

Nativity Fast

On Nov. 15, we begin one of the **four major fast seasons** in the Orthodox Church. For this forty-day period we are called to abstain from meat and dairy products. While many in America have Christmas parties before the Nativity of our Lord, we are called to prepare ourselves for this joyous celebration by prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The proper time for celebration is from Christmas day until Jan. 4, as the Church relaxes the fasting rules. Let us not allow this season to pass by us without making an effort for our spiritual life. Certainly, it is an excellent time to intensify our prayer life at home and at church. Let us also cleanse ourselves from the heavy weight of our sins with the Mystery of Holy Confession. *May our Lord give us strength and faith to accomplish the course of the fast!*

Saints of the Day

Saint Gregory The Wonderworker, Bishop Of Neocaesarea: This man of God and powerful wonderworker was called a *second Moses*. Gregory was born of pagan, but eminent and wealthy, parents. He studied Hellenic and Egyptian philosophy and became aware of the meagerness and insufficiency of pagan philosophy. He then turned to Christian teachers, particularly Origen of Alexandria, with whom he studied for several years and from whom he received baptism. Pure in body and soul, he wanted to dedicate himself solely to Christ God, for which reason he withdrew to the wilderness, where he spent much time in rigorous asceticism. His fame spread everywhere. Bishop Phaedimus of Amasea wanted to consecrate him Bishop of Neocaesarea. The clairvoyant Gregory perceived Phaedimus's intention and hid from the bishop's emissaries in the wilderness. Finally, Phaedimus consecrated him in a strange way, and Gregory had to accept the office of bishop. The Most-holy Theotokos and St. John the Theologian appeared to him in a vision, and St. John, at the command of the Theotokos, gave him the Symbol of Faith that is known by Gregory's name. Who can enumerate all the miracles of this *second Moses*? He had power over evil spirits, and over mountains and waters, healed every pain and infirmity, could become invisible to his persecutors, and clairvoyantly perceived distant events and men's thoughts. He ended his earthly life in the year 270 A.D., in great old age. When he arrived in Neocaesarea as bishop, he found only *seventeen* Christians in that pagan city. When he departed this life, he left the city Christian, with only *seventeen* pagans, and received the wreath of glory from his Lord in the Heavenly Kingdom.

Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

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November 17, 2024

Sunday Holy Scripture Reading

Apostolic Reading: Galatians 2:16 – 20

Gospel: St. Luke 12:16 – 21

Services: *Sunday*-8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy, *Weekdays* 8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy when scheduled.

Saints of the Day: 9th Sunday of Luke: Gregory the wonder-worker, bishop of Neo-Caesarea; Gennadios, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable Nikon, disciple of Sergios of Radonezh.

Hymns of the Day

Apolytikion of the Resurrection Tone 4

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, “Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!”

Apolytikion for St. Gregory Tone 8

By your accomplishments, you earned the name that you bore, for you were vigilant in prayer and diligent in working miracles. Therefore, holy father Gregory, intercede with Christ our God, that He illumine our souls, lest we fall asleep in sin unto death.

Apolytikion of the Archangels Tone 4

Supreme Commanders of the Hosts of the Heavens, we, the unworthy, implore and beseech You that by Your supplications You encircle us in the shelter of the wings of Your immaterial glory, guarding us who now fall down and cry to You with fervor: Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, as the great marshals of the heavenly hosts on high.

Kontakion for the Entrance of the Theotokos Tone 4

The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is she.

Divine Services

Wed. Nov. 20: Great Vespers for the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple 5pm.

Thurs. Nov 21: Orthros 8am and Liturgy 9am for Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple.

Sat. Nov. 23: Great Vespers 5pm

Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church

Holy Communion of the Orthodox Church is the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is *“With the fear of God, faith and love”* that we approach the Divine Mysteries. Therefore, Holy Communion is reserved only for those baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer and fasting, as prescribed by the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church. We ask that women, before approaching to receive from the Holy Cup, in respect of our Lord, to please remove lipstick.

Coffee Hour Signup

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour. Donations are welcome!

Nov. 17: Rose Timora **Nov. 24:** Medina, Olson, Serna Families

Dec. 1: Sponsor Needed **Dec. 8:** Sponsor Needed

Coffee Hour Volunteer Clean Up Schedule

For those who would like to volunteer in helping in the church hall, we now have a sign up sheet for assisting in cleaning up after coffee hour. The sheet is posted downstairs in the kitchen next to coffee hour sign up sheet. *Also, parents please make sure you cleanup after your children during coffee hour.*

Memorial Service

This morning we remember in our prayers the departed servant of God +Peter Gyza on the 2nd year anniversary of his repose. *Everlasting be his memory!*

Bookstore and Library

The *2025 Daily Lives, Miracles, and Wisdom of the Saints & Fasting Calendar* is available for sale in our bookstore. We have quite a few copies in stock; however, when they're gone, they're gone! So hurry and purchase your copy soon. We also have many new items in our bookstore as well. The only way to know what's available is to come by and have a look. And, Christmas is right around the corner! We have plenty of beautiful gifts for the ones you love. If you can't find that perfect gift in our bookstore, I can help with special orders. Gift certificates are available for purchase too! *All that are careful in this life, procure books that will be medicine for the soul. -St. John Chrysostom*

Orthodox Catechism Class

Class will meet today following coffee hour. *All are welcomed to attend!*

Capital Campaign

King Soopers Cards has a Loyalty Card Program that offers 5% of your purchase sent to a designated charity which Archangel Michael is an eligible recipient. You may sign up online or go to the customer service desk.

Church School

Classes meet following Holy Communion. Please allow the Church School students receive Holy Communion first. See Sara LaBrie for more information.

Archangel Michael Community Christmas Outreach

Many of Queen Palmer Elementary School (District 11) students come from low-income families. This year, Archangel Michael will assist in providing Christmas gifts to 20 families in need. The Christmas Outreach will be conducted from November 10th - December 1st. Details are in the flyer, located at the candle stand. To participate, please check the displays located downstairs. Thank you to EVERYONE for your support!

AMGOC Philoptochos

The women of our parish are invited to participate in the newly forming Philoptochos (Friends of the Poor). The Women's Fellowship will now be known as the Philoptochos. Congratulations to the following board members: Courtney Parmer—*President*, Lisa Harr—*Vice-president*, Elizabeth Nissen—*Treasurer*, Sarah LaBrie—*Secretary*, Penny Johnson—*Director*, Maria Rainford—*Director*, Rose Timora—*Director*.

Metropolis Open House

His Eminence, Met. Isaiah is pleased to invite you to the Metropolis of Denver annual Christmas Celebration and Open House and will be held at the Metropolis Center on **Friday, December 13, 2024 from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m.** There is no cost to attend.

Greek School

Alex Ellis offering Greek language classes free of charge. Classes began on September 7, 2024. For more information call him at 719.471.015.7

Stewardship 2024

Remember to be current with your stewardship. If you did not receive a 2024 packet, please see Ruxandra Georgescu.

AMGOC Online Giving

Our parish is now offering online giving as a means to make offering for stewardship, Capital Campaign, memorial donations and more. Please use the scan the QR code with your smart phone or <https://giving.servantkeeper.com/AMGOC>

