



SAINT PAUL



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN JOSEPH, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

HIS GRACE BISHOP NICHOLAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP
OF THE DIOCESE OF MIAMI AND THE SOUTHEAST

SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

+WELCOME VISITORS AND FAITHFUL+

We are honored by your presence as our doors are open to anyone seeking the fullness of the Truth. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church. We are a parish community within the Body of Christ striving to “seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Mt. 6:33) above all else. The Church is a spiritual hospital and our Lord Jesus Christ is the Great Physician who offers us healing, hope, and refuge – true life with real freedom. We answer Christ's call to repent and be transformed, healed of our brokenness, through a real spiritual life - our priority is to be in “perfect communion” with the living God.

Please make sure to sign our guest book at the visitors table in the Narthex/lobby area and join us after service for our fellowship hour in the pavilion. Fr. Paul is available to answer questions you may have about any facet of the Christian faith.

+ENCOURAGEMENT TO FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN+

Your children are welcome here. Don't worry if they wiggle or squirm a bit. Unless your child is making more noise than our priest and choir, stay put. When they need a little more room, or a short break, it is OK to walk them to the back (or out) until they are ready to return. Please enjoy the “Children's Word” (bulletin) found on the banister upon entering the Nave (worship space).

If you want to raise your children in the Church, then they have to be in the church. The entire spiritual culture of the Orthodox faith is necessary formation for everyone, whether 40 days old, 40 years old, or 40 years a senior citizen.

It can be a sacrifice to raise children in the Church, and we know it, but if your child doesn't learn to incline his/her heart in worship, and turn aside from distraction from a young age, how in the world will they survive as an older Christian in a world which is designed to distract them?

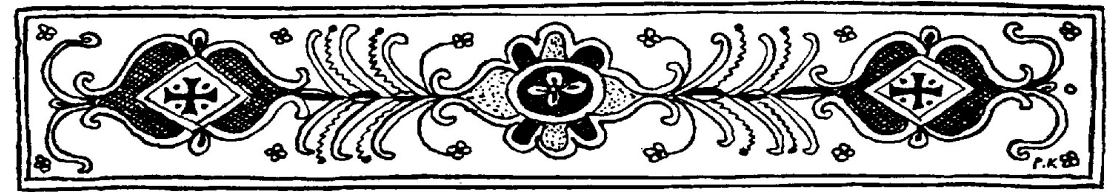
+HOLY COMMUNION (EUCHARIST)+

The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist, or Lord's Supper, to be the paramount expression of Christian unity. While it is our deepest hope that Christendom will one day fulfill Christ's desire for true unity among all those who claim His name (John 17:21), the reality of our day is that various segments of Christendom are not unified with the historic Orthodox Christian faith. Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a unity with all the dogma, teachings, and practice of the Orthodox Church, it is natural that non-Eastern Orthodox Christians (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Non-Chalcedonian/Oriental, etc.) do not approach the chalice for Holy Communion but respect the official policy of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America and canonical boundaries of the One, Holy, Catholic (Universal), and Apostolic Church - the Orthodox Christian Church. Teaching the people of Corinth about the seriousness of the Holy Eucharist, St. Paul warns:

“Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord...For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep (i.e. die).” (1 Cor. 11:27;29).

We lovingly desire the salvation of all - not judgment and condemnation.

All Eastern Orthodox Christians are expected to prepare for the receiving of the Body and Blood of Christ through recent confession, prayer, and fasting from all food/drink approximately mid-night the night before. Please speak with Fr. Paul if medical conditions preclude it.



PARISH CLERGY

REV. FR. PAUL GIRGIS, PRESIDING PRIEST

V. REV. FR. JOSEPH SHAHEEN, RETIRED ARCHPRIEST

REV. DN. NICHOLAS REID, ATTACHED DEACON

WEEKLY SERVICES

*“A sure sign of the deadening of the soul is the avoidance of church services.”
+St. John Climacus (“The Ladder of Divine Ascent”)*

Saturday

Great Vespers 6:00PM-6:45PM

Sunday

Orthros 8:30AM

Divine Liturgy 9:30AM

**Fr. Paul hears confessions after Great Vespers Saturday and by appointment.*

+WEEKLY COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY+

New Series - “Virtues & Passions” - join us! Thursday's 6:00PM-7:00PM

“Parish Council Corner” - Property Maintenance Update:

- Two roof leaks were successfully repaired, through the grace of God, and thanks to the generous help of our brother in Christ Nick Stefanis of Gulf Western Roofing.
- Due to the heavy rain season year-after-year, a ground-level leak into the kitchen formed from the back exterior wall. This was quickly resolved by our landscapers Bello Paradise.
- New LED Lighting in Parking Lot - Thank you for "answering the call" and stepping forward to ensure your parish could install new LED lights to increase our safety and security. Installation was successful and the parking lot visibility is magnificent now.

+Today's Fellowship Coffee Hour is sponsored by Anna Castley and Jennie Mansour+

For more info, calendar of special services/events, visit: stpaulnaples.org or facebook.com/stpaulnaples



HISTORIC "WEEKEND OF CELEBRATIONS" FOR ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL IN BROOKLYN

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH and the Cathedral of St. Nicholas, Brooklyn, NY are cordially inviting all clergy and faithful to "A Weekend of Celebrations" on October 19-20, 2019. Several anniversaries and occasions will be commemorated, including the kick-off for both the 100th anniversary of the State Street Cathedral and the 125th anniversary of the founding of the St. Nicholas community by St. Raphael of Brooklyn in 1895, both of which will take place in 2020.

On Saturday evening, Cathedral Dean Fr. Thomas Zain's 25th anniversary in the holy priesthood will be celebrated, and on Sunday October 20 Cathedral priest Fr. Adrian Budica will be elevated to the dignity of archpriest. Additionally, St. Nicholas will be hosting the fall meetings of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees and the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch, and on the evening of Saturday night there will be a banquet in downtown Brooklyn at a new venue, the top floor of the Brooklyn Law School, where attendees will enjoy sweeping views of the New York Harbor and downtown Brooklyn.

DETAILS

Reservations can be made by contacting Elaine Khoury at 646.629.9388 or Norma Khoury at 718.499.0034 • 347.244.1883, or by calling the St. Nicholas Cathedral at 718.855.6225. For prices and deadlines, visit the Cathedral's Weekend of Celebrations page.



**"...PRAY ONE FOR ANOTHER, THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED.
THE EFFECTIVE, FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILS MUCH."
(JAMES 5:16)**

Please continue to pray for Fr. Joe and Kh. Diane, Joe and the Hessney family, Christopher and the Sapp family, Al and Anna Castley, Victor and Lucy Bard, Ed and Marilyn Edge, Robert and Michaelene Aber, Margaret Mourad, Carol Simone, Vincent and Irene Benfatti, Al and Gloria Mizhir, Lazarus (Lou) and Shirley Nicholas, as well as Thelma and Robert Badwey.

Prayers in memory of the newly departed servant of God Michael Hebeka and the health of Elias and Barbara Hebeka as well as Malaz and Georgette Sourial, are requested by Philip and Bette Ayoub.

Prayers in memory of the newly departed servant of God Michael Hebeka and the health and safety of Elias and Barbara Hebeka, are requested by Samy and Helen Morcos.

Prayers for the peaceful repose of Angelina and Eduardo Pentella, parents of Vincenza (Jennie) Mansour, are requested by Raymond and Vincenza Mansour.

**MAY THE LORD OUR GOD HEAR OUR PRAYERS AND SEND DOWN UPON US
HIS DIVINE GRACE FOR HUMBLE-PATIENCE, STRENGTH AND CONSOLATION.**

Early Christians expressed their concern for the repose of the souls of their beloved by works of charity and love and by personal and communal prayers. The Apostolic Constitutions recommended that part of the possessions of a dead person be distributed to the poor in his "memory". St. John Chrysostom, Jerome, Tertullian, and others also recommended alms giving in memory of the dead although they believe that this and other good works for the repose of the soul of the dead also benefit the doers.

In the Orthodox Church the various prayers for the departed have as their purpose to pray for the repose of the departed, to comfort the living, and to remind those who remain behind of their own mortality, and the brevity of this earthly life. For this reason, memorial services have an air of penitence about them and tend to be served more frequently during the four fasting seasons (Great Lent, Nativity Fast, Apostles' Fast and Dormition Fast).

(source: orthodoxwiki.org)

THE EPISTLE

(For the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Unto Thee have I cried, O Lord my God.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:6-15)

Brethren, it is the God Who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. While we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that He Who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

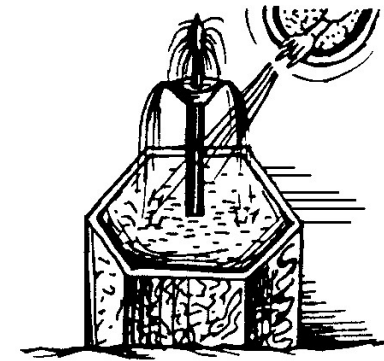


THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (6:31-36)

The Lord said: "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."



SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SECOND SUNDAY OF LUKE

VENERABLE KYRIAKOS THE HERMIT OF PALESTINE

MARTYR PETRONIA AND THOSE WITH HER IN PALESTINE; MOTHER MARY THE HERMIT OF PALESTINE; MARTYRS GUDELIA, CASDOUS, CASDOA, GARGALUS, DADA AND GOBDELAAS OF PERSIA

+DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM+

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

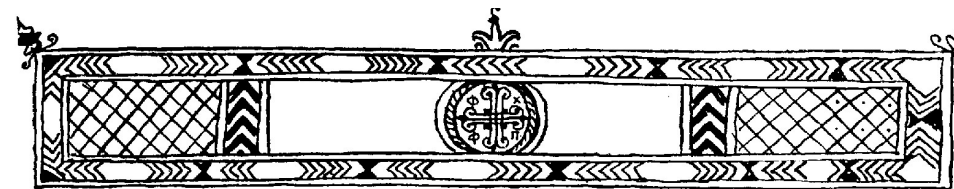
APOLYTIKION FOR ST. KYRIAKOS OF PALESTINE IN TONE ONE

Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Kyriakos, our God-bearing Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength; glory to Him that hath crowned thee; glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

Now sing the apolytikion of the patron of the parish (Holy Apostle Paul)

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.



THE SYNAXARION

(AN ABRIDGED COLLECTION OF THE "LIVES OF THE SAINTS")

On September 29 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate our righteous father Kyriakos the Hermit of Palestine.

Verses

*With bitter squills, O Kyriakos, thou dost fend off
That sweet tasting whereby thou wast condemned to dying.
On the twenty-ninth Kyriakos the squill-eater closed his eyes.*

Kyriakos was born in Corinth to John and Eudoxia. His father John was a presbyter and Peter, Bishop of Corinth, was his relative. In his early youth, the bishop tonsured Kyriakos as a reader in the cathedral church. Reading the Holy Scripture, Kyriakos marveled at God's providence: how God glorified all His true servants and how He arranged the salvation of the human race. At age eighteen, Kyriakos began a life of asceticism that eventually took him to the community supervised by St. Chariton at Souka. Kyriakos became a celebrated canonarch, defender of Orthodoxy, ascetic, priest, miracle-worker and comforter. Kyriakos was large and strong in body, even in deep old age, despite strict fasts and vigils. In the wilderness, for years he ate only raw greens called squills. Kyriakos entered the eternal joy of his Lord in 557 at age 109.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Petronia and those with her in Palestine; Mother Mary the hermit of Palestine; and Martyrs Gudelia, Casdous, Casdoa, Gargalus, Dada and Gobdelaas of Persia.

By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.



**A LITTLE DAILY WISDOM
FROM THE EARLY CHURCH**

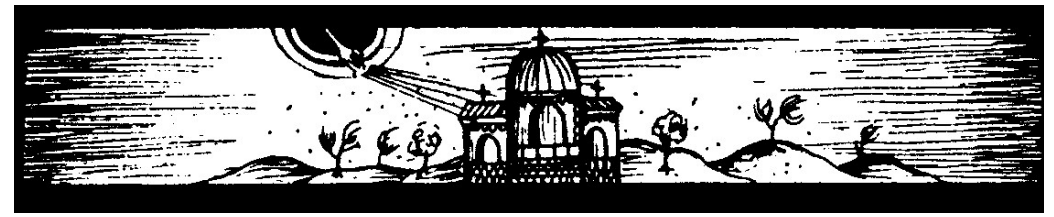
Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

Romans 12:17

Evagrius Ponticus wrote, "You can count on it: when you do something good for someone, another person will treat you badly. The demons use this to induce you to strike out while protesting injustice. The moment you succumb, you will spill what you have carefully harvested. Beware of this."

Take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

Source: "A Little Daily Wisdom from the Early Church" compiled by Bernard Bangely



SPIRITUAL MORSELS FOR THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

"If a man has no worries about himself at all for the sake of love toward God and the working of good deeds, knowing that God is taking care of him, this is a true and wise hope. But if a man takes care of his own business and turns to God in prayer only when misfortunes come upon him which are beyond his power, and then he begins to hope in God, such a hope is vain and false. A true hope seeks only the Kingdom of God... the heart can have no peace until it obtains such a hope. This hope pacifies the heart and produces joy within it."

+St. Seraphim of Sarov

"The Lord loves us so much that He suffered for us on the Cross; and His suffering was so great that we can't comprehend it. In the same way our spiritual pastors suffer for us, although we often don't see their suffering. The greater the love of the pastor, the greater his suffering; and we, the sheep, should understand this, and love and honor our pastors."

+St. Silouan the Athonite

"Do not think that you have the right to complain when your prayers are not answered. God fulfils your desires in a manner that you do not know."

+St. Nektarios of Aegina

One man asked a priest:
"If God is everywhere, what do I go to Church for?"

To which the priest replied:
"The whole atmosphere is filled with water, but if you want to drink you have to go to a fountain or a well."



"Orthodoxy is life. If we don't live Orthodoxy, we simply are not Orthodox, no matter what formal beliefs we might hold."
+Fr. Seraphim Rose