

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!

September 25, 2011	Sunday	Rest of Venerable Abbot Sergius of Radonezh (1392)	Liturgy	9:30 am
October 1	Saturday	Protection of the Most Holy Ever-Virgin Mary	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
October 1	Saturday		Great Vespers	4:00 pm
October 2	16 th	Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Rest of Venerable Sergius, Abbot of Radonezh (1392). Venerable Nun Euphrosyne of Alexandria (445). Saint Nicholas Confessor, Priest (1941). Venerable Nun Euphrosyne of Suzdal (1250). Translation of the relics of Saint Herman, Archbishop of Kazan (1595). Venerable Dosithea the Recluse of Kiev (1776). Martyr Paphnutius and 546 companions in Egypt (3 c). Commemoration of the earthquake in Constantinople in 447, when a boy was lifted to heaven and heard the "Trisagion". Saint Finbar (Barry), Hermit of Gougane, Bishop of Cork (Ireland). Saint Cadoc of Llancarfan (Wales) (577). Martyrs Paul and Tatta and their children Sabinian, Maximus, Rufus, and Eugene of Damascus. Saint Arsenius the Great, Catholicos of Georgia (887). Saint Ceolfrith (Geoffrey), Abbot and Confessor of Wearmouth and Jarrow. Saint Caian of Tregaiian in Anglesey, Wales.

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, Athanasy, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of John and Norma Stehnach were offered today for their wedding anniversary at Liturgy and Moleben requested anonymously.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Priest Sergius Willis were offered today for his patron saint's day at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Bishop DANIEL, Eric Stehnach, John and Norma Stehnach and Andrei Drozdoff were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the soul of infant Vera Tkachuk were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of Michael Sokerka, Nicholas Steckler and Nancy Wolkoff were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya.

A word from the desert. Two brothers went to market to sell the things they had made. The first fell into fornication as soon as he separated from his companion. He met his brother who said to him, "My brother, let us go to our cell," but he replied, "I am not going." The other persisted, saying, "My brother, why not?" He said, "Because when you had left me, I fell into fornication." His brother, wishing to win him over, said to him, "The same thing happened to me, too, when you left me; come, let us go and do strict penance and God will forgive us." They went to tell the old men what had happened to them, and the old men gave them commandments for doing penance. And so, one of the brothers did penance for the other as though he had sinned himself. But God, seeing the affliction he was giving himself for love's sake, make known to one of the old men, after some days, that because of the great love of the brother who had not sinned, he had forgiven the one who had sinned. See what it is to give one's soul for one's brother.

Saint Ceolfrith (Geoffrey) Abbot and Confessor of Wearmouth and Jarrow, England

Saint Ceolfrith, or Geoffrey, the friend and spiritual son of Saint Benedict Biscop (January 12), was born about the year 642, and was probably a native of the kingdom of Northumbria.

He is first mentioned in 674 as aiding Benedict in the foundation of the abbey of Wearmouth, and about the year 678 he accompanied him to Rome. A little later - about the year 681 - Ceolfrith was an active, learned and zealous man, and worthy to be the successor of Benedict. He doubled the large library which had been formed by his predecessor, and increased the number of monks to six hundred. He also enriched the monastery, by obtaining from King Aldfrith a grant of lands on the river "Fresca," which were afterwards exchanged for an estate nearer the monastery, at a place then called "Sambuce." By some monks whom he sent to Rome, Ceolfrith obtained from Pope Sergios a new charter of privileges for the monastery, or rather a renewal of those which had been given to Benedict by Pope Agatho.

Saint Ceolfrith continued to preside over the two monasteries of Wearmouth and Jarrow during twenty-six years, and he appears to have occupied himself exclusively with his monks in study and teaching. The celebrity of his school, in which Bede imbibed his great learning, was very extensive; and in 701, the Pope sent a messenger to invite one of his monks to advise him in deciding certain difficult ecclesiastical questions.

A few years afterwards (about 710), Ceolfrith's advice was sought by Naitan, King of the Picts, who had become a convert to the Orthodox Pascha and the Roman form of tonsure; and, at the earnest solicitation of that

prince, he sent him a letter setting forth the arguments on which this was founded, and along with it architects to build a stone church after the West Roman style. This letter has been preserved by Bede.

When age and sickness announced to Ceolfrith the near approach of death, he was suddenly seized with the desire of ending his days in the Apostolic city of Rome. Bede, who was probably one of the actors in it, describes very particularly the emotional scene of parting. The monks urged Ceolfrith to stay, for they saw that he lacked the strength for so long a journey, and they feared that he would die on the way; but their efforts were in vain. On Thursday, the 4th day of June, 716, immediately after the first liturgical service of the day had been celebrated, Ceolfrith prepared for his departure, amid the lamentations of those with whom he had passed so many tranquil years.

The monks, about six hundred in number, were assembled in the church at Wearmouth, and Ceolfrith, after having prayed, stood by the altar, holding in his hand the censer with burning incense, and gave them his peace. Then they left the church and moved towards the shore, their chants being frequently interrupted by loud sobs. When they came to the dormitory, Ceolfrith entered the oratory of Saint Lawrence, which stood there, and delivered his last admonition, urging the monks to persevere in brotherly love, to keep strict discipline, and to be constant in their duties to God, and he ended by requesting their prayers for himself.

On the bank of the river Tyne he gave them severally the kiss of peace, and they then fell on their knees and received his blessing. He was accompanied across the river by the deacons of the church, bearing lighted tapers and the cross of gold. When he reached the opposite shore, he venerated the cross, and then mounted the horse which was to carry him to the place of embarkation.

On their return to Wearmouth, the first care of the monks was the election of a successor, and their new abbot, Hwaetbert, was immediately dispatched, with a few of the brethren, to see Ceolfrith for the last time. They found him on the coast waiting for a ship; since his departure from among them, he approved their choice and confirmed their election, and then received from the new abbot a commendatory letter to Pope Gregory.

The apprehensions of the monks were soon verified; for after journeying slowly through Gaul, as he was approaching the city of Langres (Lingonas), in the diocese of Lyon, on the 25th of September of the same year, Ceolfrith became suddenly so feeble that his attendants were obliged to halt in the midst of the fields, where he died almost immediately.

His body was deposited in the monastery of the Twin Martyrs, in the southern suburb of the city, and his companions returned to England to bear the tidings to his friends. Bede, who gives the date of Ceolfrith's death, tells us that he was then seventy-four years of age, and that he had been forty-seven years a presbyter and thirty-five years an abbot, including the period during which he presided only over the monastery of Jarrow.

His holy relics were afterwards removed from Langres, and carried to Wearmouth; and at a subsequent period, on the approach of the Danes, who reduced that monastery to ruins, they were again taken up by the monks, and, with those of the Abbess Hilda, finally deposited at Glastonbury.

The Venerable Euphrosyne was the daughter of Paphnutius, a wealthy and distinguished man of Alexandria. Her childless parents had besought God with prayer for the birth of a child, and they were given her. Her devout parents raised their daughter in the Christian Faith. Not wanting to enter into marriage, the young Euphrosyne hid from her father, changed into men's clothing, and presented herself to the abbot of a monastery as a eunuch of Emperor Theodosius, giving the name Smaragdus. The abbot received her, and turned her over to the spiritual father Agapitus for guidance. By her fasting and prayerful asceticism, Smaragdus quickly surpassed all the monks in that monastery. When she had completed thirty-eight years of strict asceticism, her father Paphnutius visited that monastery, and the abbot directed him to Smaragdus for prayer and counsel. Smaragdus recognized Paphnutius, but Paphnutius did not recognize Smaragdus. When the father confessed his grief for his lost daughter, Smaragdus told him not to lose hope, for he would see his daughter again in this life, and besought him to come again within three days. When Paphnutius came again, Smaragdus was on her deathbed. The dying one said to Paphnutius: "I am Euphrosyne, your daughter; you are my father!" For a long time, the father was unable to come to himself due to his severe shock. Then, the Blessed Euphrosyne breathed her last, and her father wept over her. After burying her, Paphnutius himself entered the monastery, and settled in the cell of his holy, reposed daughter. After ten years of asceticism, Paphnutius also entered into rest in the Lord.

The Venerable Sergius of Radonezh was a great ascetic and light of the Russian Church. He was born in 1313, in Rostov, of devout parents, Cyril and Maria. After his parents' deaths, Bartholomew-for that was his baptismal name-became a monk, and founded the Monastery of the Holy Trinity in the forests of Radonezh. As a quiet and gentle servant of God, he knew only labor and prayer. Because of the purity of his heart he was made worthy of the gift of miracle-working, even resurrecting the dead in the name of Christ. The Holy Theotokos appeared to him many times. Princes and bishops came to him for advice. He blessed Prince Dimitri Donskoy, and foretold his victory in the battle for the liberation of Russia from the Tartars. He saw into the hearts of men as well as future events. His monastery was full of monks, even during his lifetime and, century after century, has been one of the most important centers of spiritual life and God's miracles. Saint Sergius entered into rest in the year 1392. Following his repose, he appeared many times to various people.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

TODAY: Breakfast at Coffee Hour: \$5.00 for adults

Today: at Coffee Hour, **preliminary meeting of Church School teachers.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

Today: Pierogi Fest 2011. VFW on Mohawk Street, Herkimer. 4 pm to 8 pm. Band, Pierogi, Halupki, Pies, Kielbasa, etc. Advance orders call 315-866-7834

September 28, Wednesday: 8pm: Public Lecture: Nicholas Chapman: main auditorium Holy Trinity Seminary, Jordanville. **The Church and Empires: Revisiting the Origins of Orthodoxy in the Americas 1496 – 1867.**

NEXT SUNDAY! Beginning of Church School – 9 am