we got away from our monthly birthday and anniversary wishes. Please let us know if you have a birthday or anniversary by writing your name, if it's an anniversary or birthday, and its date on the sheet in the back. Thanks!

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary (Sept. 8)



The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind.

The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Saints Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Saints Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feastsdays at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

Saint Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Saint Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

Your Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from You, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal Life.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.