

Welcome to the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The glass-enclosed narthex is designated for parents with infants and young children. Everyone is asked to remain in the narthex during the “*Small Entrance*,” “*Great Entrance*,” “*Epistles*,” and “*Gospel Readings*”. Also, please remember to turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Also know that there is a wheelchair and a walker available to those who have mobility needs. Please ask a Parish Council member at the Pangari.

If you are a visitor or newcomer, we are pleased to have you with us. Please introduce yourself to a parish council member at the Pangari and also sign the guest book. Remember that only those who are baptized or chrismated in the Eastern Orthodox faith may participate in the Holy Sacraments including Holy Communion. Following church services, everyone is invited to attend the fellowship hour in the parish hall. *Our website is <http://stsophia.net>*

**Today: August 6**

### Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Our Lord had spoken to His disciples many times not only concerning His Passion, Cross, and Death, but also concerning the coming persecutions and afflictions that they themselves would endure. Since all these evils were near at hand, but the enjoyment of good things which they hoped to receive in their stead was yet to come, our Savior desired to give them full assurance, evidently and openly, concerning that glory which is prepared for those who endure to the end. Therefore, fulfilling that which He had promised shortly before, that "there be some standing here which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom" (Matt. 16:28), He took His three foremost disciples and ascended Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. Suddenly, together with this dread and marvelous effulgence of light, there appeared those pinnacles of the Prophets, Moses and Elias, who spoke with the Lord Jesus concerning His saving Passion which was about to take place. Standing before Him as reverent servants, they showed that He is the Lord of both the living and the dead, for Moses came forth from Hades, having died many centuries before, and Elias, as it were from heaven, whither he had been taken up while yet alive. After a little while a radiant cloud overshadowed them and out of the cloud they heard that same voice which had been heard at the Jordan at the Baptism of Christ, testifying to the Divinity of Jesus and saying: "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him" (Matt. 17: 5).

Such are the marvels, truly worthy of God, celebrated in this present feast, which is an image and prefiguring of the future state of the righteous, whose splendor the Lord spoke of, saying: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun" (Matt. 13:43). It is because of this that the Kontakion of this Feast is said daily (when there is not a great feast) in the Service of the Typica in perpetual commemoration of the glory that will be the lot of the Saints. According to tradition, the Lord's Transfiguration came to pass forty days before His Crucifixion; this is why the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

6 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Liturgy <i>Holy Transfiguration and the Blessing of the Grapes</i>
7 Monday	9:30 am	Paraklesis
	11:00 am	Senior Exercise
8 Tuesday	9:30 am	Paraklesis
	11:00 am	Chair Yoga
	12:30 pm	Senior Program
9 Wednesday	9:30 am	Paraklesis
	11:00 am	Senior Exercise
	12:30 pm	Knitters
10 Thursday	9:30 am	Paraklesis
	12:30 pm	Seniors
11 Friday	9:30 am	Paraklesis
	11:30 am	Senior Exercise

### News & Events

- ▶ The Philoptochos garage sale will be held here on August 26. Donations of household goods, toys and games, small furniture, athletic equipment, and pocketbooks are now being accepted. Items must be clean and in good condition. Please see Catherine Halsdorf or Michelle Culbertson for further information.
- ▶ St. Sophia Scholarships will be awarded next Sunday following church services. AHEPA Scholarships will be awarded today.
- ▶ The Church of the Assumption will be holding its annual Greek Festival starting this Saturday, August 12 through August 15. Good food, live music, and beautiful surroundings make for an enjoyable afternoon or evening.
- ▶ The Food Pantry has picked up one full load of donations this summer from our collection bin. But the need is ongoing for much more. Please remember those families less fortunate. The collection bin is located by the coatroom.
- ▶ A reminder that there is a summer camp program here that will run through the end of the summer. The gym, classrooms, and outdoor areas are designated areas for this weekday program. Note: This is a private enterprise that provides rental income for the church.
- ▶ Next Sunday there will be a one-year memorial for the late Chris Damascos and a twenty-three year memorial for the late Arianne Damascos.

## **Epistle Reading**

***Prokeimenon. Fourth Mode. Psalm 103.24,1.***

*O Lord, how manifold are your works. You have made all things in wisdom.*

*Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

**The reading is from St. Peter's Second Universal Letter 1:10-19.**

BRETHREN, be more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall; so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Therefore I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word made more sure. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

## **Gospel Reading**

**Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

**The Reading is from Matthew 17:1-9**

At that time, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

## **Apolytikion for Holy Transfiguration in the Grave Mode**

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Thy disciples Thy glory as each one could endure. Shine forth Thou on us, who are sinners all, Thy light ever-unending, through the prayers of the Theotokos. Light-bestower, glory be to Thee.

## **Seasonal Kontakion in the Grave Mode**

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.