

FC RC HKA SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
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Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to Him Forever!

November 2, 2014	21 st Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
November 8	Saturday	Great Vespers	4:00 pm
November 9	22 nd Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

Saints of the Day: The Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenary Saints. Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasus, Aphthonius, Elpidophorus, and Anempodistus of Persia (341). New Hieromartyrs Priests Constantine and Anania (1918). New Hieromartyrs Bishop Victorin and Priest Basil Luzgin of Glazomicha (1918). Venerable Marcian of Cyrrhus (388). Blessed Cyprian of Storozhev, former outlaw (Olonets) (16 c.). Saint Erc, Bishop of Slane, Ireland (512). Saint Anthony the Confessor, Archbishop of Thessalonica (844). Women-Martyrs Cyriaca, Domnina and Domna. Martyrs of senatorial rank beheaded under Marcus Aurelius. Saint Cedd, Bishop and Apostle of the East Saxons (664). Saint Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons (+899). Saints Aneurin and Gwinoc Monks of Wales, (6 c.). Saint Eata of Hexham, Bishop (686). Saint Bean of Aberdeen, Bishop (1012). Saint Cuthbert of Canterbury, Bishop (758). Saint Eadfrid of Leominster, Priest-Monk (675). Saint Baya and Saint Maura, Virgins. Saint Cumgar, Confessor of Devonshire.

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

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Sophia Phillips, James Tamaru, Igumen Luke (Majoros), Kevin Gray, Peter Witiak, Gregory Wooderson and Dr Pavlos Rigas were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

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

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of newly-departed Svetlana Pawlusik, Archbishop DMITRI (Royster), aunts Ann Morgenthaler, Esther Kappanadze, Betty Polk, uncle Max Hartong and Archpriest Igor Tkachuk were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of Vera Prawlocki, Mary Behuniak and Ann Kowalsky were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of the "Memory Eternal Requiem Service Fund."

Who are the HOLY UNMERCENARY SAINTS?

Saint Zenaida and Philonella (died ca. 100)
Saints Cosmas and Damian (October 17)
Saints Cosmas and Damian (November 1)
Saints Cyrus and John (January 31, June 28)
Saint Samson (June 27)
Saints Cosmas and Damian (July 1)
Saint Hermolaüs (July 26)
Saint Diomedes (August 16)
Saint Tryphon (died ca. 250)

Martyr Thalelaeus the Unmercenary, at Anazarbus in Cilicia (died 284)
Saints Cosmas and Damian (died ca. 303)
Saint Pantaleon (died ca. 303), also called Saint Panteleimon
Saints Cyrus and John (died ca. 304)
Saint Sampson the Hospitable (died ca. 530)
Saint Luka Voyno-Yasenetsky (died 1961)

These holy people were some of them doctors, but the uniting impetus was that they performed good deeds, in most cases ministering to the sick, for no charge. Apparently, non-Christian doctors were quite mercenary in their application of the medical arts.

When we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Unction, or the Moleben for the Sick, we invoke the memory of these saints during the service and in the 'dismissal' blessing. During the service we hear the Troparia and Kontakia to the various saints. You can participate in this ministry by simply remembering in your daily prayers those who are ill and who ask us to remember them when. Visiting the sick is also welcome.

Today we celebrate the 'Synaxis' of these Unmercenarys, that is, their common celebration. You will notice that there are three sets of Saints named Cosmas and Damian.

Commemorated on November 2

AKINDINOS, PEGASIAS, ANEMPODIST, were members of the court of the Persian emperor Sapor II (310-381), and clandestinely they were Christians. When the emperor started his persecution against Christians, envious pagans denounced them before him. Summoned to the emperor for trial, the holy martyrs fearlessly confessed their faith in the Holy Trinity. The emperor gave orders to beat them with whips. Twice the exhausted executioners switched places, but the holy martyrs let out neither a cry nor a groan. Even the emperor could not endure the strain and he lost consciousness. Everyone thought him dead. But the saints appealed to God, and the emperor came to himself. And having recovered, Sapor accused the saints of sorcery and gave orders to take the holy martyrs over a bon-fire, so as to suffocate them with the smoke. But by the prayers of the saints the fire extinguished, and the ropes binding them sundered. When the emperor asked them how this had occurred, the holy martyrs told him about Christ working the miracle. Blinded by rage, the emperor began to blaspheme the Name of the Lord. Then the saints exclaimed: "Let thy mouth be speechless", – and the emperor lost his voice. Having gone mad with terror and rage, he tried with gestures to give the order to take away the holy martyrs to prison. Those round about were not able to understand him, and he began to go into an even greater rage: madly plucking off his mantle, he tore at his hair and beat himself upon the face. Saint Akindinos took pity on him and in the Name of the Lord delivered him from the speechlessness. But this time the emperor attributed everything to magic and he continued the torture of the saints. They placed them upon an iron grate and lighted a fire beneath it. The saints started to pray. Suddenly it rained and put out the fire. Beholding the miracle accomplished through the prayers of the holy martyrs, many people believed in Christ and confessed their faith. The saints glorified God and called on the believing to accept Baptism by the rain sent down upon them.

One of the executioners, Aphthonios, publicly asked forgiveness of the holy martyrs for causing them suffering, and he bravely went to execution for Christ. The dignitary Elpidiphoros and even the mother of the emperor confessed faith in the One True God. The emperor saw how much the number of Christians was increased and how the torturing of Saints Akindinos, Pegasias and Anempodist actually encouraged the Christian faith. He declared to the people that the holy Martyrs Akindinos, Pegasias, Anempodist and Elpidiphoros with them would have their heads cut off, and that their bodies could not be taken by Christians for burial. When they led the holy martyrs beyond the city walls for execution, a tremendous crowd accompanied them, glorifying Christ. By order of the emperor, soldiers massacred all the Christians (about 7,000) in the procession. Together with the others also was killed Elpidiphoros.

Akindinos, Pegasias, and Anempodist together with the mother of the emperor were burnt on the following day. Christians, coming secretly by night to the place of the execution of the saints, found the bodies of the holy martyrs unharmed by the fire and with reverence they buried them.

THE MONK MARCIAN lived during the IV Century. Having gone off into the wilderness, he lived for many years in solitude, in unceasing prayer and strict fasting. And having built himself a small cell, he settled in it and never lit up candles when by night he did his prayerful rule according to the Psalter, since the Lord lighted the cell with Divine Light. After several years the monk accepted two disciples, settling them beside him, but as before he lived as an hermit. The Antioch Patriarch Flavian (Comm. 18 February) and other bishops entreated the monk to abandon his strict solitude for the benefit of Christians, but the monk would not agree. However, while not quitting his cell, he taught those coming to him for instruction and he turned many away from heresy and led them to the Orthodox faith. Before his end, the Monk Marcian instructed his disciple Eusebios to bury him secretly far off from his cell, so as to shun posthumous glory and avoid contention among those wanting his remains for nearby churches. The Monk Marcian died in the year 388. © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos.

SAINT BAYA AND SAINT MAURA, VIRGINS Died 10th century. The Scottish Saint Baya instructed Saint Maura in the eremitical life. Followers later gathered around Maura, who organised them into a community of which she was abbess. Some authors identify Saint Baya with Saint Begha or Bee (f.d. Oct 31).

HISTORY MADE: ANGLICANS, ORIENTAL ORTHODOX AGREE ON CHRIST'S INCARNATION By ACNS staff

Senior theologians in Anglican Communion and Oriental Orthodox Churches recently made history by signing an agreement on their mutual understanding of Christ's incarnation.

This was not just a minor point of theology, rather it was a subject that divided the Church following the Council of Chalcedon* in 451 AD, leaving the Oriental Orthodox Churches separated from the Eastern Orthodox Churches and the Church of Rome.

The work to reconcile these branches of the Christian family on the question of how the two natures, human and divine, were united in one human being: Jesus Christ began in earnest in the 1990s.

By 2002 an Agreed Statement on Christology had been prepared by the Anglican-Oriental Orthodox International Commission (AOOIC) and sent to the participating Churches and an updated statement was recirculated in 2013. By the October meeting in Cairo, AOOIC members were able to finalise the document and Bishop Geoffrey Rowell and His Eminence Metropolitan Bishop of Damietta signed on behalf of their Churches.

This statement, which is a significant step of reconciliation, will now be sent to "the responsible authorities of the Oriental Orthodox Churches and the Anglican Communion for their consideration and action". The Agreed Statement on Christology: <http://www.anglicannews.org/media/1416821/Anglican-Oriental-Orthodox-Agreed-Statement-on-Christology-2014.pdf>

Notes

*The Council of Chalcedon was a highly influential church council held from 8 October to 1 November, 451 AD, at Chalcedon (a city of Bithynia in Asia Minor), on the Asian side of the Bosphorus.