

ICHC NTKA SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
305 Main Road, Herkimer, New York, 13350 • 315-866-3272
Archpriest John Udics, Rector • e-mail: john.udics@gmail.com
Parish Web Page: www.cnyorthodoxchurch.org

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to God for All Things!

August 7, 2011 8th Sunday after Pentecost

August 13 Saturday

August 14 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

no vespers

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Martyr Dometius of Persia (363) and two disciples. Translation of the relics (1832) of Saint Metrophanes, first Bishop of Voronezh (1703). Venerable Anthony of Optina (1865). New Hieromartyrs Priests Alexander, Peter, Michael, John, Demetrius and Alexis, Deacon Elisey and Hieromartyr Athanasius (1937). New Hieromartyr Priest Basil (1938). Venerable Poemen (Pimen) the Much-ailing of the Kiev Caves (1110). Venerable Pimen the Faster of the Kiev Caves (13 c). Venerable Mercurius, Bishop of Smolensk (Kiev Caves) (1239). Martyrs Marinus the Soldier and Asterius the Senator at Caesarea in Palestine (260). Venerable Hor (Horus) of the Thebaid (390). Virgin Potamia of Alexandria. Venerable Dometius of Philotheou, Mount Athos (16 c). Saint Theodora of Sihla (18 c). Holy Ten Thousand Ascetics of Thebes. Hieromartyr Narcissus, Patriarch of Jerusalem (213). Venerable Hyperechius of *The Paradise*. Venerable Sozon of Nicomedia. Venerable Theodosius the New, Healer of Peloponnesus (862). Venerable Nicanor, Wonderworker of Mount Callistratus (1519). Martyr Afra of Augsburg (304). Saint Claudia, mother of Saint Linus Pope of Rome (1 c).

Please remember in your prayers: Mother Raphaela, Priest Sergius, Archpriest Jason, Susan, Ada, Rea, Daniel, Aaron, Mark, Jennifer, Nina, Nadine, Helen, Anna, Thomas, Archpriest Vincent, John, Ron, Dan, Albert, Michael, Gregory, Emma, Cathy, Mykola, Wayne, Nina, Dan, Isaiah, Robert, Robert, Kevin, Andrew, David, Warren, Michael, Archimandrites Alexander, Athanasys, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy.

God Grant Many Years! 26th Wedding Anniversary Prayers for the health of John and Jeanne Rinko were offered July 24, at Liturgy and Moleben.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of newly-ordained Deacon Alexei Schmidt, Father Timothy Holowatch, David Donlick, Jon Schuhlein, Anna Mae Witiak and Angela Baran will be offered at Liturgy and Moleben on August 14, at the request of Father John Udics.

+ Please remember in your prayers: newly-departed Monk Basil, Donald Udics, Pat Harsch.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the soul of Andre Tirenin will be offered at Liturgy and Litiya on August 14, at the request of son Walt Tirenin.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of Metropolitan SERGIUS (Tikhomirov) and aunt Sophie Hartong will be offered at Liturgy and Litiya on August 14 at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the soul of newly-departed Pat Harsch were offered at Liturgy and Litiya July 31, at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of George Rinko, Julia Burkes, Joseph Spytko, Anna Naglowski, Theresa Polansky, Steve Bius and Steven Byrda will be offered at Liturgy and Litiya August 14.

A word from the desert: Our Father Who art in Heaven! With tenderness I stand before Thee on my knees; I ask for neither wealth nor glory; I won't debase my holy prayer with earthly matters. I would wish for my soul to rest in heaven, my heart to be radiant with love heralded by Thee, I would wish to be able to ask forgiveness of mine enemies, even if they pierce me in the heart: Forgive them, Lord, for they know not what they do!

Saint Ilia Chavchavadze, 1837-1907

A word from the desert. One of the old men of the Thebaid used to tell the following story: I was the son of a pagan priest. When I was small, I would sit and watch my father who often went to sacrifice to the idol. Once, going in behind him in secret, I saw Satan and all his army standing beside him; and behold, one of the chief devils came to bow before him. Satan said, "Where have you come from?" He answered, "I was in a certain place and made much blood flow, and I have come to tell you about it." Satan said, "How long did it take you to do this?" He replied, "Thirty days." Then Satan commanded him to be flogged, saying, "In so long a time have you done only that?"

And behold, another demon came to bow before him. He asked him, "And you, where have you come from?" The demon replied, "I was on the sea, and I made the waves rise, and small craft foundered, and I have killed many people, and I have come to inform you of it." He said to him, "How long did it take you to do this?" and the demon said, "Twenty days." Satan commanded that he also should be flogged, saying, "That is because in such a long time you have only done this."

Now a third demon came to bow before him. He asked, "And where have you come from?" The demon replied, "There was a marriage in a certain village, and I stirred up a riot, and I have made much blood flow, killing the bride and bridegroom, and I have come to inform you." He asked him, "How long have you taken to do this?" and he replied, "Ten days." And Satan commanded that he also should be flogged because he had taken too long.

After this another demon came to bow before him. He asked, "And where have you come from?" He said, "I was in the desert forty years fighting against a monk, and this night I made him fall into fornication." When he heard this, Satan arose, embraced him, and put the crown he was wearing upon his head and made him sit on his throne, saying, "You have been able to do a very great deed!"

The old man said, "Seeing this, I said to myself, 'Truly, it is a great contest, this contest of the monks,' and with God assisting me for my salvation, I went away and became a monk."

A word from the desert. Vigils and fasts and acts of mercy are the methods advocated by the saints to attain the spiritual life.... But they must not stand alone, nor must the Christian put his trust in them. Humility must have faith for its principle, and fasting be combined with charity, that is, feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, clothe the naked.
Saint Basil the Great

A word from the desert. Abba Xanthias said, "The thief was on the cross and he was justified by a single word; and Judas who was counted in the number of the apostles lost all his labor in one single night and descended from heaven to hell. Therefore let no one boast of his good works, for all those who trust in themselves fall."

A word from the desert. When a man partakes of Holy Communion he receives power and is enlightened, his horizons widen, and he feels joy. Each person experiences something different, analogous to his disposition and the flame of his soul. One person feels joy and rest, another peace, another a spirit of devotion and another an inexpressible sympathy towards all things. Personally I have often felt tired, but after Holy Communion I felt myself completely renewed.
Elder Amphilochios of Patmos, +1970

A word from the desert. One of the fathers said that there were two neighboring bishops who had an altercation with each other. One was rich and the other was more lowly. The rich one sought to do the other a mischief. The lowly bishop heard of this and, knowing what he was going to do said to his clergy: "We shall triumph, by the grace of Christ." They said to him, "My lord, who could possibly prevail against that one?" He said to them, "Wait and you shall see."

He bided his time and when his fellow bishop was celebrating a feast in honor of some holy martyrs, he gathered his clergy and said to them, "Follow me, and we shall triumph." They said to themselves, "What can he be going to do?" He came to the other bishop, and when he came near in the liturgical procession, the lowly bishop fell at his feet together with the clergy, saying, "Forgive us; we are your lordship's humble servants." The other bishop was amazed at what he had done and a stab of remorse went through his soul. God gave him a change of heart, and he now grasped his colleague's feet, saying, "It is you who are my lord and father." From that time on, there was a strong bond of love between them.

The lowly bishop said to his said to his clergy, "Did I not tell you that we should triumph, by the grace of God? When there is any ill feeling between you, do you likewise – and triumph." The elder also said that a humble man has more glory than the emperor himself; for the emperor is only praised in his presence, whereas a humble man is praised and said to be blessed both in and out of his presence.

John Moschos, Leimonarion (The Spiritual Meadow) 210

THE HOLY MARTYRS MARINUS AND ASTERIUS. At the time of Emperor Gallienus, Saint Marinus served as a soldier in Caesarea in Palestine. He was beheaded for the sake of the Faith of Christ. Asterius, a Roman senator, also a Christian, was present at his martyrdom. He removed his dolman and, with it, wrapped the body of the martyr, placed it on his shoulders, took it and honorably buried it. Seeing this, the pagans beheaded him also. They both died honorably for Christ about the year 260 A.D.

THE HIEROMARTYR NARCISSUS, PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM was beheaded at the time of Antoninus in the year 213 A.D. being one hundred sixteen years of age.

REFLECTION by Saint Nikolai of Zhicha

Neither concern yourself about the righteous nor envy the sinner. Remember always that the Lord Christ, by His resurrection, conquered a shameful death and that Herod, Judas, Nero, Julian the Apostate, Valerian, Leo the Armenian and other opponents of Christ, by a shameful death mortalized forever their temporary successes and victories. Envious ones slandered St. Narcissus the Patriarch for violating his chastity. The innocent Narcissus withdrew into the wilderness and spent many years in silence and patiently waited for God to do His will. Three patriarchs followed him [on the patriarchal throne] and only then did men come forward and clearly prove his innocence. Then everyone forced him to return from the wilderness to his throne. Thus, God justifies the righteous. The bloody Emperor Valerian, with satanic passion, murdered Christians throughout the entire world [Roman Empire]. How did he end up? In battle with the Persians, he was defeated and enslaved by King Sapor. Sapor did not desire to kill him immediately but used him as a mounting block whenever he wanted to mount a horse. Every day, King Sapor's servants brought Valerian along with a horse and Sapor enjoyed placing his foot on the neck of the Roman Emperor in order to make it easier for him to mount the horse. He who sows an evil seed reaps an evil harvest.

A word from the desert. A brother came to Abba Theodore of Pherme and began to converse with him about things which he had never yet put into practice. So the old man said to him, "You have not yet found a ship nor put your cargo aboard it, and before you have sailed, you have already arrived at the city. Do the work first; then you will have the speed you are making now."