

SUNDAY BULLETIN

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1ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

VENERABLE JUSTIN OF CHELIJE

(June 14th, 2020)



BLESSED FEAST!

GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR BELOVED!!!

Liturgical Readings:

ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE HEBREWS 11:33-40; 12:1-2

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

MATTHEW 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION - TONE EIGHT:

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: Glory to Thee!

TROPARION TO THE SAINTS - TONE FOUR:

As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Your Church has been adorned with Your martyrs' blood shed throughout all the world. She cries to You, O Christ God: Send down Your bounties on Your people; grant peace to Your habitation, and great mercy to our souls!

***Glory, Now and ever ...*KONTAKION TO THE SAINTS - TONE EIGHT:**

The universe offers You the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace, through the Theotokos, O most merciful One.

Homily by Fr Rodney Torbic

The Lord Jesus Christ places great value in believers that confess and follow Him. This is the Sunday of All Saints. The saints through the centuries are lasting examples of having confessed and followed Christ.

The saints share the common theme of being clearly committed to living and following the life in Jesus Christ. Every believer commits to following Christ at the time of Holy Baptism.

The saints are examples of believers that honored their baptism to an extraordinary degree. The saints left no doubt as to their allegiance to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Every person baptized into Christ has the opportunity to be extraordinarily faithful to Christ. Every person has the freedom of choice to follow Christ completely to the best of personal ability and knowledge.

Hardships arise during the course of life. Temptations are always present. The way a person responds to life's circumstances reveals the depth of personal faith and commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ.

The hunger of the soul is satisfied only in the Lord Jesus Christ. Believers seeking to satisfy the hunger of the soul will seek out Christ, enduring and sacrificing whatever is necessary to fully experience Jesus Christ.

Readers of the lives of the saints learn of great ascetic practices and hardships endured for the Lord Jesus Christ. The saints offer lasting lessons for all generations to benefit.

The Serbian Orthodox Church remembers St. Sava, St. Lazar of Kosovo, St. Budimir(Sokolovic) of Dobrun, New Hieromartyr Momcilo (Grgurevic), St. Nicholai of Zicha, Venerable Justin of Chelije and countless others.

Learning about Jesus Christ and living in Christ is an experience for believers from birth until departure from this life. The Lord Jesus Christ speaks about everlasting life in the current Gospel.

Believers are faced with choices at every moment of life. Conscious and disciplined choices of saying "Yes!" to Jesus Christ keeps the believer from putting the soul in peril and yields everlasting joy.

The Church offers constant nourishment and instruction through the Divine services. The Holy Gospel feeds the hungry soul. Fasting strengthens the believer in the journey to God's Kingdom.

The Apostles Fast begins this week. Believers have the opportunity to strengthen their life in Christ by honoring the Apostles Fast. Becoming more knowledgeable about the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul is always worthwhile.

The Apostles Fast is for all believers in the Church. Honoring the fast is a way to draw closer to the Lord God. Fasting is a discipline to focus the mind, body and soul on the Lord throughout the day.

Believers are not forced to fast. Believers are not forced to pray or to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. The life in Christ is totally voluntary. The life in Christ improves by prayer and fasting.

Effort is necessary to follow Christ. Hardships may occur for those living in Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ set the example for those following Him when He went to the Cross.

We know joy comes from the Cross. The Cross gave way to Christ's Resurrection and the changing of the world forever. The current Gospel speaks about each believer taking up his or her cross.

Each person's cross may be different but shares the common experience with Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ will help each believer to endure pain and suffering that comes with carrying the personal cross.

Christ's love heals any hurt a believer will experience. Christ brings peace and joy to the believer filled with Jesus Christ in the heart, mind and soul. Believers confessing Jesus Christ with their lives are known to Christ.

This Sunday of All Saints let us be mindful of the saints known and unknown through the centuries. Let us give thanks to the saints for their contributions to making the world a better place.

If we want to learn more about the Lord Jesus Christ, let us learn from the saints who saw in Christ the life worth living and following. The saints will fill our hearts with joy and nourish our hearts and minds with their lives.

The saints offer opportunities for limitless learning about Christ. The passing of centuries testifies to the enduring lessons of the saints for succeeding generations.

God's Holy Church commemorates the saints on the Sunday following Pentecost each year. We do well to remember the saints each day of the year and learn from them.

DONATIONS RECEIVED ON JUNE 7TH

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 \$2580.00; Candles \$98.00; Parastos \$50.00; Dues \$15.00; Charity \$20.00
Donations to the Building Fund from Mary Heck \$20 in memory of Mitch Saula and \$20 in memory of Bill Kelly

BELL TOWER FUND - \$17,685.60

In memory of Nancy Gardenhour for \$50 from Mike & Mary Raich; In memory of Milos P. Tumbas for Fathers Day for \$100 from Dianna Dunnington; In Honor of Milica Knepp's Birthday for \$100 from Dianna Dunnington.

The exterior Bell Tower repair has been completed!

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

BOOK OF THE MONTH JUNE
“Liturgy and Life” – Fr Alexander Schmemmann

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

TODAY (June 14th)

7:00 PM - “Orthodoxy Live” on FB Page Diocese of Eastern America of the SOC
Fr Sasa Nedic – St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Carmichaels

SATURDAY (Jun 20th)

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

SUNDAY (Jun 21st) – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Liturgical Readings: Epistle (Rom. 2, 10-16); Gospel (Matthew 4, 18-23)

Dear ones,

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

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