

## Feasts and Commemorations for this Week

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> Annunciation of the Theotokos » Luke 1:39-49, 56 » Hebrews 2:11-18 » Luke 1:24-38 »	<b>26</b> 6th Monday of Lent Isaiah 48:17-49:4 » Genesis 27:1-41 » Proverbs 19:16-25 »	<b>27</b> 6th Tuesday of Lent Isaiah 49:6-10 » Genesis 31:3-16 » Proverbs 21:3-21 »	<b>28</b> 6th Wednesday of Lent Isaiah 58:1-11 » Genesis 43:26-31; 45:1-16 » Proverbs 21:23-22:4 »	<b>29</b> 6th Thursday of Lent Isaiah 65:8-16 » Genesis 46:1-7 » Proverbs 23:15-24:5 »	<b>30</b> 6th Friday of Lent Isaiah 66:10-24 » Genesis 49:33-50:26 » Proverbs 31:8-31 »	<b>31</b> Lazarus Saturday » Hebrews 12:28-29; 13:1-8 » John 11:1-45 »
Wine / Oil Allowed    Fish Allowed    Strict Fast    Cheese / Dairy Allowed						

### Prayer List:

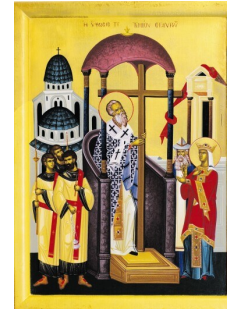
Please keep the following intentions in your prayers:

- For Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago, enthroned yesterday at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation in Chicago. Axios to His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago!

### Save the Dates!

- 3/25 Annunciation and Greek Independence Day  
 3/31 Lazarus Saturday  
 Morning Prayer 9:30a & Divine Liturgy 10:00a with Fr. Basil  
 Pancake breakfast & Palm Cross making afterward  
 4/1 Palm Sunday  
 Loukoumades Sale
- HOLY WEEK SERVICES —
- 4/3 Bridegroom Service 6:30p  
 4/4 Holy Unction Service 6:30p  
 4/5 Divine Liturgy 10:00a  
 Twelve Gospels Service 6:30p  
 Overnight Vigil  
 4/6 Royal Hours 8:30a  
 Taking Down Service (Apokathilosis) 3:00p  
 Lamentations 6:30p  
 4/7 Resurrection Orthros 11:30p  
 Great and Holy Pascha Divine Liturgy immediately following  
 4/8 Agape Vespers 1:00p followed by potluck meal (pending)

Refer to e-mailed Parish Updates for additional events and details



## Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

Address: 6134 Black Bill Rd., Flagstaff, AZ 86004  
 Mailing Address: PO Box 2164, Flagstaff, AZ 86003

Phone: (928) 225-3814

Web: [www.holycrossflagstaff.org](http://www.holycrossflagstaff.org)

Email: [priest@holycrossflagstaff.org](mailto:priest@holycrossflagstaff.org)

Rev. Father Andrew Barakos

Phone: (480) 991-3009

### Services Schedule:

Divine Liturgy 10 AM on Sundays

9th hour Prayers 9:30 AM

Bulletin for Sunday, March 25, 2018

### Hymns of the Day

#### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred body. O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Where by all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ. Glory unto Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation O You alone who loves all.

#### Apolytikion for Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt in the Plagal Fourth Mode

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. Wherefore, O righteous Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

#### Apolytikion for Annunciation of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

On this day when our salvation is crowned for eternity and the revelation of the mystery of the ages O the Son of God becomes on this day the Virgin's Son with Gabriel proclaiming the tidings of God's Grace, and we also join in the cry unto the Theotokos singing Hail to You who are filled with Grace the Lord is with You.

#### Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

## Epistle Reading

### The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 2:11-18

BRETHREN, he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have all one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, "I will proclaim thy name to my brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will praise thee." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I, and the children God has given me. Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage. For surely it is not with angels that he is concerned but with the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brethren in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered and been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

## Gospel Reading

### Annunciation of the Theotokos

#### The Reading is from Luke 1:24-38

In those days, Elizabeth the wife of Zacharias conceived and for five months she hid herself, saying, "Thus the Lord had done to me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men." In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

## Saints and Feasts Commemorated

### Annunciation of the Theotokos



Six months after John the Forerunner's conception, the Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth, a town of Galilee, unto Mary the Virgin, who had come forth from the Temple a mature maiden (see Nov. 21). According to the tradition handed down by the Fathers, she had been betrothed to Joseph four months. On coming to Joseph's house, the Archangel declared: "Rejoice, thou Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." After some consideration, and turmoil of soul, and fear because of this greeting, the Virgin, when she had finally obtained full assurance concerning God's unsearchable condescension and the ineffable dispensation that was to take place through her, and believing that all things are possible to the Most High, answered in humility: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And at this, the Holy Spirit came upon her, and the power of the Most High overshadowed her all-blameless womb, and the Son and Word of God, Who existed before the ages, was conceived past speech and understanding, and became flesh in her immaculate body (Luke 1:26-38).

Bearing in her womb the Uncontainable One, the blessed Virgin went with haste from Nazareth to the hill country of Judea, where Zacharias had his dwelling; for she desired to find Elizabeth her kinswoman and rejoice together with her, because, as she had learned from the Archangel, Elizabeth had conceived in her old age. Furthermore, she wished to tell her of the great things that the Mighty One had been well-pleased to bring to pass in her, and she greeted Elizabeth and drew nigh to her. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, she felt her six-month-old babe, Saint John the Baptist, prophesied of the dawning of the spiritual Sun. Immediately, the aged Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and recognized her as the Mother of her Lord, and with a great voice blessed her and the Fruit that she held within herself. The Virgin also, moved by a supernatural rejoicing in the spirit, glorified her God and Savior, saying: "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour," and the rest, as the divine Luke hath recorded (1:39-55)