

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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Send announcements for the bulletin and/or website to bulletin@stjohnorthodox.org

Send announcements to be emailed to all members to announce@stjohnorthodox.org

5th Sunday after Pentecost

June 27, 2010 (Tone 4)



Righteous Sampson the Host of Strangers

Saint Sampson the Hospitable was the son of rich and illustrious Roman parents. In his youth he received an excellent education, he studied the medical arts, and doctored the sick without charge. After the death of his parents St Sampson generously distributed alms and set his slaves free, preparing himself to go into the wilderness. With this intent in mind he soon journeyed from Rome to the East. But the Lord directed him onto a different path, that of service to neighbor, and so St Sampson came to Constantinople. Settling into a small house, the saint began to take in homeless wanderers, the poor and the sick, and he attended to them. The Lord blessed the efforts of St Sampson and endowed him with the power of wonderworking. He healed the sick not only through being a skilled physician, but also as a bearer of the grace of God. News of St Sampson

spread abroad. The patriarch heard of his great virtue and ordained him to the holy priesthood.

It was revealed to the grievously ill Emperor Justinian (527-565), that he could receive healing only through St Sampson. In praying, the saint put his hand on the afflicted area, and Justinian was healed. In gratitude the emperor wanted to reward his healer with silver and gold, but the saint refused and instead asked Justinian to build a home for the poor and the sick. The emperor readily fulfilled his request. St Sampson devoted the rest of his life to serving his neighbor. He survived into old age and after a short illness he departed peacefully to the Lord. The saint was buried at the church of the holy Martyr Mocius, and many healings were effected at his grave. His hospice remained open, and the saint did not cease to care for the suffering. He appeared twice to a negligent worker of the hospice and upbraided him for his laziness. At the request of an admirer of St Sampson the hospice was transformed into a church, and beside it a new edifice was built for the homeless. During the time of a powerful fire at Constantinople the flames did not touch the hospice of St Sampson. Through his intercession a heavy rain quenched the fire.

Joanna the Myrrh-bearer

Saint Joanna the Myrrh-bearer, wife of Chusa, the household steward of King Herod, was one of the women following and attending the Lord Jesus Christ during the time of His preaching and public ministry. She is mentioned in Luke 8:3 and 24:10. Together with the other Myrrh-bearing Women,

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

Sunday, June 27 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost - Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Lunch following Liturgy - Visitors Welcome!

Wednesday, June 30 – Vespers 6:00pm

Friday, July 2 – Spiritual Circle 9:30am; Paraklesis 6:00pm

Saturday, July 3 – Great Vespers 6:00pm

Sunday, July 4 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost - Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Lunch following Liturgy - Visitors Welcome!

EPISTLE READERS

June 27 - Sbdcn. Mark (Eric) Townsend

July 4 - Tabitha Townsend

July 11 - Sbdcn. Barnabas Schaefer

July 18 - Reader Mark Felleggy

July 25 - Joy Corey

LUNCHEON & CLEANUP

June 27 - Team 1 - Tsalaky, Ayoub M., Holmen, Goolsby, Vlahos, Felleggy

July 4 - Team 2 - Corey, Tecca, Roth, Ranson

July 11 - Team 3 - Garbinski, Horton L., Tourous, Jenkin, Ayoub D., Weddle, O'Daniel

July 18 - Team 4 - Dancy, Goodsen J., Caldaroni, Brisbane, Sanman, Le Pley, Handeen

July 25 - Team 5 - Poland, Townsend, Schaefer, Gallatin, Nolan, Milojevic, Johnson

*Contact Mark Ayoub if you would like to join a lunch team, or have questions or comments.

PRAYERS OFFERED FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEPARTED:

We pray, O heavenly physician of our souls and bodies, look down upon your servants:

Lois (Mary Jo Neyman's sister), Steve Kane (working in Alaska for the summer), Heather and her mother (friends of Chelsea Stillman), Bill Brisbane (Nanette's father), Jacob Hunter (Dan Monaghan's cousin in Afghanistan), Angelica Mamalakis (mother of Philip Mamalakis), Mat. Michaela Fenn (wife of Fr. Mark Fenn), Fr. Michael Lewis, Mary-Claire Roth, Loraine Gross (grandmother of Mary Claire Roth), Jill Foss (friend of Jeane Wood), Deacon John Tershay, Peggy Humby (Trish Bartlett's mother), Annie Cusella (friend of Caldaroni's), Joan (Allyson Gross' Mother), Nancy Schrom (Mary Charles' mother), Nancy Corey (Ed Corey's sister), Wanda (Mother of Lavonne Ayoub), Jim Parker (Chammy Ott's father), Jason Remington, Moses Kemper, Nikolay (Oksana Johnson's father), Jamie Landers, Nikolai Kupcow, Cheyenne, Lynda (Michelle Felleggy's mother), George Kucera, Bonnie (Jenny Dancy's mother) Newly reposed Margaret (mother of Rdr. Matthew Gallatin), *for you are the fountain of all cures, and we pray to you, O Lord, hear us and have mercy!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cleaning Teams – St. John needs YOU!

We are in the process of putting together new church-cleaning teams. This is a beautiful and practical way to serve our community, and only requires a couple hours every 4 or 5 weeks (depending on how many of us join a team). Many hands make for light work – so please consider joining a cleaning team. Please contact Adam Roth (208-664-3280) for more information, or to join a team!

Scrip Program - Since Albertsons is no longer participating in the Scrip program, we are taking in less income. However, Safeway and Super One are still taking part in the Scrip program. If you shop at Safeway and have a Club Card, you can have your purchases linked onto St. John's. If you shop at Super One, you can purchase scrip and use it as cash. Please see Barbara Garbinski, if you would like to use either Scrip program. It is an easy way of helping St. John's.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Diocese of Los Angeles & the West 2010 Parish Life Conference - June 30th to July 4th, hosted by Holy Resurrection Church, Tucson, AZ – Fr. Basil will be away for the conference. Father Nicholas will be filling in, and will be available during Fr. Basil's absence. The schedule of services will continue as normal.

Counselors are urgently needed!

Camp St. Mary of Egypt is almost upon us and we are in urgent need of counselors for both girls and boys. The dates for this year's camp are: Monday, August 2nd through Saturday, August 7th (during the Dormition Fast) at Bear Paw Camp, just north of Newport Washington on the beautiful Pend Oreille River. This is just over 1 hour from St. John Church.

This year's camp Spiritual Father will be Fr. Justin Havens from the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul in Salt Lake City, Utah.

If you can help, or know someone who can, please contact the camp director, Subdeacon James Robinson at (425) 754-7726 or send an email to: DirectorCampStMary@gmail.com. There is still space available for campers (ages 8 to 14+) as well! The new move to Bear Paw Camp has afforded us space for more campers. Please see www.campstymary.org for more information.

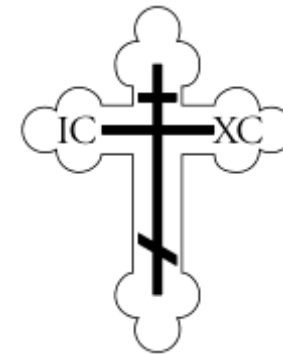
St. Joanna went to the Sepulchre to anoint the Holy Body of the Lord with myrrh after His death on the Cross, and she heard from the angels the joyful proclamation of His All-Glorious Resurrection. According to Tradition, she recovered the head of St. John the Baptist after Herodias had disposed of it (February 24). St. Joanna is also commemorated on the Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying, Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy..

KONTAKION FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS 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 EPISTLE (For Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (10:1-10)

(How great are thy works O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all. Bless the Lord O my soul.)

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that it may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that everyone who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says: Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into Heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) 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, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

THE GOSPEL (For Fifth Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (8:28-9:1)

At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met Him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have we to do to Thee, O Son of God? Art Thou come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged Him, "If Thou cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came June 27, 2010 Liturgy Variables 2 5th Sun. of Pentecost out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they begged Him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat He crossed over and came to His own city.

The Church of Antioch – The roots of a great vine:

The Church of Antioch was established by the Apostles Paul and Barnabas in 42 A.D., with St. Peter serving for the next eight years as its first prelate. The Church of Antioch is one of the five ancient Patriarchates of the Christian Church, along with Alexandria, Constantinople, Jerusalem, and Rome. Many of the great saints of the Church, including St. Ignatius and St. John Chrysostom, have come from Antioch. The Patriarchate has endured despite centuries of oppression, and today shepherds over half a million Christians in Syria, Lebanon and other countries in the Middle East along with communities throughout the Americas, Australia and Europe. The Church is led by His Beatitude Ignatius IV, Patriarch of Antioch and the all East.

THE CITY OF ANTIOCH on-the-Orontes was the most important city of the Roman Province of Syria, and, as such, served as the capital city of the Empire's civil "Diocese of the East." The Church in Antioch dates back to the days of the foremost apostles, SS. Peter and Paul, as is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Scripture refers to Antioch as the place where the followers of Jesus Christ were first called "Christians" (Acts 11:26), and records that Nicholas, one of the original seven deacons, was from that city—and may have been its first convert (Acts 6:5). During the persecution of the Church which followed the death of St. Stephen the Proto-Martyr, members of the infant community in Jerusalem sought refuge in Antioch (Acts 11:19), and while St. Peter served as the first bishop of the city, SS. Paul and Barnabas set out on their great missionary journeys to Gentile lands (Acts 13:1) -- establishing a tradition which would last for centuries, as Antioch missionaries planted churches throughout greater Syria, Asia Minor, the Caucasus Mountains, Mesopotamia, Greece The Balkans, Italy and most of the Mediterranean Region.

At the first Ecumenical Council, convened in the year 325 by Emperor Constantine the Great, the primacy of the bishop (patriarch) of Antioch over all bishops of the civil Diocese of the East was formally sanctioned. The Great Schism of 1054 resulted in the separation of Rome, seat of the Patriarchate of the West, from the four Eastern Patriarchs of Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem*.

During the reign of the Egyptian Mamelukes, conquerors of Syria in the 13th century, the Patriarchal residence was transferred to the ancient city of Damascus, where a Christian community had flourished since apostolic times (Acts 9), and which had succeeded earthquake-prone Antioch as the civil capital of Syria. The headquarters of the Patriarchate, which has jurisdiction over all dioceses within its ancient geographic boundaries (Syria, Lebanon Turkey, Iraq, and the Arabic Peninsula) as well as others in the Americas, Australia, and Western Europe, are located in Damascus on "the street called Straight" (Acts 9:11).

* The Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East together with the three other ancient Eastern patriarchates (Constantinople, Alexandria and Jerusalem); four modern patriarchates (Russia, Serbia, Romania and Bulgaria); five autocephalous churches (Cyprus, Greece, Georgia, Poland, and Albania); and four autonomous churches (Sinai, Slovakia the Czech Lands, Finland and Japan) -many with dependent bodies throughout the world- comprise what is known today as the "Eastern Orthodox Church" with an estimated 250 million adherents, of whom, some 5-6 million live in the United States and Canada.

