

# Saintly Notes

## Great-Martyr James the Persian (November 27)

James was born of Christian parents in the Persian city of Elapa (or Vilat), brought up in the Christian Faith and married to a Christian woman. The Persian King Yezdegerd took a liking to James for his talents and skillfulness, and made him a noble at his court.

Flattered by the king, James was deluded and began offering sacrifices to the idols that the king worshiped. His mother and wife learned of this, and wrote him a letter of reproach in which they grieved over him as an apostate and one who was spiritually dead. Yet, at the end of the letter, they begged him to repent and return to Christ. Moved by this letter, James repented bitterly, and courageously confessed his faith in Christ the Lord to the king.

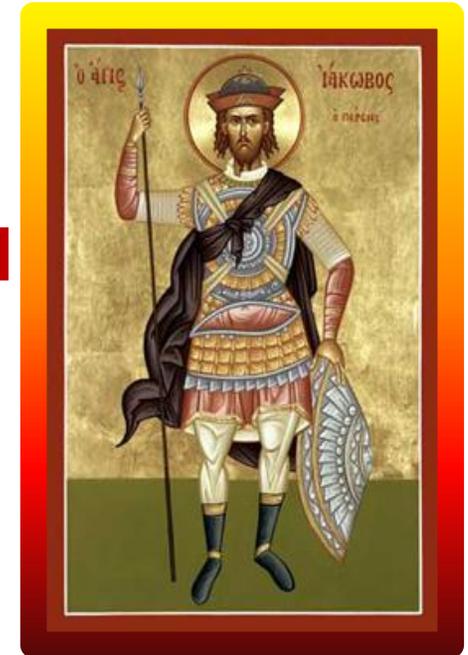
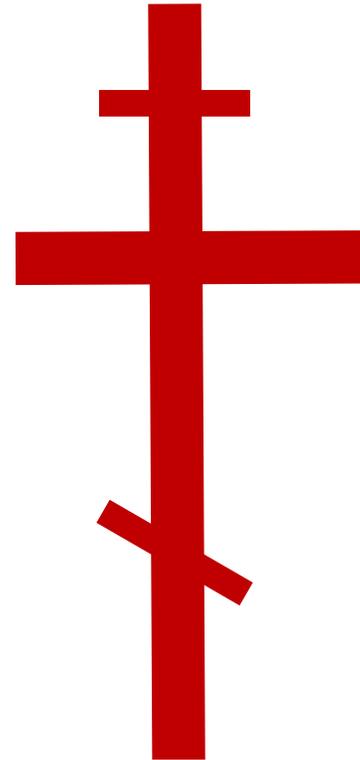
Angered, the king condemned him to death by a special torture: his entire body was to be cut up, piece by piece, until he breathed his last. The executioners fulfilled this command of the wicked king to the letter, and cut off James's fingers, then his toes, his legs and arms, his shoulders, and finally his head. During every cutting, the repentant martyr gave thanks to God. A sweet-smelling fragrance, as of a cypress, emanated from the wounds.

Thus, this wonderful man repented of his sin and presented his soul to Christ his God in the Kingdom of Heaven. James suffered in about the year 400. His head is to be found in Rome and a part of his relics in Portugal, where he is commemorated on May 22.

*(The Prologue from Ochrid)*

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
(Great-Martyr James the Persian)

November 27, 2011



Great-Martyr James the Persian



## 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (Great-Martyr James the Persian)

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

November 27, 2011

### The Saints Whom We Remember

Venerable Palladios of Thessalonika; Venerable Nathanael of Nitria;  
James, bishop of Rostov

### This Week's Schedule

**Today:** 9:00a Orthros; 10:00a Divine Liturgy  
**Monday:** Church Office Closed  
**Tuesday:** 6:30p Eve. Div. Liturgy for St. Andrew  
**Wednesday:** 9:15a 3<sup>rd</sup> Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers  
**Thursday:** 7:00p St. Thekla (Parish Hall)  
**Friday:** 6:30p Advent Paraklesis  
**Saturday:** 9:00a Advent Soup Making (Parish Hall Kitchen); 5:30p Great Vespers  
**Sunday:** 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy;  
12:00noon Annual Voters' Meeting

### 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 7)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross,  
Thou didst open paradise to the thief;  
Thou didst turn the sadness of the  
ointment-bearing women into joy. And  
didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a  
warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ,  
granting to the world the Great Mercy.

### Little Entrance

- † *Entrance Hymn:* "Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ . . . Alleluia."  
† *Resurrectional Troparion (Tone 7)*  
See above.  
† *Troparion for St. James the Persian (Tone 4):* Thy Martyr, O Lord, in his courageous contest for Thee received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For, since he possessed Thy strength, he cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by his prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

† *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):* Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.

### The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty . . . Alleluia.

### Scripture

#### for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday (December 4):

Epistle: Gal. 3:23-29; 4:1-5  
Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

### 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

#### Special Attention

- **Church School and Adult Class Are Now in Full Swing.** 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 Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:00noon.** Please plan now to attend. Child care will be available.
- **Evening Diving Liturgy 6:30pm Tuesday night for St. Andrew.** Please plan to attend.
- **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. Thekla Meeting.** All women who attend All Saints are invited to attend the St. Thekla meeting this Thursday at 7:00pm.
- **Advent Fast.** From November 15<sup>th</sup> through December 24<sup>th</sup>.

O come, O come,  
Emmanuel

## Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

### Prokeimenon:

The Lord will give strength to His people.

*Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.*

### †Epistle: Eph. 2:14–22 (RSV)

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

### †Gospel: Luke 18:18–27 (RSV)

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.'" And the man said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

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## A Word from Our Fathers

“IT IS WELL to place candles before the icons. But it is still better if you bring as a sacrifice to God the fire of your love for Him and your neighbor. It is well that the one should accompany the other. But if you place candles before the icons, and have no love for God and your neighbor in your heart, if you are grasping, if you do not live in peace with others—then, your offering to God is useless.”

(St. John of Kronstadt)

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