



# ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America*

*4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641*

*773-231-6177*

*www.allsaintsorthodox.org*

**Sunday, November 28, 2021**

**Saturday Vespers, 7pm • Sunday Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am**

**Thirteenth Sunday of St. Luke**



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*Hymns of the Day, immediately after the Small Entrance:*

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 6):** When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb. And the soldiers who were to keep guard, became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby! Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world! O Thou, who art risen from the dead: O Lord, glory to Thee!

**Troparion for St. Stephen the New (Tone 4):** Trained on the mountain in ascetical labors, with the whole armor of the Cross thou didst vanquish the spiritual arrays of unseen enemies. And when thou hadst stripped thyself with great courage for contest, thou didst slay Copronymus with the sword of the true Faith. For both these things hast thou been crowned by God, O righteous Martyr, blest Stephen of great renown!

**Kontakion for Advent (Tone 3):** Today the Virgin cometh unto the cave to give birth to the Word, who was born before all ages, begotten in a manner that defies description. Rejoice therefore, O universe, if thou should hear; and glorify with the angels and the shepherds, glorify Him who by His will shall become a newborn Babe, and who is our God before all ages!

**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**

*For the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost*

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God.

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians (2:4-10)**

Brethren, God, being rich in mercy, through His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through the trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you are saved—and raised us up together with Him, and made us to sit together with Him

in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He would show the exceeding riches of His grace, in kindness toward us, in Christ Jesus. For by grace you are saved through faith, and that is not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

## THE GOSPEL

*For the Thirteenth Sunday of Luke*

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (18:18-27)**

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.’”

And the man said, “All these I have observed from my youth.”

And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”

But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus said, “What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

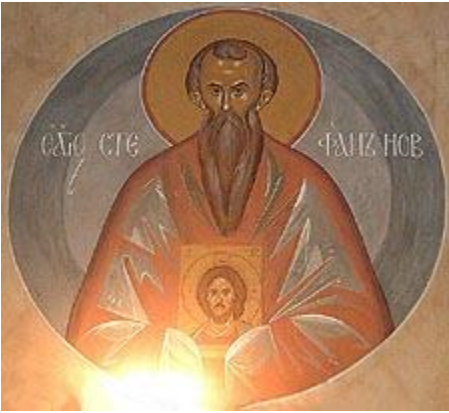


**“AS THOU TAKEST THY SEAT AT TABLE, PRAY. AS THOU LIFTEST THE LOAF, OFFER THANKS TO THE GIVER. WHEN THOU SUSTAINEST THY BODILY WEAKNESS WITH WINE, REMEMBER HIM WHO SUPPLIES THEE WITH THIS GIFT, TO MAKE THY HEART GLAD AND TO COMFORT THY INFIRMITY.”**

**~ ST. BASIL THE GREAT**

## :: MONASTIC MARTYR AND CONFESSOR STEPHEN THE NEW ::

*Adapted from [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)*



The Monk Martyr and Confessor Stephen the New was born in 715 at Constantinople into a pious Christian family.

During the reign of the emperor Leo the Isaurian (716-741) there was a persecution against the holy icons and against those venerating them. With the support of the emperor, the adherents of the Iconoclast heresy seized control of the supreme positions of authority in the Empire and in the Church. Persecuted by the powers of this world, Orthodoxy was preserved in monasteries far from the capital, in solitary cells, and in the brave and

faithful hearts of its followers.

The Orthodox parents of Saint Stephen, grieved by the prevailing impiety, fled from Constantinople to Bithynia, and they gave over their sixteen-year-old son in obedience to the monk John, who labored in asceticism in a solitary place on the Mount of Saint Auxentius. Saint Stephen dwelt with the venerable monk John for more than fifteen years, devoting himself totally to this spirit-bearing Elder, and learning monastic activity from him. After his teacher John died, Stephen left the monastery he founded, and he went to another mountain, on whose summit he dwelt in deep seclusion in a solitary cell. But here also a community of monks soon gathered, seeking the spiritual guidance of Saint Stephen.

Leo the Isaurian was succeeded by Constantine Copronymos (741-775), a fiercer persecutor of the Orthodox, and an even more zealous iconoclast. The emperor convened an Iconoclast Council, attended by 358 bishops from the Eastern provinces. However, except for Constantine, the Archbishop of Constantinople, not one of the other patriarchs participated in the wicked doings of this Council, thus making it less likely to style itself as “ecumenical.” This council of heretics, at the instigation of the emperor and the archbishop, described icons as idols, and pronounced an anathema on all who venerated icons in the Orthodox manner, and it described icon veneration as heresy.

Meanwhile, the monastery of Mount Auxentius and its igumen became known in the capital. They told the emperor about the ascetic life of the monks, about their Orthodox piety, about the igumen Stephen’s gift of wonderworking, and of how Saint Stephen’s fame had spread far beyond the region of the monastery, and that the name of its head was accorded universal respect and love. The saint’s open encouragement of icon veneration and the implied rebuff to the

persecutors of Orthodoxy within the monastery of Mount Auxentius especially angered the emperor. Archbishop Constantine realized that in the person of Saint Stephen he had a strong and implacable opponent of his iconoclastic intentions, and he plotted how he might draw him over to his side or else destroy him.

Then the emperor ordered that the saint be exiled on one of the islands in the Sea of Marmora. Saint Stephen settled into a cave, and there also his disciples soon gathered. After a certain while the saint left the brethren and took upon himself the exploit of living atop a pillar. News of the stylite Stephen, and the miracles worked by his prayers, spread throughout all the Empire and strengthened the faith and spirit of Orthodoxy in the people.

The emperor gave orders to transfer Saint Stephen to prison on the island of Pharos, and then to bring him to trial. At the trial, the saint refuted the arguments of the heretics sitting in judgment upon him. He explained the dogmatic essence of icon veneration, and he denounced the Iconoclasts because in blaspheming icons, they blasphemed Christ and the Mother of God. As proof, the saint pointed to a golden coin inscribed with the image of the emperor. He asked the judges what would happen to a man who threw the coin to the ground, and then trampled the emperor's image under his feet. They replied that such a man would certainly be punished for dishonoring the image of the emperor. The saint said that an even greater punishment awaited anyone who would dishonor the image of the King of Heaven and His Saints, and with that he spat on the coin, threw it to the ground, and began to trample it underfoot.

The emperor gave orders to take the saint to prison, where already there were languishing 342 Elders, condemned for the veneration of icons. In this prison Saint Stephen spent eleven months, consoling the imprisoned. The prison became like a monastery, where the usual prayers and hymns were chanted according to the Typikon. The people came to the prison in crowds and asked Saint Stephen to pray for them.

When the emperor learned that the saint had organized a monastery in prison, where they prayed and venerated holy icons, he sent two of his own servants, twin-brothers, to beat the saint to death. When these brothers went to the prison and beheld the face of the monk shining with a divine light, they fell down on their knees before him, asking his forgiveness and prayers, then they told the emperor that his command had been carried out. But the emperor learned the truth and he resorted to yet another lie. Informing his soldiers that the saint was plotting to remove him from the throne, he sent them to the prison. The holy confessor himself came out to the furious soldiers, who seized him and dragged him through the streets of the city. They then threw the lacerated body of the martyr into a pit, where they were wont to bury criminals.

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website [www.allsaintsorthodox.org](http://www.allsaintsorthodox.org)

This week:

- Confession, anointing, and other pastoral services will be available after every listed service, or by appointment with Fr. Andrew.
- **Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday:** Morning prayers, 9am. *No morning prayers Thurs. this week.*
- **Wednesday, Dec. 1:** Compline with the Akathist Hymn of Thanksgiving, 7pm.
- **Saturday, Dec. 4:** St. Nicholas Day decorations & stockings, 9am; Orthodoxy 101, 6pm; Vespers, 7pm.
- **Sunday, Dec. 5:** Matins & Liturgy, 8:30am, followed by **our annual visit from St. Nicholas**, coffee hour and church school.

**We will celebrate St. Nicholas Day next Sunday, Dec. 5!** The ladies of the church will gather to decorate Saturday morning, Dec. 4 at 9am. Kids, next Sunday please bring an item of food for St. Nicholas to share with the poor!

**ADVENT FOOD DRIVE:** We are blessed again to be able to participate in an Advent food drive for the poor in our city. **From Saturday, Nov. 13 to Sunday, Dec. 12, please bring any donations of non-perishable foods.** These will be given to individuals living on the street who visit the drop-in center of Northside Housing. In particular, they are asking for items that don't need to be cooked or heated, heat and serve containers, or cans with pop-tops (there is a microwave available at the center).

Please place your donations in the back of the church on or near the table. (Remember if you use Amazon to order donations, use Amazon Smile with All Saints as the recipient.) Also, monetary donations are also accepted, please write 'food drive' on the memo line. If you have any questions, please call or email Sandy Abraham. God blesses those who remember the poor!

**NATIVITY FAST:** The Orthodox Nativity Fast (Advent) began Monday, Nov. 15, and lasts until Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. Let us dedicate ourselves to prayer, fasting, and generosity during this time! If you are able, abstain from meat and dairy products, but please see Fr. Andrew if you have any questions or concerns about keeping the fast.

All Orthodox Christians should also make it to confession during this holy season. If you desire to confess to another Orthodox priest outside of our parish, that is generally fine, but let Fr. Andrew know.

## Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prosphora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
Sun., Nov 28*	Paul K <i>Eph 2:4-10</i>	Sandy A	Jerry C	Zach C	A-F
Sun., Dec. 5*	Joseph L. <i>Gal 5:22-6:2</i>	Octavian	Nancy L	Lydia A	G-K
Sun, Dec. 12*	Richard C. <i>Eph 5:8-19</i>	Debbie K	Sandy A	Domitille	L-P
Sun, Dec. 19*	Michelle C <i>Heb 11:1-40</i>	Pat K	Domitille	Alina C	R-Z
Fri, Dec 24	Sdn Joseph <i>Gal 4:4-7</i>	Domitille	Azizeh		
Sun, Dec 26	Polycarp <i>Gal 1:11-19</i>	Cristina P	Jerry C	Zach C	A-F
Fri, Dec 31	Doug J <i>Col 2:8-12</i>	Dn Walid	Nancy L		

***For Sunday coffee hour, the church has been divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). On your assigned week, please bring something simple to share with everyone for coffee hour.***

*If you have children, please monitor them as they go through the coffee hour line, and help them clean up after themselves.*

***Weekly clean-up will be the responsibility of those providing coffee hour. And of course, things go faster when we can all pitch in and help.***

***\*Asterisks denote fasting days (no meat or dairy).***



# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

NOV. 28-DEC. 4, 2021

ADAPTED FROM THE  
LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

**Sunday, Nov. 28: St. Stephen the New**

Matthew 28:16-20 / Ephesians 2:4-10 / Luke 18:18-27

**Monday, Nov. 29: Dionysios, Bishop of Corinth**

Numbers 26 / 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 / Luke 12:22-34

**Tuesday, Nov. 30: St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle**

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 / Luke 12:35-40

*For St. Andrew:* 1 Peter 1:1-2:6 / 1 Peter 2:21-3:9 / 1 Peter 4:1-11

Matthew 4:18-23 / 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 / John 1:35-51

**Wednesday, Dec. 1: Nahum the Prophet**

Numbers 27 / 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 / Luke 12:41-48

**Thursday, Dec. 2: Habakkuk the Prophet**

Numbers 28 / 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 / Luke 12:49-59

**Friday, Dec. 3: Holy Prophet Zephaniah**

Numbers 29 / 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 / Luke 13:1-9

**Saturday, Dec. 4: Great-Martyr Barbara; St. John of Damascus**

2 Corinthians 11:1-6 / Luke 12:32-40

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THE MOST REVEREND METROPOLITAN JOSEPH  
THE RIGHT REVEREND BISHOP ANTHONY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO AND THE MIDWEST  
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