



## Weekly Bulletin

# Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

### **The Rich Fool**

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 6**

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb. The guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin granting Life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: Glory to Thee!

#### **Troparion for Annunciation, Tone 4**

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery! the Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

#### **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!

### **The 24th Sunday after Pentecost November 20th , Tone 6, Lu.12**

The gospel for the twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost (Lu.12:16-21) is a serious and stern warning. Jesus describes the state of a rich man who “layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God”. The rich man builds barns in which to store his harvests and his fruits. He says to his own soul: “Take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry”. But God says to him: “Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou has provided?”

This parable faces each of us with a searching question — if, this very night, my soul were to be required of me, in relation to whom would I be rich? Would I be rich for myself or rich for God? The gospel for the twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost (Lu.12:16-21) is a serious and stern warning. Jesus describes the state of a rich man who “layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God”. The rich man builds barns in which to store his harvests and his fruits. He says to his own soul: “Take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry”. But God says to him: “Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou has provided?”

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(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 Thaddaeus**

This Thaddaeus was one of the Seventy Apostles, but was not the Thaddaeus who was one of the Twelve Apostles. St. Thaddaeus first encountered John the Baptist and received baptism from him; then he found the Lord Jesus and followed Him. The Lord numbered him among the Seventy Lesser Apostles, whom He sent out two by two before His face: After these things, the Lord appointed other seventy also and sent them two and two before His face into every city and place where He Himself would come (Luke 10:1). After His glorious Resurrection and His Ascension, the Lord sent Thaddaeus to Edessa, Thaddaeus's birthplace, according to the promise He gave to Prince Abgar when He returned Abgar's towel with the image of His face on it (the Icon of the Lord "Not Made With Hands," August 16). By kissing the towel, Abgar was healed

he gospel for the twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost teaches us to trust even in

## **Announcements and Activities**

**Great Vespers for the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple:** Tonight, at 6PM.

**Divine Liturgy**—at 9AM on Tuesday.

**Molieben of Thanksgiving**— Our annual prayer service on the eve of Thanksgiving will take place on Wednesday, at 7PM. Come to this 30 minute service and express your gratitude.

**Saturday Great Vespers**— Saturday, at 5:30 pm.

**Divine Liturgy**— Sunday, at 10AM.

**Church School/Adult Ed.**— Sunday, November 20th, at 9AM.

**Coffee Hours**— This week's Coffee Hour is being sponsored by the Nantz's and the Conrads.. Next week's Coffee Hour will be our monthly potluck.

**Parish Council**—will meet next today, after Liturgy, as last week's meeting was postponed.

**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. **George and Alesis**, Brother and Daughter of Peter and Irene S. **Matushka Ioanna R. reposed. Matushka Priscilla, ill. Anya J**— a longtime 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-inlaw. **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 **Reposed Dn. George. Jobie**, cancer. **Darryl and Laura Beth. Skete. Stavrophore Elizabeth, of Kazan Repose. Pastor Brad**, a friend of Kirk's who is going through a difficult time. **Sarah**, the daughter of Fr. Lawrence's godfather, health issues. **Youseff and Jimmy**— who are ill. **Matushka Ann Hopko**, reposed. **Jonathan**— ill. **Sonja**— Sunday's daughter-inlaw who gave birth through C-section and is recovering. Congratulations! Reposed **Metropolitan Herman**, former Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church in America. **Reposed Armand**— former member of our parish.. **Reposed Barbara Ranjo. Reposed Matushka Ann Hopko, Tom Wood**— heart surgery. **Fr. And Matushka's Granddaughter Annabella is battling and persistent illness. Reposed: Fr. Maximos of St. Silouan Monastery, Laure**— battling Cancer. **Laure**— battling cancer. **Paul**— ill **Ralph-ill McGees**— ill

of leprosy, but not completely. [A little leprosy still remained on his face.]

When St. Thaddaeus appeared to Abgar, he received him with great joy. The apostle of Christ instructed him in the true Faith, and after that baptized him. When Abgar arose out of the baptismal water, he was completely healed. Glorifying God, Prince Abgar also determined that his people should know the true God and glorify Him. The prince assembled all the citizens of Edessa before the holy Apostle Thaddaeus to hear his teaching about Christ.

Hearing the words of the apostle and seeing their prince miraculously healed, the people rejected their former idolatry and unclean living, embraced the Christian Faith, and were baptized. Thus the city of Edessa was illumined by the Christian Faith. Prince Abgar brought much gold and offered it to the apostle, but Thaddaeus said to him: " Since we left our own gold, how can we receive the gold of others?" St. Thaddaeus preached the Gospel throughout Syria and Phoenicia. He reposed in the Lord in the Phoenician city of Beirut.

### **THE HOLY FEMALE MARTYR BASSA AND HER CHILDREN: THEOGNIUS, AGAPIUS AND PISTUS**

Bassa was the wife of an idolatrous pagan priest, but was secretly a Christian. She educated her sons in Christianity. Her husband hated her because of her faith, and gave her and her sons over to the judge for torture. After harsh tortures, her sons were beheaded (it is believed that this occurred at Edessa, in Macedonia).

Bassa was joyful when she saw her sons honorably completing their heroic martyrdoms for Christ; and she, with even greater eagerness, went from torture to torture. When they threw Bassa into the sea, angels appeared to her and brought her to an island in the Sea of Marmara, where she was later beheaded during the rule of Maximian. Thus St. Bassa was made worthy of the Kingdom of Christ in a twofold manner--as a martyr, and as a mother of martyrs.

### **VENERABLE ABRAHAM OF SMOLENSK**

Abraham was born in the Russian town of Smolensk, in answer to his parent's prayers. He entered the monastic life at an early age and gave himself over to austere asceticism, emulating the ancient fathers of the desert. Later he established the Monastery of the Holy Cross near Smolensk. He endured many temptations both from demons and men with great patience and thanksgiving to God. During a great drought, Abraham brought forth rain by his prayers. Living fifty years as a monk, Abraham peacefully died in the Lord, in about 1220 A.D.

### **THE HOLY FOREFATHERS ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB**

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are also commemorated on the Sunday of the Forefathers before the Nativity, as righteous ones and God-pleasers.

Taken from *The Prologue of Ochrid*, by St. Nickolai Velimirovich

*“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)*