

From the Divine Office for the Sunday of All-Saints

Come, all you faithful, let us celebrate with psalms, hymns, and spiritual canticles the glorious memory of all the Saints: the Baptist of the Savior, the Apostles, prophets, martyrs, hierarchs, doctors, blessed, ascetics, just and holy women. Venerating their blessed memory, let us all sing: "Christ our God and supreme goodness, through their prayers grant peace and victory over the enemy to Your Church and great mercy to our souls." (Vespers)

Those who have borne witness throughout the world have become citizens of heaven. Having imitated the Passion of Christ, they free us from the passions. United today in the Kingdom, they show how the Church of the first-born bears the sign of the assembly in heaven. They say to Christ, "You are my God. Through the intercession of the one who bore You, protect me, O You who alone are most merciful." (Orthros)



**SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS
JUNE 12, 2022**



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Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

Antiphon (3rd)

1: Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us shout with joy to God our Savior.

O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You, Alleluia

2: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving and let us joyfully sing psalms to Him.

Khallisna Ya-Bnallah, Ya Man qama min baynil-amwaat, nahnu muranneemeena Laka.

Haleloueya.

3: For God is a great Lord and a great King over all the earth.

O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You, Alleluia.

Entrance Hymn

Priest: Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ.

People: O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You, Alleluia.

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 8) pg. 42

You descended from on high O compassionate One; and consented to burial for three days that You might free us from suffering. O Lord, our life and our resurrection, glory to You!

Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4)

O Christ God, Your Church clothed with the blood of Your martyrs all over the world, as with purple and fine linen, cries out to You: send Your mercy upon Your people, grant peace to Your fold and extend Your great compassion upon our souls.

Patronal Troparion (Tone 1) Pg. 15

In giving birth, you have preserved your virginity and in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

Kontakion of All-Saints (Tone 8)

To You, O Lord, Ordainer and Creator of all the world, the universe offers the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of nature. Wherefore, through their prayers, and through the intercession of the Mother of God, preserve Your Church and the whole world in perfect safety and peace, O You who alone are most mer

Hierarchs – Sainly bishops like Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon of Cyprus, or Basil the Great.

Righteous Ascetics – Giants in the monastic life, both men and women, including elders (guides in the spiritual life) and solitaries, living in forest or wilderness.

Martyrs – Those who gave their lives witnessing to Christ, from the Great Martyrs of the Roman persecutions, such as St. Barbara and St. George, to the new martyrs who died under modern dictators or religious extremists. Hieromartyrs – Hierarchs and priests who sacrificed their own lives as well as offered the Divine Sacrifice of Christ. Confessors - Those who survived torture or imprisonment for the Lord but escaped with their like St. Maximus the Confessor.

Unmercenaries – Those who gave of their talents freely to help the poor and the sick, such as Ss. Cosmas and Damian. Fools for Christ – Those who pretended to be mentally incompetent so that their spiritual gifts would not be noticed and praised, like St. Xenia of Petersburg.

Passionbearers – Those who accepted suffering, even death, rather than to repay violence with more violence.

On this First Sunday after Pentecost, the Byzantine Churches celebrate all the saints, whether their names are known or not. On the following Sundays various local Churches celebrate their own regional saints (All Saints of Russia, or North America, or the British Isles, etc.). Wherever the Holy Spirit has been at work in the Church, saints have been raised up to the glory of God.

Who “Makes” Saints?

Ultimately, of course, it is God who makes people holy by giving them the gift of the Holy Spirit. When people make this gift their own and live an heroic life in Christ, others recognize it. When a local Church recognizes that one of its sons or daughters has lived an exceptional Christian life and gives evidence that they are now in glory, it publicly proclaims him or her to be a saint. In the Eastern Orthodox Churches it is the local Church (such as the Patriarchate of Constantinople or the Church of Greece) which declares saints. In the East this process is called glorification. In the West recognition of saints is called canonization (inclusion on the canon or list of saints) and is proclaimed by the Pope of Rome. What Do We Do with the Saints? God has placed certain saints in our lives and we would be remiss if we ignored them. We have our patron saints (those whose names we bear) and those whose icons may be found in our home. Most of our parishes have patron saints as well. We do well to venerate their icons regularly, asking their intercession with prayers like these: Pray for me, St. N., for with fervor I come to you, speedy helper and intercessor for my soul. Holy Father/Mother N., pray to God for us. Observe their feast days according to the Church calendar. If there is no Liturgy scheduled, ask for one to be served in their honor. Why not?

From the Synaxarion

Our most godlike Fathers decreed that we should celebrate the present feast after the descent of the All-holy Spirit as showing in a certain way that the coming of the All-holy Spirit acted through the Apostles like this: sanctifying and making wise human beings taken from our mortal clay and, to replace that fallen angelic order [the demons], restoring them through Christ and sending them to God – some by the witness of blood-martyrdom, others by their virtuous conduct and way of life. Thus things beyond nature are achieved.... This is one reason why we celebrate the feast of All Saints. A second reason is because, though so many people have been well-pleasing to God, they were unknown to humanity by name or...because it was not easy to honor them all properly because of their vast numbers. And therefore, so that we may attract the help of them all... the Godly Fathers ordained that we should celebrate this feast -all those in whom the Holy Spirit has dwelt He has made holy. A third reason is this. It was necessary for the saints who are celebrated individually day by day to be gathered together on one day in order to demonstrate that, as they struggled for the one Christ and all ran the race in the same stadium of virtue, so they were all fittingly crowned as servants of one God and sustain the Church, having filled the world on high. They stir us also to accomplish the same struggle in its different and many forms, to the degree of power that each of us has, and to press onward with all eagerness.

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

Today +George Chebib (40 Day). Requested by Jeanette Halal & Family
June 19 +George Chebib. Requested by Antoinette Arraj

Today's Coffee Hr. is hosted by Eric Ewanco
Next Sunday's Coffee Hr. is hosted by Maria Filewicz

Please Remember in your prayers: Susan Arraje, George Arraj, Jr., Robert Ghiz, Archie Opatka, Katherine Thomas, Charlotte Stockhaus, Ruth Welsh, James Rahall, Richard Abraham, Sr., Daneil Sarrouf, the people of Ukraine, those who suffered a loss as a result of the mass shootings in various cities in the country.

If there are people for whom you would like me to pray, please reach out and give me their names. Part of our vocation as Christians is to pray for each other, especially when someone is sick or suffering in any way.

Last Week's Collection

Weekly	\$1,588
Candles	\$ 27
Coffee Hr.	\$ 23
Flowers	\$ 75
Stole	\$ 20
TOTAL	\$1,733

God bless you for your generosity!



FINANCIALS

<u>5/2022</u>	<u>YTD (10/2021-5/2022)</u>
Income \$6,301	Income \$56,597
Expenses \$7,899	Expenses \$51,596
Net (\$1,598)	Net \$5,001

Welcome to any visitors we may have with us this morning! We are happy to have you worship with us.

Please join us downstairs in the church hall for the coffee hour so that we can get to know each other better and answer any questions you may have about the parish or the Melkite Church.

Fr. Bryan will be away next Sunday. Fr. Lucas LaRoche will celebrate the Divine Liturgy. We appreciate the help he has provided the parish since his priestly ordination and reception of bi-ritual faculties.



2022 Family Picnic

Our annual Family Picnic will be on **Sunday September 11, 2022 from Noon to 6:00PM**. We need volunteers for many tasks: advance food preparation, food runners, setup/breakdown, cashiers, children's activities, etc. If you can share a couple of hours prior to, or on the day of the Picnic, please reach out to Marilyn Tencza at (774) 239-2081 or mtencza9@hotmail.com.

Thanks in advance for your help!

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

As most of you know, next year (2023) is the one-hundredth anniversary of the parish. I would like to form a committee to explore how we want to mark the occasion. If you are interested in being on the committee or have some ideas about how to celebrate this milestone in the life of the parish, please contact me. We will have an initial meeting in the next month or so.



Glorified in His Saints

CATHOLICS AND ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS are sometimes criticized by people because of the reverence we show to the saints. Critics may feel that we ignore the Lord, preferring to pay homage to favorite saints. Seeing how some believers act, we may understand why some Protestants and others may feel as they do. Some devotees of the saints lavish more praise on the saints than on Christ.

While such behavior may be misguided, an appropriate devotion to the Theotokos and other saints is not. For us, the saints are the “proof” that the Holy Spirit truly came upon the Church at Pentecost. The holiness of their lives points to the grace of the Holy Spirit powerfully working in our world. The saints reveal to us the “face” of the Holy Spirit manifest in the Church. For this reason Byzantine Churches celebrate the Feast of All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

In the Epistle to the Hebrews, we read of a number of Old Testament figures renowned in Israelite history for their righteous lives or powerful deeds. The selection read at today’s Divine Liturgy does not mention any of the individuals named in the Epistle (some of whom are not the most praiseworthy by modern standards). Rather it begins with the point made in conclusion: that some were powerful and defeated their enemies while others were tortured and put to death. Still others lived righteous lives in hiding and “wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and holes in the ground” (Heb 11:38). In either case nothing they could do could bring them eternal life. That would only become possible through Jesus Christ and His Church. As the biblical author explains, “*These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would then be made perfect*” (Heb 11:39-40). We can conclude that the gift of the Holy Spirit dwelling in the believer far exceeds the glory won by the rulers, soldiers and prophets of Israelite history. We can also strive to draw close to the One who is everywhere present, filling all things.

New Testament Saints

There is no one more filled with the Holy Spirit than she who is “full of grace,” the most holy Theotokos. Like her the holy prophet, forerunner and baptist John has a unique place among Christians as, in Christ’s own words, “among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist” (Mt 11:11). In addition to them, there are countless figures from every age in Christian history honored as saints by the various local Churches. In the Byzantine Churches, it has become customary to consider the saints as belonging to one or another of the following categories:

Prophets – God’s Old Testament spokesmen such as Elias or Isaiah who called the Jews back to the true God and His ways whenever they strayed.

Apostles – The Twelve closest followers of Christ as well as the Seventy who were their companions: eye-witnesses to the presence of Christ on earth.

Evangelists – The Gospel writers Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Prokimenon

Reader: Awesome in His saints is God, the God of Israel.

People: Awesome in His saints is God, the God of Israel.

Reader: In the churches, bless God, the Lord out of Israel’s wellspring.

People: Awesome in His saints is God, the God of Israel.

Reader: Awesome in His saints is God,

People: The God of Israel.

Epistle: Heb. 11:33-40; 12:1-2

Alleluia Verses

The just cried out, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their trials.

Verse: Many are the trials of the just, but out of them all, the Lord will save them.

Gospel: Mt. 10:32-38; 19:27-30, Sunday of All Saints

