The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The Gospel (Luke. 1: 5) relates that the righteous parents of Saint John the Baptist, the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth (September 5), lived in the ancient city of Hebron. They reached old age without having children, since Elizabeth was barren. Once, Saint Zachariah was serving in the Temple at Jerusalem and saw the Archangel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. He predicted that Saint Zachariah would father a son, who would announce the Savior, the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. It was given to him, and it was also a chastisement for his unbelief. Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel’s words.

Saint Elizabeth came to be with child, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accordance with the Law of Moses, he was circumcised and was called John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in the family had this name. When they asked Saint Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: “His name is John.” Immediately his tongue was loosed, and Saint Zachariah glorified God. He also prophesied about the Coming into the world of the Messiah, and of his own son John, the Forerunner of the Lord (Luke. 1: 68-79).

After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all male infants. Hearing about this, Saint Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. Saint Zachariah was at Jerusalem and was doing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed right there in the Temple. Righteous Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The child John, protected by an angel, dwelt in the wilderness until the time when he came preaching repentance, and was accounted worthy to baptize the Lord.

Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John
Oca.org

Matins Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 8):
From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

Kontakion of All Saints (Tone 8)
As the first fruits of nature to the Lord of creation the world offers to Thee O Lord, the Divinely inspired martyrs. By their entreaties of Thy mercy, preserve Thy church and establish her in peace through the supplication of Thy Virgin Mother.

A Note to Visitors and Guests: Welcome! We are glad you have joined us today for worship! If this is your first visit to All Saints, please take a moment to fill out a visitor’s card at the greeter’s stand before you leave. The greeter also has Liturgy Books for use during the service, if you desire one. We hope you will join us for brunch following this morning’s service.
Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4):
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 compassion upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

Prokeimenon Psalm:
God is wonderful among His saints. 
Bless God in the congregations.

Epistle Reading: St. Paul to the Hebrews 11:33-12:2


Saturday, June 29: 10 AM Divine Liturgy for Saints Peter & Paul

Saturday, June 29: Vespers, 7:30 PM (Confession available before and after)

News and Announcements

All Saints Sunday: Today! June 23rd we will celebrate our Patronal Feast of All Saints. Coffee Hour will be a parish-wide potluck with an ice cream social. All Saints will provide the ice cream, please bring your favorite toppings to share labeled for any allergies.

Vacation Church School: VCS is a weeklong (August 6-9, 9:30 AM – 12:30 pm) summer camp program available to kids age 3-12 from Christ the Savior (933 N. LaSalle. Join us for a fun week learning about the Saints of the Orthodox Church.

Volunteers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reader</th>
<th>Proskynites</th>
<th>Greeter</th>
<th>Flowers</th>
<th>Coffee</th>
<th>Food</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Jun 23</td>
<td>Polycarp</td>
<td>Debbie K.</td>
<td>Hal O.</td>
<td>Pat K.</td>
<td>Chris &amp; Nancy L.</td>
<td>Potluck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday Jun 29</td>
<td>Joseph L.</td>
<td>Pat K.</td>
<td>Azizeh C.</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>Potluck</td>
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<td>Sunday Jun 30</td>
<td>Doug J.</td>
<td>Domitille N.</td>
<td>Jerry C.</td>
<td>Phil &amp; Rowena L.</td>
<td>L – P</td>
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<td>Sunday July 7</td>
<td>Jim K.</td>
<td>Cristina P.</td>
<td>Sarah K.</td>
<td>Robert H.</td>
<td>R – W</td>
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<td>Sunday July 14</td>
<td>Joseph L.</td>
<td>Eva W.</td>
<td>Nancy L.</td>
<td>Gabriel &amp; Domitille N.</td>
<td>A – F</td>
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<td>Sunday July 28</td>
<td>Polycarp</td>
<td>Sandy A.</td>
<td>Roberta P.</td>
<td>Polycarp &amp; Gosia G.</td>
<td>L - P</td>
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