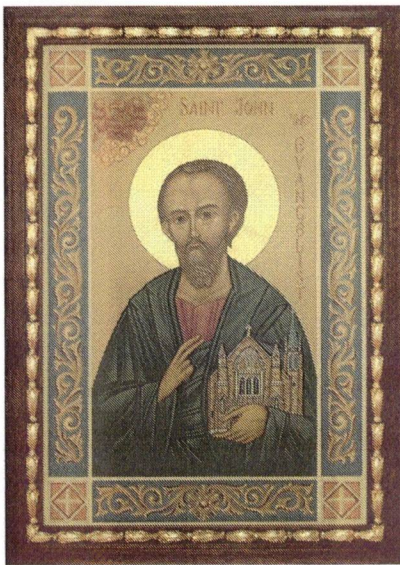


December 01, 2024



***ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH***

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

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**HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND**

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

**HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON, OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC**

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

***Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .***

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshiping with us.

***Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer,
please contact Fr. Seraphim***

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.

DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 01, 2024

TONE 6 / EOTHINON 1; TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

**The Holy Prophet Nahum; Venerable Philaret the Almsgiver of Amnia;
Martyr Ananias the Persian**

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

O beloved Apostle of Christ God, Come quick and save a people with no recourse. He who let you rest your head on his breast, will not reject your pleas on our behalf. Beseech him then, O wise and holy theologian. Dispel from us the dark and omanous clouds of disbelief. Grant us all of his peace and great mercy.

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

*(**The original melody**)*

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * 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 EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:4-10)

Brethren, God, Who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast. For, we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

THE SYNAXARION

On December 1 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy and glorious Prophet Nahum.

Verses

Longing doth draw me to anoint with the myrrh of discourse

Nahum the Elkoshite, who hath yielded up his spirit.

On the first, Nahum was conveyed out of life.

Nahum was born of the tribe of Simeon in a place called Elkosh on the far side of the Jordan. He lived about seven hundred years before Christ and prophesied the destruction of Nineveh about two hundred years after the Prophet Jonah had warned the Ninevites. Because of Jonah's preaching, the Ninevites had repented, and God had spared them and not destroyed them. In time, however, they forgot God's mercy and again became corrupt. The Prophet Nahum prophesied their destruction, and since there was no repentance, God did not spare them. The entire city was destroyed by earthquake, flood and fire, so that its location is no longer known. The Prophet Nahum lived for forty-five years and entered into rest in the Lord, leaving us a small book of his true prophecies.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Philaret the Almsgiver of Amnia; and Martyr Ananias the Persian. .

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DONATION BY AA MEMBERS

An Icon of the Theotokos, "Christ and the Healing Saints" was donated to the church by members of AA. **It is hanging on the left rear wall as we leave the church.** We are grateful to them for this gift and the care that they take of our church hall.

DECEMBER SERVICES

November 30th Saturday — GREAT VESPERS 5PM

December 1st Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

****December 4th Wednesday — 6PM Compline Prayers, and
A Light Meal & Time of Study/Fellowship***

December 7th Saturday — 5PM Great Vespers

December 8th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON

****December 11th Wednesday—6PM Compline Prayers and
A Light Meal & Time of Study & Fellowship***

December 14th Saturday — 5PM Great Vespers

December 15th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

**BISHOP THOMAS WILL BE PRESIDING OVER DIVINE LITURGY
AN ADVENT MEAL TO FOLLOW IN HALL**

****December 18th Wednesday—6PM Compline Prayers and
A Light Meal & Time of Study & Fellowship***

Prayers are offered for the health and well-being of:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Ann, Carol, Debbie, Shannon, Aiden, Elise, Justin, Sassic Family, Harriet, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Yvonne, Mary Jo, Charlene, Cindy, Joann, Marlene, Julianna, Breana, Jessica, Nicholas, Ray, Lori and Margaret.

For Thou are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servants who have fallen asleep especially:

Prayers are offered in memory of Infant Micah, and Eleanor

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

IT IS NOT AN EASY THING TO TRANSFORM ONESELF, TO CLEANSE ONESELF FROM PASSIONS AND FILL ONESELF WITH VIRTUES. FOR THE PURIFICATION OF MAN IS NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE. ACCORDING TO THE FATHERS, SPIRITUAL WARFARE IS CARRIED ON BY THE KEEPING OF THE COMMANDMENTS OF CHRIST, AND WE KNOW THAT WHEN A PERSON STRUGGLES TO SUBJECT HIS BODY TO HIS SOUL AND HIS SOUL TO GOD, THE VIRTUES OF BODY AND SOUL ARE PRODUCED.

(METROPOLITAN HIEROTHEOS VLACHOS)

OUR GREATEST "ENEMY"

Have you ever heard the saying "Think before you speak?" Unfortunately, most of us have great difficulty in following this wise advice. How often do we find ourselves regretting the harmful and, sometimes, hateful things we say to one another. If only we could control our tongue!

If we read the Letter of St. James in the New Testament, we see that the tongue has long been mankind's greatest "enemy." Listen to the words of this saintly Apostle concerning this: *"THE TONGUE IS A SMALL PART OF THE BODY, BUT IT MAKES GREAT BOASTS. CONSIDER HOW A GREAT FOREST IS SET ON FIRE BY A SMALL SPARK. THE TONGUE IS ALSO A FIRE -- A WORLD OF EVIL AMONG THE PARTS OF THE BODY. WITH THE TONGUE WE PRAISE OUR LORD AND FATHER, AND WITH IT WE CURSE MEN, WHO HAVE BEEN MADE IN GOD'S LIKENESS. OUT OF THE SAME MOUTH COMES PRAISE AND CURSING. MY BROTHERS, THIS SHOULD NOT BE!"* (James 3:5-10)

It should be frightening for us to realize that one day we will be asked to account for every unkind word we have ever uttered. Rest assured, many of us will undoubtedly be rendered speechless on the day of judgment.

Yes, "taming our tongue" should be a priority for all of us. If we can control what we say, we will, likewise, be able to control what we do. When the Apostle Peter was emphatically denying Christ, he was told: *"YOUR SPEECH BETRAYS YOU."* Remember that the words we say reveal to the world exactly who we are.

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