

Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus & His Companions

July 10, 201

Saintly Notes

Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus (July 10)

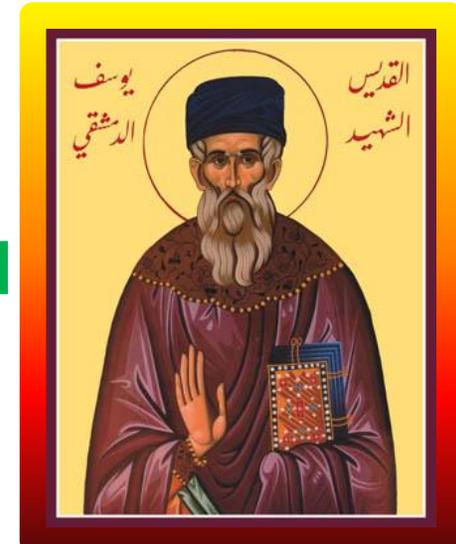
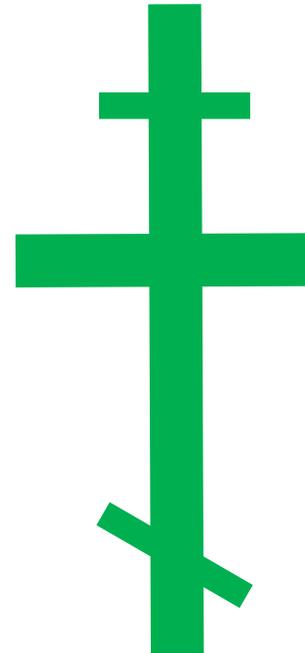
On July 10 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy, glorious and right-victorious New Hieromartyr Joseph Mouhana al-Haddad and his Companions. Saint Joseph of Damascus, as he is commonly known, was a weaver by trade.

After he was married and ordained to the priesthood, Joseph was assigned Great Economos of the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos (al-Mariamiyeh) in the heart of the Old City of Damascus. On Monday, July 9, 1860, the brutal massacre of Christians which began in the Lebanese mountains spread to Damascus. Some Damascenes (including Michael Hawaweeny and his young wife Mariam who was bearing in her womb a son, the future Saint Raphael), fled the city for Beirut. The majority, however, took refuge in al-Mariamiyeh. Joseph took up his communion kit containing the Reserved Sacrament, left his home and began to make his way to the Cathedral by jumping from rooftop to rooftop in the Old City. As he went, he stopped to confess and commune the aged and infirm who could not flee their homes.

On the morning of Tuesday, July 10, the Cathedral was surrounded, pillaged and burned. Those inside perished in the flames, while only a few, including Father Joseph, survived. He searched the narrow streets for survivors who needed confession and communion, but was surrounded by the enemies of Christ. Saint Joseph took out his communion kit and consumed what remained of the Eucharist. The persecutors savagely attacked and killed him with axes. Joseph and his Companions were glorified by the Holy Synod of Antioch in 1993.

(from the Sysaxarion)

Consecration of Our New Temple: Coming October 23, 2011



Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus



All Saints Orthodox Church



Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus & His Companions

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

July 10, 2011

The Saints Whom We Remember

The 45 martyrs at Nikopolis in Armenia; Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves;
Venerable-martyrs Nikodemos the Albanian;
and Nektarios of St. Anne Skete on Athos

This Week's Schedule

Today: 9:00a Orthros; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Monday: Church Office Closed
Wednesday: 9:15a 3rd Hour Prayer; 6:30p Vespers
Thursday: 7:00p Parish Council Meeting
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: O Son of God, *Who art risen from the dead* save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Third Antiphon

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and became the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Little Entrance

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

† *Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 3)*
(See above)

† *Troparion for St Joseph of Damascus (Tone 5):* Come, ye faithful, let us honor the martyr of Christ, a priest of the Church of Antioch; who by the word of the Word, and by his blood and the blood of his companions, baptized the land of Syria, its Church and its people. Being immersed in the light of the Gospel from his youth, he worked and taught and defended the Church of Christ and her flock. O Father Joseph of Damascus, be for us an example, defending us and interceding for us fervently before the Savior.

† *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 . . . Alleluia.

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

Epistle: Titus 3:8-15
Gospel: Matt. 5:14-19

Alegalynarion (Tone 8)

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

Communion Hymn (Tone 8)

Praise the Lord from the heavens . . .
Alleluia.

Post-Communion Hymn

We have seen the true light . . .

Parish Notes

Altar Servers Today

William Christopoulos, Ilya Moundous,
Gabriel Pope, Nicholas Kliewer, Benhur
Samson, Nathaniel Unah

Special Attention

- **Vacations.** Please remember as you go on vacations and recreational outings this summer that worship of God is still possible and will make your vacation even more joyful. If you would like a list of Antiochian churches near your vacation spot please see Fr. Nicholas.
- **Summer Offerings.** It is sometimes true that our offerings go down during the summer months. The parish expenses however, remain the same. Please remember to faithfully send in your tithes and offerings for both the general fund and the building fund. Pre-addressed envelopes are available in the narthex.
- **Care of Our New Icons.** Our new icons may be venerated, although normally the icons on the stands in front of the iconostasis will be more convenient. However, we must take reasonable care to keep them clean and undamaged. Ladies, **please** remove your lipstick before venerating **any** icon but most especially the handwritten ones. Parents make sure that your children's hands are clean before they touch an icon. If we just take these simple precautions we will preserve our new iconography for many generations.
- **Consecration of Our Temple, Altar, and Iconostasis.** Plans for this very special and significant day in the life of our parish are currently being made. **Please mark the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd of October as an absolute "must attend."** We would like our entire membership and all our friends to be present.
- **Please Note.** Two Sundays back following the Divine Liturgy we found children's crayon drawings on the exterior stucco walls of our new church. In addition, our custodian found that the oven had been left on in the parish hall when he cleaned on Sunday night. We all need to take seriously the care of our church property. We built it for the glory of God, now let's respect and maintain it for the glory of God.

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds.

*Sing unto the Lord a new song;
His praise is in the church of the saints.*

†Epistle: 2 Tim. 2:1–10 (RSV)

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

†Gospel: Matt. 8:5–13 (RSV)

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

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A Word from Our Fathers

“THERE ARE MEN who wear out their bodies to no purpose in the pursuit of total dispassion, heavenly treasures, miracle working, and prophetic ability, and the poor fools do not realize that humility, not hard work, is the mother of such things. The man who seeks a *quid pro quo** from God builds on uncertainty, whereas the man who considers himself a debtor will receive sudden and unexpected riches.”

(St. John Climacus)

* Something given or received for something else

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