

Saintly Notes

Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg, fool-for-Christ (January 24)

Little is known of her early life. Neither the dates of her birth nor of her death are known. Her birth is believed to have been about 1731 and her death about 1803.

The wife of Colonel Andrei Feodorovich Petrov, who served as a court chorister, Xenia fell into great grief upon the death of her husband when she was 26 years old. Appearing to have lost her mind from her grief, Xenia distributed her possessions to the poor, and keeping and dressing only in the clothes of her husband she wandered the streets of St Petersburg among the paupers. She called herself by her husband's name: Andrei Feodorovich. Her life was centered on God, seeking protection and comfort only in Him. During the nights, she refused refuge and went into the fields where she prayed through the nights.

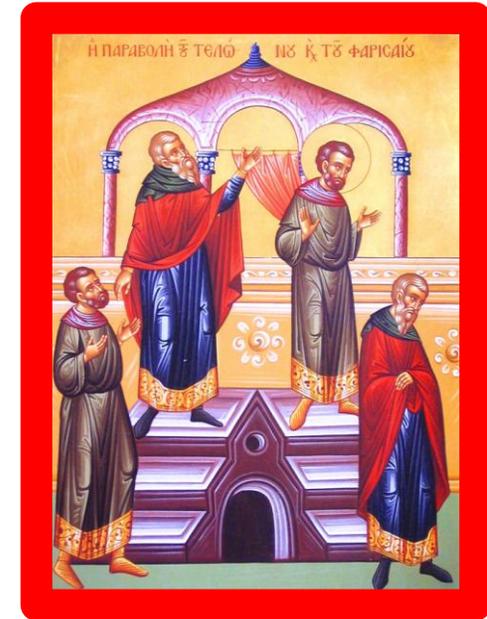
When relatives of Xenia tried to help her with necessities she replied, "I do not need anything." The people of St. Petersburg came to love her as she placed the Kingdom of Heaven before earthly possessions. The people considered her presence in their homes as good signs. Her acceptance of services and bread from merchants, however small, brought them great sales as their customers, who loved the saintly Xenia, frequented those who helped her.

Xenia possessed the gift of clairvoyance. She foretold the deaths of the Empress Elizabeth, in 1761, and of the imprisoned John IV Antonovich, the great-great-grandson of Tsar Alexis, in 1764. After her death her grave became a place of pilgrimage. Portions of the dirt from her grave brought healing for many of the pilgrims.

(www.orthodoxwiki.org)

Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican

January 24, 2010



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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 24, 2010

The Saints Whom We Remember

Hieromartyr Babylas of Sicily; Venerable Xenia the merciful of Rome;
Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg, fool-for-Christ;
Venerable Philotheos, founder of Philotheou monastery on Athos

This Week's Schedule

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Monday: Church Office Closed
Wednesday: 9:15a Third Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers
Saturday: 10:00a Divine Liturgy for the 3 Hierarchs; 5:30p Great Vespers
Sunday: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

Third Antiphon

Resurrectional Troparion—Tone 8

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Little Entrance

- **Entrance Hymn:** "Come, let us worship . . . Alleluia."
- **Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 8):** See above.
- **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 the Presentation of Christ (Tone 1):** Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's *womb*, and, as is 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, have mercy on us . . .

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

Epistle: 1 Cor. 6:12–20
Gospel: Luke 15:11–32

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, Aidan Labrozzi.

Special Attention

- **Building Project Update.** Rain and standing water has slowed progress this past week. As soon as things dry out sufficiently, we will see the laying of footers and cement (possibly this Monday). Please keep praying for safety of the workers and for good weather and for continued and increased building fund and general fund income.
- **Note that the Divine Liturgy for the Three Hierarchs Will Be Celebrated on Saturday Morning and not on Friday Evening.**
- **Haitian Relief Offering.** Again today we will be collecting an offering for the Haitian relief effort of our Archdiocese. We will take this collection at the end of the service. If you have seen the pictures of the disaster on TV you know the great need these people have. May God bless you for your generosity.
- **Get Ready for Great Lent.** This year Great Lent begins February 15th. As usual, we will pray

Forgiveness Vespers on the evening of February 14th at 5:30pm (make attendance a priority this year). During Great Lent there will be a weekly Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on Wednesdays and the weekly Akathist Hymn to the Theotokos on Fridays. Other special services will be announced as well as a full liturgical schedule for Holy Week. Please plan now to attend as many of these Lenten services as you are able.

- **Holy Pascha is on April 4th this year (as is Western Easter).**

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

Make vows to the Lord thy God,
and perform them.

*In Judah God is known; His
Name is great in Israel.*

†**Epistle: 2 Tim. 3:10–15 (RSV)**

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

†**Gospel: Luke 18:10–14 (RSV)**

The Lord spoke this parable:
“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The

Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

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A Word from Our Mothers

“Deeply rooted in people is the love of idle talk, i.e. empty, unnecessary conversations, and it has become a beloved pastime among them. It seems we don’t know and don’t believe that idle talk is a sin, and a serious sin, which gives birth to a multitude of other sins: quarrels, conflicts, gossip, slander, condemnation, calumny, and the like. Indeed, all the various confusions which fill human life to overflowing, all the disturbances of the inner quiet of the soul, have as their source this same idle talk, which has crept into all of everyday life, as though it were its indispensable property and requirement. If any sin or any passion knows how to clothe itself in an attractive form, it is precisely—idle talk.”

(Abbess Thaisia of Leushino, Letters to a Beginner)

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