

## 13th Sunday after Pentecost;

Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos; Sunday before Exaltation- September 07, 2025

The Most Holy Lady Theotokos, Mary, was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind.

The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy in her devotion to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were

Righteous Joachim and Anna, who were faithful descendants of David and the first High-priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope, but they were treated badly by those who assumed that personal sins on their part had caused them to be childless.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.



Nativity of the  
Theotokos. St. Anna  
reclines while Mary is  
washed.

## Venerated Saints;

Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos (1st century B.C.)

Martyr Sozon of Cilicia (3rd century)

Saint John the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Novgorod (12th c.)

Venerable Serapion of Spaso-Elazar Monastery, Pskov (15th c.)

Apostles Evodius (Euodias) and Onesiphorus of the Seventy (1st c.)

Hieromartyr Macarius, of Kanev and Pereyaslav (17th century)

Martyr Euppsychius of Caesarea, in Cappadocia (2nd century)

Venerable Cassiani the Hymnographer (9th century)

Venerable Macarius of Optina (19th century)

Venerable Cloud (Clodoald), Founder of Nogent-Sur-Seine, (6th c.)

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## Scripture Readings

### Galatians 6:11-18

See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! 12As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. 13For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. 14But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. 16And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. 17From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. 18Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

### John 3:13-17

No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. 14And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn

the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

### 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. 14Let all that you do be done with love. 15I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – 16that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. 17I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. 18For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. 19The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. 20All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. 21The salutation with my own hand – Paul's. 22If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! 23The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. 24My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Also read: Matthew  
21:33-42

## Troparia

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

Today from the stem of Jesse and from the loins of David, the handmaid of God Mary is being born for us. Therefore all creation is renewed and rejoices. Heaven and earth rejoice together. Praise her, you families of nations, for Joachim rejoices and Anna celebrates crying out: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life!"

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day!

Today the Virgin Theotokos Mary, the bridal chamber of the Heavenly Bridegroom, by the will of the God is born of a barren woman, being prepared as the chariot of God the Word. She was foreordained for this, since she is the divine gate and the true Mother of Life.

## Regular Schedule

**Saturdays:** Vespers at 5pm, Confession afterward.

**Sundays:** Divine Liturgy at 9:30am with Hours beginning at 9:10am.

Coffee Hour follows Liturgy each Sunday. **Children's Catechism** immediately after Liturgy on the amvon steps before coffee hour.

**Bible Study** is on Wednesdays at 8:00pm in-person and by Zoom.

The **Church is open** for prayer and confession Wednesdays from 9am-5pm.

## Thank You

Thank you to **Team B** for Coffee Hour.

## Prayer List

Alicia

Newly departed Sammy

Ero

Jake's grandmother, Phyllis

Newly departed Diane

Aidan H.'s grandmother, Barbara

Georgina Straker

Harrison's grandmother, Lorraine

Barbara Egidi

Mary Mullally

Daniel's father, Francis

Julia's daughter-in-law, Krista

Matushka Tamara Skvir

Leo, Clive, Noah, Heily, Jake, Nory,

Gabriel, Daryle, and Matt (catechumens)

Victims of war in Ukraine

Victims in the Middle East

## Special Announcements

**Nativity of the Theotokos:** At 9am on Monday, September 8th we will have Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos.

**Holy Unction:** We will have the healing sacrament of Holy Unction on Saturday, September 13th, at 9:30am. All are welcome at the service. Unction is a sacrament, and therefore the anointing is meant for those who are joined to the church. Orthodox Christians with any health concerns are encouraged to receive the anointing.

"Is any among you sick, let him call for the presbyters of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed (Jas 5.14-16; see also Mk 6.13)."

### Regional Announcements:

The Antiochian Eastern Diocese presents a Young Adult Retreat hosted at St. Anthony's Orthodox Church in Bergenfield:

"Navigating the Modern World as Orthodox Christians"

with Father Chris Shadid

Sept. 26-28, 2025

Mountain Men's Respite:

Men high school age and older are invited to the Cedar River Campsites in Indian Lake, NY September 19-21.

Register by September 12th. Registration is free.

End of Summer Lamb Roast: OYA is hosting a lamb roast at Holy Resurrection Church in Wayne on September the 28th. BYO drinks, and a side or dessert to share.



## How to connect:

Fill out this page, tear it off, and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Fr. Solomon. Let us know, in the notes, if you would like us to add you to the midweek email. Fr. Solomon is available for meetings over coffee, or by phone, throughout the week; make a note if you would like to set up a meeting.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

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O Lord God, the woman who had fallen into many sins, having perceived Thy divinity received the rank of ointment-bearer, offering Thee spices before Thy burial wailing and crying: "Woe is me, for the love of adultery and sin hath given me a dark and lightless night; accept the fountains of my tears.

O Thou Who drawest the waters of the sea by the clouds incline Thou to the sigh of my heart. O Thou Who didst bend the heavens by Thine inapprehensible condescension; I will kiss Thy pure feet and I will wipe them with my tresses.

I will kiss Thy feet Whose tread when it fell on the ears of Eve in Paradise dismayed her so that she did hide herself because of fear.

Who then shall examine the multitude of my sin and the depth of Thy judgment? Wherefore, O my Saviour and the Deliverer of my soul turn not away from Thy handmaiden O Thou of boundless mercy".

St. Cassiani the Hymnographer