



# **Orthodox Church of the Annunciation**

**Tone 7, Matt. 10:32-38; 19:27-30**

**The Sunday of All  
Saints**

**Troparion of the Resurrec-  
tion, Tone 8**

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One. Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: Glory to Thee!

**Troparion for All Saints,  
Tone 4**

As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyrs' blood shed throughout the world. She cries out to thee, O Christ God: send down Thy bounties on Thy people. Grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

**Kontakion of Annunciation,  
Tone 8**

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! We, your servants delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to you, O Theotokos! As you possess invincible might set us free from every calamity so that we may sing: Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!

Today, beloved brethren, we celebrate in one joyful solemnity the feast day of all the Saints. In their society Heaven exults, in their protection earth rejoices, in their triumphs the holy Church is crowned. The more endurance they showed in giving witness, the brighter is the glory of that witness; for, as the battle was fiercer, the glory of the fighters was greater. The many kinds of suffering enhance the triumph of martyrdom; and the greater the torments, the greater also the reward. Our Mother the catholic Church, spread far and wide over the whole earth, was taught in Jesus Christ her Head to fear neither insults, crosses, nor death. Grown stronger and stronger, not by resisting but by enduring, She has breathed the will to victory into all those whose containment in this earthly prison forms them into an opposing army, that they may be inspired to fight the good fight with no less ardent courage than these who have gone before.

O truly blessed Mother Church, basking in the glow of God's favor, adorned with the glorious blood of the victorious martyrs and clothed in the virginal white of an untarnished Orthodoxy! Her garlands lack neither the rose nor the lily. We should each then strive, dear brothers, to gain the great dignity of these two honors, either the white crowns of virginity or the red of suffering. In the Heavenly camps, both peace and war have their garlands with which to crown the soldiers of Christ.

For the unutterable and immense goodness of God has seen to it that the time of labor and struggle should be neither prolonged nor long-drawn-out nor endless, but that it should rather be brief and, as we might say, momentary. For the struggles and the labors belong to this short and hard life, but the crowns and the rewards of merit to that which is eternal. The labors, then, will be ended quickly, but the rewards of merit will continue without end. And after the darkness of this world, we are to see the most radiant light and to receive a blessedness greater than the bitterness of all sufferings, as the Apostle testifies when he says, "The sufferings of this present age are not worthy to be compared with the glory to come that will be revealed in us."

(Taken from *The Year of Grace of the Lord*, by a Monk of the Eastern Church)

**From the Lives of the Saints... THE HOLY APOSTLE JUDE**

Saint Jude was one of the Twelve Apostles. He was the son of Joseph and Salome (\*) and the brother of James, the brother of the Lord. Joseph the carpenter had four sons with Salome [the daughter of Angeja, the son of Varahina, the brother of Zacharias]: James, Hosea, Simon and Jude. This Jude is sometimes called: "Jude, the brother of James" due to his brother being better-known (St. Luke 6:16 Acts 1:14). St. Jude begins his epistle in this manner: Jude, the servant

## **Announcements and Activities**

**Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Baptist:**  
Friday, at 9AM.

**Great Vespers**— Saturday, at 5:30PM

**Divine Liturgy**— Sunday, at 10AM.

**Parish Council**—met on Sunday, after Divine Liturgy and Coffee Hour. We adopted a Treasurer's Report that, Glory to God, puts us back into black numbers, thanks to a large donation from outside the parish and a successful Spring Bazaar. Thank you, one and all, for your good work.

**Mortgage Drive**— Last year we met our pledge goal of 20K and church matching funds of 20K. Our goal was to do the mortgage reduction for 2 consecutive years and see if we can't retire the mortgage in 2023. Let's throw the Mortgage Reduction Red Thermometer on the wall in the Hall over the top and be able to say that this facility is totally in possession of God and His people. More about this as we move along. We will conclude this particular drive in September.

**Coffee Hours**— This week's Coffee Hour is being replaced by Coffee and Cookies, as it is Fathers Day.. Next week's Coffee Hour will be sponsored by Mike Me. And Edie. O.

**Pray for... Hierarch Nikolai (Soraich)**— battling cancer. Samir's friend, **Johnny**, who has been improving in the battle to save his sight. **Brian**, Sunday's brother. **George and Alex**, health problems. **All those who have lost their lives or are suffering as a result of the current Pandemic**. **Archimandrite Alexander** — Fr. Lawrence's long-time father confessor, who reposed. **Our Vladyka Benjamin**— battling on-set parkinsons. **Tsige Roman and Abraham**— I know we are always mindful of Tsige, but please continue to pray for the work and for Ethiopia, torn by civil war, with all the problems that go with a regional terror. **Reposed Jonathan T. George and Alesis**, Brother and Daughter of Peter and Irene S. **Matushka Ioanna R. reposed. Matushka Priscilla**, ill. **Anya J**— a long-time friend of the parish who is ill. **Stephen F.**— battling back pain. **John F.**— battling cancer. **Archpriest Anthony**— battling cancer. **Julie**— sister of Kathy M., battling health problems. **Rhoda's requests for Douglas and Kayana. Reposed Constance**— the mother of Andrew F. **Will**— reposed, Michael T.'s brother-in-law. **Reposed Vadim. Christian**— undergoing some medical testing. The reposed— **Novice Nonna, Robbie**— cancer. **Raphael**, cancer. Child **Aidan**— seizures. Child **Henry. Robbie** the cousin of Brian R., who reposed after a battle with cancer. **Louis Joseph M.**, is now home and, thank God, ready to come to church again. **Victor T. reposed on Holy Saturday. Christine**—reposed on Holy Saturday. **Holli**— Reposed. **Reposed Dn. George. Jobie**, cancer. **Darryl and Laura Beth. Diane F.**— short-term illness.

of Jesus Christ and the brother of James (St. Jude 1:1). Even though he could be called the brother of the Lord as much as James, he did not do this, out of humility and shame, for he did not at first believe in Christ the Lord. When the elderly Joseph, before his death, wanted to leave a portion of his estate to Jesus, as well as to his other children, all of them protested, even Jude. Only James voluntarily set aside a share of his portion and intended it for Jesus. Jude is also called Levi and Thaddeus. There is another Thaddeus of the Seventy Apostles (August 21), but this Thaddeus or Jude was one of the Great Apostles. Jude preached the Gospel throughout Judea, Samaria, Galilee, Idumedia, Syria, Arabia, Mesopotamia and Armenia. In Edessa, the town of Abgar, he augmented the preaching of the other Thaddeus. When Jude was preaching in the regions around Ararat, he was captured by pagans, crucified on a cross and killed by being shot with arrows, that he might reign eternally in the Kingdom of Christ.

(\* ) Not the Salome of Bethlehem, but another.

### **THE VENERABLE PAISIUS THE GREAT**

Paisius was an Egyptian by birth and language. After a vision in a dream, his mother dedicated him to the service of God. As a young man, Paisius came to the Venerable Pambo, who received him as his disciple and as a fellow disciple of the Venerable John Kolovos [The Dwarf], who later wrote the biography of Paisius. To the joy of his spiritual father, Paisius added labor to labor and ascetic feat to ascetic feat. Many times the Prophet Jeremiah, whom he especially loved and often read, appeared to him. Angels of God often appeared to him and even the Lord Christ Himself. "Peace be with you, my beloved chosen one!" the Lord Christ said to him. By the great grace of God, Paisius possessed the special gift of abstaining from food. Often he did not taste bread for fifteen days, more often for a week, and once, according to the testimony of St. John the Dwarf, he went for seventy days without partaking of anything. He waged a great struggle with the spirits of evil, who appeared to him at times exactly as they are and at times in the form of radiant angels. But the blessed servant of God did not permit himself to be deceived and beguiled. Paisius was famous throughout Egypt as a clairvoyant and miracle-worker. He took up his habitation in eternity in the year 400 A.D. The Venerable Isidore of Pelusium translated the relics of Paisius to his monastery and honorably buried them.

### **THE HOLY MARTYR ZOSIMAS**

Zosimas was a Roman soldier during the reign of Emperor Trajan. He courageously confessed his faith in Christ the Lord, for which he endured cruel tortures. In the midst of his tortures, he heard a voice from heaven saying: "Be brave Zosimas, and sign yourself with the cross, I am with you!" Angels of God appeared to him in prison. After many tortures, Zosimas was beheaded in the year 116 A.D.

Taken from the Prologue of Ochrid, Compiled and Written, asdfasdf

*"There do not exist many or few, nor small or great problems. The only problem is the absence of Christ from our lives" (From the life and teachings of Elder Epiphanius Theodoropoulos)*