

SUFFERING FOR THE PURITY OF THE FAITH

When we hear the word "MARTYR", our thoughts immediately turn to the scores of Christian men and women who willingly gave up their lives rather than deny their Lord. In August, however, our Holy Church commemorates a group of martyrs who lived some 200 years BEFORE the coming of Christ: THE SEVEN MACCABEE BROTHERS.

The Syrian King Antiochus ruled Palestine in the second century B.C. He was determined to "HELLENIZE" the region, that is, he wanted to institute all aspects of Greek culture among the people of Israel. The Israelites were asked to give up their revered customs and traditions. If they did not, they would suffer the consequences. The Jews were forced to eat foods that they considered unclean. Moreover, practice of the Law of Moses was forbidden. The Jews could not even keep the Sabbath holy.

The Seven Maccabee Brothers, along with their teacher, the priest Eleazar, refused to obey the royal proclamations of the king. After torturing and burning Eleazar in Jerusalem, the king arrested the brothers and, along with their mother, took them to Antioch. The brothers met the same fate as Eleazar, publicly burned before their horrified mother. When her 3 year old son was placed upon the fire, the mother also cast herself into the flames, giving her life to God as well.

A few years after the death of the Maccabees, an army of Israelites rose up in revolt to avenge the death of the saintly brothers. Although outnumbered greatly, they were able to hold off the army of Antiochus.

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THE SEVEN MACCABEES

with their Mother Solomonia & Eleazar the Priest

ST.DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

NORTH WILDWOOD, NEW JERSEY

July 30, 2023.

8th Sunday of Matthew

WELCOME ALL VISITORS:

On behalf of the Parish Council, Fr. Michael, and the entire family of St. Demetrios, we would like to welcome our Visitors for joining us today in our sacred worship service. If you need any assistance please notify any of the Parish Council members. God Bless our Visitors and may your stay here be pleasant and memorable. Please don't hesitate to come again.

SPECIAL WELCOME:

On behalf of the Parish Council, Fr. Michael, the Church Staff and the entire family of St. Demetrios, we would like to warmly welcome Fr. Dr. Bartholomew Mercado and Fr. Deacon Konstantinos and Diakonissa Athanasia Loukas to our wonderful Parish (Paradise on the Beach). We hope and pray that they enjoy their stay in North Wildwood and that their stay here is enjoyable and memorable and that they have a safe trip back to their homes.

ARTOKLASIA SERVICE:

The Artoklasia service today is being sponsored for the health and wellbeing of the entire family of St. Demetrios. We hope and pray that the Lord our Savior Jesus Christ grants everyone in the community much health, joy, prosperity and happiness. (Let us not forget that today's Artoklasia Service also represents today's Feast Day of the Blessing of the Five Loaves and Two Fish, which Jesus Christ fed 5000 people).

COFFEE HOUR:

Everyone is invited to today's Meet and Greet Coffee Hour. This is where we will welcome Fr. Dr. Bartholomew Mercado and Fr. Deacon Konstantinos and Diakonissa Athanasia Loukas.

SPONSORING COFFEE HOUR:

During the summer, The Ladies Philoptochos Society will not be sponsoring any coffee hours. If anyone is interested in sponsoring the coffee hour please contact the Church office –Monday-Wednesday-Friday (609)-522-0152 or contact Parish Council President Nick Konides (609)425-0179.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS:

All our local and seasonal members and visitors are invited to register and enroll in our parish for the 2023 membership and join in weekly worship and to support of our parish "Stewardship Program" and ministries. The annual minimum enrollment offering is \$750 per family, and \$500 for single people. Please complete the parish membership registry forms that are available in the Narthex. Families that are in arrears are invited to reinstate their membership and participation in our parish life and ministries.

ECCLESIASTICAL DECREE:

Attention All Parishioners: It has come to the attention of Fr. Michael that we have parishioners that have been divorced (civilly) and have not taken care of their Ecclesiastical responsibilities to the church. If you are in this situation, please contact Fr. Michael and he will begin the application for an Ecclesiastical Divorce from the Church. If this does not occur, then you will be deprived of certain Ecclesiastical necessities within the Church. For further details please contact Fr. Michael. Thank you.

ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS and VISITORS:

During the first 15 days of August we celebrate the prayer service of our Mother of God (Theotokos). Please pay attention to the schedule of services during the first 15 days of August. Also if you would like to have the names of your loved ones to be commemorated during the Paraklesis Services for Fr. Michael to read, the Prayer of Living sheet is inserted in today's bulletin.

LITURGICAL PROGRAM FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:

Friday, August 4th---Paraklesis Service -6:00pm

Sunday August 6th---Transfiguration of our Lord---Orthos 8:30am ---Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Friday, August 11th---Paraklesis Service -6:00pm

Sunday, August 13th---10th Sunday of Matthew---Orthos 8:30am ---Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Tuesday, August 15th---Dormition of the Mother of God (Theotokos) ---Orthos 8:30am ---Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέωξας τῷ Ληστῇ τὸν Παραδείσον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρήνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρυττεῖν ἐπέταξας, ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myth-bearing women You transformed, and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that You had risen, O Christ our God, and granted the world Your great mercy.

Τὸ ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ἁγίου Δημητρίου

Μέγαν εὐράτο ἐν τοῖς κινδύνοις, σε υπέρμαχον ἡ οἰκουμένη,
αθλοφόρε τα ἔθνη τροπούμενον. Ὡς οὖν Λυαίου καθεῖλες τὴν
ἐπαρσιν, ἐν τῷ σταδίῳ θαρρύνας τὸν Νέστορα, οὕτως Ἄγιε,
Μεγαλομάρτυς Δημήτριε, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεὸν ἱκέτευε,
δωρήσασθαι ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Apolytikion/Dismissal Hymn

The world has found in you a great champion in time of peril, as you emerged the victor in routing the barbarians. For as you brought to naught the boasts of Lyaïos, imparting courage to Nestor in the stadium, in like manner, holy one, great Martyr Demetrios, invoke Christ God for us, that He may grant us His great mercy.

Ἐπὶ τοῦ ὄρους μετεμορφώθης, καὶ ὡς ἐχώρουν οἱ Μαθηταὶ σου τὴν δόξαν σου, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός εθεάσαντο, ἵνα ὅταν σε ἴδωσι σταυρούμενον, τό μὲν πάθος νοήσωσιν ἐκούσιον, τῷ δέ κόσμῳ κηρύξωσιν, ὅτι σὺ ὑπάρχεις ἀληθῶς, τοῦ Πατρὸς τό ἀπαύγασμα.

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

ἈΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ: Α' Κορινθ. 1:10-17

Παρακαλῶ δὲ ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, διὰ τοῦ ὀνόματος τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἵνα τὸ αὐτὸ λέγητε πάντες, καὶ μὴ ᾗ ἐν ὑμῖν σχίσματα, ἥτε δὲ κατηρτισμένοι ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ νοῷ καὶ ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ γνώμῃ. Ἐδηλώθη γὰρ μοι περὶ ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί μου, ὑπὸ τῶν Χλόης, ὅτι ἔριδες ἐν ὑμῖν εἰσὶ· λέγω δὲ τοῦτο, ὅτι ἕκαστος ὑμῶν λέγει ἐγὼ μὲν εἰμι Παύλου, ἐγὼ δὲ Ἀπολλῶ, ἐγὼ δὲ Κηφᾶ, ἐγὼ δὲ Χριστοῦ. μεμερίσται ὁ Χριστός; μὴ Παῦλος ἐσταυρώθη ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν; ἢ εἰς τὸ ὄνομα Παύλου ἐβαπτίσθητε; εὐχαριστῶ τῷ Θεῷ ὅτι οὐδένα ὑμῶν ἐβάπτισα εἰ μὴ Κρίσπον καὶ Γάϊον, ἵνα μὴ τις εἴπῃ ὅτι εἰς τὸ ἐμὸν ὄνομα ἐβάπτισα. ἐβάπτισα δὲ καὶ τὸν Στεφανᾶ οἶκον· λοιπὸν οὐκ οἶδα εἴ τινα ἄλλον ἐβάπτισα. οὐ γὰρ ἀπέστείλει με Χριστὸς βαπτίζειν, ἀλλ' εὐαγγελίζεσθαι, οὐκ ἐν σοφίᾳ λόγου, ἵνα μὴ κενωθῇ ὁ σταυρὸς τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἶδεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς πολὺν ὄχλον, καὶ ἐσπλαγχνίσθη ἐπ' αὐτοῖς καὶ ἐθεράπευσε τοὺς ἀρρώστους αὐτῶν. ὥσπας δὲ γενομένης προσήλθον αὐτῷ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ λέγοντες· Ἐρημός ἐστιν ὁ τόπος καὶ ἡ ὥρα ἤδη παρήλθεν· ἀπολύσον τοὺς ὄχλους, ἵνα ἀπελθόντες εἰς τὰς κώμας ἀγοράσωσιν ἑαυτοῖς βρώματα. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· Οὐ χρειαν ἔχουσιν ἀπελθεῖν· δότε αὐτοῖς ὑμεῖς φαγεῖν. οἱ δὲ λεγουσιν αὐτῷ· Οὐκ ἔχομεν ὧδε εἰ μὴ πέντε ἄρτους καὶ δυο ἰχθύας. ὁ δὲ εἶπε· Φέρετε μοι αὐτούς ὧδε. καὶ κελεύσας τοὺς ὄχλους ἀνακλιθῆναι ἐπὶ τοὺς χορτοὺς, λαβὼν τοὺς πέντε ἄρτους καὶ τοὺς δυο ἰχθύας, ἀναβλεψας εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εὐλόγησε, καὶ κλάσας ἔδωκε τοῖς μαθηταῖς τοὺς ἄρτους οἱ δὲ μαθηταὶ τοῖς ὄχλοις, καὶ ἔφαγον πάντες καὶ ἐχορτάσθησαν, καὶ ἦραν τὸ περισσεῦον τῶν κλασμάτων δώδεκα κοφίνους πληρεῖς. οἱ δὲ ἐσθιοντες ἦσαν ἄνδρες ὡσεὶ πεντακισχίλιοι χωρὶς γυναικῶν καὶ παιδιῶν. Καὶ εὐθὺς ἠνάγκασεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ ἐμβῆναι εἰς τὸ πλοῖον, καὶ πρόσκειν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ περὶ, ἕως οὐ ἀπολυαίῃ τοὺς ὄχλους.

Brethren, I appeal to you, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarrelling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I am thankful that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

Το Σύμβολον της Πίστεως

Πιστεύω εἰς ἓνα Θεόν, Πατέρα, Παντοκράτορα, ποιητὴν οὐρανοῦ καὶ Γῆς, ορατῶν τε πάντων καὶ ἀοράτων.

Καὶ εἰς ἓνα Κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, τὸν Υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ, τὸν ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς γεννηθέντα πρὸ πάντων τῶν αἰώνων.

Φῶς ἐκ φωτός, Θεὸν ἀληθινόν ἐκ Θεοῦ ἀληθινοῦ γεννηθέντα, οὐ ποιηθέντα, ὁμοούσιον τῷ Πατρί, δι' οὗ τὰ πάντα ἐγένετο.

Τὸν δι' ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους καὶ διὰ τὴν ἡμετέραν σωτηρίαν κατελθόντα ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν καὶ σαρκωθέντα ἐκ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου καὶ Μαρίας τῆς Παρθένου καὶ ἐνανθρωπήσαντα.

Σταυρωθέντα τε υπέρ ἡμῶν ἐπὶ Ποντίου Πιλάτου καὶ παθόντα καὶ ταφέντα.

Καὶ ἀναστάντα τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ κατὰ τὰς Γραφάς.

Καὶ ἀνελθόντα εἰς τοὺς οὐρανοὺς καὶ καθεζόμενον ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ Πατρὸς.

Καὶ πάλιν ἐρχόμενον μετὰ δόξης κρίνει ζώντας καὶ νεκρούς, οὐ τῆς βασιλείας οὐκ ἐστὶ τέλος.

Καὶ εἰς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον, τὸ Κύριον, τὸ ζωοποιόν, τὸ ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς ἐκπορευόμενον, τὸ σὺν Πατρί καὶ Υἱῷ συμπροσκυνούμενον καὶ συνδοξαζόμενον, τὸ λαλήσαν διὰ τῶν Προφητῶν.

Εἰς μίαν, ἁγίαν, καθολικὴν καὶ ἀποστολικὴν Ἐκκλησίαν.

Ὁμολογῶ ἐν βάπτισμα εἰς ἄφεσιν ἀμαρτιῶν.

Προσδοκῶ ἀνάστασιν νεκρῶν
καὶ ζωὴν τοῦ μέλλοντος αἰῶνος.

Ἀμήν

The Confession of Faith

I Believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages;

Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father through Whom all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;

And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

And He will come again with glory to judge the living and dead; His kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.

In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.

Amen

Κυριακή Προσευχή

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς.

ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου,

ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου,

γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου,

ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς.

Τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν ἐπιούσιον

δός ἡμῖν σήμερον·

καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν,

ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφίμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν·

καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν,

ἀλλὰ ῥῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πόνηροῦ.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven;

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.