

Saintly Notes

St. Aquilina of Byblos in Syria (June 13)

St. Aquilina, a native of the Phoenician city of Byblos, suffered under Emperor Diocletian in the third century. She was raised in Christian piety by her parents. When she was only twelve years old, she persuaded a pagan friend to convert to Christ. One of the servants of Governor Volusian accused her of teaching others to reject paganism. She was taken before the governor where she firmly confessed her belief and said that she would not renounce Him. Volusian tried to influence her through persuasion and flattery, but seeing her confidence, he ordered her to be tortured.

She was struck upon the face, and then stripped and beaten with whips. Her torturers asked, “Where then is your God? Let Him come and take you out of our hands.” But the saint answered, “The Lord is here with me invisibly, and the more I suffer, the more strength and endurance will He give me.”

Heated metal rods were then drilled through her ears, and St. Aquilina fell down as if dead. The torturers thought that she had actually died, and gave orders that her body be thrown outside the city to be eaten by dogs. However, later that night, a holy angel appeared to St. Aquilina, roused her and said, “Arise and be healed. Go and denounce Volusian, so that he and his plans may come to nothing.”

St. Aquilina went back before the court and stood before Governor Volusian. Seeing her, he called for his servants and ordered them to keep watch over her until morning.

The next morning he sentenced St. Aquilina to death, saying that she was a sorceress who refused his imperial decrees. While being led to her execution, St. Aquilina prayed and gave thanks to God for allowing her to suffer for His Holy Name.

A voice was heard in answer to her prayer, summoning her to the heavenly Kingdom. Before the executioner could carry out the sentence, the martyr gave up her spirit to God. Still, the executioner cut off her head although she was already dead.

Christians piously buried the martyr’s body. Later, her relics were taken to Constantinople and placed in a church named in her honor.

(from Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Website)

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2010



St. Aquilina of Byblos



3rd Sunday after Pentecost

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

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

June 13, 2010

The Saints Whom We Remember

Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Syria; Antipater, bishop of Bostra in Arabia;
Triphyllios, bishop of Nicosia in Cyprus

This Week's Schedule

Today: 9:00a Orthros; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Mon.–Fri.: Church Office Closed
Wed.—Sat.: Parish Life Conference, Jacksonville, FL (Fr. Nicholas and Dn. David attending)
Saturday: 5:30p Great Vespers
Sunday: 9:00a Orthros; 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 art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Third Antiphon

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

Little Entrance

- † **Entrance Hymn:** “Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ . . . Alleluia.”
- † **Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 2):** 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 Ordinary Sundays (Tone 2):** O Protection of Christians that is not put to shame, unchanging Mediation before the Creator, despise not the voice of the sinners’ prayer, but in that thou

art good, come quickly to help us who call upon thee in faith. Make speed to intercede and make haste to supplicate, O Theotokos, who dost ever protect those that honor thee.

The Trisagion

“Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy . . .”

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

Epistle: Rom. 6:18–23
Gospel: Matt. 8:5–13

Alegalynarion

(Tone 8)

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

Communion Hymn

Tone 8

Praise 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

- **Building Project Update—Placing of the central dome:** Thank God our central dome was safely placed on the roof of the new temple last week. The framing of the structure carrying the dome will now proceed.

- **Ladies, Save These Dates:** We will have our annual summer Brunch and Bible Study sessions on these dates: July 17, August 14. We'll meet from 9-11:30 am on those dates. More details will be coming soon. *Kh. Barbara*
- **General and Building Funds Opportunity.** Those of you who have not yet made a pledge to worshipfully and regularly contribute to our general fund and to our building fund, may place your completed pledge cards in the offering plate during the next two Sundays. The New Temple is only possible because all of us are supporting it by prayer and by our financial gifts. We need every member to participate. Pledge cards are available on the narthex table.
- **Extraordinary Special Gifts for Our New Temple.** Fr. Nicholas will soon distribute a list of items that will be needed for our new Temple and Education wing. Items such as icons, stain glass windows, bells, furniture, etc. You will have an opportunity to donate toward these items at that time. Items might be donated in memory of someone or in honor of a special occasion in your family or for any reason that you find appropriate. More details will follow.

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

The Lord is my strength and my song.

The Lord has chastened me sorely.

†**Epistle: Rom. 5:1–11 (RSV)**

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.

†**Gospel: Matt. 6:22–33 (RSV)**

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound,

your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

The Lord is my strength and my song.

The Lord has chastened me sorely.

†**Epistle: Rom. 5:1–11 (RSV)**

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.

†**Gospel: Matt. 6:22–33 (RSV)**

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound,

your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

A Word from Our Fathers

“Do not start examining the deeds of people, do not judge, do not say: ‘Why is it this way? What is this for?’ It is better to say to yourself, ‘What does their work have to do with me? I will not answer for them at the Dread Judgment of God.’

Divert every thought of yours from judging the deeds of people, and pray fervently to the Lord that He help you in this, because without the help of God we can do nothing good, as the Lord Himself said: ‘Without Me you can do nothing’ (John 15:5).”

(St. Ambrose of Optina)

“Never condemn anyone. Greet everyone with a good disposition, whoever he may be, with the hope of finding in him only good, seeing before you the image of God.”

(St. Nikon of Optina)

A Word from Our Fathers

“Do not start examining the deeds of people, do not judge, do not say: ‘Why is it this way? What is this for?’ It is better to say to yourself, ‘What does their work have to do with me? I will not answer for them at the Dread Judgment of God.’

Divert every thought of yours from judging the deeds of people, and pray fervently to the Lord that He help you in this, because without the help of God we can do nothing good, as the Lord Himself said: ‘Without Me you can do nothing’ (John 15:5).”

(St. Ambrose of Optina)

“Never condemn anyone. Greet everyone with a good disposition, whoever he may be, with the hope of finding in him only good, seeing before you the image of God.”

(St. Nikon of Optina)