

Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican

(After - Feast of the Presentation of Christ)

February 5, 2012

Saintly Notes

Martyr Agatha of Sicily (February 5)

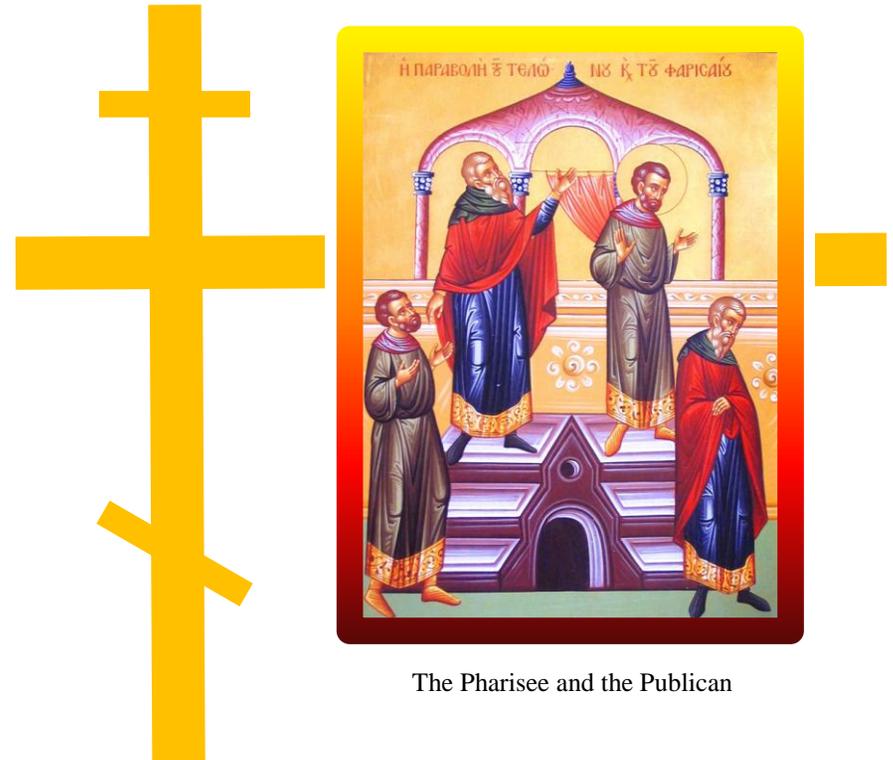
Agatha, this glorious virgin and martyr for Christ, was born in the Sicilian town of Palermo of noble and wealthy parents. When Emperor Decius began a persecution against Christians, St. Agatha was arrested and brought to trial before Judge Quintian.

The judge, seeing Agatha beautiful in countenance, desired to have her for his wife. When he suggested this, Agatha answered that she is the bride of Christ and cannot be unfaithful to her Betrothed. Quintian subjected her to cruel tortures. Agatha was ridiculed, whipped, bound to a tree and flogged until blood flowed. After that, the judge again tried to persuade her to deny Christ and to avoid any further torture and suffering. To that the bride of Christ replied: "These tortures are very beneficial for me; just as wheat cannot arrive at the granary before it is cleansed from the chaff, so my soul cannot enter into Paradise if my body, beforehand, is not humbled by tortures." Then, the torturer ordered that her breasts be cut off and that she be cast into prison.

St. Peter appeared to Agatha in prison and restored her to health and wholeness of body. Again, Agatha was led out for torture and again, cast into prison where she gave up her soul to God in the year 251 A.D. in the town of Catania during the reign of Emperor Decius.

After her death, the torturer Quintian departed for Palermo to usurp her estate. However, along the way, his horse and the horses of his soldiers became wild with rage. Quintian was bitten on the face, thrown to the ground and trampled to death. Swift was the punishment of God that reached out for this savage crime perpetrated against St. Agatha.

(The Prologue from Ochrid)



The Pharisee and the Publican



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(After - Feast of the Presentation 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

January 29, 2012

The Saints Whom We Remember

Martyr Agatha of Sicily; Polyeuktos, patriarch of Constantinople;
New-martyr Anthony of Athens; Venerable Theodosios of Scopelos;
Repose of Theodosios, archbishop of Chernigov

This Week's Schedule

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Monday: Church Office Closed
Tuesday: 10:00a Akathist for Our Children
Wednesday: 9:15a 3rd Hour Prayers; 6:30p Daily Vespers
Saturday: 9:00a Parish Hall Occupied; 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 wast born in the arms of righteous Simeon, save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Third Antiphon

(Tone 1)

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favor. I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations.

Troparion of the Presentation: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness.

Rejoice and be glad, O righteous old man, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

Little Entrance

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

† *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.

† *Troparion of the Presentation of Christ (Tone 1):* 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 of 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 . . . Alleluia.

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday (February 5):

Epistle: 1 Cor. 6:12-20

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Megalynarion (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

Rim Gibrealfa, John Pridgen, Jonah Sieck, Michael Fogg, Justin Fogg, Aidan Labrozzi.

Special Attention

- **Remember Church School and Adult Class.** Please come and study

the Orthodox Christian Faith. Classes for Preschool thru Adults.

- **Epiphany House Blessings.** If you would like for Fr. Nicholas to bless your home this year please sign up during one of the 5 days that he will be in your area. Sign-up sheets are located on the wall in the parish hall. Areas already completed: Cary, Pittsboro, Apex, Fuquay Varina, Willow Springs, Garner, Holly Springs, Wake Forest, Raleigh, and Durham.
- **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.
- **Parents Please Help.** We have had some reports of unsupervised children coming back to the empty nave and church school rooms to run around and to play during the coffee hour. While we want everyone to feel at home in the church, at the same time we must teach our children how to respect church property and how to act when in the presence of the holy things. Parents and adults are the teachers and if the children are unsupervised then no teaching will take place.
 - *The Nave is for worship and prayer not for running wild and playing.
 - *The church school rooms are for teaching and learning not for playing hide and seek.
 - *The exterior of the church should reflect what is inside the church and beckon people to come in; it is not a blank canvas for muddy hand prints and graffiti.
 - ***No one (adult or child)** should ever enter the altar area unless invited by a member of the clergy.
 - *****Parents and adults please teach the children well by word and example.*****

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

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

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

†**Epistle: 2 Tim. 3:10–15**

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**

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 everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

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A Word from Our Fathers

“LET US, THEREFORE, not just call him Lord, for this will not save us. For he says, ‘Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord,” will be saved, but only the one who does what is right.’ So then, brothers, let us acknowledge him in our actions by loving one another, by not committing adultery or slandering one another or being jealous, but by being self-controlled, compassionate, and kind. And we ought to have sympathy for one another, and not be avaricious. By these actions let us acknowledge him, and not by their opposites. Further, we must fear more, not men, but God.”

(II Clement, 1st Century)

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