














# Holy Trinity St. John the Theologian

Fr. Mike Downs

## December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>14</b> 8:45 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy <b>PC Meeting</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study	<b>17</b> 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
						
<b>21</b> 8:45 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy <b>Christmas Pageant</b> <b>Hope and Joy</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:30 am Royal Hours  5 pm Orthros 6 pm Divine Liturgy	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:45 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy	<b>27</b>
						

 Strict Fast  Fish Allowed  Dairy Allowed  Wine and Oil Allowed

## Welcome Visitors

We extend a warm welcome to visitors worshipping with us today. We would like to remind you that Holy Eucharist is reserved for those who have been baptized or chrismated in the Orthodox Church and have prepared themselves to receive the Eucharist. All visitors are welcome to receive the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

## Prayer List

Please keep the following individuals in your daily prayers: Collier, Dora, Bini, Anna, Matt, John, Joey, Anastasia, Despene, Emmanuel, Georgios, Vasilios, Rachel, Hannah, Evelyn, Delbert, Peter, Chuck, Martha Ann, Will, Bob, Lynn, Regina, Nan, Theo, Cory, Liddell, Thomas, Lori, and Sharon. To add names to our community prayer list for 40 days of prayer, submit them to [frmike@holytrinityjackson.org](mailto:frmike@holytrinityjackson.org) or call the church office.

## Weekly Collections

Below are the General Fund collections for last week:

12/1 - 12/7 = \$5,358.50.

## Parish Council Leads/ Greeters

The parish council leads serving as greeters for this Sunday are Michael Fowler and Kari East.

## Extra Services

On Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. we will have a Paraklesis.

On Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. we will have the Royal Hours for Christmas. At 5:00 p.m. we will have the Orthros, and at 6:00 p.m. we will have the Divine Liturgy for Christmas Day..

On Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. we will have a Divine Liturgy for the Synaxis of the Theotokos.

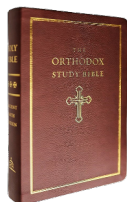
## Hope and Joy



On Sunday, December 21st after the Divine Liturgy we will have our next Hope and Joy. They will celebrate the coming of Christmas with some pizza and drinks as well as baking Christmas cookies. We will look forward to seeing our younger members there.

## Women's Bible Study Canceled

Because of the Philoptochos Bake Sale and Holidays, the Women's Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.





## Christmas Pageant Practice

On December 14<sup>th</sup> the children will continue their practice for the Christmas pageant. The pageant itself will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup>. We hope that all of our children will participate as we look forward to seeing them put on this yearly event.

### **Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 2.**

When you descended unto death of Life Immortal, \* You rendered to Hades a mortal blow\* by the lightning of Your divinity, \* and when from the depths of darkness You also raised the dead, \* all the heavenly powers cried out: \* O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to You. (p. 93)

### **For the Forefathers. Mode 2.**

By faith You justified the Forefathers, having through them betrothed to yourself the Church that came out of the nations. The saints are boasting in glory; for the glorious fruit, the Virgin who without seed gave birth to You, is from their progeny. At their entreaties, O Christ our God, save our souls.

### **Of the Parish Church Mode Pl. 4.**

O blessed are you, o Christ our God. Who by sending down the Holy Spirit upon them, made the fishermen wise and through them illumined the world, and to you, the universe was ever drawn all glory to You, o Lord.

### **Of the Parish Church Mode 2.**

Apostle beloved of Christ God hasten to deliver a defenseless people, for He who allowed you to recline on his breast will allow you bowing in intercession. Implore Him o Theologian to disperse the adversary, and grant us His peace and abundant mercy.

### **Kontakion Mode 3.**

On this day the Virgin Maid \* goes to the grotto to give birth \* to the pre-eternal Word \* in an ineffable manner. \* Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. \* Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds \* Him who willed that He appear as \* a newborn Child, \* the pre-eternal God.

### **St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:4-11**

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

### **The Gospel According to Luke 14:16-24**

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"