

THE EPISTLE

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)

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.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)

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."



Sunday, December 13, 2020

Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ



Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

Tone: 2 Eothinon: 5

RESURRECTION APOLYTIKION: Tone 2

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE 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 it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. HERMAN: Tone 4

Blessed ascetic of the northern wilds and gracious intercessor for the whole world, teacher of the Orthodox Faith, good instructor of piety, adornment of Alaska and joy of all America, holy Father Herman, pray to Christ God that He save our souls.

TROPARION OF THE DORMITION: Tone 1

In giving birth, Thou didst keep Thy virginity and in thy repose, Thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos, for Thou art the mother of life, and Thou didst pass over into life; and through thy intercession from death Thou dost redeem our souls.

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY : Tone 3

*(**The original melody**)*

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word inefably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On December 13 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Eustratios, Auxentios, Eugene, Mardarios, and Orestes at Sebastia; Virgin-martyr Lucia of Syracuse; and Hieromartyr Gabriel, patriarch of Serbia.

On this day, we commemorate our righteous Father Herman of Alaska, Enlightener of the Aleuts, who reposed in peace in the year 1837.

Verses

*Having stripped off the old man with many labors,
To the new world came Herman as an Apostle.
On the thirteenth, Herman shineth with Alaskan gold.*

Herman was born in 1756. At age 16, he entered the Orthodox Christian monastic life at the Holy Trinity-St. Sergius Hermitage near St. Petersburg. Later, he moved to the Valaam Monastery. Father Herman was selected, along with seven other monks, to begin a mission into the Alaskan territory. They arrived on Kodiak Island on September 24, 1794. The monks educated and converted the Aleuts and native Alaskans and, as time progressed, they found themselves protecting the natives from exploitation and abuse. Thus the monks themselves were abused, arrested and physically threatened. The natives regarded Herman as their defender and intercessor before God. Herman died on December 13, 1837, and was forgotten until the first investigation of his life in 1867 by Bishop Peter of Alaska.

On this day we celebrate the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of our Lord Jesus.

Verses

*Receive joy, O Forefathers which lived aforesome,
As now ye behold at hand Christ the Messiah.*

Be glad, O Abraham, for thou art shown to be the forefather of Christ.

We remember all the holy Patriarchs of the Old Testament who prefigured or foretold Christ: Adam the first Father, Enoch, Melchizedek, Abraham, the friend of God, Isaac, the fruit of the Promise, Jacob and the twelve patriarchs. We then commemorate those who lived under the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel, David, and the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel; the twelve minor prophets; Elijah, Elisha, Zachariah, and John the Baptist; and finally the Virgin Mary, the intermediary between mankind and her divine Son. Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity which bemoaned the weight of evil since Adam; to realize the promise made to Abraham; to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love; and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Al Hallal
Offered by: Ron Hallal

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Elaine Swistak
Al Hallal
Elie Kandalaft
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Elaine Swistak
Al Hallal
Offered by: Anita, John, Reyna & Anthony Chamoun

Elaine Swistak
Al Hallal
Offered by: Walid & Mirna Nakhoul

Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

Elaine Swistak
Albert Hallal
Janice Hallal
Elie Kandalaft
Offered by: Elaine Gauthier

Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

Bob Vale
Offered by: Sandra Matook & Family

Albert Hallal
Elie Kandalaft
Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Leila & Ray Trabulsi

Albert Hallal
Offered by: Kenneth & Rania Salhany & Family

Albert Hallal
Elie Kandalaft
Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos
Elias Kandalaft
Albert Hallal
Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Lorice Hallal



Elias Kandalaft
Albert Hallal
Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Dr. Edward & Paula Hallal & Family

Elias Kandalaft
Albert Hallal
Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Peter & Robin Soderlund & Family

Mitchell "Mac" Waian
Offered by: The Ganim Family

Albert Hallal
Elie Kandalaft
Elaine Swistak
Offered by: Nora Matook & Family

Albert Hallal (brother-in-law)
Offered by: Carolyn Ganim

Albert Hallal (uncle)
Offered by: Mark Ganim

Albert Hallal (uncle)
Offered by: Leslie & Christopher Hamilton & Family

John Massiwer
Don Hayes
Tom Andrew
Eli & Mary Kandalaft
Joyce Kelley
Fred, Sophie & Paula Hallal
Albert Hallal
James & Mary Hallal
Janice Hallal
Elaine & John Swistak
Charlie Agaty
Mary & Anthony Agaty
Offered by: Mary Massiwer & Family

Don Hayes
John Massiwer
Tom Andrew
Eli & Mary Kandalaft
Joyce Kelley
Fred, Sophie & Paula Hallal
Albert Hallal
Janice Hallal
Elaine & John Swistak
Charlie Agaty
Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

Elaine Swistak
Offered by: St. Mary's Choir

**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR
GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Victoria Hallal
Offered by: Ron Hallal

Josephine Karam
Mother Xenia Minihan
Ed Betor
Bette & Philip Ayoub
Sue Ayoub
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

Ron Hallal
Offered by: Rhonda Hallal, Bob Lienert, Hanna & Emma, Sharyn Hallal, Keith & Maria Hallal, Isabel & Matthew

Renda, John, Natalia & Julia Ferrari
Fareed Hawwa
Offered by: Tawfik & Olga Hawwa

All Parishioners
Vicki Hallal & Family
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Vicki Hallal & Family
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Offered by: Anita, John, Reyna & Anthony Chamoun

Vicki Hallal & Family
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Offered by: Walid & Mirna Nakhoul

Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Vicki Hallal, her children & grandchildren
Bette & Phil Ayoub
Ed & Sue Ayoub
Our Fellow Parishioners at St. Mary
Offered by: Elaine Gauthier

Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Fr. Elie, Kh. Rouba & Family
Yolla Atik
All our parishioners recovering from Covid
Offered by: St. Mary's Choir

Victoria Hallal
Karen & Linus Vachon & Family
James & Paula Hallal & Family
David & Terry Hallal & Family
Offered by: Kenneth & Rania Salhany & Family



Vicki Hallal & Family
Russell & John Kandalaft & Families
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

Sue Ayoub
Bette & Phil Ayoub
Judy & Leon Josephs
Sheryl Kogut
All parishioners with Covid
Offered by: Bill & Mary Lou Catelli

Victoria Hallal
Ron Hallal
Kandalaft Family
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos

Victoria Hallal & Family
Russell & Joanne Kandalaft & Family
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Victoria Hallal & Family
Russell & Joanne Kandalaft & Family
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Offered by: Dr. Edward & Paula Hallal & Family

Victoria Hallal & Family
Russell & Joanne Kandalaft & Family
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Offered by: Peter & Robin Soderlund & Family

Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Vicki Hallal
Ron Hallal
Offered by: Leila & Ray Trabulsi

John & Patricia Massiwer
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
Elaine Agaty
Ed & Sue Ayoub
Victoria Hallal
Karen & Linus Hallal & Family
David & Terrie Hallal & Family
Jim & Paula Hallal & Josh
Ron Hallal & Family
Russell & Joanne Kandalaft & Family
John Kandalaft & Family
Lorice Hallal & Family
Holly Lazieh & Bob Dessaint & Family
Cheryl & Anthony Nassaney & Family
Nancy & Demitrios Sterpis & Family
Offered by: Mary Massiwer & Family

2020

Parish Christmas Poinsettia Fund

In anticipation of Christmas, we present our very important "Poinsettia Fund" Project

Please accept my donation of \$ _____
to be used in decorating the Church for Christmas.
This donation is made with the following intentions.



For the Good Health and Blessing of:

In Loving Memory of:

From: _____

Please remember to return the form to the Parish Office by Thursday, December 14th.

**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR
GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

Donnie, Lauren, Sarah, Dan & Liz
Offered by: Cindy Hayes



Mary Massiwer & Family
 John & Patricia Massiwer
 Andrea & Stephanie Swistak
 Elaine Agaty
 Ed & Sue Ayoub
 Yolla Atik
 Victoria Hallal
 Karen & Linus Hallal & Family
 David & Terrie Hallal & Family
 Jim & Paula Hallal & Josh
 Ron Hallal & Family
 Russell & Joanne Kandalaft & Family
 John Kandalaft & Family
 Lorice Hallal & Family
 Holly Lazieh & Bob Dessaint & Family
 Cheryl & Anthony Nassaney & Family
 Nancy & Demitrios Sterpis & Family
 Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

Prayers of Good Health & Blessing are being offered to Natalia Rose Ferrari on the occasion of her 4th Birthday.

May God Bless her Always.

Offered by: Tatya, Jiddo, & Uncle Fareed



Arabic Liturgy

Arabic Liturgy is being offered the first Saturday of each month at 6:00 P.M. All are welcome. and encouraged to attend.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sunday, December 13th:** Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ
- Sunday, December 20th:** Sunday before the Nativity (Genealogy)
- Sunday, December 25th:** Christmas Day
- Sunday, December 27th:** Sunday after the Nativity

