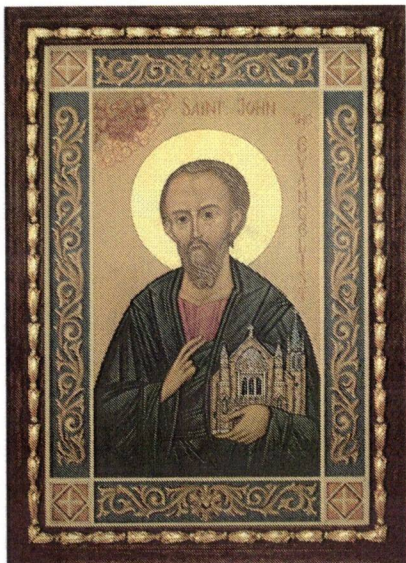




~~ The Virgin Mary greets St. Elizabeth ~~

CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP

September 29, 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, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

TONE 5 / EOTHINON 3; FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SECOND SUNDAY OF LUKE

VENERABLE KYRIAKOS THE HERMIT OF PALESTINE

MARTYR PETRONIA AND THOSE WITH HER IN PALESTINE; MOTHER MARY THE
HERMIT OF PALESTINE

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION FOR ST. KYRIAKOS OF PALESTINE IN TONE ONE

Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Kyriakos, our God-bearing Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength; glory to Him that hath crowned thee; glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

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.

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

(For the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Thou, O Lord, wilt keep and preserve us.

Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

**The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the
Corinthians. (1:21-2:4)**

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; He has put his seal upon us and given us His Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

THE GOSPEL

((For the Second Sunday of Luke))

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (6:31-36)

The Lord said: "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

THE SYNAXARION

On September 29 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous father Kyriakos the Hermit of Palestine.

Verses

With bitter squills, O Kyriakos, thou dost fend off
That sweet tasting whereby thou wast condemned to dying.
On the twenty-ninth Kyriakos the squill-eater closed his eyes.

Kyriakos was born in Corinth to John and Eudoxia. His father John was a presbyter and Peter, Bishop of Corinth, was his relative. In his early youth, the bishop tonsured Kyriakos as a reader in the cathedral church. Reading the Holy Scripture, Kyriakos marveled at God's providence: how God glorified all His true servants and how He arranged the salvation of the human race. At age eighteen, Kyriakos began a life of asceticism that eventually took him to the community supervised by St. Chariton at Souka. Kyriakos became a celebrated canonarch, defender of Orthodoxy, ascetic, priest, miracle-worker and comforter. Kyriakos was large and strong in body, even in deep old age, despite strict fasts and vigils. In the wilderness, for years he ate only raw greens called squills. Kyriakos entered the eternal joy of his Lord in 557 at age 109.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Petronia and those with her in Palestine; and Mother Mary the hermit of Palestine. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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OCTOBER IS YOUTH AND SEMINARY MONTH

Donations can be placed in the offering plate at the front of the church each week. Checks may be made out to St. John Orthodox Church. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the children and the seminarians. "GOD BLESS"

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SERVICES

September 28th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

September 29th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

*October 2nd Wednesday — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL, & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

October 5th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

October 6th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

*October 9th Wednesday — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

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

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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REMINDER ABOUT PARKING:

DO NOT PARK IN SCHOOL LOT

MONDAY—FRIDAY DAY OR EVENING.

WE CAN PARK IN THE SCHOOL LOT ON

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“In order to be able to pray, we must be within the situation which is defined as the Kingdom of God. We must recognize that He is God, that He is King, we must surrender to Him. We must be concerned with His will even if we are not yet capable of fulfilling it.”

(Archbishop Anthony Bloom, “Leaarning to Pray”)

“BUT I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS . . .”

Friendships are special relationships. We confide in our friends . . . we trust them with our innermost secrets and sometimes trust them with our very lives. We share our joys and our sorrows with them. We know we can always turn to them in time of need, and we are always available to help out if the situation is reversed. Anyone with a TRUE friend is, indeed, a fortunate person.



It is no wonder, then, that Christ speaks about friends in a very beautiful manner in His Farewell Discourse to His Apostles on the night of His Passion. “But I have called you friends, for all things I heard from My Father I have made known to you.” (John 15:15) What an honor it was for them to be referred to by Jesus as His “friends!” Yes, Christ would always be their Master, but because of their great love for Him and their willingness to obey Him, an unbreakable bond formed between them.

It is important for us to note that we, too, can be numbered among God’s friends. He tells us exactly what we must do if we want to foster this type of relationship with Him: “You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.” (John 15:14) Being a friend of God requires commitment and dedication. Being His friend calls for sacrifice on our part. Being His friend may even cause us to lose the friendship of others, who are not willing or not able to commend their life totally to the Lord.

Christ has asked us for our loyalty. Like the Apostles and all the saints, we, too, can share in the eternal glory of the kingdom of heaven.

PITTSBURGH PA 150

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Handwritten signature: "Theology & You"

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