## HIKA SAINTS ESTER AND FAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to God for all things!



July 3, 2011 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

July 9 Saturday

July 10 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Great Vespers 4:00 pm Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea in Cappadocia. Translation of the relics (1652) of Hieromartyr Philip, Metropolitan of Moscow (1569). New Hieromartyr Anthony, Archbishop of Archangelsk (1931). Venerable Anatolius, of the Near Caves in Kiev (12 c.). Saint Anatolius (another) recluse of the Far Caves in Kiev (13 c). Holy Princes Basil (1249) and Constantine (1257) of Yaroslavl. Repose of Saint Basil, Bishop of Ryazan (1295). Venerable John and Longinus, Wonderworkers of Yarenga (Solovki) (1544-45). Blessed John of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ (1589). Venerable Nicodemus, Abbot of Kozha Lake (1640). Martyrs Diomedes, Eulampius, Asclepiodotus, and Golinduc of Caesarea in Cappadocia (108). Martyrs Mocius (Mucian) and Mark (4 c). Venerable Alexander, founder of the Monastery of the Unsleeping Ones (430). Saint Anatolius, Patriarch of Constantinople (458). Venerable Isaiah the Solitary of Seeds and Palestine (370). Blessed Michael, Herodion, Basil, and Thomas, Fools-for-Christ of Solvychegodsk (17 c). Saint Germanus, Bishop of the Isle of Man and Enlightener of Peel, nephew of Saint Patrick of Ireland (5 c). Martyrs Theodotus and Theodota, martyred with Saint Hyacinth. Venerable Gerasimus the New of Carpenision (1812). Saint Claudianus, Patriarch of Alexandria (167). Saint Anatolius, Bishop of Laodicea, and his successor, Saint Eusebius (3 c). Saint Symeon, the third Stylite of Cilicia (6 c). Saint George the God-bearer of the Black Mountain, teacher of Saint George of Mount Athos (10 c) Saint Basil, Archbishop of Novgorod (1352). Saint Bladus, Bishop of the Isle of Man. Saint Byblig of Wales. Saint Cillene Abbot of Iona. Saint Tirechan, Priest. Saint Gunthiern Prince of Wales, Hermit in Brittany. Saint Guthagon, Hermit in Belgium. Saint Rumold of Dublin and Malines, Bishop and Martyr.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of newly-wedded Joseph Albert Lyons and Elizabeth Mary Shaftic and their parents and family were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Fr John Udics. God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Elizabeth Gomes, Margaret Thompson, Erin Thompson and Father David and Matushka Miriam Vernak were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at Fr John's request.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of the soul of Joseph Rinko were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of John Elnicky.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of the souls of grandmother Ekaterina Udics were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Father John Udics.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of the souls of Paraskeva Spytko, Josephine Sokol, Anna Malinchak, and Helen Sobolowski were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today.

## FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

**Thank you, Saint Ann's Sisterhood** and all who made our Saints Peter and Paul celebration such a fine feast! **4**<sup>th</sup> **of July PARISH PICNIC tomorrow** – Come one! Come all! We look forward to seeing you! **Deacon John Bohush** will be ordained to the Holy Priesthood during the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at our Diocesan Assembly, <u>July 19</u> at Saints Peter and Paul Church, Endicott, New York, beginning at 9:30 am.

THE HOLY MARTYR HYACINTH was a young man and a courtier at the court of Emperor Trajan. Secretly, he was a Christian. At one time when Emperor Trajan and his entire court solemnly offered sacrifices to the idols, Hyacinth refrained from this abominable solemnity. For that he was accused and brought before the emperor to be judged. The emperor counseled him to deny Christ and to offer sacrifices to the idols. Hyacinth remained as firm as a diamond and said to the emperor: "I am a Christian and I honor Christ. Him I worship and to Him alone do I offer myself as a living sacrifice." Beaten, spat upon and scraped, this holy martyr was thrown into prison. By order of the emperor, he was given nothing to eat except the sacrifices offered before the idols. Hyacinth refused to partake of them and after eight days died in prison. The prison guards saw two radiant angels in the prison: one angel covering the body of the martyred Hyacinth with his radiant vesture and the other angel placing a glorious wreath on his head. The entire prison was illuminated and aromatic. The youthful Hyacinth honorably suffered and was crowned with eternal glory in the year 108 A.D.

**SAINT ANATOLIUS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE** was at first a presbyter in the Church at Alexandria and following the death of Patriarch Flavian, he was elevated to the patriarchal throne of Constantinople in the year 449 A.D. During his reign, the throne of Constantinople was recognized as equal to the throne of Rome by the Ecumenical Council held at Chalcedon in 451 A.D. He struggled greatly for the

purity of the Orthodox Faith, suffered much at the hands of the heretics and finally was slain by them in the year 458 A.D. during the reign of Pope Leo the Great. Anatolius governed the church for nearly nine years and took up his habitation among the holy hierarchs in the Kingdom of God.

VENERABLE ISAIAH, THE RECLUSE lived a life of asceticism in the Egyptian Scete during the fifth and sixth centuries. He is mentioned in the book of Saints Barsanuphius and John (Reply 249 and others) as a man possessing exceptional sanctity. He wrote many instructions for monks and anchorites. Of his works, very little remains and much was destroyed by the Muslims. Saint Isaiah said: "The mind, before it awakens from the sleep of slothfulness, resides with the demons." "The crown of all good works consists in this: that a man place all his hope in God; that he finds recourse in Him once and for all with his heart and strength; that he be filled with compassion for all and weep before God, imploring His help and mercy." What is the sign to man that a certain sin is forgiven? "The sign that a sin is forgiven is that the sin does not generate any activity in your heart and that you have forgotten it to such a degree that in conversation about a similar sin you do not feel any inclination toward that sin but rather consider it something totally foreign to you. That is the sign that you are completely pardoned." In vain are prayer and mortification to a man who conceals within himself malice toward his neighbor and the desire for revenge. "Watch with all your strength that you do not speak one thing with your mouth and have something else in your heart." "The crown of good works is love; the crown of passions is the justification of one's sins."

REFLECTION by Saint Nikolai of Zhicha. Love is all-powerful. It can, among other things, ease the judgment of the souls of deceased sinners. The Orthodox Church confirms this resolutely and continues to offer prayers and performs corporal works of mercy for the deceased. Abundantly rich in every spiritual experience, the Church knows that prayers and works of mercy for the deceased help those in the other world. Before her death, Saint Athanasia the Abbess (April 12) made the sisterhood promise that for forty days after her death they would prepare a table for the poor and needy. The sisterhood carried out her command for only ten days and then ceased. The saint then appeared in the company of two angels and said to the sisters: "Why have you transgressed my commandment? Know, that through works of mercy and the prayers of the priest for the souls of the deceased in the course of forty days, invokes God's mercy. If the souls of the departed are sinful they, through this, receive forgiveness of sins from God and if they are not sinful then the corporal works of mercy performed for them serve to the salvation of the benefactor himself." Naturally, works of mercy and prayer are thought of here in connection with great love toward the departed souls. Such works of mercy and prayer, in truth, do help.

SAINT GERMANUS, BISHOP OF THE ISLE OF MAN was born c. 410; died in Normandy, c. 474; today is his feast on the Isle of Man; in Wales it is kept on July 31 or October 1. Tradition tells us that Saint Germanus was a nephew of Saint Patrick (f.d. March 17). We are also told that when Saint Germanus of Auxerre (f.d. July 31) visited Britain in 448 AD to refute the Pelagians, he met an Irish colonist whose son became his disciple and chose his master's name for himself. He was a missionary monk in Ireland, in Wales under Saints Brioc (f.d. May 1) and Illtyd (f.d. November 6), and Brittany. Germanus left Brittany to meet Patrick in Britain about 462. There he engaged in a magic contest with Gwrtheyrn. After that he returned to Ireland (c. 466) eventually to become the bishop of the Isle of Man during the lifetime of Patrick. After evangelizing in Wales, his name is traced in Spain and Gaul. His martyrdom is recorded in Normandy. His memory is preserved in place names, such as Jarman and Gremain, in areas such as Caernavonshire, Denbighshire, Montgomeryshire, and Radnorshire. His name is also found in the Acts of Kieran and those of other early Irish saints.

## **Update from the Holy Myrrhbearers**

Thank you so much for your prayers and thoughts. I saw the surgeon this afternoon and he said what he removed was a low-grade, non-invasive cancer and he recommends monitoring it for another 3 months before making any recommendations for further treatment. I am truly grateful not to have to spend the summer doing chemo!

We have a young woman, Heather, a recent college graduate in her 20's here as an intern for several weeks. She leaves July 11th, when another young woman from Russia will be here for the rest of the summer, also as an intern. Towards the end of next month, a friend of Susanna, a young woman from England planning to test her vocation with us probably beginning next February when she will have finished paying off her loans, has bought tickets for herself and Susanna to visit for a week or so. The friend is also considering monastic life, so we shall see. ...

We continue to have a stream of guests this summer. A work crew from a Romanian parish in the Chicago area is coming also in July to begin the renovation of the old Baptist church we have inherited. One of the men from the parish specializes in that kind of work and came out recently on an exploratory visit – he lost no time getting this all organized... It may even be a useable structure by the end of the summer, with only costs for materials on this side. Amazing!

We have sold a number of our goats and hopefully will be down to the handful of milkers we want for ourselves in a few weeks – the kids are adorable, though. It's sad to see them go.

Take care. Trust all is well with all of you! The rest of us are doing well by your prayers. With love in Christ, Mother Raphaela