



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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THE RIGHTEOUS GIDEON / VENERABLE ALYPIUS THE STYLITE OF ADRIANOPOLIS November 26, 2023

TROPARION, KONTAKION & PROKEIMENON

Troparion – Tone 8

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 – Tone 1

Thou wast a pillar of patient endurance, having imitated the forefathers, O Venerable One: Job in suffering and Joseph in temptations. Thou didst live like the Bodiless Ones while yet in the flesh, Alypius, our father.// Beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion – Tone 8

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,// and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Kontakion – Tone 8

The Church glorifies and praises thee today, O Alypius, as a perfect example of virtue and the boast of ascetics.// Through thy prayers, grant remission of sins to all who venerate thy life and thy struggles!

Prokeimenon – Tone 8

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!

V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

LITURGICAL COMMEMORATION

The Righteous Gideon

The Righteous Gideon, whose name means “destroyer,” appears in chapters 6-8 of Judges. He was the son of Joash the Abiezrite. One day, as he was beating out wheat in the wine press, the Angel of the Lord appeared to him and commanded him to deliver Israel from the hand of Midian. Gideon gathered an army of men from various towns to fight the Midianites, then asked God to give him a sign that he would be able to deliver Israel. First, he placed a fleece of wool on the floor of the threshing room. Then he said, “If there is dew on the fleece alone, and if the ground is dry, then I shall know that thou wilt deliver Israel by my hand, as thou hast said.”

The next morning Gideon got up early and squeezed the fleece, wringing out enough water to fill a bowl. Then he asked God to let the fleece remain dry and to let there be dew on the ground. When Gideon saw that this had been done, the powerful warrior of Manasseh led an army of 300 men to victory over the Midianites. The people entreated him to be their ruler, and also his son and grandson, but he would not agree to this, because the Lord was their ruler. However, Gideon was a Judge for forty years, and during that time the land had rest.

The Righteous Gideon is referenced in Ode 9 of the second Canon for the Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos: “Let us all magnify the radiant cloud, in which the Master of all descended, as dew from Heaven upon the fleece” (Judges 6:37). He is also mentioned in Hebrews 11:32 with others “who through faith conquered kingdoms.”

Venerable Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis

Saint Alypius the Stylite was born in the city of Adrianopolis in Paphlagonia. His mother, a Christian, was widowed early, and she sent her son to be educated by Bishop Theodore. She distributed her substance to the poor, then began to live an ascetic life near the church as a deaconess. Saint Alypius, from his early years, wanted to devote his life to God and yearned for the solitary life, although Bishop Theodore would not give him permission to do so. Once, when Saint Alypius was accompanying his bishop to Constantinople, the holy Martyr Euphemia (September 16) appeared to him in a vision, summoning Saint Alypius to return to Adrianopolis and found a church in her name.

With contributions offered by believers in Adrianopolis, Saint Alypius did build a church in the name of the holy Martyr Euphemia, on the site of a dilapidated pagan temple infested by legions of devils. Beside the church, under the open sky, the saint erected a pillar over a pagan tomb. For fifty-three years Saint Alypius struggled upon the pillar, praying to God and teaching those who came to him. The demons which infested the pagan cemetery fell upon the ascetic by night and pelted him with stones. Saint Alypius, wanted nothing to stand in the way of the attacks of the spirits of darkness, then even took down the boards that served him as a roof, protecting him from the rain and wind. In the face of the saint's conquering steadfastness, the demons forever fled the place, which had been sanctified by his deed of voluntary martyrdom.

Fourteen years before his death, Saint Alypius was no longer able to stand. He was compelled to lie on his side because of the weakness of his legs, and endured grievous sufferings with humble gratitude. Around the saint's pillar two monasteries sprang up: a men's monastery on the one side, and a women's monastery on the other. Saint Alypius introduced strict monastic rules for both monasteries and he directed both monasteries until his death. Saint Alypius reposed in the year 640, at age 118. The body of the venerable stylite was buried in the church he founded in honor of the holy Martyr Euphemia. The relics of the saint of God healed many of those who came in faith.

EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS

Epistle: Ephesians 4:1-6

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound – think of it – for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, CAREGIVERS, AND DECEASED

Dates are when the name was added to the bulletin; names will remain in four bulletins and then removed. To add the name again, please email Darice at daricekeyes@gmail.com.

For the Sick / Caregiver

Vera (11/5)

Nancy (11/5)

Archpriest Paul (11/5)

Matushka Mary (11/5)

Alexandra (11/5)

Haydee (11/5)

Michael (11/19)

Ruslan (11/19)

Petranka (11/19)

Nikolaiy (11/19)

Bojanka (11/19)

Liam (11/26)

Kelly (11/26)

Ted (11/26)

For the Deceased

Eileen (11/26)

Mary (11/26)

Theodore (11/26)

Michael (11/26)

Lenore (11/26)

Charlotte (11/19)

Kathleen (11/26)

Natasha (11/19)

Nicole (11/26)

Subdeacon Serge (11/19)

Dottie (11/26)

Melody (11/19)

SERVICES

Service Schedule for the week of November 26

Sunday November 26 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday December 2 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday December 3 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

DONATIONS

Weekly Giving

November 19 – 68 adults, 26 youth, \$2,468

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Father Paul and Matushka Mary! The iconostas candles today are offered in honor of Father Paul and Matushka Mary, who will celebrate their 76th wedding anniversary tomorrow, November 27. May God continue to bless them with His divine grace and love. Mnogaya L'yeta!

The Ladies Altar Society is selling raffle tickets for two more Christmas wreaths. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00 for each wreath. Winner of the second wreath will be announced today, and the third wreath next Sunday December 3. Thank you for your support!

Christmas items are for sale in Daria Hall to support the Sunday School. Please stop and shop!

Coffee Hour Support Persons are needed. If you would like to volunteer, please see Alla Strauss or Father Volodymyr.

It is important to partake of the sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion prior to our Lord's Nativity. Confessions are heard every Saturday after Vespers. Please contact Father Volodymyr if you need to schedule a particular time.

The Myrrh-Streaming Hawaiian Iveron Icon of the Mother of God will be at our church on Saturday December 16 and Sunday December 17. The icon will arrive before 5:00 PM Vespers on Saturday and will be processed into the church. The icon is known to have rendered miracles in healing, so everyone is encouraged to attend services on Saturday and Sunday. After services, veneration and anointing will take place.

The FOCA Club will be selling Christmas cards (pictures from our church) again this year. The cost is \$15 for 12 cards and envelopes. Sample cards will be available in Daria Hall – if you wish to order a specific number of one or more cards, you may pre-order. Otherwise, there are 3 cards each of 4 different images in a pack. Please see Nina Laushell, Mimi Berck, or Francine Brady to order or ask questions. Cards will be available early December. Thank you!

Upcoming Events for the Parish Children:

December 10 – Children's Yolka program during Coffee Hour

Yolka practices will be held today and next Sunday. If you wish your child(ren) to participate, please make sure they are in attendance on these dates.

There will be five openings for the Parish Council in 2024. Voting will take place at our Annual Parish Meeting, which will be held on Sunday January 28, 2024. If you are interested in running for Parish Council, please speak with Father Volodymyr.

Spring water used to make coffee and tea is needed for Coffee Hour. Please donate a few gallons!

A Parish "Directory" with photos and identifying names of all parishioners is in the works. This will help us all with "putting a face to the name"! When you are at Daria Hall for Coffee Hour, please see Awet Tesfa to get your picture taken. **It is important to get your picture taken soon!**

The Ladies Altar Society is creating and publishing the first Parish Cookbook – with your help! We are interested in your favorite recipes, ethnic recipes, recipes from your grandparents, parents, children, relatives and friends, and Lenten recipes. They can include Appetizers, Main Meals, Side Dishes, Soup, Salad, Dessert, and Beverages. In addition to recipes, the Cookbook will include a Helpful Hints section. In order for the Cookbook to be a success, we will need many recipes! Each recipe should include your name, who you may have received the recipe from, and your phone number (phone number is only if we have questions and will not be published in the Cookbook). Please give your recipes to Alla Strauss, Melody Stavisky, or Nancy Mitsos. Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sami Bachir – November 26

Nahom Tsegay – November 28

Alexis Medina – December 1

Germain Ortiz – December 2

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

COFFEE HOUR - UPDATED

Hosts are responsible for providing and setting up the refreshments in Daria Hall at 9:00 AM and after Holy Communion, cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing, drying and putting away dishes, taking out the trash, and cleaning up the Coffee Room including turning off and cleaning the coffee and tea pots. Hosts will be informed in advance if cream cheese, butter, or milk is needed. If you have any questions, please contact Melody Stavisky or Alla Strauss.

SUGGESTED MENU:

Bagels / Breads

Donuts / Pastries

Fruit

Salads

Tortilla chips & Salsa

Hummus

Sugar-free dessert

Oreos (non-dairy)

NOTE: Hosts may provide a luncheon for a specific event or holiday (panikhida, birthday, anniversary, holiday) with advance notice. The hosts will be responsible for all food preparation for such a luncheon.

Nov. 26 **FAST** Gebrekvistos Amleset, Jessica & Blake Kilgore
Dec. 3 **FAST** Nicholas Torrisi, Lynne Sheedy
Dec. 10 **FAST** Victoryia Baranava, Madeleine Sekulich & Mark McDevitt
Dec. 17 **FAST** Paula & Ludwig Koerte, Melody Stavisky
Dec. 24 **FAST** Father Volodymyr & Matushka Oksana, Carmen & Cezar Mateiescu
Dec. 31 Nebiat Tesfa, Luwam Tesfa
Jan. 7 Darice Keyes, Anne Cheslock
Jan. 14 James & Monia Pitra, Valeria & Timothy Srock
Jan. 21 Olga & James Bates, Walter & Tanya Tribbey
Jan. 28 **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** - Bill & Margie DiCicco, Chris Kasmer
Feb. 4 Aftan Chowansky, Matthew & Nana Barrett
Feb. 11 Eleni & Tom Sowanick, Sami Bachir
Feb. 18 Nour Ragab, Tyler Burger
Feb. 25 Mihaela & Tiberiu Milosav, Matthew & Kris Bohush
Mar. 3 Karina Kotelnicki, Gabriela Plesa
Mar. 10 Blake & Jessica Kilgore, Alex & Rebeca Medina
Mar. 17 **NO MEAT** Fiyori Habtesilasse, Gebrekvistos Amleset
Mar. 24 **FAST** Christine Waite, Alla & Perry Strauss
Mar. 31 **FAST** Svetlana Sosedov, Guy Radcliffe
Apr. 7 **FAST** Germain & Tahara Ortiz, Vera Pschenyczny
Apr. 14 **FAST** Corneliu & Florica Balasa, Viktoryia Baranava
Apr. 21 **FAST** Alan & Mimi Berck, Paul & Patti Denko
Apr. 28 **FAST** Alex & Brittani Brasowski, Anna & Leon Brasowski
May 5 **PASCHA – NO COFFEE HOUR**
May 12 Nina Schmidt, Alla & Perry Strauss