

Dear fellow parishioners,

We are rapidly approaching All Saints' Eve on October 31st. Last year we produced a wonderful storybook and enjoyed a record turnout for our celebration of Saints. This year, with the agreement of Fr. Andrew and the Parish Council we will once again extend the opportunity for everyone to nominate and research their favorite saints. I will compile the Saint of the Year storybook and distribute it at the end of October. Last year we elected Saint Mary of Egypt as Saint of the Year. Who will it be this year?

The first step is to submit nominations. Is there a saint or two that you have recently learned about? Or an old favorite that has not recently been nominated (see list below)? If so, we'd love to hear about them! The top 7 nominees will form our storybook of canonized saints (east or west). So please email nominations to me (or to Fr. Andrew), including the name of your chosen saint and a short description (to distinguish between saints of the same name).

Nominations will close Sunday, September 17th. Please also contact me if you are willing to help with writing the stories or creating artwork this year.

Yours in Christ,

Richard Coleman

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Additional Info: You must be aged 8 or older. You may nominate up to three names, but Bible saints, and those featured in the last 3 years of voting, along with the last 7 elected winners, are not allowed on the ballot (see list below).

List of past 3 years nominees & prior winners*: (These names may NOT be nominated again)

2022: St Photini of Samaria, St Hermione of Ephesus, St Barbara, St Mary of Egypt *, St John of Damascus, St Edward the Confessor, St Eumenios

2021: St Helena of Constantinople, St Paul of Thebes, St Filofteia from Curtea de Arges, St Constantin Brancoveanu*, St Alexis d'Ugine (aka Alexis Medvedkov), St Nikolai Velimirovich, St Paisios the Athonite

2020: Sts. Cyril & Methodius*, St. Igor, Prince of Kiev, St. Eustachius, St. Seraphim of Sarov, St Dionysus, St Ambrose of Milan, St. Catherine of Siena

Previous Saints of the Year: Elizabeth the New Martyr (2019), Brigid of Kildare (2018), Mariam Baouardy & Nicholas of Japan (2017), Theresa of Calcutta (2016), Euphrosinos the Cook (2015), Herman of Alaska (2014)