

## Bishop Constantine to Visit AMGOC

His Grace Bishop Constantine will preside at the Holy Friday Lamentation Service on May 3. More details to follow.

## Inquirers Welcome

Those visiting our parish are welcome to set up a time to speak with Fr. Dennis about the Orthodox faith. Please see Fr. Following services or call him on his cell phone listed on the front of the bulletin.

## Donations for Great Lent/Pascha

Paschal Candle \$400, please remember to bring in 100% olive oil for our oil lamps, wine for Holy Communion \$150, charcoal \$50, daffodils for third Sunday of Lent \$175, palms for Palm Sunday services \$150. Flowers for the kouvouklion of Holy Friday \$1,200.

## During Great Lent

**Fasting:** Orthodox Christians are called to abstain from all meat—(yes, *chicken is meat!*)—dairy products i.e. eggs, milk, etc., fish, wine and olive oil during Great Lent, which begins on March 18, Clean Monday (Καθαρά Δευτέρα). To strengthen ourselves, the Church asks us to increase our prayer life (attending the Lenten Services), flee from sinful behavior, and to give alms. Let us together keep the fast as strictly as possible, increase our daily prayers, approach the Mystery of Holy Confession and forgive one another any offenses that have caused division or anger. If we are unsure about fasting or confession please see Fr. Dennis. May God bless us; grant us strength and faith to complete the course of the fast.

**Liturgy of St. Basil the Great:** During the Great Lenten period we use the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great every Sunday and on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday mornings.

**Services:** We are called to abstain from certain foods during the Great Fast as we are to abstain from sin. This cannot be achieved without an increased prayer life. The Church in Her wisdom has not only called for us to fast, but gives us more services that will aid us in our Lenten journey. The Great Compline will be offered every Monday evening, the Presanctified Liturgy every Wednesday evening and the Salutations to our Theotokos every Friday evening.

**Coffee Hour/Dinners During Lent:** When bringing treats for the coffee hour during the Great Lenten Fast, please remember we must maintain the fasting practices of the Orthodox Church. While each may not be able to keep the fast as strictly as prescribed, let us nonetheless, keep it when we gather as community and people of God.

## Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

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## April 14, 2024

### Sunday Holy Scripture Reading

**Apostolic Reading:** Hebrews 6:13-20

**Gospel:** St. Mark 9:17-31

**Services:** *Sunday*-8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy, *Weekdays* 8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy when scheduled.

**Saints of the Day: Sunday of St. John of the Ladder.** Apostles Aristarchos, Pudens and Trophymos of the Seventy; Martyr Thomais of Alexandria; New-martyr Demetrios of the Peloponnesos.

### Hymns of the Day

#### Apolytikion of the Resurrection Tone 4

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!

#### Apolytikion for St. John of the Ladder Tone 8

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

#### Apolytikion of the Archangels Tone 4

Supreme Commanders of the Hosts of the Heavens, we, the unworthy, implore and beseech You that by Your supplications You encircle us in the shelter of the wings of Your immaterial glory, guarding us who now fall down and cry to You with fervor: Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, as the great marshals of the heavenly hosts on high.

#### Kontakion Hymn to the Theotokos Tone 8

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

Τῆ ὑπερμάχῳ Στρατηγῶ τὰ νικητήρια, ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἄλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθερώσον, ἵνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε, Νύμφη ἀνυμέρευτε. (*Page 98 in the green book.*)

### Instead of Axion Estin...

In you, O Lady full of grace, all creation rejoices, the hosts of Angels and the human race. O consecrated temple and allegorical Paradise, virgins boast of you. For God became incarnate from you, yes, our eternally existing God became a child from you. He made a throne of your womb, and He made your body wider than the heavens. In you, O Lady full of grace, all creation rejoices. Glory to you!

### Divine Services

**Mon., April 15:** Great Compline 6pm.

**Wed., April 17:** 9<sup>th</sup> Hour 5:30 p.m. and Presanctified Liturgy 6 p.m. *Those who are preparing to receive Holy Communion are to fast strictly from the noonday meal or sooner from all food and drink (12:00 pm for lunch and should eat very light Lenten meal).* Lenten meal following Presanctified Liturgy.

**Fri., April 19:** Akathist to the Theotokos at 6pm

**Sat., April 20:** Great Vespers 5pm

### Orthodox Catechism Class

Following services and coffee hour today, April 14, we will gather in the church for a half hour or so. *All are welcomed to attend!*

### Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church

Holy Communion of the Orthodox Church is the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is *"With the fear of God, faith and love"* that we approach the Divine Mysteries. Therefore, Holy Communion is reserved only for those baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer and fasting, as prescribed by the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church. We ask that women, before approaching to receive from the Holy Cup, in respect of our Lord, to please remove lipstick.

### Church Bookstore

Holy Week books are here and are located for sale in our bookstore. The Holy Week books are \$26.00 each. These books are normally priced at \$25.00; however, the extra \$1.00 will cover our shipping costs. Please pay with either cash or check only. *You will not see anyone who is truly striving after his spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading. ~Saint Athanasios*

### Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology

TODAY, we will take another collection for the seminarians of our Metropolis.

### Stewardship 2024

Following services on Sunday, December 3, our Chairperson Ruxandra Georgescu offered some words of inspiration for us to be faithful stewards of the Church. Please see Ruxandra for a 2024 packet.

### Coffee Hour Signup

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour. Donations are welcome!

**April 14:** Sponsor Needed

**April 21:** Sponsor Needed

**April 28:** Palm Sunday Luncheon

**May 5:** Pascha Picnic

### Dates to Remember

**April 29:** Palm Sunday

**May 5:** Pascha

**June 13:** Ascension of the Lord

**June 23:** Pentecost

*No Apostle Fast this year*

### Metropolitan Isaiah Retires

On Saturday (March 23) we received word that our beloved Metropolitan Isaiah retired after many years serving the Church. Fr. Dennis went to Denver on Friday to meet with our *Locum Tenens* (interim) Metropolitan of Chicago with a number of local Metropolis clergy for lunch and a discussion. We extend our love and respect to His Eminence Isaiah on his well deserved retirement Many years Master! Fr. Dennis will read the Encyclical of Met. Nathaniel today.

### Church School

Church School meets following Holy Communion. Please allow the Church School students receive Holy Communion first. See Sara LaBrie for more information.

### Greek School

Greek School meets on Tuesday, at 4:30pm. Please contact Alex Ellis at 719.471.0157.

### Memory Eternal!

We are sad to hear of the falling asleep of the servant of God +Zorka Corley last Tuesday. Funeral services will be held at Archangel Michael on Tuesday, April 23, 10am.

Also, the servant of God +Nahida Dabit fell asleep last week in Nashville. She is the sister of Vera Dabit. *Everlasting be their memory!*

### Benevolent Fund

We are in need of funds to offer Christmas gifts to our fellow parishioners who are shut-ins and are unable to attend services. We will have a basket in the narthex following services. If you know of anyone in need from our community, please see Fr. Dennis.