



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Dormition of the Righteous Anna, the Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos July 25, 2021

Troparion – 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!”

Troparion – Tone 4

Divinely-wise Anna, thou didst carry in thy womb the pure Mother of God who gave life to our Life. Therefore, thou art now carried joyfully to the inheritance of heaven, to the abode of those who rejoice in glory,// where thou dost seek forgiveness of sins for those who faithfully honor thee, O ever-blessed one.

Kontakion – Tone 4

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master,// He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion – Tone 2

We celebrate the memory of the progenitors of Christ, and with faith we ask their help, that deliverance from every affliction be granted to those who cry out:// “Be with us, O God, Who in Thy good pleasure glorified them!”

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!

Prokeimenon – Tone 4

God is wonderful in His saints, / the God of Israel.

Dormition of the Righteous Anna, the Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos

Saint Anna was the daughter of the priest Matthan and his wife Mary. She was of the tribe of Levi and the lineage of Aaron. According to tradition, she died peacefully in Jerusalem at age 79, before the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos.

During the reign of Saint Justinian the Emperor (527-565), a church was built in her honor at Deutera. Emperor Justinian II (685-695; 705-711) restored her church, since Saint Anna had appeared to his pregnant wife. It was at this time that her body and maphorion (veil) were transferred to Constantinople.

Portions of Saint Anna's holy relics may be found on Mount Athos: Stavronikita Monastery (part of her left hand), Saint Anna's Skete (part of her incorrupt left foot), Koutloumousiou Monastery (part of her incorrupt right foot). Fragments of her relics may also be found in her Monastery at Lygaria, Lamia, and in the Monastery of Saint John the Theologian at Sourota. Part of the saint's incorrupt flesh is in the collection of Saints' relics of the International Catholic Crusaders. The church of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome has one of the saint's wrists.

Epistle: Roman 10:1-10

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Epistle: Galatians 4:22-31

For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar – for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children – but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written: "Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband." Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.

Gospel: Matthew 8:28-9:1

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.

Gospel: Luke 8:16-21

No one, when he has lit a lamp, covers it with a vessel or puts it under a bed, but sets it on a lampstand, that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is secret that will not be revealed, nor anything hidden that will not be known and come to light. Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him." Then His mother and brothers came to Him, and could not approach Him because of the crowd. And it was told Him by some, who said, "Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see You." But He answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it."

Service Schedule for the week of July 25

Today – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday July 31 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday August 1 – 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Weekly Giving

July 18 – 120 adults, 20 youth, \$3,824

Parish Announcements

The FOCA Club is selling bundt cakes as a summer fundraiser! The cakes are freshly baked at the “Nothing Bundt Cake” bakery in Newtown. Order forms are in the back of the church. The last day to order is next Sunday August 1, and the cakes will be available for pick-up on August 15 in Daria Hall during Coffee Hour. All cakes are made with dairy products and are drizzle iced. The large cake will serve 8-10 people and is priced at \$25; the small bundtlet mini-bundt cake will serve 1-2 people and is priced at \$5. Flavor choices are chocolate chocolate chip, lemon, red velvet, and vanilla. Thank you for your support!

CHARITABLE OUTREACH PROGRAM: *Help Needed!* Herman Meyer and John Cassar are looking for volunteers to help create a charitable food drive for people in the surrounding Trenton community. The initial program planning meeting will be held today during Coffee Hour.

MOSAIC ICON: We have not yet reached our fundraising goal – any donation amount will be appreciated! Donation envelopes for the mosaic icon are available at the candle desk. Please write “Mosaic Icon” in the memo portion of your check and turn in your donation envelope at the candle desk, or you may send a check directly to Father Volodymyr at the rectory. If you have any questions please see Father Volodymyr or a member of the Parish Council. Thank you for your continued involvement in the beautification of our church!

Please see a member of the FOCA Club if you are interested in purchasing a mural block (Daria Hall); funds will be used for Daria Hall improvements. Donors will have a brass nameplate added to the commemoration boards on the sides of the mural – either “Donated By” or “In Memory Of”, with the names inscribed as designated by the donor.