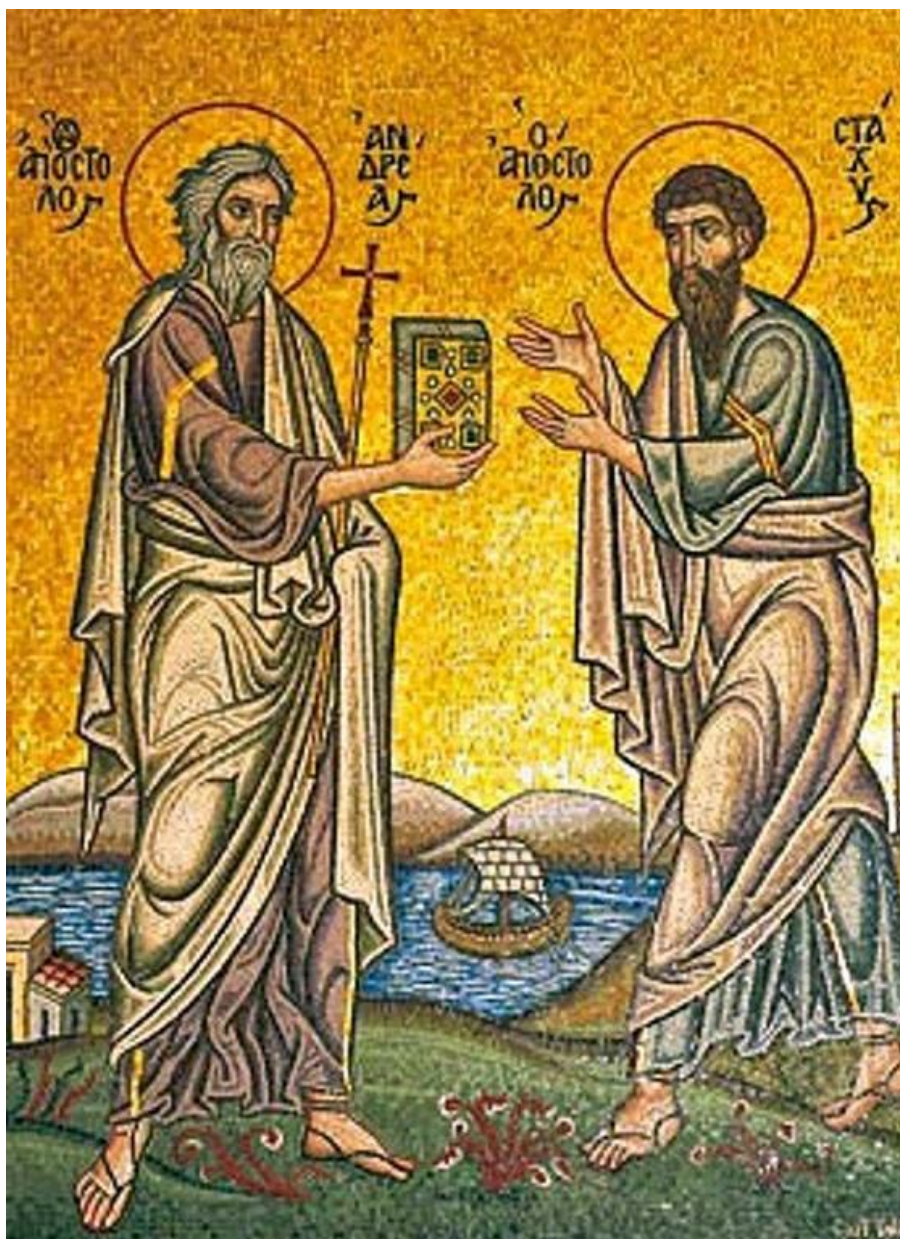


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

OCTOBER 31, 2021



St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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OCTOBER 31, 2021

APOSTLES STACHIOS, APELLOS, AMPLIAS, URBAN, ARISTOBOULOS AND NARCISSOS OF THE SEVENTY

On October 31 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy Apostles Stachios, Apellos, Amplias, Urban, Aristoboulos and Narcissos of the Seventy.

*The Apostles, having caught souls in their discourse,
Cometh to God with the catch and craveth the wages.
On the thirty-first, six Apostles found their end.*

Stachios was a helper of Andrew the First-Called, who made him bishop of Byzantium. He built a church in Argyropolis, and governed his flock with faithfulness and zeal. After sixteen years as bishop, he entered peacefully into rest in the Lord. Amplias and Urban were also fellow-workers with St. Andrew, and were made bishops by him: Amplias in Lydda and Urban in Macedonia. They both died as martyrs for Christ the Lord. Narcissos was made Bishop of Athens by the Apostle Philip, and holy Apellos was Bishop of Heraklion in Trachis. Aristobulus, the brother of the Apostle Barnabas, preached the Christian faith in Britain and died peacefully there.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Epimachos of Alexandria; and New-martyr Nicholas of Chios.



By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me severely.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (11:31-12:9)

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the One who is blessed for evermore, knows that I do not lie. In Damascus, the governor under Arétas the king guarded the city of the Damascenes, willing to seize me, and through a window I was let down in a basket by the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast, though it is not expedient; but I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body, I do not know, or whether out of the body, I do not know; God knows—who was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this man—whether in the body or out of the body, I do not know; God knows—was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which no person is allowed to utter. On behalf of this one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my infirmities. For if I would desire to boast, I shall not be foolish, for I shall speak the truth. But I refrain from it, lest anyone should think of me above that which he sees me to be, or hears from me. And to keep me from being exalted above measure through the abundance of revelations, I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to buffet me, to keep me from being exalted above measure. For this thing I beseeched the Lord three times, that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore will I rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (16:19-31)

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

WISDOM

55 Maxims of Christian Living by Father Thomas Hopko

A few years ago, I was asked: "Father Thomas, if you summarized, in the shortest form, what a practical life of a believing Christian, of a human being who believes in God and believes in Christ, what would it be like? What kind of maxims or rules would that include?" And in response to that request, I made up a list of what I called "55 Maxims," 55 things that a believer, very simply, would do if they were really a believer and were really obedient to God and wanted to live the way God would have us live.

1. Be always with Christ and trust God in everything.
2. Pray as you can, not as you think you must.
3. Have a keepable rule of prayer done by discipline.
4. Say the Lord's Prayer several times each day.
5. Repeat a short prayer when your mind is not occupied.
6. Make some prostrations when you pray.
7. Eat good foods in moderation and fast on fasting days.
8. Practice silence, inner and outer.
9. Sit in silence 20 to 30 minutes each day.

10. Do acts of mercy in secret.
11. Go to liturgical services regularly.
12. Go to confession and holy communion regularly.
13. Do not engage intrusive thoughts and feelings.
14. Reveal all your thoughts and feelings to a trusted person regularly.
15. Read the scriptures regularly.
16. Read good books, a little at a time.
17. Cultivate communion with the saints.
18. Be an ordinary person, one of the human race.
19. Be polite with everyone, first of all family members.
20. Maintain cleanliness and order in your home.
21. Have a healthy, wholesome hobby.
22. Exercise regularly.
23. Live a day, even a part of a day, at a time.
24. Be totally honest, first of all with yourself.
25. Be faithful in little things.
26. Do your work, then forget it.
27. Do the most difficult and painful things first.
28. Face reality.
29. Be grateful.
30. Be cheerful.
31. Be simple, hidden, quiet and small.
32. Never bring attention to yourself.
33. Listen when people talk to you.
34. Be awake and attentive, fully present where you are.
35. Think and talk about things no more than necessary.
36. Speak simply, clearly, firmly, directly.
37. Flee imagination, fantasy, analysis, figuring things out.
38. Flee carnal, sexual things at their first appearance.
39. Don't complain, grumble, murmur or whine.
40. Don't seek or expect pity or praise.
41. Don't compare yourself with anyone.
42. Don't judge anyone for anything.
43. Don't try to convince anyone of anything.

44. Don't defend or justify yourself.
45. Be defined and bound by God, not people.
46. Accept criticism gracefully and test it carefully.
47. Give advice only when asked or when it is your duty.
48. Do nothing for people that they can and should do for themselves.
49. Have a daily schedule of activities, avoiding whim and caprice.
50. Be merciful with yourself and others.
51. Have no expectations except to be fiercely tempted to your last breath.
52. Focus exclusively on God and light, and never on darkness, temptation and sin.
53. Endure the trial of yourself and your faults serenely, under God's mercy.
54. When you fall, get up immediately and start over.
55. Get help when you need it, without fear or shame.

[55 Maxims of Fr. Thomas Hopko](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Metropolitan Archbishop will be in the Pacific Northwest area from November 5th through the 14th. Saturday, 11/13, he will be visiting Christ the Savior in Spokane Valley, WA for Hierarchical Orthros & Divine Liturgy. Orthros is scheduled for 9am followed by the Divine Liturgy about 10am. All are invited. All area Antiochian clergy will be in attendance and will have a local clergy meeting immediately afterward. His Eminence is NOT scheduled to visit St. John the Baptist this year. Sunday, 11/14, Metropolitan JOSEPH will be at Holy Myrrhbearers in Bonners Ferry for Hierarchical Orthros and Divine Liturgy. *ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR SERVICES AS USUAL THAT SUNDAY.*

Upcoming Women's Fellowship Gatherings November 6th, 7pm, Ayoub home; December 2nd, location TBA

Sisterhood Dues: It is that time of year again for the Sisterhood to send in our dues to the diocese. The dues money is used for many benevolent projects. You may give me your dues of \$10. Each parish is expected to send their dues to the diocese by November 1. Thank you! Barbara Garbinski, Treasurer

Kitchen news: The kitchen areas are being rearranged in effort to simplify agape meals and to meet the need for a place to keep tables and chairs. Many banquet items have been moved to the shed. Please cooperate by not leaving things in the kitchen. It might help to think "pack it in, pack it out" when setting up for anything. Thank you for your help! Contact Ignatius or Mary Chapman with any questions.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS *{Calendar}*

Saturday, October 3: Great Vespers 6pm

Sunday, October 31: Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am; Baptism of Mackenzie Jenquine

Wednesday, November 3: Vespers & Catechism 6pm

Friday, November 5: Spiritual Circle 9:30am

Saturday, November 6: Great Vespers 6pm; Ladies Social 7pm

Sunday, November 7: Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am

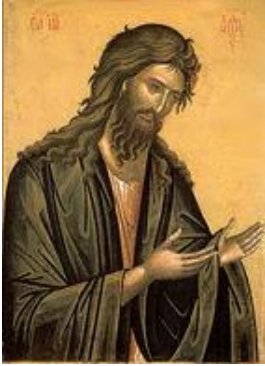
EPISTLE READER <i>{Epistle Readers}</i>		LUNCH TEAM	
10/31	David Gencarella	10/31	Chapman's Team
11/7	TBD (Reader needed)	11/7	Sarah Plew's Team
11/14	Paul Tate	11/14	Joy Corey's Team
11/21	David Gencarella	11/21	Lisa Gencarella's Team



PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING: Mark & Muriel (Kaitlin), Nick, Lindsey and their baby, Eugenia, Mary and Craig, Loren, Theo, Caitlin and Ben, Kieran and fellow soldiers, Hay family, Family of Jean Weingand, Douglas, Weaver family, John/Steven Wood, Khouria Joanna, Korbin (friend of Alyson Gross), James & Helen Odell, those suffering with the Covid-19 virus and those caring for the sick and suffering, victims of injustice and social unrest, Metropolitans Paul and John (hostages in Syria), the suffering Christians throughout the Middle East.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED: Charalambos (Mary Welsh's father), Jean, Andrew, Wanda (Lavonne Ayoub's mother), Baby of Caitlin (Kh. Joanna's friend), Victims of abortion, Victims of the Covid-19 virus, Victims of injustice and social unrest, the departed Christians throughout the world who have died for the Faith.

CONFESSIONS: Please remember to contact Fr. Mark to schedule confessions, even if you intend to confess after the evening services. This ensures that your confession is well prepared, and that everyone can be heard in an orderly fashion. Father is available to meet at the Church Tuesday through Saturday.



Troparion of St. John the Baptist

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is enough for thee, O Forerunner. For thou wast shown to be more wonderful than the prophets since thou wast granted to baptize Him whom thou didst proclaim. Then having endured great suffering for the truth thou didst rejoice to bring even to those in hades the good tidings, that God who hast appeared in the flesh, takes away the sins of the world, and grants us great mercy.