

Annunciation Orthodox Church

Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America
Orthodox Church in America

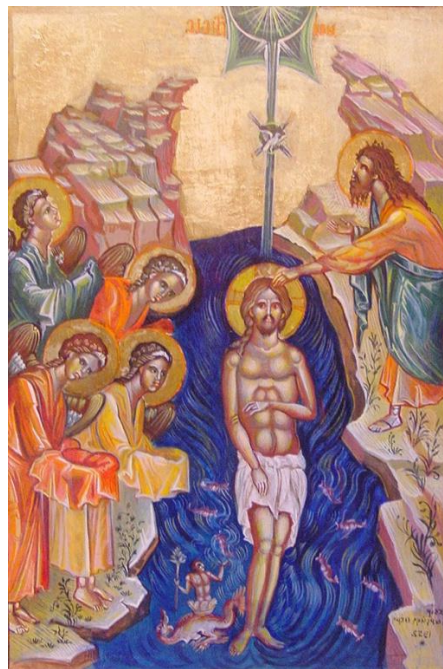
37 Washington Street
Natick, MA 01760

Website: www.aocnatick.org

The Rev. Fr. Gregory Harrigle, Priest-in-Charge

Church Hall: (508) 655-7927
Father Gregory (508) 397-1322

January 2025 Bulletin



Divine Liturgy: Sundays at 9:30 am

Please note that Feast Day Liturgies are typically held at different times throughout the year depending on the specific Holy Day

+++ Saturday January 4, 2025 – Service of Great Blessing of the Waters in Anticipation of the Feast of Theophany

9:30 am – Great Blessing of Holy Water for distribution following this service and through Theophany Season. ** Please bring a small, dignified receptacle to receive holy water.

+++ Sunday January 5, 2025 – Sunday of Theophany (Observed)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 3)

Epistle Lesson Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Gospel Lesson Matthew 3:13-17

Please join us for Fellowship in the church hall after Divine Liturgy

+++ Sunday January 12, 2025 – Sunday After Theophany

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 4)

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 4: 7-13

Gospel Lesson Matthew 4: 12-17

Please join us for Fellowship in the church hall after Divine Liturgy

+++ Sunday January 19, 2025 – Sunday of the Ten Lepers (30th Sunday of Luke)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 5)

Epistle Lesson Colossians 3: 4-11

Gospel Lesson Luke 17: 12-19

**** Annual Parish Member Meeting will immediately follow Divine Liturgy in the Church Hall ****

+++ Sunday January 26, 2025 – Sunday of Zaccheus (31st Sunday of Luke)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom (Tone 6)

Epistle Lesson 1 Timothy 4: 9 - 15

Gospel Lesson Luke 19: 1 - 10

Please join us for Fellowship in the church hall after Divine Liturgy

PRAYER FOR AN ENDING TO THE WAR IN UKRAINE

We pray, O Lord our God, for all those who now suffer from the destructive acts of war, especially for the victims in Ukraine. We pray for Thy peace and mercy in the midst of the great suffering inflicted upon Thy faithful people. Vouchsafe to accept the earnest prayers of Thy holy Church, so that by Thy goodness, all hostility, confusion and hatred would be removed, that all may be led to a path of true reconciliation, and lasting peace may be granted to all peoples; hear us and have mercy. Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy. Amen

IMPORTANT PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS:

Holiday Contributions for the Natick Service Council – Thank you to all who donated. We collected approximately \$1,360 from Parishioners and with the double match by the Parish Council and an anonymous donor, we delivered a check in the amount of \$4,100 to the Natick Service Council!

January Parish Council Meeting – Our next meeting will be held on Monday January 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Church Hall.

Annual Parish Member Meeting – We will hold our Annual Meeting on **Sunday January 19 following Divine Liturgy**. The snow date is the following Sunday, January 26. Everyone is invited to attend, however, only pledging members in good standing are allowed to vote on motions that are presented for consideration. One of the most important functions of the Annual Meeting is the election of our Parish Council. If you are interested in running for Parish Council, please contact Council President John Fedak at (508) 359-0077.

Fellowship Sign-Up – Please consider volunteering for weekly fellowship using the sign-up sheet on the candle stand to help support our church. One or more families or members may jointly sponsor fellowship meals. Thank you.

Sunday School – We are in the middle of a new church school year and encourage all families with school age children to join us every Sunday for fun and basic Orthodox Christian education.

Catechumen Classes – Classes will reconvene on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm, January 22, 2025 for potential catechumens and anyone interested in learning more about Orthodox Theology, history, liturgy and spirituality. Please let Father Gregory know if you have an interest in joining this group.

Baptism and Chrismation – A note from Father Gregory: It is incumbent upon all Orthodox Christian parents to have their children Baptized, Chrismated, and Communed at the earliest opportunity. It is essential that children ‘come to the Lord’ as soon as possible to begin their spiritual life into adulthood and to lead a life in the Church, bequeathing the treasures of Orthodox Christian faith into the future.

Reminder: Priest’s Visitation for Holy Unction / Communion: Father Gregory encourages all members and friends of Annunciation Orthodox Church to contact him at their earliest convenience if you or a family member are ever admitted to a hospital, respite care, rehabilitation, hospice or who may be experiencing a sudden or chronic change in their health and medical condition. The visitation of the parish priest is vital to the overall sacramental, spiritual, and bodily health and the continuity of their piety, practice and reception of God’s grace or counsel, especially, in times of sickness, need, or personal trauma. It is the tradition of the Holy Church as established in Holy Scripture that the Church is available to you when you are unavailable to the Church. In such circumstances, please reach out to Father Gregory as follows:

Father Gregory Contact Info: 508-397-1322 or by email at: harriglegreg1@yahoo.com.

On Receiving Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church:

All Orthodox Christians who are spiritually prepared are invited to receive the Precious Body and Blood of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ. To partake in Holy Communion, please abstain from eating and drinking beginning at midnight (unless advised otherwise by your physician). If you are an Orthodox Christian visiting with us, please say your name or Chrismation name at time of reception. Non-Orthodox

Christians, if they desire, may approach during Communion for a blessing and take a piece of the Antidoron (blessed bread) from the silver bowl.

Welcome to all visitors joining our church community for Divine Liturgy. Father Gregory and the members of our church community wish to thank you for praying with us and hope you will return soon. Please speak with a member of the Parish Council or Father Gregory if you are interested in becoming a member of our parish.

Saint / Chrismation Name Days & Birthdays – Congratulations to our church members who are celebrating their Birthdays, Chrismation Days, and/or Patronal Saint Name Day this month. Please come forward at the end of Divine Liturgy for a blessing while we sing “God grant you many years!”

Prayer for contemplation during Holy Theophany Season:

“When Thou, O Lord, was Baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee and called Thee His Beloved Son! And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His Word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.”

Troparion, Tone IV