

Message from Fr. Michael.....

Dearly Beloved Faithful:

In today's blessed gospel reading, we heard of the Lord coming to His disciples, before the fourth watch of night by walking on the water, approaching them, while the disciples were slumberously seated on the boat. This represented the Lord coming to us before the end of our life. The fourth watch of night represents the end of our lives. Peter began to walk toward the Lord on the water but then lost his nerve, his faith, and began to sink into the water and almost drowned. However, he beckoned to the Lord to be saved. The Lord reached to him saved Peter. We must all transform our lives and reach toward the Lord before the end of our lives.

Brothers and sisters, we were recently called to marvel at the Holy Transfiguration of our Lord, and to be inspired and to remain in awe! We were spiritually strengthened and nourished in knowing that God had revealed Himself to us! With that recent celebration, the first fruits of the harvest, such as grapes, were brought to the church and were blessed by the priest. We prayed that through consumption of those blessed fruits that they would be transformed to holiness, i.e. to be transfigured to be divine! Then, more recently, we celebrated the feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, the Theotokos. She was assumed into heaven body and soul as the Lord came to her. The Lord comes to us now to whisk us away from our sinful nature pulling us out of the ocean preventing us from drowning in the sea darkness and evil as He did for the apostle, St. Peter.

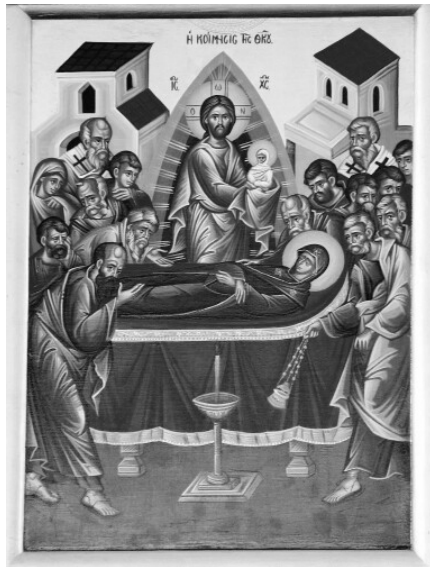
Let us all shout out "Lord save me!"

Again praying that the Holy Spirit comes upon us and transforms us to do God's will, I remain

Your humble servant,

+Fr. Michael

Saints and Feasts Commemorated



Apolytikion of Afterfeast of the Dormition

First Tone

In birth, you preserved your virginity; in death, you did not abandon the world, O Theotokos. As mother of life, you departed to the source of life, delivering our souls from death by your intercessions.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life.

Floros & Lauros the Monk-martyrs of Illyria

These Martyrs were twin brothers, and stonemasons. After the martyrdom of their teachers Proclus and Maximus, they left Byzantium and came to the city of Ulpiana in Illyricum, where a certain Licinius hired them to build a temple for the idols. The wages he gave them, they distributed to the poor, and when the temple was built, Floros and Lauros gathered the paupers, and with their help put ropes about the necks of the idols, pulled them to the ground, and furnished the temple as a church. When Licinius learned of this, he had the paupers burned alive in a furnace. Floros and Lauros were tormented, then cast into a deep well, where they gave up their souls to the Lord. When their holy relics were recovered years later, they poured forth myrrh and worked many miracles; they were enshrined in Constantinople.

Leontus the martyr

John & George, Patriarchs of Constantinople

Relics of Arsenios the Righteous of Paros

Constantine the New Martyr of Capua 8/18/2019

Matthew the New Martyr of Gerakari 8/18/2019

FATHER MICHAEL REQUESTS...that we, as a faithful community keep the following individuals in our prayers: Peter Sousouris, Lilly Kashou, Angelo Romas, and Suzanne Vaishnani, daughter of Ted Simon. Please notify Fr. Michael if you have anyone else who should be included for special prayers. May they be under the grace and tender watch of our Lord.

Wisdom of the Fathers

The principle and source of the virtues is a good disposition of the will, that is to say, an aspiration for goodness and beauty. God is the source and ground of all supernal goodness. Thus the principle of goodness and beauty is faith or, rather, it is Christ, the rock of faith, who is principle and foundation of all virtues. On this rock we stand and on this foundation we build every good thing (cf. I Cor. 3:11).

St. Gregory of Sinai

On Commandments and Doctrines no. 83, Philokalia Vol. 3 14th century

He puts an end to the woman's fear ... He sets her right, in respect of her thinking to be hid ... He exhibits her faith to all, so as to provoke the rest also to emulation ...

St. John Chrysostom

Homily 31 on Matthew 9, 4th Century

And then at last He for His part lays His hand upon them, saying, "According to your faith be it unto you." And this He does to confirm their faith, and to show that they are participators in the good work ...

St. John Chrysostom

Homily 32 on Matthew 9, 4th Century

Whether you are an Orthodox Christian, or this is your first visit to an Orthodox Church, we are pleased to have you with us. Although Holy Communion is reserved for baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians, all are invited to receive the "ANTIDORON" (blessed bread) which is not a sacrament, but is a reminder of the "agape feast" that followed worship in the early Church. After the Divine Liturgy this morning, please join us in the Church Hall for fellowship and refreshments. We hope that you will return often to worship with us, to grow in Christ and in our Orthodox Faith. For any spiritual, religious, or sacramental matters, please contact Fr. Michael (607) 795-1474. For any building, facility or church property issues, please contact the Parish Council President or a member of the council. Deadline for suggestions for the bulletin is 12:00 noon on Thursday.

Honor roll for 2019 for the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation
(Members who have paid their dues and are in good financial standing). If you do not see your name on this list please contact: Peter Diamantakos, Parish Council Treasurer or Sophia Papastratis, Parish Council Financial Secretary.

Alikakos, Giannoula	Anastos, James & Kristin
Anastos, John & Eleni	Anastos, Leon & Louisa
Anastos, Steve & Bessie	Anthony, Fanny
Bahlatzis, Michael & Kimberly	Balaci, Edward and Laurie
Diamantakos, Louis	Diamantakos, Pete & Lauri
Dimitriou, Hristos & Jody	Drivas, Ed & Voula
Franklin, Garth & Erifilie	Franklin, Matthew
Ganim, Mitry & Gloria	Gianakouros, Harry & Katie
Gianisis, Dino & Brenda	Hall, Tina
Hazar, Janet	Hopf, Jason & Eva
Ivan, Jim & Lynda	Johnson, Katina
Karedes, John & Michelle	Karedes, Louie
Kashou, Bahij	Kashou, Hisham & Cholly
Khoury, Lorraine	Koulikas, Julia
Koutsaris, George & Rina	Koutsaris, John
Koutsaris, Louie and Argie	Lambrinos, Maria
Laskaris, Joseph	Lazaros, Pete and Kostadina
Loposky, Patricia Zades & John	Maniates, Dino & Mando
McHugh, Scott & Kim	Metritikas, Pete and Barb
Nizamis, Persa	Pacheco, Jennifer
Packs, Mike	Papachristos, Nikos
Papastrat, Chris & Crystal	Papastrat, Elaine
Papastrat, James & Georgia	Papastrat, Vicki
Papastratis, George and Lauren	Papastratis, Sophia
Papathomas, Kosta and Athena	Pappas, Nick
Pines, Spero	Recu, Marian & Ramon
Ryan, Justin & Julie	Saleeby, Nona
Simon, Ted	Sismanoglu, Maria
Skiadas, Ernest & Barb	Skiadas, James
Souris, Adrianna	Togias, Nickolas
Totolis, Theo	Tzivanis, Thomas & Florence
Yacalis, Amelia	Yacalis, Vasili & Pam
Zades, Jimmy & Chrissy	