

# 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](mailto:bulletin@stjohnorthodox.org)

Send announcements to be emailed to all members to [announce@stjohnorthodox.org](mailto:announce@stjohnorthodox.org)

## All Saints Sunday May 30, 2010



### Synaxis of All Saints

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

St Peter of Damascus, in his "Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (PHILOKALIA [in English] Vol. 3, p.131). He is actually quoting from the OCTOECHOS, Tone 2 for Saturday Matins, kathisma after the first stichology.

St Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to St Peter's five categories. The list of St Nicodemus is found in his book THE FOURTEEN EPISTLES OF ST PAUL (Venice, 1819, p. 384) in his discussion of I Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...."

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. St Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

**Sunday, May 30 – All Saints** - Orthros 8:30am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Lunch following Liturgy - *Visitors Welcome!*

**Tuesday, June 1** – Study Group on the origin of the veneration of the Theotokos in the Scriptures 7:00pm

**Wednesday, June 2** – Vespers 6:00pm

**Friday, June 4** – Spiritual Circle 9:30am; Paraklesis 6:00pm

**Saturday, June 5** – Great Vespers 6:00pm

**Sunday, June 6 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** - Orthros 8:30am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Lunch following Liturgy - *Visitors Welcome!*

### EPISTLE READERS

May 30 - Tabitha Townsend

June 6 - Sbdcn. Barnabas Schaefer

June 13 - Reader Mark Fellego

June 20 - Joy Corey

### LUNCHEON & CLEANUP

May 30 - Team 2 - Corey, Tecca, Roth, Ranson

June 6 - Team 3 - Garbinski, Horton L., Tourous, Jenkin, Ayoub D., Weddle, O'Daniel

June 13 - Team 4 - Dancy, Goodsen J., Caldaroni, Brisbane, Sanman, Le Pley, Handeen

June 20 - 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 SICK AND SUFFERING:

*We pray, O Heavenly Physician of our souls and bodies, look down upon! Your servants who are ill:*

Fr. Basil, Newly reposed Margaret (mother of Rdr. Matthew Gallatin), 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, Mary-Claire Stevens, Sarah Stevens, Moses Kemper, Nikolay (Oksana Johnson's father), Jamie Landers, Nikolai Kupcow, Cheyenne, Lynda (Michelle Fellego's mother), George Kucera, Bonnie (Jenny Dancy's mother), Joel Schaefer (Project Mexico), *for you are the fountain of all cures, and we pray to You, O Lord, hear us and have mercy!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Help Needed for Fr. Michael Nasser & Family

Dear Parishioner - As you may have heard, Fr. Michael Nasser and his young family are touring the Western United States by car, while awaiting news of their next post. Unfortunately, the transmission in their car has died an untimely death. Fortunately, they were staying with Fr. Steve and Mona (Karadsheh) Soot in Albany, Oregon when this happened. Thus, they are safe and well cared for while the car is in the mechanic's shop.

We are contacting friends and family members in hopes of helping Fr. Michael pay the mechanic's bill, which is estimated to exceed \$2,300. As he is between assignments, they have no parish to support them at the moment, and they will have to put this huge charge on a credit card. We want to help Fr. Michael as much as we can – and as quickly as we can! Please feel free to send this alert out to other friends and family, and if you're in the position to contribute, please send whatever you can to:

Fr. Michael Nasser  
C/o St. Anne Orthodox Church  
P.O. Box 1366  
Albany, OR 97321

Please make checks out to “St. Anne Orthodox Church”, earmarked Fr. Michael Nasser. Fr. Steve can be reached at 541-745-6982 or 541-231-7610 for details.

Many thanks and all our love to you and your families!

### Teen Rafting Trip June 12th!

We're rafting again! After the fun and success of last year's teen rafting adventure, we're scheduling a trip for this summer. Unfortunately it's rather short notice, as the Spokane river is lower this year and will not be navigable after mid-June. All area teens are invited to participate in a rafting trip on the Spokane River!

What: A rafting trip along the rapids of the lower Spokane River, followed by lunch!

When: Saturday, June 12, at 9:30 AM

Where: We will meet at Christ the Savior, 12407 E 16th Ave, Spokane Valley

Who: Teens from all of the local Orthodox Parishes - and invite your friends!

How much: \$42 per person - stay tuned for news of a fundraiser to offset this cost.

Contact Nick Dawson at (509)325-4122 or 570-3873 to reserve your spot or to ask questions.

We are also in need of volunteers with vehicles to drive participants to the starting site, ferry vehicles to the take-out site, and to cook lunch.

### 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!

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, St John Climacus had a high regard for them: "Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men" (LADDER, Step 26:31).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living "in the world." Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Sts Joachim and Anna, St Joseph the Betrothed, St Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.

The feast of All Saints achieved great prominence in the ninth century, in the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo VI the Wise (886-911). His wife, the Holy Empress Theophano (December 16) lived in the world, but was not attached to worldly things. She was a great benefactor to the poor, and was generous to the monasteries. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful.

Even before the death of StTheophano in 893 or 894, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophano, but she forbade him to do so. It was this emperor who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing that his wife was one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated.

**Epistle: Hebrews. 11:33-12:2**

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith.

**Gospel: St. Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30**

The Lord said to His disciples, “Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father Who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father Who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.” Then Peter said in reply, “Lo, we have left everything and followed Thee. What then shall we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the New World, when the Son of Man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My Name’s sake, will receive a hundred fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first.”

**Wisdom of the Fathers**

"The most dreadful enemy created by post-industrial culture, the culture of information technology and the image, is cunning distraction. Swamped by millions of images and a host of different situations on television and in the media in general, people lose their peace of mind, their self-control, their powers of contemplation and reflection and turn outwards, becoming strangers to themselves, in a word mindless, impervious to the dictates of their intelligence...the majority of the faithful of the Church confesses that they do not manage to pray, to concentrate and cast of the cares of the world and the storms of spirit and soul which are to the detriment of sobriety, inner balance, enjoyable work, family tranquility and a constructive social life. The world of the industrial image degenerates into real idolatry. The teachings of the Fathers concerning spiritual vigilance arms people so that they can stave off the disastrous effects of the technological society...in the industrial era, people became consumers and slaves to things produced. In post-industrial society, they are also becoming consumers and slaves to images and information, which fill their lives."

+Archimandrite Aimilianos, *Orthodox Spirituality and the Technological Revolution*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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.

**St. Herman of Alaska Scholarship Fund** - St. Herman's Scholarship Fund has been established to help students who wish to pursue, or are currently pursuing, full time study in an institution of learning (two or four year college or university) or a vocational institute. Each year one or more students, depending upon funding in the scholarship account, will be selected to receive a stipend. In order to be eligible for the stipend, a student should be a member in good standing at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Post Falls or at Christ the Savior Orthodox Church in Spokane or at Holy Myrrhbearers Orthodox Church in Bonners Ferry, and a full time student at a high school or college with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4 point scale. Academic excellence, financial need and church /community service will be taken into account in the awarding of the stipend. Please see Fr. Basil or Barbara Garbinski for an application form. June 12th is the deadline.