

Saintly Notes

Martyr Polyeuktos of Armenia (January 9)

The Armenian city of Melitene was drenched with the blood of Christians as was the entire country of Armenia. The first blood shed for Christ in this city was that of Saint Polyeuktos in the year 259 A.D. during the reign of Valerian.

In this city [Melitene] were two friends: both Nearchus and Polyeuktos were officers, Nearchus baptized and Polyeuktos unbaptized. When the command of the emperor was sent out concerning the persecution of the Christians, Nearchus prepared for death; but he was in great sorrow because he had not succeeded in converting his friend Polyeuktos to the True Faith.

When Polyeuktos learned of the reason for Nearchus' sorrow, he promised to embrace the Faith. The following day Polyeuktos related his dream to Nearchus: the Lord Himself appeared to him in light, removed Polyeuktos' old clothes from him and dressed him in radiant new clothes and sat him in the saddle of a winged horse.

After this, Polyeuktos went to town, shredded the emperor's decree concerning the torturing of Christians, and destroyed many statues of the idols. He was tortured and was condemned to death. When he was brought to the place of execution, he looked at Nearchus in the throng of people and joyfully cried out to him: "Save yourself my dear friend! Remember the vow of love confirmed between the two of us!" Later, Saint Nearchus died as a martyr for Christ by fire. The commemoration of the feast of St. Nearchus is April 22.

(The Prologue from Ochrid)

Glory Be to God for All Things



Martyr Polyeuktos



All Saints Orthodox Church

Sunday After Theophany

All Saints Orthodox Church, Raleigh NC
(www.allsaintsnc.org)
919-859-1332

The V. Rev. Nicholas R. A. Sorensen, Archpriest
The Rev. David Keim, Deacon

January 9, 2011

The Saints Whom We Remember

Martyr Polyuktos of Armenia; Venerable Eustratios the wonderworker;
New-martyr Parthenas; Philip, metropolitan of Moscow

This Week's Schedule

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Mon: Church Office Closed
Tuesday: 6:30p Baby Shower
Wednesday: 9:15a Third Hour Prayer; 6:30p Daily Vespers
Thursday: 7:00p Parish Council
Saturday: 9:00a Women's Bible Study; 6:30a Great Vespers
Sunday: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

First Antiphon

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Second Antiphon

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, *Who wast baptized by John in the Jordan;* who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Third Antiphon

(Tone 1)

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Israel now confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let them now who fear the Lord confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.

Troparion for Theophany: When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan,

worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hath appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Little Entrance

† *Entrance Hymn:* "Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ . . . Alleluia."

† *Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 8):* From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee..

† *Troparion for Theophany (Tone 1):* See above.

† *Troparion for All Saints (Tone 4):* As with fine porphyry and royal purple Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyr's blood shed throughout all the world. She cries to Thee, O Christ God, send down Thy bounties on Thy people, grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

† *Kontakion for the Theophany (Tone 4):* Today Thou hast appeared to the universe, O Lord, and Thy light hath been shed upon us, who praise Thee with knowledge, saying, Thou hast come and appeared, O unapproachable Light.

The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal . . .

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

Epistle: Eph. 4:7-13
Gospel: Matt. 4:12-17

Alegalynarion (Tone 8)

It is truly meet and right to bless thee . . .

Communion Hymn

(Tone 8)

Praise ye the Lord. . . . Alleluia.

Post-Communion

Hymn

We have seen the true light . . .

Parish Notes

Altar Servers Today

Ethan Haynes, Rim Gibrealfa, John Pridgen, Jonah Sieck, Michael Fogg, Justin Fogg, Aidan Labrozzi.

Special Attention

- **Epiphany House Blessings.** If you want to have your house blessed this year, please sign up for a day and time when Fr. Nicholas will be in your area. The sign-up sheets are posted on the wall outside the parish hall.
- **Special Christmas Offering.** Since we cancelled the Sunday services on the 26th of December, today will be the last Sunday that we will remind you about the special Christmas offering. If you wish to give this special Christmas gift please use the designated envelope included in your bulletin. (for more information please see the insert)
- **Proper Reception of Christ's Body and Blood.** Just a reminder that only Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves with fasting (*if physically and medically able—from 12 midnight until receiving communion*) and with a recent confession (*this must be determined between you and your spiritual father*) may receive the Body and Blood of Christ from the chalice. Also it is our practice that no one should receive communion if they come into the Divine Liturgy after the reading of the Gospel.
- **Remember: No Food or Drink In the Narthex or Nave of the New Temple.**
- **Thank You!** Khr. Barbara and I want to thank all of you for the many expressions of love you have showered upon us this past year. The faithful members of All Saints are indeed our beloved family. You know what that means—you are all honorary Danes! Seriously, we thank God for all of you and pray that our good God will bless you with a peaceful and joyful 2011.

Fr. Nicholas & Khr. Barbara

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

†Epistle: Eph. 4:7–13 (RSV)

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is He who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

†Gospel: Matt. 4:12–17 (RSV)

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea,

in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

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A Word from Our Fathers

“God Himself lives in that man who has a peaceful heart. Above all, consider yourself worse than everyone, seek neither love nor honor from anyone, but have them yourself for everyone—thus you will obtain peace. But as soon as you want others to notice the goodness and virtue in you, then say good-bye to spiritual peace.”

(St. Anatoly of Optina)

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