



Greek Orthodox Mission Parish of Utah

Sunday, December 28, 2014
Sunday after the Nativity

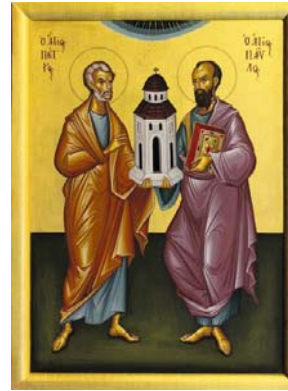
Orthros: 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m.

Celebrants:

Reverend Hieromonk Ambrose Omayas
Reverend Deacon Anatoli Kireiev

Mission Statement: The Greek Orthodox Mission Parish of Utah is a Christ-centered Greek Orthodox Christian parish that welcomes and embraces all Orthodox Christian faithful and all of God's children, regardless of ethnicity and is focused above all else on the faithful worship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in adherence to the canons, teachings and traditions of the Orthodox Christian faith as part of One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

www.gomissionparishut.org
parishcouncil@gomissionparishut.org



Epistle Reading – St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1:11-19

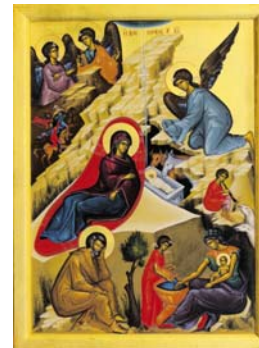
Prokeimenon. Mode 4. Psalm 67.35, 26

God is wonderful among his saints.

Verse: Bless God in the congregations.

BRETHREN, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Gospel Reading – The Gospel of Matthew 2:13-23



When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in

Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaos reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Hymn for the Afterfeast of the Nativity

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord

Hymns at Small Entrance

Entrance Hymn

I have begotten You from the womb before the morning star. The Lord swore and will not repent. You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. Save us, O Son of God, who arose from the dead.

Resurrection Apolytikion

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and had rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

Hymn for the Ancestors of God

Annunciate the miracles to David the ancestor of God, O Joseph. You saw the Virgin pregnant. You glorified with the shepherds. You

worshipped with the Magi. And you were warned by an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Hymn for the Church

Adorned in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church, through them, doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassions upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls.

Kontakion

On this day the Virgin gives birth to the Super-essential. To the Unapproachable, earth is providing the grotto. Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. He was born for our salvation, a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.

Dismissal Hymn

Preserve him who blesses and sanctifies us, O Lord; preserve him for many years.

Orthodox Saints Commemorated on December 28: On December 28 we commemorate the Holy Righteous St. Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and the Apostle St. James, brother of our Lord. Other saints commemorated today include the 20,000 Martyrs burned in Nicomedia, including Holy Martyrs Glycerus Zeno and Indes, along with the Holy Virgin Martyrs Agape, Domna, and Theophila. We also commemorate The Holy St. Simon the Myrrhbearer, Founder of Simonopetra, Monastery at Mount Athos.

Welcome Reverend Hieromonk Ambrose Omayas: We are pleased to once again welcome Reverend Hieromonk Ambrose Omayas from the Metropolis of Denver to celebrate Divine Liturgy with our Parish! Father Ambrose will be assisted by Reverend Deacon Anatoli Kireiev.

Altar Servers: The scheduled altar servers for Sunday, December 28, 2014, are Kosta Sergakis, Zachary Petrogeorge and

Jonathan Petrogeorge. The scheduled altar servers for Sunday, January 4, 2015 are Andy Adondakis, Thanasi Johnson, Mitchell Mallas and Matthew Mallas. Please note, however, that any altar server may serve on any Sunday. All young men between the ages of 8 and 18 years are invited to serve in the altar. For more information, please contact Michael Petrogeorge at 801-243-8684 or secretary@gomissionparishut.org.

No Sunday School Today: Please note that there is no Sunday School TODAY, December 28, 2014. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 4, 2015.

Fellowship Hour: Thank you to George and Connie Cayias, and Perry and Martha Drossos for hosting this week's fellowship hour. Please join us!

Next week's fellowship hour will be hosted by Leo and Ludmilla Davis.

Schedule of Upcoming Services:

Sunday, January 4, 2015 – Orthros: 9 a.m./Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.
Visiting Celebrant: Reverend Hieromonk Ambrose Omayas

Epiphany:

Tuesday, January 6, 2015 – Time TBD

Visiting Celebrant: Reverend Hieromonk Ambrose Omayas

Sunday, January 11, 2015 – Orthros: 9 a.m./Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.
Visiting Celebrant: Reverend Hieromonk Ambrose Omayas

If the assigned celebrant is unable to attend a Sunday service as scheduled, and no substitute can be found, we will hold lay services and Sunday School.

Vasilopita Sunday: TODAY is Vasilopita Sunday for our Parish! All proceeds will go to our Parish. The Vasilopita is being sold this Sunday (rather than on January 4) so that families may enjoy the bread on New Year's Day.

Confessions and Visitations: The Parish Council has arranged for Reverend Hieromonk Ambrose Omayas to hear confessions when he is back in town for Epiphany services on January 5-6, 2015. Please contact Dr. Charles Beck at president@gomissionparishut.org or 801-573-6800 to schedule an appointment. Please also let Dr. Beck know if you would like for any of our visiting priests to conduct shut-in visitations during their visits to our Parish in the coming weeks.

Memorial Services – May Their Memory Be Eternal:

Sunday, January 25, 2015:

Manoussou (Manos) Petrogeorge (1 year) and Evangeline (Angie) Georgelas Petrogeorge (3 years)

If you would like to schedule a memorial service, please contact Dr. Charles Beck at 801-573-6800 or president@gomissionparishut.org.

Thank You! Thank you to Kim Mallas, Kim Souvall, Peter Souvall, our Sunday School teachers and all of our wonderful Sunday School students for a truly glorious Christmas program last Sunday. What a great way to remember and celebrate the birth of our Lord! Thank you also to Amber Pananos and her volunteers from the Women's Ministry Team for organizing our breakfast, to Jim Mylonakis, Mike Radivoyevich, Kosta Theodorou and Nick Varanakis for cooking the delicious meal, and to Lisa Apostole and her father, Ron Galati, for arranging our visit from Santa!

Young Adult Ministry Food Drive: Our Young Adult Ministry Team is sponsoring a year-end food drive to support the Utah Food Bank during this critical time of need. Items most needed include canned soups and stews, canned fruits and veggies, pasta, canned tuna, peanut butter, and boxed macaroni and cheese. A collection box will be available at Church during Liturgy TODAY. If you prefer to make a cash donation, visit <https://www.utahfoodbank.org/give-now>.

Men's Ministry Team (Previously Announced Retreat Postponed): Due to concerns over weather, the Men's Ministry Team Retreat scheduled for January 9-10, 2015, has been postponed and will be

rescheduled for spring or summer 2015. In lieu of the retreat, we will hold an evening gathering for all men in the Parish on Saturday, January 10, 2015. Details to come soon!

Godparents Sunday: Sunday, February 1, 2015, will be Godparents Sunday at our Parish. Mark your calendars!

Women's Ministry Team: The Women's Ministry Team wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We would also like to share our recently adopted mission statement:

The Women's Ministry Team seeks to invite, embrace and involve Orthodox Christian Women in the life of the Church through actions of faith, fellowship and service. We will promote the Orthodox Christian faith in accordance with its canons, teachings and divine worship and foster participation in Parish activities in collaboration with the Priest and Parish Council.

We also want to make sure our email list is complete. If you have not been receiving emails announcing events, please send your email address to Elaine Peterson at layniep53@comcast.net. Thank you!

Stewardship Information:

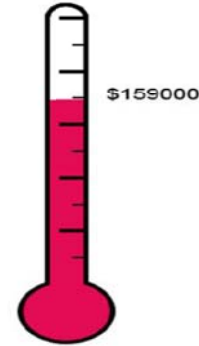
2014 Stewardship: Thanks to the support and dedication of all of our parishioners, we have collected \$101,000 in stewardship contributions and unrestricted donations for 2014, far exceeding our stewardship budget for the first four months of our existence!

If you were unable to make a commitment for 2014 but still wish to make a contribution before year end, please contact our Treasurer, Chris Gounaris, at treasurer@gomissionparishut.org or 801-660-9224.

2015 Stewardship: To date, we have received 64 commitment cards for 2015, with stewardship commitments totaling \$159,000. This puts us at 69.13% of the goal we all established for ourselves at the Fall Parish Assembly. Reaching this goal will allow us to proceed with the lease of a permanent facility and allow compensation for a full-time priest. This is an excellent way to start the New Year!

Visit www.gomissionparishut.org/?page_id=21 to access the 2015 stewardship commitment card online. Commitment cards are also

Target: \$230000



available in the narthex. Completed cards can be mailed to Greek Orthodox Mission Parish of Utah, c/o Chris Gounaris, Treasurer, P.O. Box 4791, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110, scanned and emailed to treasurer@gomissionparishut.org, or given to any Parish Council member in a sealed envelope. If you would like to make a commitment without a card, or if you have any questions, please contact our Treasurer, Chris Gounaris, at 801-660-9224 or treasurer@gomissionparishut.org.

There is no minimum stewardship for our Parish; all we seek is proportional and cheerful giving!

Parish Council Meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, January 5, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Dr. Charles Beck at 801-573-6800 or president@gomissionparishut.org if you plan to attend so that we can reserve an adequate meeting space.

Sexton Ministry Team: We still need more volunteers for our Sexton Ministry Team. Please contact Chuck Karpakis at 801-265-0900 or vicepresident@gomissionparishut.org or Joe Varanakos at 801-694-6576 or joe2263@comcast.net to help.

Weekly Bulletin and Pan-Orthodox Community Announcements: If you would like to have any announcements included in next week's bulletin or Pan-Orthodox community announcements, please send them to Michael Petrogeorge at secretary@gomissionparishut.org by **Monday, December 29, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.**

Prayer List: Anastasia, Andromahi, Ange, Anthony, Austin, Barbara, Beverlee, Bill, Cathy, Christopher, Chrysoula, Connie, Dan, Garegin, George, Helen, Irene, Jackie, John, Katherine, Konstantinos, Margaret, Maria, Mary, Mitch, Sharon, Stacie, Theano, Tom, Vasiliki, Zachary. Please send any additional names to Michael Petrogeorge at secretary@gomissionparishut.org.