

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE

DOR MITION

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Napaфita Vcninnia Npecb. Богороднці A parish of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton

June 28, 2020

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Tone 3; Sunday of All Saints of Rus'-Ukraine

Translation of the Relics of the holy and wonderworking

Unmercenaries Cyrus and John

Address:

15608 -104 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5P 4G5

You will need to register to attend services.

Services:

Sunday Divine Liturgy (Ukr & Eng) at 10 am for June: (English) at 12 noon & soon to return Melkite (Arabic) D.L. at 2 pm

Parish Website: http://dormition.eeparchy.com

Twitter:

@dormitionparish

https://twitter.com/dormitionparish

Eparchial Website:

www.eeparchy.com

Pastor:

Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

Fr. Bo's cell phone: 780-340-FR.BO (3726)

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Today we celebrate the memory of the astonishing and holy people which the Holy Spirit produced on the lands of Rus'-Ukraine. The Church shows us these extraordinary people - key people - who are nonetheless ordinary people, like us. They are extraordinary because despite all their weaknesses, their mistakes and their sins they always kept on moving towards the highest of callings with faith and faithfulness, with humility and confidence. They hesitated. They often fell down along the way. They were sometimes full of anguish, doubt and pain. But they always ended by getting up again and pushing on towards the light and the truth, towards love and goodness. Thus they were also very ordinary people - like us. By

honouring the saints we honour God, for respect shown to them is respect shown to God. The saints did not become saints through their own power; their holiness is the result of God's grace. All they are they owe to God.

Your martyrs' blood testifies before heaven and earth to your unwavering faith in God. You are our powerful intercessors before the throne of the Most High. Therefore, with the Mother of God, implore the heavenly Father, the Saviour Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, a continuous blessing upon our Church and nation, so that they could joyfully and freely glorify your holy names.

Tomorrow we celebrate the

Illustrious apostles Sts. Peter and Paul,

(June 29) and on the following day (Tuesday, June 30) we celebrate the synaxis of all the apostles.

Last year I challenged everyone if they could name all 12 of the apostles. Let's see how many we can remember before flipping to the next pages.



Saints of the Day for June 28 (oca.org)

Translation of the Relics of the holy and wonderworking Unmercenaries Cyrus and John

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Martyrs, Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, Cyrus and John from the city of Konopa, near Alexandria (where they suffered in the year 311) to the nearby village of Manuphin, took place in the year 412. This Egyptian village prompted fear in everyone, since in a former time there was a pagan temple inhabited by evil spirits. Patriarch Theophilus (385-412) wanted to cleanse this place of demons, but he died. His wish was fulfilled by his successor in the See of Alexandria, the holy Patriarch Cyril (412-444). He prayed fervently in carrying out this project. An angel of the Lord appeared in a vision to the hierarch and commanded the venerable relics of Saints Cyrus and John be transferred to Manuphin. His Holiness Patriarch Cyril did the angel's bidding and built a church at Manuphin in the name of the holy martyrs.

From that time this place was purified of the Enemy's influence, and by the prayers of the holy Martyrs Cyrus and John there began to occur many miracles, healings of the sick and infirm.

Saint Cyrus was a noted physician in the city of Alexandria, where he had been born and raised. He was a Christian and he treated the sick without charge, not only curing their bodily afflictions, but also healing their spiritual infirmities. He would say, "Whoever wishes to avoid being ill should refrain from sin, for sin is often the cause of bodily illness." Preaching the Gospel, the holy physician converted many pagans to Christ. During the persecution by Diocletian (284-305), Saint Cyrus withdrew into Arabia, where he became a monk. He continued to heal people by his prayer, having received from God the gift to heal every sickness.

In the city of Edessa at this time lived the soldier John, a pious Christian. When the persecution started, he went to Jerusalem and there he heard about Saint Cyrus. He began to search for him, going first to Alexandria and then to Arabia. When Saint John finally found Saint Cyrus, he remained with him and became his faithful follower.

They learned of the arrest of the Christian woman Athanasia and her three young daughters. Theoctiste was fifteen; Theodota, was thirteen; and Eudoxia, was eleven. Saints Cyrus and John hastened to the prison to help them. They were concerned that faced with torture, the women might renounce Christ.

Saints Cyrus and John gave them courage to endure what lay before them. Learning of this, the ruler of the city arrested Saints Cyrus and John, and seeing their steadfast and fearless confession of faith in Christ, he brought Athanasia and her daughters to witness their torture. The tyrant did not refrain from any form of torture against the holy martyrs. The women were not frightened by the sufferings of Saints Cyrus and John, but courageously continued to confess Christ. They were flogged and then beheaded, receiving their crowns of martyrdom.

At the same place they executed the Holy Unmercenaries Cyrus and John. Christians buried their bodies in the church of the holy Evangelist Mark. In the fifth century the relics of Saints Cyrus and John were transferred from Canopis to Manuphin. Later on their relics were transferred to Rome, and from there to Munchen (Munich). Saints Cyrus and John are invoked by those who have difficulty in sleeping.





Sermon of Saint Augustine, Bishop of Hippo

St. Peter, the fervent follower of Jesus Christ, for the profound confession of His Divinity: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God," was deemed worthy by the Savior to hear in answer, "Blessed art thou, Simon ... I tell thee, that thou art Peter [Petrus], and on this stone [petra] I build

My Church" (Mt.16:16-18). On "this stone" [petra], is on that which thou sayest: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God" it is on this thy confession I build My Church. Wherefore the "thou art Peter": it is from the "stone" [petra] that Peter [Petrus] is, and not from Peter [Petrus] that the "stone" [petra] is, just as the Christian is from Christ, and not Christ from the Christian. Do you want to know, from what sort of "rock" [petra] the Apostle Peter [Petrus] was named? Hear the Apostle Paul: "Brethren, I do not want ye to be ignorant," says the Apostle of Christ, "how all our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and all were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ" (1 Cor.10: 1-4)....

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the final days of His earthly life, in the days of His mission to the race of man, chose from among the disciples His twelve Apostles to preach the Word of God. Among them, the Apostle Peter for his fiery ardor was vouchsafed to occupy the first place (Mt.10:2) and to be as it were the representative person for all the Church. Therefore it is said to him, preferentially, after the confession: "I will give unto thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in the heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth: shall be loosed in heaven" (Mt.16: 19). Therefore it was not one man, but rather the One Universal Church, that received these "keys" and the right "to bind and loosen." And that it was actually the Church that received this right, and not exclusively a single person, turn your attention to another place of the Scriptures, where the same Lord says to all His Apostles, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit" and further after this, "Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them: and whose soever sins ye retain, are retained" (John 20: 22-23); or: "whatsoever ye bind upon the earth, shall be bound in Heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth, shall be loosened in heaven" (Mt.18:18). Thus, it is the Church that binds, the Church that loosens; the Church, built upon the foundational cornerstone, Jesus Christ Himself (Eph 2:20), doth bind and loosen. Let both the binding and the loosening be feared: the loosening, in order not to fall under this again; the binding, in order not to remain forever in this condition. Therefore "Iniquities ensnare a man, and everyone is bound in the chains of his own sins," says Wisdom (Prov 5:22); and except for Holy Church nowhere is it possible to receive the loosening.

After His Resurrection the Lord entrusted the Apostle Peter to shepherd His spiritual flock not because, that among the disciples only Peter alone was pre-deserved to shepherd the flock of Christ, but Christ addresses Himself chiefly to Peter because, that Peter was first among the Apostles and as such the representative of the Church; besides which, having turned in this instance to Peter alone, as to the top Apostle, Christ by this confirms the unity of the Church. "Simon of John" -- says the Lord to Peter -- "lovest thou Me?" -- and the Apostle answered: "Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee"; and a second time it was thus asked, and a second time he thus answered; being asked a third time, seeing that as it were not believed, he was saddened. But how is it possible for him not to believe That One, Who knew his heart? And wherefore then Peter answered: "Lord, Thou knowest all; Thou knowest that I love Thee." "And sayeth Jesus to him" all three times "Feed My sheep" (John 20:15-17).

Besides this, the triple appealing of the Savior to Peter and the triple confession of Peter before the Lord had a particular beneficial purpose for the Apostle. That one, to whom was given "the keys of the kingdom" and the right "to bind and to loose," bound himself thrice by fear and cowardice (Mt.26:69-75), and the Lord thrice loosens him by His appeal and in turn by his confession of strong love. And to shepherd literally the flock of Christ was acquired by all the Apostles and their successors. "Take heed, therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock," the Apostle Paul urges church presbyters, "over which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of the God, which He hath purchased with His own blood" (Acts 20:28); and the Apostle Peter to the elders: "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof not by constraint, but willingly: not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind: neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when is appeared the Prince of pastors, ye will receive unfading crowns of glory" (1 Pet. 5:2-4).

It is remarkable that Christ, having said to Peter: "Feed My sheep," did not say: "Feed thy sheep," but rather to feed, good servant, the sheep of the Lord. "Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Cor.1:13). "Feed My sheep". Wherefore "wolfish robbers, wolfish oppressors, deceitful teachers and mercenaries, not being concerned about the flock" (Mt.7:15; Acts 20:29; 2 Pet 2:1; John 10:12), having plundered a strange flock and making of the spoils as though it be of their own particular gain, they think that they feed their flock. Such are not good pastors, as pastors of the Lord. "The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep" (John 10:11), entrusted to Him by the chief Shepherd Himself (1 Pet 5:4). And the Apostle Peter, true to his calling, gave his soul for the very flock of Christ, having sealed his apostleship by a martyr's death, is now glorified throughout all the world.



The Apostle Paul, formerly Saul,

was changed from a robbing wolf into a meek lamb. Formerly he was an enemy of the Church, then is manifest as an Apostle. Formerly he stalked it, then preached it. Having received from the high priests the authority at large to throw all Christians in chains for execution, he was already on the way, he breathed out "threatenings and slaughter

against the disciples of the Lord" (Acts 9:1), he thirsted for blood, but "He that dwells in the Heavens shall laugh him to scorn" (Ps 2:4). When he, "having persecuted and vexed" in such manner "the Church of God" (1Cor.15:9; Acts 8:5), he came near Damascus, and the Lord from Heaven called to him: "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" and I am here, and I am there, I am everywhere: here is My head; there is My body. There becomes nothing of a surprise in this; we ourselves are members of the Body of Christ. "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me; it is hard for thee to kick against the goad" (Acts 9:4-5). Saul, however, "trembling and frightened", cried out: "Who art Thou, Lord?" The Lord answered him, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest."

And Saul suddenly undergoes a change: "What wantest Thou me to do?" -- he cries out. And suddenly for him there is the Voice: "Arise, and go to the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do" (Acts 9:6). Here the Lord sends Ananias: "Arise and go into the street" to a man, "by the name of Saul," and baptize him, "for this one is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel" (Acts 9: 11, 15, 18). This vessel must be filled with My Grace. "Ananias, however, answered: Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he hath done to Thy saints in Jerusalem: and here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Thy Name" (Acts 9:13-14). But the Lord urgently commands Ananias: "Search for and fetch him, for this vessel is chosen by Me: for I shall show him what great things he must suffer for My name's sake" (Acts 9:11, 15-16).

And actually the Lord did show the Apostle Paul what things he had to suffer for His Name. He instructed him the deeds; He did not stop at the chains, the fetters, the prisons and shipwrecks; He Himself felt for him in his sufferings, He Himself guided him towards this day. On a single day the memory of the sufferings of both these Apostles is celebrated, though they suffered on separate days, but by the spirit and the closeness of their suffering they constitute one. Peter went first, and Paul followed soon after him. Formerly called Saul, and then Paul, having transformed his pride into humility. His very name (Paulus), meaning "small, little, less," demonstrates this. What is the Apostle Paul after this? Ask him, and he himself gives answer to this: "I am," says he, "the least of the Apostles... but I have labored more abundantly than all of them: yet not I, but the grace of God, which was with me" (1 Cor.15:9-10).

And so, brethren, celebrating now the memory of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, remembering their venerable sufferings, we esteem their true faith and holy life, we esteem the innocence of their sufferings and pure confession. Loving in them the sublime quality and imitating them by great exploits, "in which to be likened to them" (2 Thess 3: 5-9), and we shall attain to that eternal bliss which is prepared for all the saints. The path of our life before was more grievous, thornier, harder, but "we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses" (Heb 12: 1), having passed by along it, made now for us easier, and lighter, and more readily passable. First there passed along it "the author and finisher of our faith," our Lord Jesus Christ Himself (Heb 12: 2); His daring Apostles followed after Him; then the martyrs, children, women, virgins and a great multitude of witnesses. Who acted in them and helped them on this path? He Who said, "Without Me ye can do nothing" (John 15: 5)

Short Biographies of the (other II of the) Twelve Apostles Taken from goarch.org



Andrew

A disciple of John the Baptist, Andrew heard him refer to Jesus as the Lamb of God. Andrew asked for an audience and saw Jesus for a day, then proclaimed, "We have found the Messiah," in itself a creed and confession for the Christian faith. He brought his brother, Simon-Peter, to Christ. Although not one of the

inner circle, he played the first role in several events which are recorded. Eusebius in his Church History states that Andrew later went to Scythia. According to tradition he was martyred at Patras, Greece, crucified on an X-shaped cross, which since has become known as St. Andrew's Cross. He is regarded as being connected with the writing of St. John's Gospel. According to tradition, he is the founder of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.



James (The Greater)

He was the son of Zebedee. He, with his elder brother John and with Peter, constituted the privileged group - the inner circle of the disciples. James was present at the Transfiguration and the Agony in Gethsemane. His zeal was ardent and he and his brother were named by the Lord "Boanerges", which means "sons of thunder". James was beheaded by Herod Agrippa I in A. D. 44,

the first of the Twelve to suffer martyrdom. A theory that he preached in Spain is counter to the tradition of the Church and the Epistle to the Romans, 15:20 and 24, which concur that he

did not leave Jerusalem. According to an old Spanish tradition, the body of St. James was transferred to Santiago de Compostela, Spain, where St. James was one of the most revered Spanish saints during the Middle Ages.



John

He was one of the inner circle with Peter and James. The son of Zebedee, he and his brother James were named the "sons of thunder". John is the author of the fourth Gospel, the Book of Revelation and three Catholic Epistles. He was imprisoned with Peter and later appeared in the Sanhedrin. John also was sent with Peter to Samaria, where they prayed that the

converts might receive the Holy Spirit. In Jerusalem, he was present at the Council of the Apostles. John was "one of the two" with Andrew who first had an audience with the Lord, He was the one "whom Jesus loved" and who reclined on his bosom at the Mystic Supper.

Jesus from His cross entrusted His mother to John at the foot of the cross. He was the one who ran with Peter to the tomb on the morning of the resurrection, and who recognized the Risen Lord at the Sea of Tiberius, where our Lord spoke to him the words that he would not die (John 21:7).

According to tradition, he went to Asia Minor and settled in Ephesus. Later he was exiled to Patmos, an island.



Phillip

He is the Apostle from Bethsaida who obeyed the call of Jesus and led Nathaneal to Christ. At the feeding of the 5,000 people, Jesus said to Phillip to buy bread, and Phillip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." Phillip on another occasion asked Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father" and Jesus retorted, "Yet you do not

know me Phillip?" Phillip the Apostle should not be confused with Phillip, one of the seven Deacons. The Apostle Phillip preached the Gospel in Asia and suffered crucifixion, according to tradition.



Bartholomew

His name is patronymic, meaning "son of Tolmai". Sometimes he is identified with Nathaneal whom Phillip led to Christ. According to the historian Eusebius, when Pantainus of Alexandria visited India between 150 and 200 A. D., he found there the Gospel according to Matthew left behind by Bartholomew one of the Apostles. According to tradition, Bartholomew was flayed to death at Albanapolis in Armenia.



Matthew

He was the evangelist who was a Jew and a tax-collector referred to as Levi before he was called by Christ, Whom be followed. He is the author of the First Gospel. In his genealogy of Jesus Christ, he emphasizes the Lord's human nature and origin. Therefore, in Christian symbolism, Matthew has been represented by the figure of man

(cf Rev 4:7). The icon of Matthew in the Orthodox Church is to be found in one of the four triangles which are formed by the arches connected to the dome of the Church.



Thomas

He was called the Twin. On the way to Bethany He offered to die with Jesus. He interrupted the last discourse of Jesus with the question "We know not whither thou goest; how know we the way?". Thomas doubted the resurrection of Christ unless he were to touch the wounds of the Risen Lord, but later confessed his faith in Him:

"My Lord and My God" - the first to

confess so explicitly the Lord's divinity.

According to tradition, Thomas evangelized the Parthians. The Syrian Christians of Malabar called themselves "Christians of St. Thomas" and claimed they were evangelized by the Apostle Thomas, who was martyred and buried at Mylapore near Madras.



James (The Lesser)

He was the son of Alphaeus. Was he the Lord's relative? This is doubted. Was he James the younger (or the "lesser", Mark. 15:40)? There are insufficient reasons to establish this either. Nothing is known of him.



Simon

He was called Cananaean and Zealot, two terms of the same Hebrew word. According to the Apocryphal "Passion of Simon and Jude", both of them preached and underwent martyrdom in Persia. In the New Testament, Simon, one of the brethren of the Lord, was identified with Simon the Apostle. There were many others bearing the same name in the New Testament.



Jude

He is the Apostle referred to in the Gospel as "Judas of James", "Judas not the Iscariot". He also is known as Thaddaeus or Lebbacus. Jude was the brother of James (or the son of James RV), the "brethren of the Lord" - the Lord's relative. Jude is the author of the Epistle of Jude. The Apocryphal "Passion

of Simon and Jude" depicted them in Persia where they preached and underwent martyrdom.



Judas Iscariot

A selected Apostle, one of the Twelve, he betrayed Christ to the Jewish Sanhedrin - the supreme council and highest court of justice in Jerusalem and kissed the Lord at the time of the arrest. He later committed suicide. The title "Iscariot", meaning in the Hebrew "man of Kerioth", a place in South Palestine, implies that Judas was from Judea. He was the only one from there, whereas the other Apostles were from Galilee. After his suicide the Apostles elected Matthias to replace him as one of the Twelve Apostles.



Matthias

Matthias is the disciple of Christ who replaced Judas Iscariot as one of the Twelve Apostles after the latter's betrayal and suicide. His appearance in icons is entirely in keeping with what is known about him. Schooled in the Law by the <u>Prophet Simeon</u>, who received the infant Christ in the temple, Matthias was already a man of

maturity before becoming a disciple of the adult Christ. By the time of his martyrdom in 63A.D., Matthias would be the elderly man depicted in Icons of him.

There are I4 Apostles listed here!

Which of these 14 are the real 12? St. Paul and St. Matthias were not of the original 12.



BEWARE OF EMAIL SCAMMERS using Fr. Bo's name. Several people have received emails that claim to be from me asking for help in the form of gift cards. These emails are not from me. I will only send out emails from <u>fr.bo.nahachewsky@gmail.com</u> or from <u>fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com</u>, and I will never ask for gift cards or any such thing. They have been using other priest's names as well. Please beware.

Our parish is open again!

We invite you to come back and pray with us if you feel ready to do so. Of course there will be many precautions as we want to make sure that everyone remains healthy. We will strictly follow all the rules and regulations of both AHS and the Eparchy of Edmonton.

In order to attend, please go to our website: <u>DORMITION.EEPARCHY.COM</u> and click on the "Reserve a Spot" button.

I hope to see you soon. - Fr. Bo

Save the Date for the 5th annual Called to be Holy, Men's Conference and Retreat: Nov. 6, 7, 2020.

At this point we are not sure if we will be gathering in person or virtually but rest assured that <u>WE WILL BE GATHERING IN SOME WAY</u> to talk, to listen, to share and to pray together. The theme for this year is: Wholeness of Being, Body, Mind, Spirit

We have a brilliant line up of speakers and you can expect to experience thought provoking presentations and discussions, looking at Wholeness of Being through the lens of Scripture, Spirituality, Morality, Ethical Questions, Sports, and Culture.

I (Bernie Mandrusiak) will be sending information about our presenters and the titles of their talks soon and you can expect emails (and in this bulletin) with further information as details are solidified. Mark your calendar! Share this information with others! If you know someone that should be added to my (Bernie's) email list please send me their names and addresses. We expect to be making the decision as to whether we will be meeting in person or virtually by <u>mid September.</u>



Keeping the camp spirit thriving through COVID-19, this year Camp St. Basils will be held online!

ZOOM sessions will take place from 10-11a.m. MST for campers to be guided though activities such as: crafts, games, and religion lessons inspired by this year's theme - miracles!





NO CHARGE! Campers from all across Canada welcome!

Register by June 30th on our website! https://tinyurl.com/campstbasil

For more information or further inquiries visit our website, or contact us at CampSaintBasils@gmail.com 780-434-8010



The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada's National Executive is offering two \$1000 scholarships for post secondary students enrolled in Ukrainian Studies and Religious Studies. Look to older bulletins for details.

Are you looking to support the parish financially, but you'd like to do it from the safety of your home?

Dormition parish is accepting donations via:

- the mail to the Eparchial Pastoral Centre (9645 108 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T5H 1A3) remember do not mail cash,
- or through our Eparchial Donation Webpage which can be accessed here: <u>https://eeparchy.com/donate/</u> don't forget to specify that the donation is for Dormition Parish,
- or via credit card over the phone during office hours at the Eparchial Pastoral Centre: 780-424-5496.

We are very grateful for all of your support.



How does this fundraiser work?

This fundraiser will begin soon (Spring). On each day of the last week of July (Flamingo Week), a flock of flamingo lawn ornaments will land on somebody's randomly drawn lawn for the day.

You can enter all of your friends, family, neighbours, co-workers, even businesses into our draw barrel for only \$2 each starting now at **CampOselia.com**. That's it. We will send your nominated people an email letting them know that you have personally and lovingly "Flamingoed" them.

The people whom you have "flamingoed", of course, will have the opportunity to return the favour by "flamingoing" you back... and perhaps others might nominate you too. Therefore we suggest you purchase a \$20 "Anti-Pink-Flamingo" insurance policy if you want to keep your front lawn flamingo free.

All the proceeds of this fundraiser will go towards trying to make Camp Oselia the greatest, most exciting, safest, and coolest camp in the world! (even though this year we will not be able to run any camps due to the pandemic)

June 28: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Tone 3; Sunday of All Saints of Rus'-Ukraine

Troparion: Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead;* He saved us from the abyss of Hades* and granted great mercy to the world.

Troparion: O you, who glorified Christ:* princes and bishops,* monastics and martyrs,* and steadfast confessors of Christian Ukraine throughout all times,*pray Christ God to look with favour on our people* and to grant them the grace to persevere in the faith* that the souls of prayerful faithful* who revere your sacred memory* may be saved.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion: You rose from the tomb, O compassionate Lord,* and led us out from the gates of death.* Today Adam exults and Eve rejoices,* and the prophets together with the patriarchs* unceasingly acclaim the divine might of Your power.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion: You shine as bright beacons,* O God-inspired and righteous saints of our Church.* By your encouraging example,* you serve communities of faithful throughout the Christian world.* Therefore we humbly bow our heads to you* thanking our great and all-gracious God* Who has made you our intercessors in heaven* where you pray for our souls.

Prokeimenon:

Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of joy.

Epistle: Romans 6:18-23 (NRSV)

Brothers and Sisters, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Alleluia:

Verse: In You, O Lord, have I hoped that I may not be put to shame for ever.

Verse: Be a protector unto me, O God, and a house of refuge to save me. (Psalm 30:2,3)

Verse: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord; he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments.

Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13 (NRSV)

At that time, when Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and cure him." The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, "Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you according to your faith." And the servant was healed in that hour.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous.

Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.



Parish News:

- We pray for the health and well-being of all the servants and handmaidens of God who need our prayers: Fr. Josaphat Turkalo, Edward, Verna Hnatiuk, Miranda Mayko, Jean Miskew, Sarah Komar, Marge Woitas, Katie Bunio, Ann Horsman, Louis Pewar & Rosa Maria Santos. (If you know any other people who should be on this list: please email me.)
- We wish God's blessings and **happy birthday** to our parishioner: **John Sokolowski** (July 2) who celebrates his birthday this week. May God grant you many years!
- A BIG Thank-You to all those who have been supporting our parish with online, sent in, and in person donations. Your support is helping us to keep moving forward in this unprecedented time. You are all the greatest.

