

Saintly Notes

The Holy Martyr Boniface (December 19)

Martyrdom for Christ makes a saint out of a sinner. The example of St. Boniface shows this. At first, he was a servant in Rome to a wealthy and immoral woman, Aglaida, and had impure and unlawful relations with her. They were both pagans.

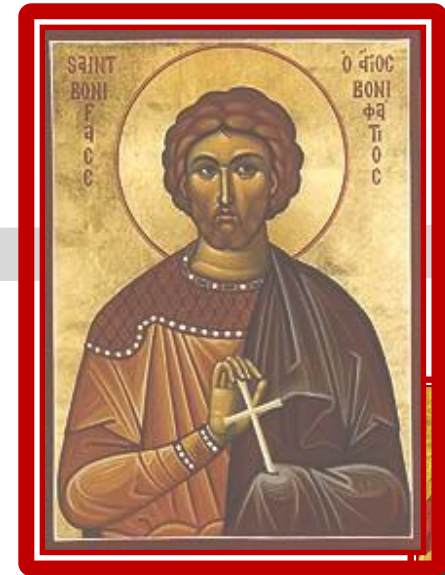
Once, Aglaida desired to have the relics of a martyr in her house as an amulet to protect against evil, so she sent her servant to Asia to find and purchase what she desired. Boniface took several slaves with him and a large amount of money. Before parting with Aglaida, he said to her: “If I cannot find a martyr, but instead they bring you back my body martyred for Christ, will you receive it with honor, my lady?” Aglaida laughed and called him a drunkard and a sinner, and then they parted.

Coming to the city of Tarsus, Boniface saw many Christians undergoing torture: some with their legs cut off, others with their hands severed, others with their eyes plucked out, still others on the gallows, and so forth. Boniface's heart was changed, and he repented of his sinful life and wept. He cried out among the Christian martyrs: “I too am a Christian!” The judge took him for interrogation and ordered that he be harshly flogged, then that boiling lead be poured into his mouth, and—since this did him no harm—that he be beheaded.

The slaves then took his body and carried it to Rome. An angel of God appeared to Aglaida and said: “Receive the one who was once your slave but now is our brother and fellow servant; he is the guardian of your soul and the protector of your life.” The awestruck Aglaida came out to meet them, received the body of Boniface, built a church for him, and placed the relics of the martyr in it. She then repented, gave away her goods to the poor, withdrew from the world, and lived for fifteen more years in bitter repentance. St. Boniface suffered in the year 290.

(The Prologue from Ochrid)

We Are Finally in Our New Home!
Glory Be to God for All Things!!



Holy Martyr
Boniface



Sunday Before the Nativity 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 19, 2010

The Saints Whom We Remember

Martyrs Boniface and Areos of Cilicia; Martyrs Eutychios and Thessalonika;
Venerable Aglaida the Roman; Boniface of Ferentino

This Week's Schedule

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Monday: Church Office Closed
Tuesday: 11:00am Baptism
Wednesday: 9:15a 3rd Hour Prayer; 6:30p Daily Vespers
Friday: 9:00a Royal Hours for the Nativity; 10:00a Eve. Div. Liturgy for the Nativity.
Saturday: 8:00a Christmas Orthros; 9:00a Div. Lit. for the Nativity
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 5)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Little Entrance

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

† *Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5):* See above.

† *Troparion for Sunday before the Nativity (Tone 2):* Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, have mercy upon us.

† *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 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, . . .

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

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 . . . 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

- **Annual Voters' Meeting Results.** The voters unanimously approved the 2011 church budget and elected Allen Basala and Gamil Antoun to the Parish Council.
- **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.
- **Today is the Order of St. Ignatius Sunday.** Please read their insert today. We need to thank God for these men and women who do so many good things for the Orthodox Church and for our Archdiocese. Seriously and prayerfully consider joining the Order. Please talk to Tony Brancaccio or any of the current members: Dr. Charles Wehbie, SDn. David Ward, Sharon Ware, John Cook.
- **Epiphany House Blessings.** Sign-up sheets for Epiphany house blessings are posted in the hallway of the parish hall. It is not necessary to have your house blessed every year but if you want Fr. Nicholas to come please sign your name and phone number on the sheet that represents your area of residence and note the date and time for which you sign-up. Also note the instruction sheet at the top which outlines the preparation needed before Father Nicholas arrives.

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

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

†Epistle: Heb. 11:9–10, 32–40 (RSV)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had

foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

†Gospel: Matt. 1:1–25 (RSV)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

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And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, a virgin shall

conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel” (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

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A Word from Our Fathers

“Pray like a child, in simplicity of heart, concerning all your needs and sorrows, and entrust yourself to God’s will, for the Lord arranges our salvation.”

(St. Nikon of Optina)

“We must always say: ‘O Lord, let it be according to Thy will,’ either this way or that, for we must receive all that is sent to us as from the hand of God; the sorrowful with patience, the pleasant with thanksgiving.”

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