



SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
ST. KALLISTRATUS



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

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

**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 FR. CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

***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 worshipping with us.

Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Dan Volitch, Joann Rossman or leave message on 724-847-1111.

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 for Sunday, September 27, 2026
Tone 8 / Eothinon 6; Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
& First Sunday of Luke

Martyr Kallistratos and the 49 Martyrs with him
The Apostles Aristarchos, Zenon and Mark of the Seventy

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT

From the heights thou didst descend, O Compassionate One; and thou didst submit to the three day burial, that thou might deliver us from passion. Thou are our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION FOR THE MARTYRS IN TONE FOUR

*(**Be quick to anticipate**)*

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. * For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. * O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

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 ominous clouds of disbelief. Grant us all of his peace and great mercy.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE FOUR

O undisputed intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix who was unrejected by the Creator. Turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners.. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith, for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

***Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.***

**The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the
Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)**

Brethren, we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

THE GOSPEL

(For the First Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

THE SYNAXARION

On Sunday September 27th, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate holy Martyr Kallistratos and the holy 49 Martyrs with him.

Verses

***When Kallistratos' neck with a sword was sundered,
He was joined to the Martyrs' triumphant army.***

On the twenty-seventh Kallistratos and company were taken up hence.

Kallistratos was a soldier. One night, one of his colleagues caught him praying and reported him to the harsh commander Persentinus. He ordered Kallistratos to offer sacrifice to idols, which Kallistratos immediately refused to do. Then Kallistratos was harshly beaten and thrown into the sea, but God's power preserved him, and he emerged from the sea unharmed. Seeing Kallistratos' endurance and his miracles, 49 soldiers came to believe in Christ the Lord, and they were beaten and thrown into prison along with him. In prison, Kallistratos instructed his companions in the Faith and encouraged them. They showed great courage in suffering, and the Lord showed great power through them. The wicked torturer sent soldiers to the prison at night, and they slew Kallistratos and the other 49. They suffered for the truth in 304.

On this day, we also commemorate the Apostles Aristarchos, Zenon and Mark of the Seventy..

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness.

St. John Chrysostom

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SERVICES

*(NO VESPER OR MATINS SERVICES
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.)*

**SEPT. 27TH SUNDAY — DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
KALLISTRATUS & HIS 49 COMPANIONS**

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**OCT. 4TH SUNDAY — DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
HEIROTHEUS OF ATHENS**

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**OCT. 11TH SUNDAY — DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH COUNCIL**

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**OCT. 18TH SUNDAY — DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
LUKE THE EVANGELIST
COUNCIL MEETING 12:00 NOON**

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**OCT. 25TH SUNDAY—DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
MARCIAN & MARTYRIUS the Notaries**

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IOCC EVENTS

- 1) OKTOBERFEST HAPPY HOUR: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 6-9 pm
*BENEFIT INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES***
- 2) BOURBON TASTING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026 7:00 PM
TO BENEFIT IOCC**

REFER TO ADVERTISEMENT SHEETS on TABLE IN NARTHREX

PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin, Perry Sassic & family, Roddy, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Cindi, Harriet, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Elias, Carrie, Oliver, Pauline, Despina, Julius, Jonathan, Kristen, Luca, Sam, Michael, Esteven, Phephile, Kyriel, Justin, Levon, Aiden, Kayla, Joni, Kirsten, Jonathan K., Andrew, Yvonne, Rosemary, Patty, Jessica, Eric, Mikayla, Mira, Asher, and Benjamin.

**FOR THOU ARE THE RESSURECTION, THE LIFE, AND THE REPOSE OF
THY SERVANTS WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ESPECIALLY:**

Prayers are offered in memory of..... ND—Craig Taormina

Trisagion requested by Perry Sassic

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN OF THE EAST PROGRAMS

AWE plans for FALL:

**AWE BOOK CLUB—October 25, 2026:30PM The SCREWTAPE LETTERS,
by C.W. Lewis, discussion will be lead by our Religious Coordinator**

**FALL RETREAT— at Holy Protection Monastery, White Haven, PA on
NOVEMBER 7, 2026. Speaker is V.Rev. Fr. Joseph Samaan, Topic is
*They Did Not Flee: Uniqueness of the Women in the Life of the Church.***

**SPRING LENTEN RETREAT — April 16-18, 2027, on weekend of St. Mary
of Egypt, at Antiochian Village Conference Center, with guest speaker
Kh. Melinda Johnson, CEO of Ancient Faith Ministries. Details to come.**

(FLYERS ON TABLE IN NARTHREX FOR ALL ABOVE EVENTS)

BUT I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS.....

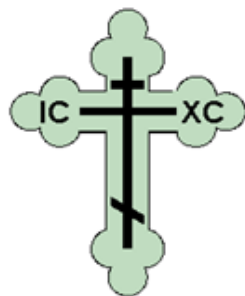
Friendships are special relationships. We confide in our friends.....we trust them with our innermost secrets and sometimes trust them with our very lives. We share our joys and our sorrows with them. We know we can always turn to them in time of need, and we are always available to help out if the situation is reversed. Any one with a TRUE friend is, indeed, a fortunate person.

It is no wonder, then, that Christ speaks about friends in a very beautiful manner in His Farewell Discourse to His Apostles on the night of His Passion. "But I have called you friends, for all things I heard from My Father I have made known to you." (John 15:15) What an honor it was for them to be referred to by Jesus as His "friends!" Yes, Christ would always be their Master, but because of their great love for Him and their willingness to obey Him, an unbreakable bond formed between them.

It is important for us to note that we, too, can be numbered among God's friends. He tells us exactly what we must do if we want to foster this type of relationship with Him: "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you." (John 15:14) Being a friend of God requires commitment and dedication. Being His friend calls for sacrifice on our part. Being His friend may even cause us to lose the friendship of others, who are not willing or not able to commend their life totally to the Lord.

Christ has, asked us for our loyalty. Like the Apostles and all the saints, we, too, can share in the eternal glory of the kingdom of heaven.

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**OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment**