Hieromartyrs Akepsimas, Bishop in Persia, Presbyter Joseph, and Deacon Aithalas

Martyrs Akepsimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter and Aethalas the Deacon of Persia were leaders of the Christian Church in the Persian city of Naessos. His flock devotedly loved their hierarch for his ascetic life and tireless pastoral work.

The emperor Sapor ordered his men to seek out and kill Christian clergy. Saint Akepsimas also was arrested, even though he was already an eighty-year-old man. They took him to the city of Arbela, where he came before the judge Ardarkh, a pagan priest of the sun god. The holy Elder refused to offer sacrifice to the Persian gods. For this he was fiercely beaten and thrown into prison, where on the following day the seventy-year-old priest Joseph and the deacon Aethalas were severely beaten and thrown into jail with him. For three years the saints were held in confinement, and suffered from hunger and thirst.

Emperor Sapor came to the temple of the god of fire, located not far from Arbela, and wanted to take a look at the three holy martyrs. Exhausted and covered with festering wounds, the saints were brought before the emperor. When he asked them to worship the pagan gods they firmly refused, confessing their faith in Christ instead.

The holy bishop was beheaded, but the presbyter and deacon were taken into the city to be stoned. The execution of the presbyter Joseph was prolonged for several hours. A guard was placed near the place of execution, so that Christians would not take the body of the holy martyr. On the fourth night a strong windstorm raged near the city, lightning killed the guard, the wind tossed stones about, and the body of Saint Joseph disappeared.

Deacon Aethalas was taken to the village of Patrias, where he was stoned. Christians secretly buried his body. A tree grew on the saint’s grave, and its fruit brought healings.

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 for St. George (Tone 4):
As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings; victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God; for our souls’ salvation.

Kontakion for Ordinary Sunday (Tone 2)
O undisputed intercessor of Christians, O Theotokos who is unrejected by the creator, turn not away from the voice of our petitions though we be sinners. Come to us with aid in time who cry unto Thee in faith, for Thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who didst ever intercede for those who honour Thee.

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:
Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Clap your hands, all ye peoples.

Epistle Reading: the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:19-31

This Week at All Saints

Saturday, November 9: Vespers, 7:30 PM (Confession available before and after)

News and Announcements

Teen SOYO Events: TODAY! Sunday November 3rd, after Sunday School, the teens will go bowling. Please RSVP to Melissa W. (meljeff99@gamil.com) so we can have an accurate head count. Looking ahead, Saturday November 16th, from 3:30 to 6:30 PM, the teens will meet at All Saints to play games and enjoy a meal and devotional.

Foster Children Gift Drive: 30,000 children have received gifts through the Orthodox Christian Clergy Association’s participation in the DCFS Christmas Toy Drive. Forms have arrived for this year’s drive. Gifts are due to church by Sunday, November 24. Thank you for your generosity. Any questions contact Kim A.

Volunteers

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reader</th>
<th>Prophora</th>
<th>Greeter</th>
<th>Flowers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Nov 3</td>
<td>Doug J.</td>
<td>Carmen C.</td>
<td>Ofelija I.</td>
<td>Pat K.</td>
<td>Gabriel &amp; Domitille N.</td>
<td>R-W</td>
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<td>Sunday Nov 24</td>
<td>Polycarp</td>
<td>Domitille N.</td>
<td>Hal O.</td>
<td>Sarah S.</td>
<td>Scott &amp; Christy K.</td>
<td>L-P</td>
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<td>Wednesday Nov 27</td>
<td>Sd. Joseph</td>
<td>Cristina P.</td>
<td>Roberta P.</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>Potluck</td>
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<td>Sunday Dec 1</td>
<td>Doug J.</td>
<td>Eva W.</td>
<td>Azizeh C.</td>
<td>Kim A.</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Elizabeth K.</td>
<td>R-W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Dec 8</td>
<td>Sd. Joseph</td>
<td>Dn. Walid</td>
<td>Jerry C.</td>
<td>Domitille N.</td>
<td>Chris &amp; Nancy L.</td>
<td>A-F</td>
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