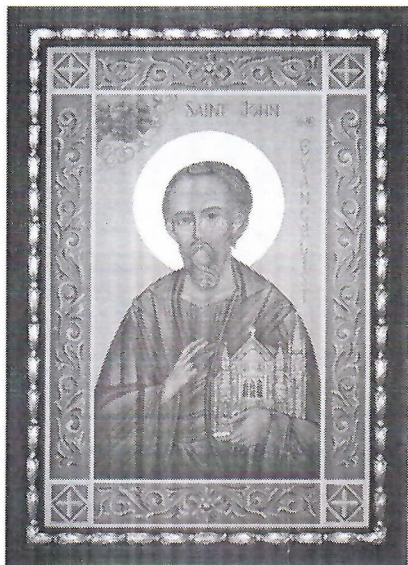


Martyr Longinus



October 13, 2024



*ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH*

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

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, OCTOBER 13, 2024

TONE 7 / EOTHINON 5

SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

& FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

HIEROMARTYR JACOB OF HAMATOURA

Martyrs Karpos, Papylos, Agathodoros & Agathonika at Pergamos

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 HOLY FATHERS IN TONE EIGHT

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JACOB OF HAMATOURA IN TONE THREE

*(**Thy confession**)*

Thou didst flourish like Lebanon's cedar, * with no fear thou didst suffer martyrdom, * thou becamest, O saint Jacob, a true victor. * For thou didst conquer death with thy mortal flesh, * when thou didst tame all the passions by humility. * And while burning like incense as a true sacrifice, * thou intercedest with Christ to grant us all the Great Mercy.

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

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

(For the Holy Fathers)

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done to us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

SPECIAL OLYMPICS AWARENESS DAY

On October 20, 2024 is SPECIAL OLYMPICS AWARENESS DAY . Your teen group (or designated representative) is asked to seek the financial donations of your parishioners in funding the 2025 SOYO Special Olympics Sports Camp to be held this coming August. The ministry is funded and hosted by the North American Council of Teen SOYO. Our teens work hard to provide this ministry and they rely on the generosity of your faithful parishioners.

Please find in your heart the generosity to support this ministry not solely by financial means, but through your enthusiasm and encouragement to our young people that have chosen to be part of this life changing ministry.

Asking the Lord to bless the forty-four Special Olympics, the participants, all the supporters, as well as all of you and your loves ones. I remain,

Your Father in Christ,
Metropolitan Saba

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In todays bulletin is a letter from Metropolitan Saba.
Please take time to read it.

We have all witnessed the destruction of Hurricane "Helene" and its path across the many states from Florida to Tennessee and the Carolinas. To follow this destruction came Hurricane "Milton" and the 38 Tornadoes that destroyed many more homes, businesses and churches and surroundings in Florida.

We have been asked by Metropolitan Saba to take a special collection today for those who have suffered losses from these two powerful storms. All donations will go directly to those in need. Offer whatever you are able . No amount is too small.

A COLLECTION PLATE WILL BE AT THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH

OCTOBER SERVICES

October 12th Saturday — NO GREAT VESPERS

October 13th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

***October 16th Wednesday** — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A
LIGHT MEAL & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

October 19th Saturday -Community Breakfast 8:30-10:30AM
Great Vespers 5PM

October 20th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON

***October 23rd Wednesday** — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A
LIGHT MEAL & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

October 26th Saturday— Great Vespers 5PM

October 27th Sunday— Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

***October 30th 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, Mary Jo, Charlene, 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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OCTOBER IS YOUTH AND SEMINARY MONTH

We are now accepting Donations. Checks may be made out to St. John Orthodox Church. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the children and the seminarians. "GOD BLESS

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"That they wait not for those who are in want to come to them, but that they take pains and seek out diligently those who need their assistance... For in doing good actions, it is not those who receive the kindness that are benefitted, so much as those who do it that make gain and profit, for it gives them boldness toward God."

(St. John Chrysostom)

"TRULY THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD"

Saint Mark's account of Christ's Crucifixion introduces us to the saint we examine today: **MARTYR LONGINUS**. Longinus was NOT a follower of Jesus. On the contrary, he was the Roman centurion assigned to keep order at the cruel execution of our Lord.

Undoubtedly, Longinus had been given similar assignments before. But this particular task would change his life forever. It is recorded in Mark's Gospel that this soldier was so moved by the final moments of Christ's life that he uttered the phrase that will keep his memory alive throughout eternity: "**Truly this was the Son of God.**"

The tradition of our Church is that Longinus immediately followed the Apostles, renouncing the Emperor and all that Rome stood for. He remained in the city of Jerusalem, where he was able to win many converts to Christianity. It was powerful testimony indeed for others to hear how a pagan servant of Caesar had come to accept and believe in the one true God at the cross.

It did not take long for Pontius Pilate to learn of the "*treason*" of Longinus. Trained assassins were sent out with orders to bring the head of the former centurion back to the governor! Longinus did not even attempt to flee from his pursuers, for he knew if they failed to carry out their mission, their lives would be taken. So it came to pass that this brave warrior of Christ gave his life for his new-found Master in 36 A.D.

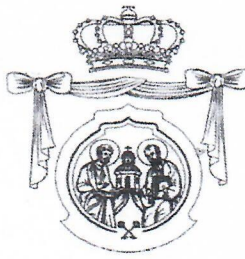
When the head of Longinus was brought back to Pilate, he ordered it to be discarded with the trash as one last act of humiliation. This relic was recovered by the Christian community and given proper burial. Many miraculous healings have been experienced by those who prayed at his tomb.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES
WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment Only

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 523/2024

October 9, 2024

Dear Reverend Clergy and Esteemed Members of our Parish Councils,

Grace and peace to you in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord!

Everyone across our nation has witnessed with sadness as Hurricane "Helene" cut a path of destruction across many states in our land from Florida to Tennessee and the Carolinas. Winds, rain, and flooding in many areas led to collapse of roads, destruction of properties, loss of businesses and livelihood, much suffering and loss of human lives.

As words have been received regarding the parishes that suffered damages asking for help through our hurricane funds, we continue to monitor until after the passing of the second Hurricane "Milton" to know the full damage that our parishes have sustained, their parishioners, and their surroundings.

In response to appeals from several of our clergy and their parishes that requested a directive from the Archdiocese as to where they may direct their help, I call upon all our parishes to take a special collection for those who have suffered losses from these two unprecedented storms.

Once you have had a chance to collect all donations, please forward one check from your parish to the Archdiocese (memo: "Hurricane Relief")— no later than the end of this month. All donations will go directly to those in need.

Please demonstrate your love in a practical way by lifting prayers and supplications to our good and saving God on behalf of all that suffered distresses, pains, and losses because of the hurricanes, that they might "find hope under His wings" (Ps. 90:4).

Give any amount of love offering in the name of Jesus Christ for the sake of the victims of these two hurricanes. Offer whatever you are able. No amount is too small. May God's blessings come upon you and reward your generosity preserving you and your families from all harms.

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saba".

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F