

# Saintly Notes

## Athanasius and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria (January 18)

**A**thanasius was born in Alexandria in the year 296 A.D. and from his early childhood had an inclination to the spiritual life. He was a deacon to Archbishop Alexander and accompanied him to the First Ecumenical Council [Nicaea, 325 A.D.]. It was at this Council that Athanasius became renowned for his learning, devotion to and zeal for Orthodoxy. He contributed greatly to destroy the heresy of Arius and to strengthen Orthodoxy. He wrote the Symbol of Faith [The Creed] which was adopted at the Council.

Following the death of Alexander, Athanasius was elected Archbishop of Alexandria. In his calling as Archbishop of Alexandria, he remained for forty years, although not for the entire time on the archepiscopal throne of the archbishopric.

With few exceptions, throughout his life he was persecuted by heretics. Of the emperors, he was persecuted mostly by Constantius, Julian and Valens; of the bishops, by Eusebius of Nicomedia and many others; and by the heretic Arius and his followers. Athanasius was forced to hide from his persecutors, even in a well, in a grave, in private homes and in the deserts. Twice he was forced to flee to Rome.

Only before his death, did he live peacefully for a while as the good shepherd among his good flock who truly loved him. Few are the saints who were so mercilessly slandered and so criminally persecuted as St. Athanasius. His great soul patiently endured all for the love of Christ and, in the end, emerged victorious from this entire, terrible and long-lasting struggle. For counsel, for comfort and for moral support, Athanasius often visited St. Anthony, whom he respected as his spiritual father.

For a man who formulated the greatest truth, Athanasius had much to suffer for that truth until in the year 373 A.D., the Lord gave him repose in His kingdom as His faithful servant.

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

**C**yril of Alexandria (ca. 378 - 444) was the Pope of Alexandria when the city was at its height of influence and power within the Roman Empire. Cyril wrote extensively and was a leading protagonist in the Christological controversies of the later 4th, and 5th centuries. He was a central figure in the First Council of Ephesus in 431, which led to the deposition of Nestorius as Archbishop of Constantinople. Cyril is counted among the Church Fathers and the Doctors of the Church, and his reputation within the Christian world has resulted in his titles "Pillar of Faith" and "Seal of all the Fathers".

(from Wikipedia)

## Athanasius and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria

January 18, 2009



Saints Athanasius and Cyril

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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

January 18, 2009

## The Saints Whom We Remember

Martyr Theodoulis; Maximos, Serbian ruler

## This Week's Schedule

**Today:** 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy  
**Monday:** Church Office Closed;  
**Tuesday:** 6:30p Building Committee  
**Wednesday:** 9:15a Third Hour Prayer; 6:30p Vespers  
**Thursday:** Church Office Closed; 6:00p Building Committee  
**Friday:** Church Office Closed  
**Saturday:** 11:00a Baptism; 5:30p Great Vespers  
**Sunday:** 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

## Third Antiphon

Troparion of the Resurrection  
Tone 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

## Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

## 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 Presentation of Christ—Tone 1

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as I meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

## The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal . . .

## Epistle and Gospel

Today and Next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

**Epistle:** Heb. 7:26—8:2

**Gospel:** Luke 19:1—10

## Alegalynarion

Tone 8

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

## Communion Hymn

Tone 8

Praise ye the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.

## After Communion

We have seen the true light . . .

## Parish Notes

### Altar Servers Today

Alexander Sieck, Alexander Haynes, Ethan Haynes, Rim Gibrealfa, John Pridgen, Jonah Sieck, Michael Fogg, Justin Fogg.

### Special Attention

- **Estimated Giving Forms.** Please complete your **Estimated Giving Form.** *The completed form can be given to Ron Evancho (All Saints Financial Secretary), or to Ray Azrak, or may be left in the weekly offering in an envelope labeled "Estimated Giving Form."*
- **Epiphany House Blessings.** If you wish to have your house blessed this year please sign up for a time on the appropriate week when Father Nicholas is in your area. Sign up sheets with instructions are on the hall bulletin board.

## Epistle and Gospel Readings

### **Prokeimenion:**

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

*For Thou are justified in all that Thou hast done for us.*

### †**Epistle: Heb. 13:7–16 (RSV)**

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood.

Therefore, let us go forth to Him outside the camp and bear the abuse He endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city, which is to come.

Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His Name. Do not neglect to do good and to

share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

### †**Gospel: Luke 17:12–19 (RSV)**

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” When He saw them He said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” And He said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

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## **A Word from Our Fathers**

### **(On the Mystery of the Incarnation)**

“That mystery the Jews traduce, the Greeks deride, but we adore; and your own love and devotion to the Word also will be the greater, because in His Manhood He seems so little worth. For it is a fact that the more unbelievers pour scorn on Him, so much the more does He make His Godhead evident. The things which they, as men, rule out as impossible, He plainly shows to be possible; that which they deride as unfitting, His goodness makes most fit; and things which these wiseacres laugh at as ‘human’ He by His inherent might declares divine. Thus by what seems His utter poverty and weakness on the cross He overturns the pomp and parade of idols, and quietly and hiddenly wins over the mockers and unbelievers to recognize Him as God.”

*(St. Athanasius)*

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