

# Saintly Notes

## The Holy Martyr Cecilia (November 22)

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**S**t. Cecilia was born in Rome of wealthy and eminent parents. She had great faith in Christ the Lord and a great zeal for the Faith. Vowing life-long virginity to God, St. Cecilia wore a coarse hair shirt beneath the costly raiment that her parents gave her.

When her parents coerced her into marriage with Valerian, a pagan, Cecilia counseled her bridegroom on their wedding night to go to Bishop Urban to be baptized, and then live in chastity. Accepting the Christian Faith, Valerian also converted his brother Tiburtius. Soon after, both brothers were condemned to death for their faith. But their faithfulness did not falter, even in the face of death. Led to the place of execution, these wonderful brothers also succeeded in converting the captain of the guard, Maximus, to the Faith. Then all three suffered together for Christ the Lord. St. Cecilia buried their bodies together.

Cecilia was then brought to trial, for she tirelessly won pagans over to the Christian Faith. In only one evening, she won over four hundred souls. When the judge asked her from whence such boldness came, she answered: "From a pure conscience and undoubting faith."

After cruel torture, Cecilia was condemned to beheading. The executioner struck her three times on the neck with the sword, but he was unable to kill her. She was only wounded, and blood flowed from her wounds, which the faithful collected in handkerchiefs, sponges and bowls for the sake of healing. Three days after this, the martyr and virgin of Christ gave her soul to her Lord, with Whom she eternally rejoices.

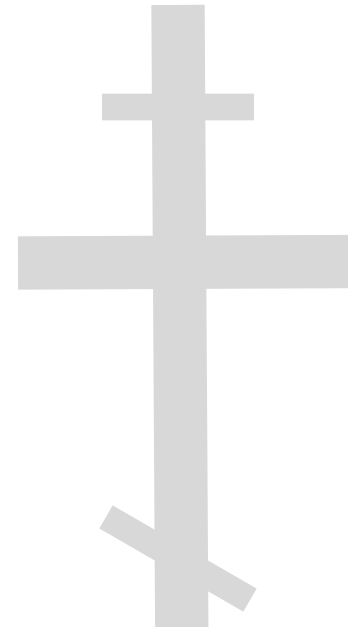
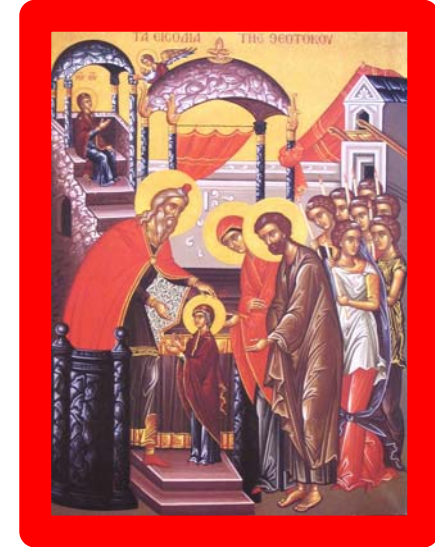
St. Cecilia suffered with the others in about the year 230. Her relics lie in Rome, in the church dedicated to her. In the Western Church, St. Cecilia is regarded as the patroness of church singing and music.

*(The Prologue from Ochrid, Birmingham, 1985, Lazarica Press)*

## 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost After - Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos

November 22, 2009

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# 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

After - Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos

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

November 22, 2009

## The Saints Whom We Remember Today

Apostles Philemon, Apphia, Archippos and Onesimos of the Seventy;  
Clement, bishop of Ochrid and enlightener of Bulgaria; Martyr Cecilia;  
Hieromartyr Sisinius; Venerable Kallistos Xanthopoulos of Athos;  
Martyr Michael, prince of Tver

## This Week's Schedule

**Today:** 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy  
**Monday:** Church Office Closed  
**Tuesday:** 6:30p Eve. Div. Liturgy for St. Catherine  
**Wednesday:** 9:15a Third Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers  
**Thursday:** Thanksgiving: Church Office Closed  
**Friday:** 6:30p Advent Paraklesis  
**Saturday:** 5:30p Great Vespers  
**Sunday:** 9:00a Orthros; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

## Third Antiphon

Troparion of the Resurrection  
Tone 4

Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favor. The King's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. Virgins shall be brought to the King after her: her companions shall be brought unto Thee.

*(Troparion for the Presentation of the Theotokos:)* Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying: Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

## Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship . . . Alleluia.

## Troparion

for the Resurrection—Tone 7

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

## Troparion

for Presentation of the Theotokos  
Tone 4

See above.

## Troparion

of 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 Entrance of the Theotokos  
Tone 4

The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today enters the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is in the divine Spirit: whom also the angels of God do celebrate in song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.

## The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal . . .

## Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

*Epistle:* Eph. 4:1–7

*Gospel:* Luke 18:18–27

## Megalynarion—Tone 8

It is truly meet and right . . .

## 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.

### Special Attention

- **Annual Meeting Update.** At our meeting of Voters last week we had a total of 75 voters attending (quorum was 63). Andrea Haynes and Cheryl Christopoulos were elected to the parish council for 3-year terms and the budget for 2010 was approved unanimously by voice vote. In addition, the reports from the various committees and organizations of our church were approved by the voters. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to an update of our building project and an explanation of the next three year estimated giving form that will be used to anticipate income both for the building project and the general fund. If you have not received an estimated giving form and the packet with letters from Fr. Nicholas and Ray Azrak, Building Committee Chairman, please see Nadine Ham.
- **Estimated Giving Forms.** You're your EGF is completed, it may be folded, inserted in an offering envelope, and placed in the offering plate any Sunday, or mailed to the church. We need all voters and friends of All Saints to participate. May God bless you for your generosity and for your offering of Thanksgiving to God.
- **Note: No Church School Next Sunday**

## Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

### **Prokeimenon:**

The Lord will give strength to His people.

*Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.*

### †**Epistle: Eph. 2:14–22 (RSV)**

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

### †**Gospel: Luke 12:16–21 (RSV)**

The Lord spoke this parable: “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” As He said this, Jesus called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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**A Word  
from Our Fathers**

“If you would be victorious, taste the suffering of Christ in your person, that you may be chosen to taste his glory. For if we suffer with him, we shall also be glorified with him. The intellect cannot be glorified with Jesus, if the body does not suffer for Jesus.

Blessed are you if you suffer for righteousness’ sake. Behold, for years and generations the way of God has been made smooth through the Cross and by death. The way to God is a daily Cross.

The Cross is the gate of mysteries.”

*(St. Isaac the Syrian)*

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