

THE ANNUNCIATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

14th Sunday of Luke/ Third Sunday in Advent Zephaniah the Prophet

The Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonias) was a contemporary of the Prophet Jeremiah and the Prophetess Oldama. He was from the tribe of Simeon, and was the ninth of the Twelve Minor Prophets of the Old Testament. The prophet lived at the royal court, where he preached repentance and helped King Josiah eliminate idol-worship. He prophesied about the calamities that were to come for the people of Judea and the surrounding regions: Gaza, Ascalon, Crete, and against the Moabites, the Ammonites and the Ninevites.

December 3, 2017

Rev. Fr. Joseph Gingrich, Parish Priest

Altar Boys: All Available

Ushers on Duty: Team 4

Epistle Reading Ephesians 5: 8 – 19

Gospel Reading Luke 18: 35 – 43

TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY HYMNS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE (GOSPEL) ENTRANCE

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN THE FIRST MODE

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνη Φιλάνθρωπε.

DISMISSAL HYMN FOR THE ANNUNCIATION IN THE FOURTH MODE

On this day when our salvation is crown'd for eternity, and the revelation of the Mystery of the ages. With divine grace the Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel's good tidings proclaim the news. For this we rejoice in song unto the holy Theotokos: Hail to you who are filled with grace, the Lord is with you.

Σήμερον της σωτηρίας ημών το κεφάλαιον και του απ' αιώνας μυστηρίου η φανέρωσις, Ο Υιός του Θεού, Υιός της Παρθένου γίνεται, και Γαβριήλ την χάριν ευαγγελίζεται. Διό και ημεις συν αυτώ τη Θεοτόκω βοήσωμεν. Χαιρε, κεχαριτωμένη, ο Κύριος μετά σου.

SEASONAL KONTAKION IN THE THIRD MODE

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν Προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

EPISTLE READING

PRIEST: Let us attend.

READER: Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

PRIEST: Wisdom

READER: The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-19.

PRIEST: Let us attend.

READER: Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

LUKE 18:35 – 43

³⁵As Jesus was approaching Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the road, begging. ³⁶Hearing a crowd going by, he asked what this meant. ³⁷People told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. ³⁸He began to cry out, "Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁹Then those who led the way rebuked him, ordering him to be quiet. But the blind man^b cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁰Standing still, Jesus commanded that the blind man^c be brought to him. When the man had come near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹"What do you want me to do?" The man replied, "Lord, that I may see again!" ⁴²Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight. Your faith has healed you." ⁴³Immediately, the man received his sight and began to follow Jesus, glorifying God. When all the people saw this, they praised God.

SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY

8:15 AM

Fellowship Coffee Hour is served by Daughters.

EXTEND, O LORD, YOUR MERCY AND PROTECTION UPON YOUR SERVANTS

Please pray for the health and salvation of your brothers and sisters in Christ during today's Divine Liturgy and throughout the week: *Dora Protos, Nick Kirbabis, Konstantinos Haritos, Mary Saloom, Mike MOKAS, Katherine Xidas, Magdeline Tisinger, Lucy Fasules, Peter Mihalislis, Elli Bambakidis, Stephanie Michaelson, Mary Leakas, Maria Polychronis, Alex Gounaris, Athie Zavakos, Stephen Fricioni, John Wagner and Tom Xarhoulacos*

MEETING AND EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 4TH

Date	Event	Time	Location
Mon.	4 th Greek School	5:30 pm	Community Center
	Community Sandwich Making	6:30 pm	Community Center
Tue.	5 th Great Vespers for St. Nicholas	6:30 pm	Holy Trinity St.
		Nicholas GOC	
Wed.	6 th St. Nicholas		
	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am	Church
	Marian Prayer Group	3:00 pm	Church
	GOYA Boys/Girls Basketball	6:30 pm	Community Center
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Church
Thur.	7 th Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon	11:00 am	Moraine CC

FROM FR. JOSEPH

--Advent Fast. During this time of preparation for the birth of the Messiah Orthodox Christians are called by the Church not to eat meat, dairy products, and eggs. Fish is also forbidden on Wednesdays and Fridays. In order to show solidarity with the Advent fast no meat should be served at most parish events. This is such a small gesture that reminds us of the self-denial we are called to practice as people of faith. In our own personal lives outside of church events we do the best we can in regards to fasting. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to see me.

-Adult Catechism is cancelled this week due to the Vespers for St. Nicholas at our sister parish in Cincinnati on Tuesday at 6:30 PM. Our last class for this year will be next week December 12 at 6:30 PM. At this class there will be a potluck organized by Tina Haubrock. Additionally, there will be no homework assignment for this evening. People can come and ask any questions they want concerning our Holy Orthodox Catholic faith. This is open to all parishioners. If you haven't been coming to classes please know we would love to see you at the potluck and bring a question along with something to share. All food must be meat free at a minimum.

-When Sunday Catechism School is in session the order for reception of the Eucharist will be as follows: 1) Newly illumined/baptized 2) Altar Servers 3) Catechism School teachers and students 4) Choir 5) All others. This is being implemented so classes begin promptly and the time allotted for them is maximized. Last year there could be as much as a 15 minute waiting period for all students to arrive. Thank you for your cooperation.

-Friends of the Metropolis Sunday will be December 10. Friends of the Metropolis is a program that helps keep the office and ministries of our diocesan chancery solvent. On this day please bring a check made out to the **Friends of the Metropolis** dated for January 1, 2018. Your name will then be recorded as a benefactor in the Shepherd's Staff for the upcoming year. We have a good Metropolitan who keeps our Metropolis finances above reproach and His Eminence needs and deserves our support. In the past the parish would just send a check to the chancery for His Eminence's name day. Moving forward we will collectively be saying "thank you" to Metropolitan Nicholas for all the good he does for our God saved Metropolis. There is no set amount. Give from your heart.

-Christmas Eve Sunday Morning service as usual. Evening Service at 6:00 PM.

-Christmas Day Orthros 9:00 AM and Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM.

2018 PARISH COUNCIL CANDIDATES

MARIA (MORRIS) ABBOUD, 54, resides in a Tipp City, Oh. Maria was born and raised in Dayton, OH, and has been a member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church for 54 years. She is the daughter of Jim and Sue Morris. She is married to Fayez Abboud, MD. They have three children Christina, Andrew and Alexandra.

Maria received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and also has a Master of Business Administration. Maria has served for three years on the Parish Council, two years as Vice President. She is currently the parish Webmaster and started the Facebook page for the parish. Maria chaired the HVAC fundraising campaign. She has served as the GOYA advisor and is a member of Philoptochos.

Maria is involved in her local community. She is an Trustee for the Tippecanoe Educational Endowment, which supports the children of Tipp City providing enrichments to their learning experiences. Maria served as a Board member of Pink Ribbon Girls, an organization providing services such as meals, transportation and cleaning as well as direct support to women undergoing treatment for breast cancer

Maria has enjoyed the past three years on Parish Council. She feels much has been accomplished and she looks forward to serving another three years, continuing to serve her church and its parishioners. Maria would be honored to serve as a second term member of the Parish Council.

EVAN BAMBAKIDIS is lifelong parishioner that previously served six years on Parish Council, with three of those as secretary and two as treasurer. Evan is currently Vice-President of the local AHEPA Chapter (#113) and is looking forward to serving the parish again at a very critical time in our parishes' history. Among the areas he would like to work on would be parish outreach to those in need in the city of Dayton, as well as working on growing the Annunciation Legacy Fund. He and his wife Stacy have two sons enrolled in the Sunday School program, and both are active in various organizations in the community, such as Philoptochos, AHEPA, and Daughters of Penelope. He has been employed at WPAFB for the last 10 years and is a proud graduate of Wright State University and the University of Pittsburgh.

BERNARD J. GEARON, Kettering, Ohio, 45440, Age 50:

I have lived in the Dayton area since 1997. Prior to 1997, I was a member of St. John's Greek Orthodox Church in Boardman, Ohio, where I served as an altar boy and attended Sunday and Greek schools.

I currently serve as a school counselor at Stebbins High School which is part of Mad River Local Schools. My wife, Tracy, and I were married at Annunciation Church in 2008. In addition to Tracy and me, our family consists of our dog, Baxter. We are new grandparents of two girls and a boy.

Tracy and I volunteer at church for the festival's Gyro Express booth and at the DIFI Greek booth. I have also served as a judge for the Oratorical Festival. I am the secretary of AHEPA Chapter 113 and have served on Parish Council for three years. We are the proud godparents of George Holzberg.

Tracy and I volunteer for United Rehabilitation Services and other organizations in the Dayton area. I previously worked in the field of journalism as a reporter and also have served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 21 years. When I am not busy, I enjoy road cycling, summer naps, and vacations where we travel to places beyond Ohio.

I hold a Bachelor's of Science in News Journalism (Kent State University '91); Master of Arts in Teaching (Kent State University '97); Master of Science in Education and Allied Professions for School Counseling (University of Dayton '12). I hold a Pupil Services license in School Counseling in the State of Ohio.

NICK JOHN REGOPOULOS, Springboro, Ohio, Age 63, **Spouse:** Charrie D. Regopoulos.

I was born in the small village of Kafkonina, next to Archaia Olympia, Peloponnesus, Greece and immigrated to the USA in 1970 at the age of 15. I finished High School and College there in Canton. I lived in North Canton, Ohio until I got married to my wife Charrie in October 2013 and am now a resident of Springboro, Ohio. **Children:** Charrie and I have six beautiful children and 3 darling grandchildren. **Church Activities:** Member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church for 6 years. Member of the St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, Canton, Ohio for 47 years and member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Canton, Ohio for 10 years. I was involved in the St. Haralambos Summer festival for 25 consecutive years and for 7 years with the Annunciation Greek Festival. I helped the Canton Churches with many other events and activities like dances and basketball tournaments. **Other Activities:** In March 1986, I became a member of the Canton AHEPA chapter #59. I have served in all the offices and was president for 3 years. I co-chaired five District Conventions. I have been active in AHEPA District #11 as an officer for over 10 years and 4 years in the AHEPA Buckeye Scholarship. I look forward to transferring my membership to AHEPA Dayton chapter. I was elected by my local chapter to be treasurer for the AHEPA 59 Inc. and helped build the AHEPA #59 Apartments in Canton, Ohio in 2005. This year I was elected to be the Treasurer for the AHEPA #113 Apartments in Dayton, Ohio. I am a forty-year Life Time member of the Association Information Technology Professionals group. I served in all positions in the local Chapter in Akron Ohio and few years in the Regional level. **Occupation:** Computer Software Engineer. Wrote and developed software/programs and managed systems, applications and networks for 42 years in Canton, Akron and Cleveland. I worked for CPA firm, I owned an IT consulting firm and the last 15 years I worked for ComDoc, a Xerox company, based in Akron, Ohio. **My Church:** I have been an Usher for 2 years and look forward to serving the church as a Parish Council member. When I moved to Dayton, I was warmly welcomed and have met so many wonderful parish members. These blessings inspire me to give back to the community and serve God's church any way I can. Thank you for the opportunity to be asked to run for Parish Council for this beautiful Greek Orthodox Church and His people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Today, we will have a Special General Assembly immediately following the Divine Liturgy and will be held in Church. We will also hold our 2018 Parish Council elections immediately following the General Assembly in Church.

PHILOPTOCHOS DECEMBER 7 LUNCHEON

Today is the last day for your pre-paid Reservations, \$22 to *Philoptochos*, taken by Jane Speros or Mary Caudell. Remember to bring Pajamas & Books for Schneider House of Hope, or \$\$ for a backpack program.

USHERS NEEDED

The Usher Teams are in need of new members. If you are interested in serving on an usher team please contact Toni Moraites at tmoraites@woh.rr.com. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve the church.

PHILOPTOCHOS DECEMBER COMMUNITY CARE MINISTRY (CCM)

Schneider House of Hope, Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greene, County, provides emergency shelter to displaced families with children go from homelessness to sustainable housing. The shelter is a permanent 10-bedroom site that can serve up to 25 adults and children. The shelter is currently housing 11 adults, 9 children, and a 21 month old. The shelter offers a comprehensive continuum of services from shelter, meals, case management, housing resources, medical and employment resources. As of October 2017, Schneider House has served 33 families comprised of 107 individuals.

YOUTH SUNDAY SIGN-UP

New this year, the Catechism School will have students become an integral part of the life of the Church by participating in the Divine Liturgy services. They will complete their duties prior to receiving Holy Communion, where they will be dismissed to Catechism School.

Youth Sunday: there are still some open slots!! 3rd-12th graders can sign up today.

Go to the Youth Sunday Sign up Table in the Memorial Hall!!

YOUTH SUNDAY DATES

Today, December 3rd, January 7th, February 4th, March 4th, May 6th.

SAVE THE DATE – 2018 VASILOPITA LUNCHEON – SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

Philoptochos invites you to our Annual Vasilopita Luncheon that benefits St. Basil's Academy. Join us **Sunday, January 7, 2018**. There will be a silent auction of pitas and the popular children's bidding table, and as always, monetary donations are welcome. Menu: Greek Roast Beef, Rice Pilaf, Capri Blend Vegetables, Rolls and Butter, Spinach Salad w/ a citrus vinaigrette, Cheese Cake Assortment; Menu for Children: Chicken Tenders, Macaroni & Cheese, and Applesauce, Coffee, Lemonade, and Iced Tea. Tickets go on sale December 3, 2017. Deadline for pre-paid reservations is Sunday, December 31, 2017. **No ticket sales on the day of the event!** COST: Adults \$12/Children \$6. All tables will have a Vasilopita. RESERVE A TABLE AND BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY. For ticket sales or if you are interested in baking Vasilopita's please contact: Christa Bishop (513) 304-9128 or Angie Retzios (513) 594-5485

GAPA

GAPA will hold their annual Christmas Party on December 12 at the Chop House starting at 11:30. Reservations and payment of \$20 are needed in advance and should be submitted to Chris Makaritis. White elephant gift exchange is optional. Election of officers will be held. Looking for vice president. In current need of a substitute secretary.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BOOSALIS BAKING AND CAFÉ

Tsourekia For Christmas - Cost per loaf: \$6.00 - Deadline for orders Monday, December 11, 2017. Orders may be picked up at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community Center on Saturday Dec. 16th and Sunday Dec. 17th 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. To order, please contact Melissa DeBernardi – Smith (412) 512-5242 e-mail: myguiness14@hotmail.com

CATECHISM SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PLAY REHEARSAL TIMES & DATES

Catechism School Christmas play rehearsal times and dates for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades are today, December 3rd in the Community Center, December 10th in the GOYA Room, and December 17th in the Community Center.

SAVE THE DATE JANUARY 19, 2018 DOP 3RD ANNUAL WINE TASTING 7:00 PM

Join Us! January 19, 2018 at 7:00 PM for An Evening of Wine Tasting...Five Wines to sample, each paired with its own small plate menu selections including music, desserts and Greek coffee Sponsored by The Daughters of Penelope At Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community Center. Tickets \$30 Per Person. For Tickets: Thomai (937)422-4887 thomai@greeklish.org

TRANSLATOR NEEDED

Vocalink, Inc., a local translation service, has a high need for a person or persons to translate from English to Greek for a student/family that attends Beaver Creek Schools. This is a paid job that pays \$18-20 per hour. They currently need help on December 13th and will need help more extensively in the Spring of 2018 when there are more tests to administer to the student. They may also need this person's services/expertise for parent-teacher conferences. If you are interested, please contact Emily Hattar at 1-513-543-8036 or locally at 223-1415

YOU'RE INVITED – DOP CHRISTMAS DINNER

Daughters of Penelope Christmas Dinner Thursday, December 14, 6:00 pm Presidential Banquet Center, Washington Rm. 4548 Presidential Way, \$22.00 per person DOP, AHEPA, and guest welcome. Greek chicken, roasted vegetables, Greek baked potatoes, Artisan salad, rolls, Tiramisu for dessert Vegetarian entrée also available. Wine available for purchase by the bottle. Please RSVP by Monday, Dec. 11 to Voula Zois (937) 266-4029 voula1961@aol.com

CHOIR

The choir will go Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 10th after Divine Liturgy.

GOYA

GOYA will meet today Sunday, December 3rd in the GOYA Room.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

If you are visiting our Parish, please fill out the "Visitor Information Card," located in the Narthex, and hand it to one of the Welcome Committee greeters. You are welcome to come forward to receive a piece of "antidoron" (blessed bread) at the conclusion of the service and join us in the Memorial Center for our Fellowship Hour following the Divine Liturgy.

If you are a "newcomer" to our Parish, please introduce yourself to our priest. He would be most happy to schedule a time to meet with you and discuss the ministries and fellowship opportunities available within our Parish.

GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

For Orthodox Christians

When preparing to receive Holy Communion, please remain quietly in your pews until an Usher/ Parish Council Member directs you to approach from the center aisle. Your prayerful attention helps sustain the solemnity of the Divine Liturgy for those praying the "Prayers of Preparation" and following Holy Communion the "Prayers of Thanksgiving." You will find these prayers in the burgundy Divine Liturgy book located in the pew backs. The "Prayers of Preparation" begin on page 29 and the "Prayers of Thanksgiving" begin on page 40.

Please allow the acolyte to place the Holy Communion Cloth beneath your chin. This ensures that no particle of the Eucharist falls from your lips. Recite your baptismal name aloud; open your mouth wide; and close your mouth as the Communion Spoon enters your mouth. After receiving Holy Communion, blot your lips on the cloth and return to your pew by the side aisles.

You will find an acolyte offering you a bowl of antidoron from which you should take a single piece to ensure you consume all traces of Holy Communion.

For Non-Orthodox Christians

We welcome to our worship those Christians not fully united with us (canonically).

It is a consequence of the sad divisions of Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist and for which we must all pray.