

Saintly Notes

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (December 14, 2008)

The **Sunday of the Holy Forefathers** is the Sunday that falls between December 11-17, the second Sunday before the Nativity. The ancestors of Christ according to the flesh are remembered on this Sunday of the Nativity Fast.

All the great Fathers and Mothers and Prophets of the Old Testament, starting with Adam, Abraham, the Righteous Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, including Holy Prophet Elias and Daniel, and concluding with Holy Prophet Zechariah (Zachary), Joachim, Holy Prophet and Forerunner John the Baptist and The Theotokos. They lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3, 22:18).

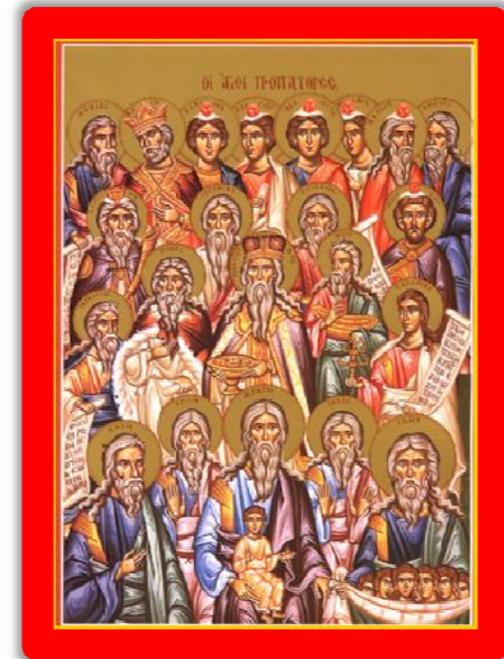
*Through faith You justified the Forefathers,
betrothing through them the Church
of the gentiles.*

*These saints exult in glory,
for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:
She who bore You without seed.
So by their prayers, O Christ God,
have mercy on us!*

(Troparion for the Holy Forefathers of Christ)

Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ

December 14, 2008



Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ

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

December 14, 2008

The Saints Whom We Remember

Martyrs Thyrsos, Leukios and Kallinikos of Apollonia; Martyrs Philemon, Apollonios, Hypatios and Arrianos of Alexandria

This Week's Schedule

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy;
12:15p Special Voters' Meeting
Monday: Church Office Closed
Wednesday: 9:15a Third Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers
Friday: 6:30p Advent Paraklasis
Saturday: 10:00a Div. Liturgy for St. Ignatius; 5:30p Great Vespers
Sunday: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

Third Antiphon

Resurrection 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.

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

of the Resurrection—Tone 1

See above.

Troparion

for the Holy forefathers—Tone 2

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

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 Preparation of 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, Holy Immortal . . .

Epistle and Gospel

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 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

Nicholas Christopoulos, Christian Christopoulos, William Christopoulos, Christopher Wingenbach, Ilya Moundous, Gabriel Pope.

Special Attention

- **Can Goods and Non-Perishable Foods Needed.** The Teen SOYO group continues to collect non-perishable foods for the Raleigh Food Bank. Please help by bringing in your donations. The collection box is located in the narthex of the church.
- **Vote on the New Building Project Today.** We will vote on whether or not to start building the new church addition after the Coffee Break this morning. All voting members of All Saints should be present.
- **Estimated Giving Forms.** Please complete your **Estimated Giving Form** that you received either last Sunday or in the mail this past week. These forms do not legally obligate you, they are simply a tool to help you and our building committee know how to plan for the coming building project. If we are to get a construction loan we will need to show the lending institution documentation of what we expect our future giving will be. Also the data from these Estimated Giving Forms will allow us to efficiently and economically schedule the construction phases of our building project. *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."*
- **Poinsettias for Christmas.** Poinsettias are needed to decorate the Nave for Christmas. Red preferred. Consider buying them early and keeping them at home until the Sunday before Christmas to ensure that we have them before they sell out. Lowe's has 2 quart plants for \$6.00 and 3.5 quart for \$12.00. We need at least 40-50 plants (at least 5 large ones). Bring them in on Sunday Dec. 21st. Contact Andrea Haynes if you prefer to donate \$\$ instead (656-0835). Thanks.

Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenion:

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

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

†**Epistle: Col. 3:4–11 (RSV)**

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

†**Gospel: Luke 14:16–24 (RSV)**

The Lord spoke this parable: “A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had

been invited, ‘Come; for all is now ready.’ But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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A Word from Our Fathers

“Just as a treasure that is exposed loses its value, so a virtue which is known vanishes; just as wax melts when it is near fire, so the soul is destroyed by praise and loses all the results of its labor.”

“It is good not to get angry, but if this should happen, the Apostle does not allow you a whole day for this passion, for he says: ‘Let not the sun go down.’ (Eph. 4:25) Will you wait till all your time is ended? Why hate the man who has grieved you? It is not he who has done the wrong, but the devil. Hate sickness but not the sick person.”

(Mother Synclctica of the Desert)

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THERE ARE NO *GOATS* ON THE
NATIVITY ICON. BUT THERE ARE
PLENTY OF *SHEEP*.

DON'T BE A *GOAT*!!

MORE INFORMATION ON BACK.

YRS = LBS

NATIVITY FAST
CANNED FOOD DRIVE

SPONSORED BY

SOYO

*"[I]nasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My
brethren, you did it to Me."*

--Matt. 25:40

A Parable

"When the SON OF MAN comes in HIS glory, and all the holy angels with HIM, then HE will sit on the throne of HIS glory. All the nations will be gathered before HIM, and HE will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And HE will set the **SHEEP** on HIS right hand, but the **GOATS** on the left.

"Then the KING will say to those on HIS right hand, 'Come, you blessed of MY FATHER, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave ME food; I was thirsty and you gave ME drink...'

"Then the righteous will answer HIM, saying, 'LORD, when did we see YOU hungry and feed YOU, or thirsty and give YOU drink?'

"And the KING will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these MY brethren, you did it to ME.'

"Then HE will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from ME, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave ME no food; I was thirsty and you gave ME no drink...'

"Then they also will answer HIM, saying, 'LORD, when did we see YOU hungry or thirsty ... and did not minister to YOU?'

"Then HE will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to ME.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

--Matthew 25:31-40