

Portions of Saint Anna's holy relics may be found on Mount Athos: Stavronikita Monastery (part of her left hand), Saint Anna's Skete (part of her incorrupt left foot), Koutloumousiou Monastery (part of her incorrupt right foot). Fragments of her relics may also be found in her Monastery at Lygaria, Lamia, and in the Monastery of Saint John the Theologian at Sourota. Part of the saint's incorrupt flesh is in the collection of Saints' relics of the International Catholic Crusaders. The church of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome has one of the saint's wrists. Saint Anna is also commemorated on September 9.

The Venerable Female Martyr Paraskeve: Parasceva was born in Rome of Christian parents, and from her youth was instructed in the Faith of Christ. With great fervor, St. Parasceva endeavored to fulfill all the commandments of God in her life. Believing firmly and living according to her faith, Parasceva directed others on the path of salvation and in the pious life. When her parents died, Parasceva distributed all of her property to the poor, and was tonsured a nun. As a nun, she preached the Christian Faith with an even greater zeal, not hiding from anyone, even though at that time the Roman authorities were conducting a bloody persecution against the Christian Faith. Then, the pernicious Jews denounced St. Parasceva for preaching forbidden faith, and she was brought to trial before Emperor Antoninus. All the flatteries of the emperor did not shake the faith of this handmaiden of God. They then subjected her to torture by fire, and placed a red-hot helmet on her head. The Lord miraculously saved her, and Parasceva was freed, and left Rome. She continued traveling from city to city to convert pagans to the True Faith. She was brought before princes and judges in two more cities, and was tortured for her Lord, at which time she worked great miracles and, by the power of God, quickly recovered from her pains and wounds. The pagans, as always, ascribed her miracles to magic and her swift recoveries to the mercy of their gods. St. Parasceva once said to the prince who was torturing her: "O prince, it is not your gods who have healed me, but my Christ, the True God." Finally, a certain Prince Tarasius beheaded her with the sword. Thus, this saint gloriously ended her fruitful life. Her relics were later translated to Constantinople. She suffered honorably for Christ in the second century.

Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

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July 25, 2021

Sunday Holy Scripture Reading

Apostolic Reading: Galatians 4:22-27

Gospel: St. Matthew 8:28-34, 9:1

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: 5th Sunday After Pentecost. The Dormition of Righteous Anna, the mother of the Theotokos. Olympias, the deaconess of Constantinople; Venerable Eupraxia of Tabenna; Four Martyrs of Lyons; Venerable Makarios of Zheltovodsk and Unzha.

Order of Service

Apolytikion of the Resurrection Tone 4

When the tidings of the resurrection from the glorious angel were proclaimed unto the women disciples and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished ever more and Christ our God has risen from the dead and granted to the world His great mercy. *Page 84 in the green book.*

Apolytikion for St. Anna Tone 4

O godly minded Anna, you did give birth unto God's pure Mother who conceived Him Who is our Life. Wherefore, you has now passed with joy to your heavenly rest wherein is the abode of them that rejoice in glory; and thou asked forgiveness of sins for them that honor you with love, O ever blessed one.

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 to St. Anna Tone 2

We celebrate now the memory of Christ's ancestors, while asking their help with faith, that we may all be saved from all manner of tribulation

as we fervently cry aloud: Be You with us, O Lord our God, Whose pleasure it was to glorify them both.

Divine Services

Mon. July 26: Orthros 8am and Liturgy 9am for St. Paraskeve.

Tues. July 27: Orthros 8am and Liturgy 9am for St. Panteleimon

Wed. July 28: Paraklesis to the Theotokos 5pm (*please note new time*)

Sat. July 24: Great Vespers 5pm

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.

Coffee Hour Signup

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour. Donations are welcome!

July 25: Beverly Foster

Aug. 1: Stephen Ziegenfuss

Aug. 8: Olga Sonnenburg

Christians Around the World

Please remember to keep Christians around the world in your prayers. Many are being persecuted and even killed for their faith in Jesus Christ. Remember also the two kidnapped Orthodox bishops from Syria.

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Lubbock, TX Vandalized

Thank you to all who contributed to help St. Andrew Church. We collected \$1,000 to help defray the cost of damages to their church. *God bless your generosity!*

Capital Campaign

Amazon Smile: You may support Archangel Michael GOC through Amazon Smile. Please make sure you sign in at: <https://smile.amazon.com/>

King Soopers Rewards: Please continue to input your King Soopers Rewards number when shopping there. We receive a percentage of the amount you spend. You must register for the program in order to activate this benefit for us.

Greek Festival

We are planning to have our festival on the weekend of August 20, 21, 22, 2021, please mark the dates and kindly volunteer. *OPA!*

Greek School

Future Greek learners: Classes are held each Thursday (beginning September 9) at 5pm in the Church hall. If you have questions, please contact Alex Ellis at 719-471-0157. There is no cost for the classes and all are welcome to attend.

Stewardship 2021

Please support our parish with your time, talent and treasure. Remember to send in your stewardship card. See Ruxandra Georgescu for more information.

Bookstore and Library

We have close to forty new books in the bookstore; there is something for everyone! Please come by and feel free to browse. If you have any questions, please see Olga Sonnenburg or email her at osonnenburg@comcast.net. *All that are careful for this life, procure books that will be medicine for the soul.* -St. John Chrysostom

Greek Store

Visit our Greek Store in the church hall. We have food items for sale and specialty items can be ordered. Please see Connie Leonard for more information.

The Dormition Fast

The Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Theotokos is celebrated on August 15. A two-week fast beginning on August 1 precedes this feast. During this period we abstain from meat, dairy products, fish, oil (olive) and wine. On the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6) fish, wine and oil are permitted. Saturdays and Sundays only wine and oil are permitted.

Saints of the Day

Saint Anna was the daughter of the priest Matthan and his wife Mary. She was of the tribe of Levi and the lineage of Aaron. According to Tradition, she died peacefully in Jerusalem at age 79, before the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos.

During the reign of Saint Justinian the Emperor (527-565), a church was built in her honor at Deutera. Emperor Justinian II (685-695; 705-711) restored her church, since Saint Anna had appeared to his pregnant wife. It was at this time that her body and maphorion (veil) were transferred to Constantinople.