

HOLY ANGELS BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



The Holy Great Martyr Artemius of Antioch

October 20, 2024

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Great Martyr Artemius of Antioch

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Schedule of services for the week of October 21 – October 27

Saturday, October 26	– <i>The Holy and Glorious Great Martyr Demetrius the Myrrh-Yielder of Thessalonica; Commemoration of the Great and Dreadful Earthquake in Constantinople in 740 A.D</i>
9:00 AM	– Divine Liturgy & Panahida; + James Washicko - req: Paul Washicko
4:00 PM	– Confessions
5:00 PM	– Great Vespers
Sunday, October 27	– <i>23rd Sunday after Pentecost; The Holy Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica, companion of St. Demetrius</i>
8:40 AM	– 3 rd Hour
9:00 AM	– Divine Liturgy

“If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone rises from the dead.” Abraham spoke to the rich man to emphasize to him and to us that we have many words of truth that show us the right way to live our lives. In his mercy, Our Lord calls servants to be those modern day prophets by living as priests, deacons, subdeacons, monks and nuns. Is this something the Lord may be doing in your life? If so, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: vocations@ephx.org



BASKET RAFFLE

IN SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH LIFE EVENTS WE ARE HOLDING OUR ANNUAL BASKET RAFFLE NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 10. CHECK OUT THE MARVELOUS BASKETS IN THE CHURCH HALL!

Thank You to all who worked very hard yesterday to clean and prepare the Church and the hall for the upcoming season.

May God bless you!

O Physician of Souls and Bodies, we pray for:

Pope Francis, Barbara Alexander, Maria Amaro, Peter Andre, Fr. Christopher Andrews, Harry and Virginia Bowden, Kim Camplisson, Patrick Carmack, Fr. Andriy Chirovsky, Julia Camberos, Dennis Cline, Amy Cohn, Vivian Corr, Maria Cruz, Joe Danscuk, Fr. Daniel Dozier, Gabriel Espedal, Ana Fandrey, Karen Foto, Christine Galgano, Janet Greenwell, Deborah Harris, Michael Havens, Martha Hill, Doris Huber, Rebecca Huber, Melissa Hunter, Taylor Kessler, Subdcn Paul Kilroy Jamie Kohanyj, Juan Lopez, Pauli Martin, Mila Mina, Linda Moffit, Maryann Nagrant, Julia Ohnysty, Genevieve Paquette, Sylvia Pasnak, Fr. Lee Perry, Anthony Porrello, Nina Porrello, Peter Porrello, Fr. Robert Rankin, Margaret Raya, Maha Salazar, Gretchen Sharpe, Karen Simonich, Debbie Stark, Tava Tomc, Hong Truong, Pat Walsh, Maria Zhukova, Gianna, Nicole, Subdcn Eddie and his wife Viane.

Haven't Seen Someone in a While?

Give them a call or send them an email. See how they are doing. Let them know that you not only miss them but also care enough to see if everything is okay. A kind word can go a long way.

Great Martyr Artemius of Antioch

Commemorated on October 20 - source: oca.org

Holy Great Martyr Artemius of Antioch was a prominent military leader during the reigns of the emperor Constantine the Great (May 21), and his son and successor Constantius (337-361). Artemius received many awards for distinguished service and courage. He was appointed viceroy of Egypt. In this official position he did much for the spreading and strengthening Christianity in Egypt.

Saint Artemius was sent by the emperor Constantius to bring the relics of the holy Apostle Andrew from Patras, and the relics of the holy Apostle Luke from Thebes of Boeotia, to Constantinople. The holy relics were placed in the Church of the Holy Apostles beneath the table of oblation. The emperor rewarded him by making him ruler of Egypt.

The emperor Constantius was succeeded on the throne by Julian the Apostate (361-363). Julian in his desire to restore paganism was extremely antagonistic towards Christians, sending hundreds to their death. At Antioch he ordered the torture of two bishops unwilling to forsake the Christian Faith.

During this time, Saint Artemius arrived in Antioch and publicly denounced Julian for his impiety. The enraged Julian subjected the saint to terrible tortures and threw the Great Martyr Artemius into prison. While Artemius was praying, Christ, surrounded by angels, appeared to him and said, "Take courage, Artemius! I am with you and will preserve you from every hurt which is inflicted upon you, and I already have prepared your crown of glory. Since you have confessed Me before the people on earth, so shall I confess you before My Heavenly Father. Therefore, take courage and rejoice, you shall be

with Me in My Kingdom." Hearing this, Artemius rejoiced and offered up glory and thanksgiving to Him.

On the following day, Julian demanded that Saint Artemius honor the pagan gods. Meeting with steadfast refusal, the emperor resorted to further tortures. The saint endured all without a single moan. The saint told Julian that he would be justly recompensed for his persecution of Christians. Julian became furious and resorted to even more savage tortures, but they did not break the will of the saint. Finally the Great Martyr Artemius was beheaded.

His relics were buried by Christians. After the death of Saint Artemius, his prophecy about Julian the Apostate's impending death came true.

Julian left Antioch for a war with the Persians. Near the Persian city of Ctesiphon, Julian came upon an elderly Persian, who agreed to betray his countrymen and guide Julian's army. The old man deceived Julian and led his army into the Karmanite wilderness, where there was neither food nor water. Tired from hunger and thirst, Julian's army battled against fresh Persian forces.

Divine retribution caught up with Julian the Apostate. During the battle he was mortally wounded by an unseen hand and an unseen weapon. Julian groaned deeply said, "You have conquered, Galilean!" After the death of the apostate emperor, the relics of the Great Martyr Artemius were transferred with honor from Antioch to Constantinople.

Saint Artemius is invoked by those suffering from hernias.

5 REASONS LITURGY DIDN'T BORE THE SAINTS

Adapted from: Sr. Theresa Aletheia Noble

The Mass is very long and tiresome unless one loves God. - G.K. Chesterton

Do you ever feel bored at Liturgy?

Don't worry, I'm not judging. When I first returned to Liturgy after a time away, I found it boring. But Jesus' presence in the Eucharist drew me in. And eventually, his presence in the Liturgy instructed me in the ways of heaven, helping me to develop a greater love for the Liturgy. I realized that the Liturgy was the most important prayer that I could pray in any day.

As Blessed James Alberione once said, the Liturgy is "the daystar of prayer." In other words, nothing else we do to get closer to God even comes close to going to Liturgy.

That being said, while I appreciate the Liturgy more than I did when I first returned to the Church, I still "phone it in" sometimes. I get to the end of Liturgy on some days and I realize that my mind was a million miles away. My love for the Liturgy is something that has grown more fervent over time but it still needs work.

Perhaps, like me, you need some motivation to go to Liturgy, to see the value in it, to find meaning, to stay engaged, and to look forward to it with the excitement that this "daystar of prayer" deserves.

Here are some reasons why the saints did not find Liturgy boring:

The saints knew they attended Liturgy with the angels: There is no Liturgy with low attendance. Next time you attend a Liturgy with just a few people in the pews, just remember there are angels all around you!

"The heavens open and multitudes of angels come to assist in the Holy Liturgy."
– St. Gregory the Great

"The angels surround and help the priest

when he is celebrating the Liturgy." – St. Augustine

The saints desperately depended on the Liturgy: The next time you attend Liturgy, ask God for the grace to understand just how much your soul thirsts for the graces of the Eucharist. The saints were in touch with this thirst.

"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Liturgy." – St. Pio of Pietrelcina

"The Liturgy is the spiritual food that sustains me, without which I could not get through one single hour in my life." – St. Teresa of Calcutta

The saints wanted to honor God more than anything: If you love God and want to return his love, Liturgy is the best thing you can possibly do. It's the best because we are participating in Jesus' sacrifice, without relying on anything we ourselves can do. And if we focus on loving and honoring God rather than ourselves, the Liturgy will not be boring.

"One single Liturgy gives more honor to God than all the penances of the Saints, the labors of the Apostles, the sufferings of the Martyrs and even the burning love of the Blessed Mother of God." – St. Alphonsus Liguori

"All the good works in the world are not equal to the Holy Liturgy because they are the works of men; but the Liturgy is the work of God. Martyrdom is nothing in comparison for it is but the sacrifice of man to God; but the Liturgy is the sacrifice of God for man." – Saint John Vianney

More to read: The Liturgy as described by Justin Martyr in 155 A.D.

The saints found joy in the Liturgy: The

source of true happiness can only be ultimately found in God. The saints knew this and this is why they went to Liturgy to find their true joy.

“It is joy that brought me to the faith, joy at the birth of my child, 35 years ago, and that joy is constantly renewed as I daily receive our Lord at Mass.” – Dorothy Day

The saints knew that the Liturgy is timeless: The Liturgy re-presents the Paschal Mystery of Christ. In other words, we are not just remembering Jesus’ death and resurrection in the Liturgy, we are reliving it, entering into that timeless moment, and witnessing the pouring out of salvific graces on the world.

“Jesus ... [is] the Lamb that was slain but who lives forever, in every instant renewing his passion (death and resurrection) through the continual celebration of Liturgies throughout the world.” – Blessed James Alberione

“The Liturgy makes present the sacrifice of the Cross.” – Saint John Paul II

There are many more reasons to go to Liturgy, many more reasons to strive to find the profound meaning that the saints could see.

But I will end with one last motivational quote from St. Leonard of Port Maurice, (I assume he said it with a mischievous smile):

“O you deluded people, what are you doing? Why do you not hasten to the churches for as many Liturgies as you can?”



THE CHURCH

A place for the sick and the lost

Our Church has always seen herself as a hospital for the soul, the place where her children can seek healing. It is within her walls that we find the medicine we need to make us holy (whole), and where we can find the means for transformation that opens the doors to the Kingdom of God. It is within her walls that we gain access to our true inheritance, and enter into communion with God.

Adolf Harnack, in his book "The Mission and Expansion of Christianity: The First Three Centuries", wrote, "Christianity never lost hold of its innate principle; it was, and it remained, a religion for the sick. Accordingly it assumed that no one, or at least hardly any one, was in normal health, but that men were always in a state of disability."

Christ is the Great Physician, and established His Church that we might all be healed of the sickness that has separated us from the Father. Nothing in this world offers this promise of healing, and nothing in this world can open the gates to Paradise. Only through Christ's Church can we hope to be saved, and only through His Church can heaven and earth be united as one.

In the Church we find combined in one, a spiritual hospital, a clinic, a hospice, a therapeutic center, and a fitness center, for treatment to provide the spiritual cure, maintain wellness for its patients (faithful members). Is it any wonder, then, that the Church should be the very center of each and every day, taking precedence over everything else, including work, leisure time, and entertainment?

THE WORD OF GOD

Words have little value today. We hear millions of words on the radio and television. We read millions of words in newspapers and magazines. What there is so much of becomes cheap, and when there is so much that it rivals the amount of sand on a beach, it can't possibly have any meaning for people.

Words have lost their value. But, there is one word which has never, and will never, lose its value. It will always be fresh and alive. The Word of God was given in the Old Testament. It was heard by Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses and all the prophets of Israel. This word was given to them with a purpose — they were to live their lives according to the Word of God. But the people of Israel closed their ears in order not to hear this word and this led to their destruction and ruin. Jesus Christ was the Word of God incarnate for everyone and for all time.

This Word of God comes to us, God's people, in various forms. We hear it in church in the reading of the Epistle or the Gospels, and even in the sermons. This Word of God was given to us for a purpose, not for fun.

We are very fortunate that we have

the opportunity to hear God's Word, which speaks to each of us individually. It touches those things which interest us; it teaches us how to lead a spiritual, religious life. If we allow the Word of God to enter our lives, it will enlighten our whole being and direct us to a righteous life.

We come here to glorify God, Who is love. We come here to hear His words of love and to thank Him for the gift of love. We come here to ask God's forgiveness and mercy for any offenses we have made against His love. Many words are spoken in church, but, according to the teachings of Christ, each seed of God's Word falls on stone, if we don't change our behavior, if we don't heed the call to love God above all else and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We can talk and talk about Christian virtues, about service to God and mankind, but this is all nothing if we leave God's temple unchanged. For it is not just words but also the actions of our life which influence others.

Let us pray to the Lord that His Word will change us.

GUARDING THE MIND AND THE HEART

Saint Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain

Everyone finds calm and rest at their center. As snails find rest within their crusty shell, as octopus in their chambers, as four-footed land animals in their dens, and as birds in their nests, so also with man, whose mind has the natural attribute to be calm, to find rest and to be in peace when it enters the heart and the inner man. Man too has the body as a region and dwelling, and the heart as its own center and room for resting. St. Isaac called the heart “the house of understanding.” And as the animals when troubled and frightened run to their dens to be protected, so also the mind of man, when troubled by some assault of evil thoughts or some other internal or external circumstance, runs to the heart and shouts, “My Jesus help me! My Jesus save me!” and is thus liberated. St. John Climacus said: “The name of Jesus chastises enemies” and “Let the memory of Jesus be united with your breathing and then you will know the benefit of silence.” The Apostle Peter preached: “And there is salvation in no one else [except Jesus], for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). This is why St. Macarios also noted: “For as it is not possible for the eye to see without light and for speech to be made without a tongue, or for hearing to take place without an ear, so also it is not possible without Christ to be saved and to enter the kingdom of heaven.”

All those requesting the Holy Mysteries of Initiation or Crowning must be registered parishioners for at least six months, attend Liturgical Services on Sundays and days of Precept, and support the work and growth of the parish.

Mysteries of Initiation: Requires Pre-Baptismal instruction. The Mysteries of Initiation are celebrated on Saturdays or Sundays within the Divine Liturgy. At least one sponsor must be a Catholic and the other a practicing Christian. Both sponsors must present documentation that they are in good standing with their church.

Mystery of Crowning: Requires Pre-Marriage instruction. Consult Fr. James at least six months prior to making wedding plans. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the Church.

Funerals: Contact Fr. James.

Liturgy, Panachida and Eternal Lamp Intentions: Schedule with Fr. James. It is “holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead” (2 Maccabees 12:46) especially on the 9th and 40th days, and on the anniversary of their falling asleep in the Lord.

Holy Mystery of Confession: Confession is available Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:45 PM or by appointment.

Sick calls / Holy Anointing / Hospital Visits: Requested by parishioner, friend, or family. Call anytime in case of an emergency.

Please submit all Bulletin announcements to Fr. James for approval by Wednesday of each week.

Last Sunday’s bulletin is on our website and our Facebook page. There are several weeks of printed bulletins available in the narthex.

Office Hours: Fr. James is available for phone conversations Tuesday - Friday: 10AM - 5PM or call the office to schedule an in person meeting.

Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church

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Parish Advisory Council:

Bruce Bitsko, Nelson Chase, Fr. Deacon Jonathan Deane, Joel Espedal, Janet Greenwell, Daniele Laman, Olena Bankston

Finance Council:

Al Aparicio, Fr. Deacon Jonathan Deane, Bob Greenwell, Paul Washicko

Bless, O Lord, the worship and Stewardship of your faithful servants:

Adult tithes: \$2420.00; Loose Change: \$85.00; Medical Insurance: \$410.00; Bookstore: \$80.00; Improvement Fund: \$10.00; Church Usage \$600.00; Eparchial Appeal Rebate: \$6398.93; Other \$200;

Total: \$10,203.93

Vocation Icon: This week: Aparicio Family
Next week: Bankston Family

Please sign up in the narthex to host the vocation icon.

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX

SUBSCRIBES TO THE

*Charter for the Protection of
Children and Young People*

adopted by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops.

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the Charter for Protection of Children and Young People.

For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any incidents of concerns, please contact:

Fr. Dcn. Michael Hanafin

Victim Assistance Coordinator

Cell: (480) 307-5182 -- email: vac@ephx.org

- or -

Sbdcn. Paul F. Kilroy

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