

ICHC NTKA SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
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Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to God For All Things!

October 27, 2013	20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
November 2	Saturday	Great Vespers	4:00 pm
November 3	21 st Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica (306). New Hieromartyr Sergius (1942). Venerable Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves (1114). Uncovering of the relics (1539) of Saint Andrew, Prince of Smolensk (1390). Martyrs Capitolina and Eroteis of Cappadocia (304). Martyr Mark of the Isle of Thasos (304). Saint Cyriacus, Patriarch of Constantinople (1390). Saint Procla, wife of Pontius Pilate (1st c.). New Hieromartyr Seraphim (Samojlovich) Bishop of Uglich. Saint Demetrius of Basarbov in Bulgaria (12th-13th c.). Saint Odran, Monk of Iona. Saints Ia and Breacha, Virgins of Cornwall. Hierarch Alexander, Bishop of Guria and Samegrelo (1907). Saint Odhran of Iona, Abbot (+563). Saint Abban of Wexford, Abbot (6th c.). Saint Colman of Senboth-Fola, Abbot (+632). Saint Æthelstan, King of England (+939).

Please remember in your prayers: Suffering Christians of Egypt, Syria and the Middle East. Bishop BOULOS Yazigi, Bishop YOHANNA Ibrahim, of Aleppo. Archimandrites Alexander, Athanasy, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy. Archpriests Jason, John, Vincent. Priests Bohdan, Sergius, Jacobus, Andrij, Vasil, Vasil. Deacons Mark, Demetrios, Philip. Mother Raphaela, Dimitri, Nina, Daniel, Catherine, Helen, Anna, Peter, Helen, Michael, Stephanie, Zara, Nolan, Emelie, Connie, Michael, Ed, Maria, Michael, John, James, Nancy, Susan, Daniel, Aaron, Mark, Jennifer, Nina, Nadine, Michael, Anna, Gregory, Marianna, Mykola, Helen, Isaiah, Albert, Kevin, Robert, Robert, Andrew, David, Warren, Vincent, Gregory.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Metropolitan THEODOSIUS (Lazar), Stephen Kidde, James Tamaru and Sophia Phillips were offered at Liturgy and Moleben today at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of Vera Keblish were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Nick Keblish.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of newly-departed Gregory Sulich were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of newly-departed Stephen Kocuba were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of son Stephen Kocuba.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of Mother Antonia [Brenner], Mikhail Welle and Archbishop DMITRI (Royster) were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of Stephen Nichols were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of the "Memory Eternal Requiem Service Fund."

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHRISTIANS from Saint Isaac the Syrian

Let yourself be persecuted, but do not persecute others.

Be crucified, but do not crucify others.

Be slandered, but do not slander others.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep: such is the sign of purity.

Suffer with the sick.

Be afflicted with sinners.

Exult with those who repent.

Be the friend of all, but in your spirit remain alone.

Be a partaker of the sufferings of all, but keep your body distant from all.

Rebuke no one, revile no one, not even those who live very wickedly.

Spread your cloak over those who fall into sin, each and every one, and shield them. And if you cannot take the fault on yourself and accept punishment in their place, do not destroy their character.

What is a merciful heart? It is a heart on fire for the whole of creation, for humanity, for the birds, for the animals, for demons, and for all that exists. By the recollection of them the eyes of a merciful person pour forth tears in abundance. By the strong and vehement mercy that grips such a person's heart, and by such great compassion, the heart is humbled and one cannot bear to hear or to see any injury or slight sorrow in any in creation. For this reason, such a person offers up tearful prayer continually even for irrational beasts, for the enemies of the truth, and for those who harm her or him, that they be protected and receive mercy. And in like manner such a person prays for the family of reptiles because of the great compassion that burns without measure in a heart that is in the likeness of God.

The person who is genuinely charitable not only gives charity out of his own possessions, but gladly tolerates injustice from others and forgives them. Whoever lays down his soul for his brother acts generously, rather than the person who demonstrates his generosity by his gifts.

God is not One who requites evil, but who sets evil right.

Paradise is the love of God, wherein is the enjoyment of all blessedness.

THE HOLY MARTYR NESTOR. In the time of the suffering of Saint Demetrius the Myrrh-gusher, there was a young man of Thessalonica, Nestor, who learned the Christian Faith from Saint Demetrius himself. At that time Christ's enemy, Emperor Maximian, organized various games and amusements for the people. The emperor's favorite in these games was a Vandal by the name of Lyaeus, a man of Goliath-like size and strength. As the emperor's gladiator, Lyaeus challenged men every day to single combat and slew them. Thus, the bloodthirsty Lyaeus amused the bloodthirsty, idolatrous Maximian. The emperor built a special stage for Lyaeus's battles, similar to a threshing floor on pillars. Spears, points upward, were planted beneath this platform. When Lyaeus defeated someone in wrestling, he would throw him from the platform onto the forest of spears. The emperor and his pagan subjects cheered as some poor wretch writhed in torment on the spears until he died. Among Lyaeus's innocent victims were many Christians: when no one volunteered to duel with Lyaeus, by the emperor's orders Christians were arrested and forced to duel with him. Seeing this horrifying amusement of the pagan world, Nestor's heart was torn with pain, and he decided to come forward for a duel with the gigantic Lyaeus. But first, he went to prison to see Saint Demetrius and sought a blessing from him to do this. Saint Demetrius blessed him, signed him with the sign of the Cross on the forehead and on the chest and prophesied to him: "You will defeat Lyaeus, but you will suffer for Christ." Thus, young Nestor went to duel with Lyaeus. Maximian was present with a multitude of people; everyone felt pity for the young Nestor, who would surely die, and tried to dissuade him from dueling with Lyaeus. Nestor crossed himself and said: "O God of Demetrius, help me!" and with God's help, he overcame Lyaeus, knocked him down, and threw him onto the sharp spears, where the heavy giant soon found death. Then all the people cried out: "Great is the God of Demetrius!" But the emperor, shamed before the people and sorrowing for his favorite Lyaeus, was greatly angered at Nestor and Demetrius, and commanded that Nestor be beheaded and Demetrius run through with lances. Thus, the Christian hero Nestor ended his earthly life and took up his habitation in the Kingdom of his Lord in the year 306.

THE VENERABLE NESTOR THE CHRONICLER at the age of seventeen, entered the Monastery of the Kiev Caves while Saint Theodosius was still abbot. He wrote the first history of the Russian people, in which he intertwined the history of Russian asceticism. He was distinguished by unusual humility and meekness. In his literary work, he often referred to himself as unworthy, coarse, ignorant and full of every kind of sin. But God, Who knows the hearts of men, glorified this wonderful saint of His. When Nestor entered into rest on October 27, 1114, his relics performed many miracles.

HOMILY on zeal for the house of God

For the zeal of Thy house has eaten me up and the reproaches of those who reproach Thee have fallen on me (Psalm 69:9).

The heavens are the house of God. The Church of God is the house of God. The bodies of believing people are the house of God. Wherever God is, there is the house of God; and where the house of God is, there is holiness. Men dishonor the holiness of God's house, and the royal prophet is provoked and burns with zeal. He takes upon himself all the offenses against the holy things of God, and they fall upon him like a fire that enkindles him with even more zeal. Men desecrate the heavens when they do not believe that which God Himself revealed to mankind for the sake of their salvation. When men oppose or pervert the truth, as do the heretics, or when, of their own free will, they conceive of Christ according to their corporeal understanding, or when they have doubts about angels and saints, the Judgment, and the Eternal Kingdom of Christ, and refuse to consider the eternal punishment of unrepentant sinners-in all this and more, men attack the house of God and desecrate its holiness like savage animals. This causes zeal against the opponents and the blasphemers of God to rise in the hearts of the righteous. In the same manner, men attack the house of God's holiness when they behave unworthily toward the Church of God, when they are negligent concerning the Church's ordinances, when they are slothful toward ecclesiastical commandments and malicious toward the servants of the Church. Again, zeal for the holiness of the house of God is inflamed in the hearts of the righteous and the devout. Finally, the corrupting of the human body, the surrendering to passions, the service of sin, abduction, murder, brutality, drunkenness and other wicked actions, are all attacks on the holiness of God's house. It is all blasphemy against God and against man. Again, the fervor of the zealots of holiness rises up and shines as a heavenly flame before men. O my brethren, let us look at Christ's zeal for the holiness of God's house, and the zeal of the apostles and the Holy Fathers of our Orthodox Church. Let us have more zeal for our salvation than the devil has, day and night, for our destruction.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the Model of our zeal for holiness, grant us a spark of Thy zeal that we may be like Thee in zeal, and be saved by Thee. To Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.

South Philadelphia Pumpkin Curry Soup (something to warm you up on cold autumn evenings!)

4 tablespoons margarine or oil

2 ½ cups chopped onion

5 cloves garlic, crushed

2 tablespoons curry powder (decrease the amount if you don't like spicy food)

8 cups chicken broth

1 (37.5 oz) can of pumpkin – or pumpkin pie filling for sweeter taste

4 cups milk – or evaporated milk for creamier consistency

Salt and pepper to taste

• Sauté onion and garlic in margarine (or oil) until translucent. Add curry, salt, and pepper and cook for an additional minute or two. Stir in broth and pumpkin and let simmer uncovered for approximately 20 minutes. You might put it through a blender or immersion blender. Stir in milk and heat thoroughly.