

SUNDAY BULLETIN

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15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (September 20th, 2020)

**Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross
Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos; The Holy Martyr Sozon**



***BLESSED FEAST!
GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR BELOVED!!!***

Liturgical Readings:

THE PROKEIMENON IN TONE VI:

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance!

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly

GALATIANS 6: 11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised, that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 6-15

Brethren, for it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed - always carrying

about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

JOHN 3: 13-17

Jesus said, "No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

MATTHEW 22: 35-46

At that time, a certain lawyer asked Jesus a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'" If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on, did anyone dare question Him anymore.

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION - TONE VI:

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who arose from the dead, glory to Thee.

FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS TROPARION - TONE IV:

Today from the stem of Jesse and from the loins of David, the handmaid of God Mary is being born for us. Therefore all creation is renewed and rejoices! Heaven and earth rejoice together. Praise her, you families of nations, for Joachim rejoices and Anna celebrates crying out: 'The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our life!'

TROPARION -THE TRANSFER OF THE RELICS OF SAINT NICHOLAS - TONE IV:

The day of splendid solemnity hath arrived; * and the city of Bari doth rejoice, * and with it the whole world exulteth * with hymns and spiritual odes. * For today we celebrate the sacred feast * of the translation of the precious and much-healing relics * of the hierarch Nicholas the wonder-worker. * For like the never-setting Sun, * he shineth with brilliant beams of light, * driving away the darkness of temptations and misfortunes * from those who with faith cry aloud: * Save us, O Nicholas, ** for thou art our intercessor.

TROPARION TO THE HOLY MARTYR SOZON - TONE IV:

O Martyr Sozon, you pledged your life to God, enduring the contest and becoming a sharer in Christ's passion. Save from temptation those who cry to you: 'Glory to him who strengthened you! Glory to him who crowned you! Glory to him who through you works healing for all!'

RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION - TONE VI:

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and God of all.

KONTAKION TO SAINT NICHOLAS - TONE III

Thy relics have moved like a star, from the East unto the West, * O holy hierarch Nicholas; * and the sea hath been sanctified by thy passage. * The city of Bari receiveth grace through

thee, * for thou hast been shown forth for us * as a wonderworker: ** illustrious, most wondrous and merciful!

GLORY... KONTAKION TO THE HOLY MARTYR SOZON – TONE II:

As we come together on this day, let us with loud voices remember the true and God-bearing martyr and athlete of piety, Sozon, the divine initiate of grace, the most bountiful giver of healings, for he intercedes with God for us all.

NOW AND EVER... FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS KONTAKION – TONE III:

Today the Virgin Theotokos, Mary the bridal chamber of the Heavenly Bridegroom, by the will of God is born of a barren woman, being prepared as the chariot of God the Word. She was fore-ordained for this, since she is the divine gate and the true Mother of Life.

Alleluia Verses

*I have exalted one chosen out of My people
For My hand shall defend him, and My arm shall strengthen him.*

Homily by Fr Rodney Torbic

St. John's Gospel states Jesus came into the world to save the world. Believers are required to take action to be saved. Willingness to adhere to Christ's teachings is necessary.

Temptations and perils to the soul in the world endanger believers. The Lord Jesus Christ said: "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Mt.7:14)

The Lord Jesus Christ's commandments are clear in the Gospel: "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" and

"Love thy neighbour as thyself." (Mt.22:37-39)

The Christian life involves the constant work of prayer, the avoidance of evil and the embracing of Christ's good. Care must always be taken of the heart, the mind and soul.

The Lord is always present to help the believer in the journey to God's Kingdom. (Acts 17:1-31, Mt.11:29, Jn. 3:16) Believers seeking unity with the Lord experience peace, love and joy. (Gal.5:22-23)

God's Holy Church provides believers with the nourishment to remain united with Christ from Holy Baptism until departure from this life. The Church is the refuge and protective harbor from the sins of the world.

God's Kingdom is alive in the Divine services of the Church. Jesus Christ's teachings and Precious Body and Blood thoroughly nourish the faithful in God's Holy Church.

Healings take place in the Church. Anxieties and fears are put to rest and replaced by peace for the faithful coming in faith to the Church. The Church offers the unconditional and unlimited love of the Lord Jesus Christ.

God is always present and at work in the Church. The soul's hunger is addressed in the Church. Personal goals and pursuits foreign to seeking the Kingdom of God leave individuals unsatisfied.

Fear and upheaval are present in today's world. Believers have the responsibility to exhibit Christ's peace in daily life. Believers' actions are expected to demonstrate love of God and neighbor.

Serious believers faithfully adhere to the resolute commitment made to Jesus Christ at Holy Baptism. The Lord Jesus Christ is the life and goal of every moment of the day.

Christ's Cross is a constant presence in the mind of conscientious believers. Jesus' suffering and death on the Cross revealed and verified His great love. Each person is indebted to Christ for His love.

Full gratitude can never be fully given to Christ for His death on the Cross. Believers show gratitude by loving God and neighbor completely in accord with Christ's teachings.

On Feasts of the Mother of God, we hear Jesus Christ's words in St. Luke's Gospel: "Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it." (Lk.11:28) Joy comes from heeding the word of God.

Today is the Forefeast of the Nativity of the Mother of God. Conscientious believers are mindful of the Mother of God and her relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Mother of God is ever-present as an intercessor before her Son. Believers always have the opportunity to turn to the Mother of God in prayer to intercede before the Lord Jesus Christ in times of need.

Today is a day for unending gratitude to the Lord Jesus Christ for His love, mercy and forgiveness. Every moment of every day merits expressing gratitude to the Lord.

The Church is in this world for believers to experience and remain united with the Lord Jesus Christ. The Church is where to find the nourishment, wisdom and direction for life and life-everlasting.

During the tumultuous and difficult periods of life, turn to the Lord in His Holy Church in prayer with great confidence. Express deepest needs to the Mother of God to intercede before her Son.

Rejoice and give thanks to the Lord for all that takes place. Holy Apostle Paul expressed lasting wisdom to the Thessalonians: He said "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (I Thess. 5:18)

DONATIONS RECEIVED ON SEPTEMBER 13TH

Thank you for your continuing financial support! Please, remember that without our fund raisers and fish fries that we cannot hold at this time, your contributions are more important than ever.

Offering \$1186.00; Candles \$92.00; Donations for \$100 in remembrance of Milos Tumbas Birthday and \$100 in remembrance of the Anniversary of Milos & Milka Tumbas

BELL TOWER FUND - \$19,958.88

Goodwill Drive \$771.20

Large Candle Donations

In memory of Joseph Kondash Jr(Brother) from Rick Kondash

In memory of Damjena & Lazo Gjurich from Dianne Tomak & Family

In memory of Bosa & Lazo Gjurich from Dianne Tomak & Family

In memory of Charles Bulich, Christina Bulich, Mary Dadey, & Louis Daley from Olga Bulich

In memory of parents Nikola Davich, Sara Davich & brother Nickola from Carol McAllister & Family

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE LARGE CANDLES (\$25) - THANK YOU!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY at 7:45 PM – Evening Prayer through the Conference call (339) 207-6529

TODAY (September 20th) – Kolo`s Slava – Blessing of Kolach and Koliva (Kuma – Carole McAllister) & Parastos in memory of +Richard Uzelac

MONDAY (September 21st) – The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy and Parastos for all deceased Kolo members

SATURDAY (September 26th)

6:00 PM – Great Vespers with The Procession of the Cross

SUNDAY (September 27th) – 16th Sunday after Pentecost – The Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Liturgical Readings: Epistle (Gal. 6, 11-18 & 2. Cor. 6, 1-10); Gospel (Jn. 3, 13-17 & Matthew 22, 14-30)

SUNDAY (October 11th) - Pork Chop Dinner –Cost \$13

11:30-1:30 - Take Out - Drive By only

Dear ones,

Please, keep in your hearted prayers our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ

- who suffer of cancer: Jenifer, Linda, Sandy (Sandra Simko)
 - who pray the God for the restoration of health: Irine (Martinovich), Grace (Vuckovich), Ranka (Banda), Edward (Gartell), George (Momcilovic), Nektarios