August 1 & 2, 2020
Divine Liturgy, Saturday & Sunday at 9:30 am
The Seven Holy Maccabeans Martyrs • St. Stephen the Proto-Martyr

Fr. Andrew Kishler, pastor
773-575-3272
Kishler.andrew@gmail.com

Deacon Walid Abdul Karim
Walidu177@yahoo.com

Fr. Patrick Henry Reardon,
retired pastor
phrii@touchstonemag.com

Subdeacon Joseph Freve
HYMNS OF THE DAY
Following the Small Entrance

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7):** Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy.

**SATURDAY:**

**Troparion for the Holy Cross (Tone 1):** O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, grant victory to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries. And by the virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thine habitation.

**Troparion for the Maccabean Martyrs (Tone 1):** O Lord, by the sufferings of the saints, which they endured for Thy sake, have compassion and heal all the sufferings of us who implore Thee, who art alone the Lover of mankind.

**Kontakion for the Holy Cross (Tone 4):** Do Thou, who of Thine own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new nation which is called by Thy name. Make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

**SUNDAY:**

**Troparion for St. Stephen (Tone 4):** The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head, because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred saints. For when thou hadst censured the madness of thine enemies, thou saw Christ thy Savior standing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray to Him for us, that He would save our souls.

**Kontakion for the Transfiguration (Tone 7):** Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.
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.

THE EPISTLE
On Saturday, for the Martyrs

God is wonderful among His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the 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.

THE GOSPEL
On Saturday, for the Martyrs

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (10:16-22)

The Lord said to His disciples: Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of men; for they will deliver you up to councils, and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear testimony before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you up, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will deliver up brother to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all for My Name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.
For the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

The Lord will give strength to His people. Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (1:10-17)

Brethren, I appeal to you, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissension among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

The Gospel

For the Eighth Sunday of Matthew

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (14:14-22)

At that time, when Jesus went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, “This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They said to Him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.” And He said, “Bring them here to me.” Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish He looked up to Heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds.
Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website www.allsaintsorthodox.org

This week and upcoming events:

- **Fr. Pat’s Zoom Bible Class**, Sunday at 1pm.
- **Saturday, August 8: Divine Liturgy** for the Feast of the Transfiguration, 10am, followed by the blessing of fruits/vegetables. **Vespers** at 7pm.
- **Sunday, August 9:** Baptism of Grace Kushiner and Divine Liturgy, beginning at 9:30am. Blessing of fruits/vegetables will follow.

**Feast of the Transfiguration:** There will be no weekday services this week, but we will observe the feast next Saturday, August 8 at the 10am Liturgy. Father Andrew will bless grapes (or whatever fruits or vegetables you want to bring) after both Liturgies next weekend.

**Sacramental Options:** To help minimize our gathering sizes and to provide a smaller setting for those who are “at-risk” or otherwise uncomfortable with larger gatherings, Fr. Andrew will be offering two Divine Liturgies each week, Saturday and Sunday mornings.

**Saturday’s Liturgy** will normally be the smaller of the two, with limited attendance. Contact Fr. Andrew each week if you would like to come on Saturday.

**Sunday’s Liturgy** will normally be a larger gathering, although Bishop Anthony has emphasized to me and my brother priests repeatedly that six-foot distancing is a MUST for all family groups and those of separate households. Overflow seating is available downstairs if distancing becomes impossible. There is a speaker system downstairs so you can still hear the Liturgy.

Also, at the parish council’s suggestion, I will periodically “swap” the two, with the smaller, limited gathering on Sunday. I’ll keep you posted here and by email.

Thank you for your patience as we attempt to provide worship and sacramental opportunities for everyone during these difficult times. Please feel free to reach out to either Fr. Andrew or Fr. Patrick if you desire to receive any sacraments privately throughout the week, particularly those who are ill, elderly, at-risk, or otherwise unable to attend the weekend services.

**Donations to St. Pius School (from Patricia Kushiner):** Once again, we here at All Saints would like to donate to St. Pius School here in our city. It is a worthy school. There are two ways that we can donate this year. One, by donating money by check made out to All Saints Orthodox Church and earmarked for St. Pius School or with cash. The funds should be sent to them in early August so that they can buy school supplies for their students. The deadline for donations will be August 2.
From Octavian with my thanks: Or two, by donating online through the "invest in Kids" program for a tax credit of 75% of your donation. Basically any $100 donated wipes off $75 of Illinois income tax. You can't deduct that money federally, but even so the credit is worth it. Moreover this could be advantageous for those who do not itemize deductions on the federal tax return.

What you have to do for this program is described briefly below, and thoroughly at this link: [https://empowerillinois.org/donors/reserve/](https://empowerillinois.org/donors/reserve/)

1. Login on the MyTaxIllinois site and access your individual account
2. Click on "Contribute to Invest in Kids" [https://empowerillinois.org/donors/reserve/](https://empowerillinois.org/donors/reserve/)
3. Choose "Region 1 - Cook County" and Empower Illinois as the Scholarship Granting Organization. Enter your $ donation commitment.
4. The state will issue you a certificate document within minutes. Take that document and make the actual donation on the empowerillinois site designating "St Pius V School - Chicago" as the recipient.

There is no deadline for this online donation, but if you are able to, please make it before the start of the school year, which is August 18th.

Thank you for donating either way for this worthy cause!

---

The Orthodox Church observes the DORMITION FAST from August 1 to 14, in honor of the Dormition ("falling asleep") and Assumption of St. Mary the Theotokos.

All Orthodox Christians who are able to do so should fast from meat and dairy products during this time, come to the sacrament of Confession at least once, and honor our Lord’s mother through prayer and good works.
“Why a Fast for Dormition?”
Daniel Manzuk, from “The Word” magazine, June 2008

Every Orthodox Christian is aware and generally knows the reason behind the fasts for Pascha and Christmas. But while they may know of the Dormition Fast, few follow it, and more than a few question why it is there, neither knowing its purpose. First, given the pervasive misunderstanding of the purpose of fasting itself, a refresher on its purpose is always a good idea. There is a perception that we should fast when we want something, as though the act of fasting somehow appeases God, and seeing us “suffer” gets Him to grant our request. Nothing can be further from the truth. It is not our fasting that pleases God, it is the fruits of our fast (provided we fast in the proper mind set, and do not merely diet) that please Him. We fast, not to get what we want, but to prepare ourselves to receive what God wants to give us. The purpose of fasting is to bring us more in line with another Mary, the sister of Lazarus, and away from their sister Martha, who in the famous passage was “anxious and troubled about many things.” Fasting is intended to bring us to the realization of “the one thing needful.” It is to help us put God first and our own desires second, if not last. As such it serves to prepare us to be instruments of God’s will, as with Moses in his flight from Egypt and on Mt. Sinai, as well as our Lord’s fast in the wilderness. Fasting turns us away from ourselves and toward God. In essence it helps us become like the Theotokos, an obedient servant of God, who heard His word and kept it better than anyone else has or could.

So why do we fast before Dormition? In a close-knit family, word that its matriarch is on her deathbed brings normal life to a halt. Otherwise important things (parties, TV, luxuries, personal desires) become unimportant; life comes to revolve around the dying matriarch. It is the same with the Orthodox family; word that our matriarch is on her deathbed, could not (or at least should not) have any different effect than the one just mentioned. The Church, through the Paraklesis Service, gives us the opportunity to come to that deathbed and eulogize and entreat the woman who bore God, the vessel of our salvation and our chief advocate at His divine throne. And as, in the earthly family, daily routines and the indulgence in personal wants should come to a halt. Fasting, in its full sense (abstaining from food and desires) accomplishes this. Less time in leisure or other pursuits leaves more time for prayer and reflection on she who gave us Christ, and became the first and greatest Christian. In reflecting on her and her incomparable life, we see a model Christian life, embodying Christ’s retort to the woman who stated that Mary was blessed because she bore Him: blessed rather are those who hear His word and keep it. Mary did this better than anyone. As Fr. Thomas Hopko has stated, she heard the word of God and kept it so well, that she of all women in history was chosen not only to hear His Word but give birth to it (Him). So while we fast in contemplation of her life, we are simultaneously preparing ourselves to live a life in imitation of her. That is the purpose of the Dormition Fast.
DAILY BIBLE READINGS
AUGUST 2–8, 2020

Sunday, Aug. 2: Relics of St. Stephen the First Martyr
John 20:11-18 / 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 / Matthew 14:14-22

Monday, Aug. 3: Holy Myrrh-Bearer Salome
1 Corinthians 11:31-12:6 / Matthew 18:1-11

Tuesday, Aug. 4: Seven Holy Sleepers of Ephesus

Wednesday, Aug. 5: Martyr Eusignius of Antioch
1 Peter 1:1-2:10 / Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday, Aug. 6: Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ
Exodus 24:12-18 / Exodus 33:11-23, 34:4-8 / 3 Kingdoms 19:3-16

Friday, Aug. 7: Martyr Dometius
1 Corinthians 14:26-40 / Mark 9:2-9

Saturday, Aug. 8: Emilian the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzikos
Romans 14:6-9 / Matthew 15:32-39