

Sts. Florus & Laurus



**They changed a PAGAN PRIEST
into a BELIEVING CHRISTIAN**

August 18, 2024

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERIC

HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON, OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)

When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshipping with us.

Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Fr. Seraphim

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.

DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2024

**TONE 7 / EOTHINON 8; EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& EIGHTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

AFTER-FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

MARTYRS FLOROS AND LAUROS OF ILLYRIA;

VENERABLE SOPHRONIOS OF ST. ANNE SKETE ON ATHOS

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to God, all the earth, give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His Name. Declare His works among the nations.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

In the city of our God, in His holy mountain, His place hath been made in peace, and His dwelling in Zion. **(Refrain)**

Glory... Both now... **(Refrain)**

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwelling of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

God hath laid her foundation unto eternity. We have thought, O God, of Thy mercy in the midst of Thy people. **(Refrain)**

The most-high hath hallowed His tabernacle. **(Refrain)**

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Ready is my heart, O God, ready is my heart; I will sing and chant in my glory. What shall I render to the Lord for all that He hath given me? I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord.

Chant the apolytikion of the Dormition of the Theotokos

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE DORMITION IN TONE ONE

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

O beloved Apostle of Christ God, Come quick and save a people with no recourse. He who let you rest your head on his breast, will not reject your pleas on our behalf. Beseech him then, O wise and holy theologian. Dispel from us the dark and ominous clouds of disbelief. Grant us all of his peace and great mercy.

KONTAKION OF THE DORMITION IN TONE ONE

Verily, the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercessions, and whose prayers are never rejected, neither tomb nor death could control. But since she is the Mother of Life, He Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb did translate her to life.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH

FEAST DAY FOR ST, JOHN THE EVANGELIST

DIVINE LITURGY @ 6PM FOLLOWED BY A

BUFFET MEAL WITH GUESTS!

THE EPISTLE

((For the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (1:10-17)

Brethren, I appeal to you, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissension among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispos and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Eighth Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:14-22)

At that time, when Jesus went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to Him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish He looked up to Heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER SERVICES

August 17th Saturday —Community Breakfast 8:30-10:30AM
Great Vespers 5PM

August 18th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

August 24th Saturday — NO Great Vespers

August 25th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

August 31st Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

September 1st Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR

*SEPTEMBER 4TH WEDNESDAY — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL, & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

September 7th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

September 8th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

*SEPTEMBER 11TH WEDNESDAY — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL, & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

September 13th Friday — Divine Liturgy 6PM
ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

September 14th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

September 15th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

*SEPTEMBER 18TH WEDNESDAY — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL, & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

Prayers are offered for the health and well-being of:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Ann, Carol, Debbie, Jim, Shannon, Aiden, Justin, Sassic Family, Harriet, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Yvonne, Cindy, Joann, and Julianna.

For Thou are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servants who have fallen asleep especially:

Prayers are offered in memory of Infant Micah and Eleanor.

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ATTENTION TO ALL—COME JOIN US

Weekly gathering will start on Wednesday, September 4th at 6PM — Compline prayers, a light meal, & time of study/fellowship. Study time is helpful to inquirers, catechumens, and those in church desiring to deepen faith in Orthodox Tradition. Fr. will offer weekly topics with one page study sheets. This study will be available for 15 weeks. Please make time to join us. REVIEW INSERT—MORE DETAILED INFORMATION AVAILABLE

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Teach me to treat all that come to me throughout the day with peace of soul, and with firm conviction that Thy will governs all.

(Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow)

BROTHERS IN FLESH AND SPIRIT

Depicted on the bulletin today are the second century martyrs, FLORUS and LAURUS. These twin brothers were born in the ancient city of Byzantium. That is where they learned about Christ and also became talented stonemasons.

Seeking to practice their faith as well as apply their trade, Florus and Laurus settled in the region of Illyria. Their abilities quickly won them high acclaim. The brothers were commissioned by the civil authorities to build a magnificent structure -- much to their dismay, the building was to be a pagan temple! They pledged their earnings to the welfare of the poor.

During the construction of the temple, a fragment of stone is said to have broken off, striking the eye of the son of a pagan priest, who was overseeing the work. Seeing his blinded son, the enraged priest was about to hurt the saintly brothers. Florus and Laurus assured him, however, that if he would believe in Christ, his son would be cured. They made the sign of the Cross over the boy's eye, and he was healed instantly! The priest and his son were then baptized by the brothers, and the pagan temple was consecrated as a Christian church.

Upon hearing of this, Licinius, the Governor of Illyria, was furious. He cast Florus and Laurus into a well and buried them alive. Their relics were discovered many years later and were taken back to Constantinople for veneration.

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CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES

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OFFICE HOURS

By Appointment Only