# **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

## June 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

+++ Sunday June 1, 2025 – Sunday of the Holy Fathers (7th Sunday of Holy Pascha)
Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council (325 AD)
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 1)
Epistle Lesson Acts 20: 16 – 18, 28-36
Gospel Lesson John 17: 1 - 13
Please join us for Fellowship in the church hall after Divine Liturgy

+++ Sunday June 8, 2025 – Sunday of Holy Pentecost (Descent of Holy Spirit upon the Apostles)
The Birthday of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church and the Kneeling Prayers of Holy Pentecost
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 2)
Epistle Lesson Acts 2: 1 - 11
Gospel Lesson John 7: 37 – 52; 8:12
Please join us for Fellowship in the church hall after Divine Liturgy

+++ Sunday June 15, 2025 – Sunday of All Saints (First Sunday of St. Matthew)
All Saints of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church through the Ages
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 3)
Epistle Lesson Hebrews 11: 33-40; 12: 1-2
Gospel Lesson Matthew 10: 32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30

+++ Sunday June 22, 2025 – Second Sunday after Pentecost (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of St Matthew)
All the Saints of the Albanian Orthodox Church and of the Orthodox Saints of North America
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 4)
Epistle Lesson Romans 2: 10-16
Gospel Lesson Matthew 4: 18-23
Please join us for Fellowship in the church hall after Divine Liturgy

+++ Sunday June 29, 2025 – Feast of Saints Peter and Paul
Feast Day of the Peter, Chief Apostle and Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 1)
Epistle Lesson II Corinthians 11: 21-33: 12: 1-9
Gospel Lesson Matthew 16: 13-19
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:**

Help the Vetetima Celebrate Its 90th Anniversary – 2025 is the 90th anniversary of the Vetetima Women's Society! A celebration gala will be held in the Church Hall later this year, with more details forthcoming over the next few months. To help us get ready, and to celebrate all the women who helped make the Vetetima what it is today, we are asking anyone who may have pictures through the years to bring them to church in an envelope and place them in the box labeled Vetetima Pictures in the Church Hall (pictures will not be returned unless you put your name on the back and request they be returned). Thank you!

**June Parish Council Meeting** – our next meeting will be held on Thursday June 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Church Hall.

**Father Gregory's Upcoming Travel Schedule –** Father Gregory will be on vacation Sunday June 29, 2025 through Sunday July 6, 2025. A substitute priest will be available to celebrate the Divine Liturgy on these respective Sundays and will also be available for pastoral emergencies.

In addition, Father Gregory will attend the upcoming All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America along with His Grace Bishop NIKODHIM and priests from across the Albanian Archdiocese. This important OCA gathering is held every three years and will take place in Phoenix, Arizona from Monday July 16 through Friday July 20, 2025.

**Wedding Service** – A wedding service will be held at Annunciation Orthodox Church on Sunday June 22 beginning at 2:00 pm for Antonio Simeon (a member of St. George Cathedral) and Lesly Karina Cuenca of New York. May God grant them many years!

**Optional Collection During Liturgy** – as Father Gregory has been announcing over the past few months, we have restarted the process of having our Sunday School children pass offering baskets following the sermon each week. This is an OPTIONAL collection that allows visitors and others to make contributions to our church. For parish members who are already contributing regular pledges via mail or other methods, you can continue in your chosen method of participation; at the same time, members may also use this new weekly collection to submit their pledges.

**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.

**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 treasurers 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 Pentecost Season:

"The One Indivisible Trinity ever remains the Trinity. The Father always remains the Father, the Son remains the Son, and the Holy Spirit remains the Holy Spirit. Besides Their personal properties, They share all in common and in unity. That is why the Holy Trinity is One God."

St. John Maximovitch of Shanghai and San Francisco