

**HOLY TRINITY/ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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**Rev. Nicholas P. Petropoulakos
SUNDAY BULLETIN**

**Proistamenos
June 24, 2018**

**NATIVITY OF THE FORERUNNER, JOHN THE BAPTIST
Elizabeth, mother of the Forerunner; Panagiotis the New Martyr**



HYMN OF THE DAY TONE: THIRD (3)

Let the Heavens rejoice, and let the Earth be glad, for the Lord has shown strength with His arm: by death He has trampled upon Death and became the First-Born of the dead; He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, and to the world has granted the great Mercy.

Ευφραίνεσθω τα ουρανια, αγαλλιασθω τα επιγεια, οτι εποιησεκρατος εν βραχιονι αυτου ο Κυριος. επατησε τω θανατω τον θανατον, Πρωτοτοκος των νεκρων εγενετο, εκ κοιλιας Αδουερρυσατο ημας και παρεσχε τω κοσμω το μεγα ελεος.

EPISTLE READING: Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:1-25; 57-68; 76-80

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled^[a] among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will

be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.” The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.” Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak. When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. “The Lord has done this for me,” she said. “In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.”

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, “No! He is to be called John.”

They said to her, “There is no one among your relatives who has that name.” Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone’s astonishment he wrote, “His name is John.” Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God. All the neighbors were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, “What then is this child going to be?” For the Lord’s hand was with him.

Zechariah’s Song

His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness

and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.” And the child grew and became strong in spirit^[a]; and he lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

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MEMORIALS TODAY

10 Years
13 years
14 years
14 years
30 years

AHEPA

Michael Mastrandreas
Athanasios Lellos
Andreas Kambouromitis
Fotini Kambouromitis
Kyriakos Frangopoulos

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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday	June 26	Golden Seniors	11:30
a.m.			
Friday	June 29	SS. Peter & Paul	
a.m.		Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00	

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OLYMPICS SUNDAY

Today we will recognize all of the JOY and GOYA members who participated in the 2018 Archdiocesan District Olympics. We congratulate the medal winners and all of the 50 athletes that we had this year. Special thanks to the Olympics leaders and all of the coaches for their hard work in preparing the athletes for the Olympics.

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AHEPA SCHOLASTIC AWARDS CEREMONY

Immediately following the Coffee Fellowship, our local AHEPA chapter will hold the Annual Scholastic Awards Ceremony in the Gym of the Katsoris Center. All are invited to attend.