<u>Kontakia</u>

Resurrection TONE 4

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has Risen on the third day!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

St. Leo

TONE 3

Seated upon the throne of the priesthood, glorious Leo, thou didst shut the mouths of the spiritual lions. With divinely inspired teachings of the honored Trinity, thou didst shed the light of the knowledge of God upon thy flock. Therefore, thou art glorified as a divine initiate of the grace of God.

Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

TONE 4

By thy Nativity, O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to thee: The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

Prokeimenon

TONE 4: O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! / In wisdom hast Thou made them all! v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy 4:9 – 15

Brethren: My son Timothy: this is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to the reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

<u>Alleluia</u>

v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of truth, meekness and righteousness. *v*: For Thou lovest righteousness and dost hate iniquity.

Luke 19:1-10

<u>Gospel</u>

At that time Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."



Schedule Saturday, February 24, 2024 NO VESPERS Sunday, February 25, 2024 Publican & Pharisee 9:15 A.M. Church School 10:00 A.M. Reader's Service Saturday, March 2, 2024 5:00 P.M. Vespers Sunday, March 3, 2024 **Prodigal Son** 9:15 A.M. Church School 9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy Saturday, March 9, 2024 11:00 A.M. Parish Council Meeting 5:00 P.M. Vespers Sunday, March 10, 2024 Last Judgment 9:15 A.M. Church School 9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:00 P.M. Vespers Sunday, March 17, 2024 Forgiveness Sunday 9:15 A.M. Church School 9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy Monday - Thursday, March 18 -

<u>21, 2024</u>

7:00 P.M. Great Compline & Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church 416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060 Sunday, February 18 & 25, 2024

37th Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday of Zacchaeus; St. Leo the Great Pope of Rome

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"From this enormous colossus of evil. Satan, we may judge, what a great, good, beautiful, most bright, powerful, wise, creature Satan previously was. How many gifts of the Creator's goodness were comprised in him, and of how much was he deprived by his wicked and intentional madness! By his malice in men, judge how good he previously was; by his envy, judge of his previous goodwill; by the boundless avidity and avarice he excites in men, judge of his previous generosity; by his pride, of the greatness received from God; by the despondency, weariness, and sometimes unbearable anguish, he inspires in men, judge of his former blessedness. For he was previously as good as he is now evil! He offers an eternal lesson for humanity and obedience to all the heavenly angels, and to all well-intentioned men; for however perfect the angels are, and however wise, and in general, however perfect men may be in some things, they have received everything from the goodness of the Creator alone, and not from themselves, and must thank the Creator for everything, and pray to Him for everything, with undoubting faith in His goodness and omnipotence with the hope of receiving everything from Him. The evil spirits fell though pride and malice; there is a lesson, for all men in this; that is to humble themselves before their Creator, to consider themselves as nothing,"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

"to ascribe everything to the Creator, and to live solely by the Creator and by fulfilling His will. And - how wonderful are Thy works, Lord! - that which Satan was not able and did not desire to attain, with all his wisdom, was attained by the Virgin from a perishable but spiritually immortal race; the most holy Virgin Mary attained unexampled humility, attained the highest holiness. "Hail, Thou that art highly favored: the Lord is with Thee (St. Luke 1:28)." "For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden (St. Luke 1:48)." Likewise, all of us being of ourselves mere littleness, must constantly and deeply humble ourselves before the Creator, having recourse in everything to His mercy. You cannot conquer any passion, any sin without gracious help; therefore, always ask the help of Christ, your Savior. It was for this that He came into the world, for this that He suffered, died, and rose from the dead, in order to help us in everything, to save us from sin, and from the violence of the passions, to cleanse us from our sins, to bestow upon us power in Holy Ghost to do good works, to enlighten us, to strengthen us, to give us peace. You ask how you can save yourself when sin stands at every step, and you sin at every moment? There is a simple answer to this; at every step, at every moment, call upon the Savior, remember the Savior, and you will save yourself and others." My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

Troparia

Resurrection TONE 4

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: death is overthrown! Christ God is Risen, granting the world great mercy.

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

TONE 4

Thy Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from thee, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

> St. Leo TONE 3

Thou wast the Church's instrument in strengthening the teaching of true doctrine; thou didst shine forth from the West like a sun dispelling the errors of the heretics. Righteous Leo, entreat Christ God to grant us His great mercy.

Those in the life to come

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Veronica	George	Archimandrite Innocent
Brenda	Priest Stephen	Olga
Evelyn	Matushka Olga	Francis
John	Archpriest Thomas	Jean
Michael	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	Edward
Archpriest Moses	Archpriest Vladimir	Nancy
Priest Emanuel	Archbishop PAUL	Magdalene