

ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America 4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641 773-231-6177 (NEW church office number) www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Sunday, June 27, 2021

Saturday Vespers, 7:00 pm • Sunday Matins & Liturgy, 8:30 am The Sunday of All Saints



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Hymns of the Day, immediately after the Small Entrance:

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!

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.

Kontakion of All Saints (Tone 8): As first-fruits of our nature to the Planter of created things, the world presents the God-bearing martyred saints in offering unto Thee, O Lord. Through their earnest entreaties, keep Thy Church in deep peace and divine tranquility, through the pure Theotokos, O Thou who art greatly merciful.

THE EPISTLE

For the Sunday of All Saints

God is wondrous in His saints. In the churches, bless ye God! The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (11:33-12:2)

Brethren, all the saints through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, 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 does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the Author and Perfecter of our faith.

THE GOSPEL

For the Sunday of All Saints

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to 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 everyone 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."



:: ON THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS ::

Adapted from www.oca.org

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." 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.

How many categories of saints does the Church recognize? Saint Peter of Damascus, in his 'Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (*Philokalia* Vol. 3, p.131). Saint Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain adds "the Righteous" to Saint Peter's five categories, in his book *The Fourteen Epistles* of Saint Paul. The hymnology for the feast of All Saints actually 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. Saint Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

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, Saint John Climacus had a high regard for them: "Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men."

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, Saints Joachim and Anna, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, Saint 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 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 Saint Theophano 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.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

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

This weekend:

• **Sunday:** Church school recognition, followed by an all-church potluck and ice cream social in honor of the feast of All Saints.

This week at All Saints:

- Tuesday through Friday: Morning Prayers, 9am.
- Wednesday, June 30: Akathist Hymn to the Holy Apostles, 7pm.
- Saturday, July 3: Intro to Orthodoxy class, 6pm; Vespers, 7pm.
- Sunday, July 4: Matins, 8:30am; Divine Liturgy, 9:30am. Note our return to our regular coffee hour schedule (see Volunteer Schedule below).
- Also next Sunday: Wedding of Alex Corey and Kinga Purta at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Des Plaines, 2pm.

CHURCH SCHOOL RECOGNITION

Our end-of-year church school recognition ceremony and awards will take place **today** after the Divine Liturgy. Many thanks to all of our teachers and students who made church school possible during this strange and difficult year!

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Corey and Purta families are pleased to announce the marriage of Alex and Kinga, next **Sunday July 4, 2pm at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Des Plaines.** All are invited to attend the ceremony, and please note: 1) St. John's is NOT requiring masks or social distancing, but all attendees will need to register at the door. 2) The reception will be a smaller, restricted gathering of family and friends only. Congratulations and may God grant them many years!

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

All kids ages 6-12 are welcome to participate in a summer day camp at St. George Church in Cicero, **July 12-15.** Fr. Andrew will be there each day assisting with the Bible teaching. Register online at <u>www.stgeorgechi.org</u>. If cost is an issue, please see Fr. Andrew.

Date	Reader	Prosphora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
Sunday, June 27 <i>All Saints Day</i>	Doug J.	Pat K.	Sandy A.	Alina S.	All Church potluck
Sun., July 4	Jim K	Domitille	Azizeh	Lydia	A-F
Sun., July 11	Paul K	Cristina P	Nancy L	Domitille	G-K
Sun., July 18	Joseph L	Dn Walid	Domtille	Zach C	L-P
Sun., July 25	Jerry C	Sandy A	Sandy A	Alina S	R-Z
Sun., Aug. 1	Michelle C	Octavian	Azizeh	Lydia	A-F
<u>Thurs., Aug 5</u> Transfiguration	Sd Joseph	Debbie K	Nancy L		Potluck
Sun., Aug. 8	Polycarp	Pat K	Domitille	Zach C	G-K

Volunteer Schedule

Please note that on Sunday, June 27, the feast of All Saints, coffee hour will be an allchurch potluck. Our regular coffee hour rotation will resume the following Sunday, July

4. As we've done in the past, the church will be divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). So if your last name begins with A through F, please bring something simple to share for coffee hour on July 4, and we'll go through the alphabet from there.

Weekly clean-up will be the responsibility of those providing coffee hour. For now, please, let's all pitch in and help.

Also, if you are providing holy bread for Liturgy, or food/snacks for coffee hour, please feel free to provide a list of names (living and departed) of your family members or friends, to be read at the Great Entrance on that day.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS JUNE 27-JULY 3, 2021

ADAPTED FROM THE LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

Sunday, June 27: Feast of All Saints Matthew 28:16-20 / Hebrews 11:33-12:2 / Matthew 10:32-33, 10:37-38, 19:27-30

> Monday, June 28: Holy Unmercenaries Cyrus and John Ruth 1 / Romans 2:28-3:18 / Matthew 6:31-34, 7:9-11

Tuesday, June 29: Holy Apostles Peter and Paul 1 Peter 1:3-9 / 1 Peter 1:13-19 / 1 Peter 2:11-24

John 21:14-25 / 2 Corinthians 11:21-12:9 / Matthew 16:13-19

Wednesday, June 30: Synaxis of the Holy Apostles Ruth 2 / 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 / Matthew 9:36-10:8

Thursday, July 1: Holy Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian Ruth 3 / Romans 5:10-16 / Matthew 8:23-27

Friday, July 2: St. Juvenal, Patriarch of Jerualem Ruth 4 / Romans 5:17-6:2 / Matthew 9:14-17

Saturday, July 3: Martyr Hyacinth of Cæsarea

Romans 3:19-26 / Matthew 7:1-8

ALL SAINTS IS A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE THE MOST REVEREND METROPOLITAN JOSEPH THE RIGHT REVEREND BISHOP ANTHONY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO AND THE MIDWEST WWW.ANTIOCHIAN.ORG