

CALENDAR

Sunday 12/21: WINE/OIL Before the Nativity of Christ

8:30a Orthros (Matins)

9:00a Church School

9:45a Divine Liturgy &
Memorial Service

11:15a Parish Council Election

11:30a Berg's Free BBQ

Monday 12/22: STRICT FAST Gt-Martyr Anastasia

Tuesday 12/23: STRICT FAST Ten Martyrs of Crete

Wednesday 12/24: STRICT FAST Forefast of the Nativity of Christ

9:00a Royal Hours

6:00p Vespers Divine Liturgy

Thursday 12/25: NO FASTING Nativity of our Lord, God & Savior Jesus Christ

8:45a Orthros (Matins)

10:00a Divine Liturgy

Friday 12/26: NO FASTING Synaxis of the Holy Theotokos

Saturday 12/27: NO FASTING Protomartyr & Archdeacon Stephen

5:30p Great Vespers

Sunday 12/28: NO FASTING After the Nativity of Christ

8:30a Orthros (Matins)

9:45a Divine Liturgy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ♦ This morning, we will offer three memorials: a) 10-year for **Metropolitan Anthony of San Francisco**, of blessed memory; b) 4-year for **Panagiotis**, husband of Tammy Kretsedemas; and c) 1-year for **Ermoghen**, father of Despina Ciocanel. *May their memories be eternal!*
- ♦ We will have a **Reception** following the Christmas Eve Vespers Liturgy. Please bring a dish (no meat, fish and dairy allowed) or beverage to share.
- ♦ **Stewardship mailings, with pledge card, will go this week.** Please fill out and return your card to the parish as soon as possible. Keep in mind that next year, the **Parish Assembly** approved a budget that will need \$58/family/week to operate the church.

On the Sunday that immediately before Christmas, we celebrate all those who from ages past have been well-pleasing to God, beginning from Adam even unto Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, according to genealogy, as the Evangelist Luke has recorded historically (Luke 3); we also commemorate the Prophets and Prophetesses, and especially the Prophet Daniel and the Holy Three Children.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO OPERATE OUR CHURCH?

Last November, the Parish Assembly passed a 2014 Budget of \$130,894.

**THAT IS \$54/FAMILY,
EACH AND EVERY WEEK.**

Please keep your Stewardship current!



HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



METROPOLIS OF
SAN FRANCISCO

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST: Holy Martyrs Juliana of Nikomedia, and Themistokles. December 21, 2014

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are pleased that you have joined us today. **In order to receive Holy Communion in the Greek Orthodox Church, one must be Baptized and/or Chrismated in the Christian Orthodox Faith.** The Orthodox Church understands Holy Communion as a sign of unity. If you are interested in learning more about Christian Orthodoxy, please contact our priest, Father Andreas. Communicants should prepare themselves through fasting, prayer and confession. All Christians are invited to come forward at the dismissal of the Divine Liturgy to receive the holy bread, called *Antidoron*, which is offered to everyone as a blessing when they leave.

Rev. Presbyter Andreas MacLean, *Ieraticos Proistamenos* (Parish Priest)

P.O. Box 2164, Flagstaff, AZ 86003

Church Location: 16 West Cherry Ave. (Nativity Chapel), Downtown Flagstaff

Office: 928.225.3814 Fax: 855.879.8690 Pastoral Emergency: 928.607.9005

Fr. Andreas's e-mail: priest@holycrossflagstaff.org

Web Site: www.holycrossflagstaff.org

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church is a parish of the Holy Metropolis of San Francisco, in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, an eparchy of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. Our hierarch is His Eminence the Most Reverend GERASIMOS, Metropolitan of San Francisco.

TROPARIA AND READINGS

Resurrectional Apolytikion 3rd Mode

Let all things above in heav'n rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet He has trampled down death by death, and first born of the dead has He become. From the womb of Hades has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

Of the Forefeast 4th Mode

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened unto all. And be ready, Ephrata, for the Tree of life has in the grotto blossomed forth from the Virgin. Indeed her womb is shown to be spiritually a Paradise, in which is found the God-planted Tree. And if we eat from it we shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of old. Christ is born, so that He might raise up the formerly fallen image.

Of the Fathers 2nd Mode

Magnificent are Faith's accomplishments! The three holy Youths exultingly stood in the fountain of fire as if beside the still waters of rest. And Daniel the Prophet was shown to be a shepherd of lions. At their entreaty, O Christ God, save our souls.

Apolytikion of the Cross 1st Mode

Save, O Lord Your people, and bless Your inheritance; grant victory to the faithful against the adversaries of the Faith, and protect Your people by the power of Your Cross.

Hymn of the Church in Greek & phonetics

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαὸν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

SO-son KEE-ri-e ton la-ON soo, keh ev-LO-yec-son teen klee-ro-no-MEE-an soo,
NEE-kas tees va-sec-lef-SEE ka-TA var-VAR-on tho-ROO-me-nos, keh to son fee-
LA-ton thi-A too stav-ROO soo po-LEE-tev-ma.

Kontakion of the Forefeast of Christmas 3rd Mode

On this day the Virgin Maid * goes to the grotto to give birth * to the pre-eternal Word * in an ineffable manner. * Dance for joy, * O you inhabited earth on hearing. * Glorify, along with Angels and with the shepherds * Him who willed that He appear as * a newborn Child, * the pre-eternal God.

Apostolic Reading: St. Paul's Letter to Hebrews 11:9-10,32-40

BRETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty

TROPARIA AND READINGS

in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Holy Gospel Reading: Gospel according to St. Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel"(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.