



**Sunday September 2, 2018 14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5.** *Ven. Anthony and Theodosius of the Kiev Caves (10th-11th c.). Martyr Mamas of Cæsarea in Cappadocia, and his parents Martyrs Theodotus and Rufina (3rd c.). St. John the Faster, Patriarch of Constantinople (595). The 3618 Martyrs who suffered at Nicomedia (3rd-4th c.). The “KALUGA” Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (1748).*

**This Week’s Schedule**

*Friday 9/7 Eve of Nativity of the Theotokos*

*Great Vespers 7:00 p.m.*

*Saturday 9/8 Nativity of the Theotokos*

*Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.*

*Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.*

*Sunday 9/9 Hours 8:40 a.m.*

*Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.*

*followed by coffee hour*

**Reader Schedule**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> HOUR</b>	<b>6<sup>TH</sup> HOUR</b>	<b>EPISTLE</b>
Sep 8	NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS		
Sep 09	SOUDER	LEWIS	CAREY
Sep 14	ELEVATION OF THE CROSS		
Sep 16	WALES	WALES	WALES

## Hymns and Prayers

### **Tone 5 Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

### **Tone 4 Troparion**      *(Martyr Mamas)*

Your holy martyr Mamas, O Lord,  
through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown from You,  
our God.  
For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries,  
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons//  
Through his intercessions save our souls!

### **Tone 4 Troparion**      *(St John the Faster)*

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,  
an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;  
your humility exalted you;  
your poverty enriched you.  
Hierarch Father John,  
entreat Christ our God//  
that our souls may be saved!

### **Tone 5 Kontakion**      *(Resurrection)*

You descended into hell, O my Savior,  
shattering its gates as Almighty,  
resurrecting the dead as Creator,  
and destroying the sting of death.  
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man,//  
and we cry to You: “O Lord, save us!”

### **Tone 3 Kontakion**      *(Martyr Mamas)*

Holy Mamas, lead your people as a flock to life-giving pastures

with the staff God has given you;  
crush the invisible and fierce enemies beneath the feet of those  
who honor you!  
For all of those who are in danger//  
have received you as their fervent intercessor.

### **Tone 5 Prokeimenon**

You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

*(Ps 11/12:7)*

*v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly. (Ps 11/12:1)*

### **Epistle 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4**

*Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.*

*Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth.*

*Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand.*

*But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow.*

*For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me?*

*And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all.*

*For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.*

### **Tone 5**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation. (Ps 88/89:1)*

*v: For You have said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens." (Ps 88/89:2)*

### **Gospel Matthew 22:1-14**

*And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,*

*and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.*

*Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding."'*

*But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.*

*And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them.*

*But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.*

*Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.*

*Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.'*

*So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.*

*But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.*

*So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.*

*Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

*For many are called, but few are chosen."*

### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **This Week's Announcement**

***Nativity of the Theotokos*** We will celebrate the first major feast of the new church year (Sept.1) with the Nativity of the Theotokos. The feast honors the birth of the Mother of God and the salvation that comes through her Son. We will celebrate with both Vespers on the eve of the

feast Fri. Sept 7th at 7:00 p.m. and Divine Liturgy Saturday, Sept. 8th at 9:00 a.m.

***Parish Council Meeting*** Our September parish council meeting will be held this Thursday Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We will be meeting with the contractor to discuss the upcoming dome project. Please see Jeff Kendall if you are unable to attend.

***Family Promise*** St. Michaels will co-host Family Promise the week of Sept. 2nd. Will you please sign up on the board to cook, serve & provide hospitality at St. Philips Lutheran Church, 5320 Limestone Road, Wilmington on these days: Monday, Sept. 3, Tuesday, Sept. 4 & Thursday, Sept. 6th. Contact Ellen Gundersen at 610.388.0695 or email at ellengundersen5@gmail.com. These families need and appreciate your compassion and understanding.

***Calling all Church School Teachers*** We are looking for volunteers, teachers, and substitutes for the upcoming 2018-19 church school year. All those interested in helping with church school please see Fr. Barnabas. Our church school will kick off with our parish picnic on Sunday Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. The Moliben for the beginning of church school will be offered as others prepare and set up for the picnic.

***Upcoming Parish Picnic*** We are planning to have our annual parish picnic on Sunday, September 16th. Once again, this year we hope that having the picnic after Labor Day the weather (God willing) will be a bit cooler and that more will be able to attend. Hope to see you there!

***Royal Saints & Tea*** On Saturday, September 15th we will host a Royal Saints & Tea at 10 am. Everyone is welcome. We will learn about several Royal Saints & Families & our Royal Priesthood prior to Tea. You may come dressed as princes & princesses. Parents are especially encouraged to participate as a special princess guest joins us after tea. Please see me Catalina Finck for more details.

***Study Group to Begin*** Please mark your calendars for the start of our Thursday Study Group. Our Study group will resume on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. We will be reading and discussing the Gospel of St. Matthew with commentary from the holy fathers. All are welcome to join us!

## ***A Truly Inspired Woman***

*The Church remembers Saint Elizabeth, who was privileged to give birth to the last and greatest of the prophets, John the Baptist. She also was privileged to be inspired—visited by the Holy Spirit—in some special ways.*

*But the years before John's birth were certainly not a time of privilege. Elizabeth and her husband Zechariah, were "both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless" (Luke 1:6-7). But they had no children—the greatest of misfortunes. Still worse, their hopes of having a baby were slim because "both were advanced in years."*

*So when the angel Gabriel told Zechariah that they would have a child, and that this child would "make ready for the Lord a people prepared" (1:17), Elizabeth was deeply grateful. Unlike her husband, who foolishly doubted the archangel's word, she thanked God by saying, "Thus the Lord has done to me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men" (1:25).*

*The next extraordinary event in Elizabeth's life was the visit of her cousin Mary, who told Elizabeth that she, too, was going to have a baby.*

*Elizabeth, at this, was "filled with the Holy Spirit" and her own baby leaped in her womb. Again, she was overwhelmed with gratitude and exclaimed, "And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (1:43).*

*Elizabeth's words "mother of my Lord" are very important. They are Biblical precedent for the Orthodox practice of referring to Mary as "Theotokos" or "Mother of God." This is another way in which the Spirit visited Elizabeth in a special way—she is the one privileged to give Mary this title.*

*The meeting with Mary was a private event—just the two women, two cousins, rejoicing in their impending births and in the goodness of God. But Elizabeth would soon be inspired again, this time at a very public moment. That came when she gave birth, and "her neighbors and kinsfolk heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and rejoiced with her" (1:57). On the eighth day after the birth, preparations were made to circumcise the newborn child and it was assumed that he would carry on his father's name of Zechariah.*

*But to everyone's surprise, Elizabeth spoke up decisively and said, "Not so; he shall be called John." The people around her noted that there was nobody in the family named John. The unspoken question in their minds was, of course, where this name could come from, since it had no place in the parents' family history. The episode shows us that again Elizabeth*

*was given the privilege of expressing God's will by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

*We know that other barren women, like Hannah the mother of Samuel, suffered from the same kind of "reproach among men" that Elizabeth endured. But God is full of surprises, as Elizabeth, the elderly mother of John, was delighted to discover.*

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.

### **Wisdom from the Holy Fathers**

*To harbor no envy, no anger, no resentment against an offender is still not to have charity for him. It is possible, without any charity, to avoid rendering evil for evil. But to render, spontaneously, good for evil -- such belongs to a perfect spiritual love.*

*St Maximus the Confessor*

*'The sensible man, taking into account the remedial effect of the divine prescriptions, gladly bears the sufferings which they bring upon him, since he is aware that they have no cause other than his own sin. But when the fool, ignorant of the supreme wisdom of God's providence, sins and is corrected, he regards either God or men as responsible for the hardships he suffers.'*

*St. Maximos the Confessor*

*'Be not, then, ashamed of the cross, in order that Jesus Christ be not ashamed of you, when He will come, clothed in the Majesty of His glory, accompanied by this sign of our redemption, which will then shine more brilliant than the sun. Engrave it in your heart, lovingly embrace that which procured the salvation of our souls; for it is the cross which has saved and converted all the world -- it is that which has banished heresy and unbelief, which has reestablished truth, which has made a heaven on earth, and which has transformed men into angels. It is by means of the cross that the devils have ceased to appear formidable, and are now only to be despised. . . it is through the cross, that all our enemies have been conquered.'*

*St. John Chrysostom*

**Prayers for the Departed:** *Mat. Mary Dirga, Maria Proch, Mark Gundersen, John Berket, Anthony Greer, George Sarmousakis, Alfred Mokhiber*

**Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need:** *Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Fr. John Nightingale, Fr. Dimitry Perez, Fr. Deacon James Carpenter, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Matushka Myra Kovalak, Lemlem Resat, Peter Melnik, Olga Riley, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, Mary Anne Farrell, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Benjamin, Patrica, Lubov, Stephanie Hojnicky, Anastacia Sarmousakis, Ioana*

**Prayers for Women and the Child to be born:** *Stephanie Riley, Catalina Mary Finck*

<b>Date</b>	<b><u>Coffee Hour</u></b>	<b><u>Service Duty</u></b>	<b><u>Church Cleaner</u></b>	<b><u>Library</u></b>
<b>2-Sep</b>	POT LUCK	Elia/Morjana	Clause/Whalen	Skomorucha
<b>9-Sep</b>	Najemy/Kendall	Riley/Riley	Finck	Maloney
<b>16-Sep</b>	<b>Parish Picnic</b>	Sulpizi/Finck	Skomorucha/Lewis	Lewis
<b>23-Sep</b>	Oberto/Peck	Hojnicki/Souder	Peck/Peck	Gundersen
<b>30-Sep</b>	Finck	Telep/Baldychev	Baldychev/Shatley/S	Farrell