

Sunday of the Forefathers
(Ancestors) of Christ
December 11, 2011

Saintly Notes

Venerable Daniel the Stylite (December 11)

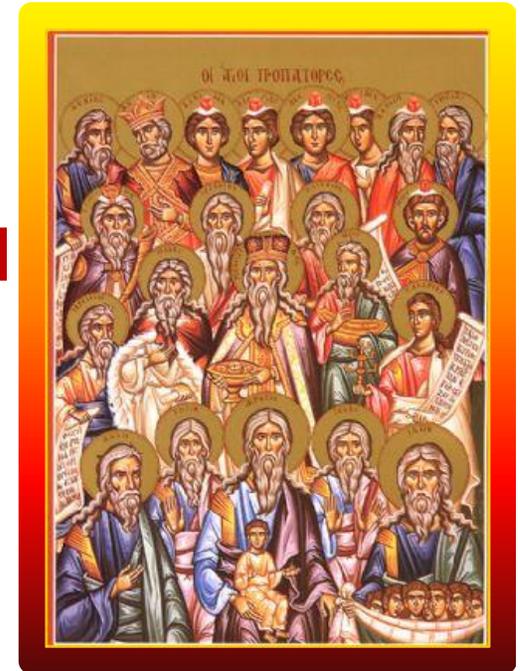
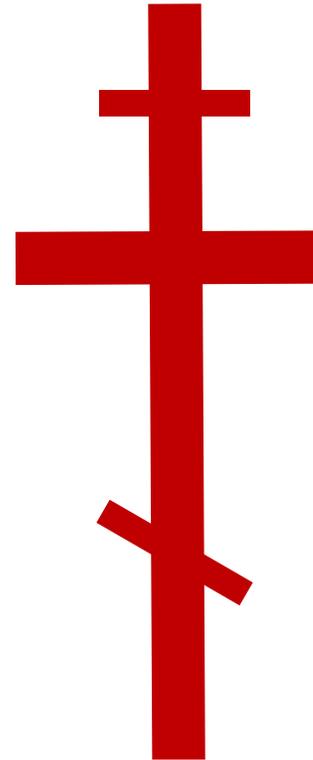
Daniel was born in the village of Bethara near the city of Samosata in Mesopotamia of Christian parents, Elias and Martha. Through her tearful prayers, his barren mother received him from God, and as an only son he was dedicated to God from early childhood.

Daniel embraced the monastic rank at the age of twelve, visited Simeon the Stylite, and was blessed by him. Desirous of solitude, Daniel left the monastery and withdrew to an abandoned pagan temple on the shore of the Black Sea. There he endured countless assaults from demons, but he conquered them all by perseverance, prayer and the sign of the Cross. Afterward he climbed up on a pillar. There he remained until his death, enduring both heat and cold, and attacks from both men and demons.

Many disciples gathered around his pillar, and he directed them to eternal life by his example and his words. God rewarded His faithful servant with abundant grace while in this life, and he performed many miracles beneficial to men and prophesied future events. People from all parts crowded beneath his pillar, seeking help and counsel from the saint of God. Emperors and patriarchs as well as ordinary people came to him. Emperor Leo the Great brought his foreign guests, princes and nobles, and showed them St. Daniel on the pillar, saying to them: "Behold, the wonder in my kingdom!"

Daniel foretold the day of his own death, instructed his disciples as a father to his sons, and took leave of them. At the time of his death, his disciples beheld angels, prophets, apostles and martyrs above his pillar. Having lived for eighty years, this holy angelic man entered into rest and took up his habitation in the Kingdom of Christ in the year 489.

(The Prologue from Ochrid)



Forefathers of Christ



All Saints Orthodox Church



Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

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

December 11, 2011

The Saints Whom We Remember

Venerable Daniel the Stylite; Luke the New Stylite;
Nikon "the dry" of the Kiev Caves; Venerable Leontios of Achaia;
Martyr Barsabbas of Persia

This Week's Schedule

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Monday: Church Office Closed
Wednesday: 9:15a 3rd Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers
Friday: 6:30p Advent Paraklesis
Saturday: 5:30p 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: O Son of God, *Who art risen from the dead* save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Third Antiphon

Resurrectional Troparion (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy Kingdom, glory to Thy Providence, O Thou Who alone art the Lover of mankind.

Little Entrance

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

† *Resurrectional Troparion (Tone 1)*
See above.

† *Troparion for the Forefathers (Tone 2):* Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

† *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 of Preparation for Christ's Nativity (Tone 3):* The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth, at the message with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty . . . Alleluia.

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday (December 18):

Epistle: Heb. 11:9–10, 32–40

Gospel: Matt. 1:1–25

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

Del Dillard, Noah Keim, Micah Keim,
Asa Keim, Roger Jones

Special Attention

- **Remember Church School and Adult Class.** Please come and study the Orthodox Christian Faith. Classes for Preschool thru Adults.
- **Adult Class to Study Some of The Writings of the Apostolic Fathers.**

These are ancient Christian documents that were widely used and often quoted in the early Church and in the Church today. All adults are welcome. Class meets Sunday in the Nave from ~9:10a to ~9:50a.

- **Annual Voters' Meeting Results.** Last Sunday the Voters unanimously and joyfully passed the budget for 2012. They also elected Ron Evancho and Mary Kliewer to the Parish Council and Fr. Nicholas appointed David Hooten to the Parish Council. Congratulations to these three and may God bless them and their families as they dedicate themselves to the work of All Saints parish.
- **Advent Paraklesis Services.** These beautiful prayer and supplication services in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord will be held every Friday evening at 6:30pm throughout the Advent season. Please join us for these prayers.
- **St Ignatius Sunday, Next Week.** All members of the Order please wear your crosses on Sunday the 18th.
- **Advent Fast.** From November 15th through December 24th.
- **A Necklace was found** outside the main church just after the consecration service. If you lost one please talk to Fr. Nicholas.
- **Remember to Bring Your Non-Parishable Foods to the Church Narthex or to the foyer in the Parish Hall.**
- **Thank You to Our Choir and Our Chanters.** Today we want to honor and especially say thank you to all who enrich our worship with their voices. Their dedication and devotion to Christ and His Church truly inspires the rest of us. May God grant them many, many, many years!!! (Please read Metropolitan Philip's letter printed on the bulletin insert.)

O come, O come,
Emmanuel

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

†Epistle: Col. 3:4—11 (RSV)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

†Gospel: Luke 14:16—24 (RSV)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had

been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

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A Word from Our Fathers

“SOMETIMES PEOPLE call prayer that which is not prayer at all: for instance, a man goes to church, stands there for a time, looks at the icons or at other people, and says that he has prayed to God; or else he stands before an icon at home, bows his head, says some words he has learned by heart, without understanding, and without feeling, and says that he has prayed—although with his thoughts and his heart he has not prayed at all, but was elsewhere, with other people and other things, and not with God”

(St. John of Kronstadt)

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