

Holy Cross

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Fr. Michael Kallaur
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Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, September 4, 2016



Babylas the Holy Martyr

Saint Babylas was the twelfth Bishop of Antioch, being the successor of Zebinus (or Zebinas); he was beheaded during the reign of Decius, in the

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Hieromartyr Babylas in the Fourth Mode

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Babylas. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

year 250, and at his own request was buried in the chains with which he was bound. The Emperor Gallus (reigned 351-354) built a church in his honor at Daphne, a suburb of Antioch, to put an end to the demonic oracles at the nearby temple of Apollo.

When Julian the Apostate came in 362 to consult the oracle about his campaign against the Persians, the oracle (that is, the demon within it) remained dumb until at last, answering Julian's many sacrifices and supplications, it told him, "The dead prevent me from speaking." It told Julian to dig up the bones and move them. Julian, then, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, "leaving all the other dead, moved only that Martyr."

He commanded the Christians to take away Saint Babylas' bones, which they did with great solemnity and triumph. When this had been done, a thunderbolt fell from heaven destroying with fire the shrine of Apollo, which Julian did not dare rebuild. Saint John Chrysostom preached a sermon on this within a generation after.

Apolytikion for the Church in the First Mode

Save, O Lord, Your people, and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to the faithful against the adversaries of the faith. And, protect Your people by the power of Your Cross.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

This Week at Holy Cross

Monday	Labor Day - Office Closed
Wednesday	6 - 11pm Vigil For the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos At the Saxonburg Monastery
Thursday	Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos 9 am Divine Liturgy with His Eminence Metropolitan Savas At the Saxonburg Monastery
Sunday	8:15 am Orthos 9 am Divine Liturgy

Holy Cross Today

Memorials

Joan Lamprinakos - 5 Years

Altar Flowers are donated by Nicholas Lamprinakos in loving memory of Joan Lamprinakos.

Coffee hour is sponsored by the Mitsos, Christulides and Lamprinakos families in loving memory of Joan Lamprinakos.

Please sign up for coffee hour. Check the calendar online: www.holycrosspgh.org, click "Events", then "Coffee Hour", then scroll down to calendar, click on date to see if someone has taken it. Then email holycrosspit@mail.goarch.org or call the church office to request date.

Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 9:2-12.

BRETHREN, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our

sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from Matthew 18:23-35

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailors, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Welcome

We warmly welcome all visitors and seekers in our midst today, trusting that your experience here will be an uplifting and enriching one. The Greek Orthodox Churches are the ancient and native Christian communities of the biblical world, with centers in the Holy Lands, Syria, Egypt and Asia Minor, and by extension in Greece, Cyprus and throughout the world. Like the ancient Christians, we engage the whole person, heart, mind and all senses in Divine Worship. This experience has been so powerful to seekers in the past that it was often said "We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth. We knew only that there God dwelt among human beings." (Russian Primary Chronicle) That communion experience of heaven on earth and God in our midst forms the heart of all Orthodox worship. It culminates in the sharing of Holy Communion, which not only unites us with the Divine, but also expresses the deep unity in faith and life between all Orthodox believers. Since Holy Communion expresses that deep unity in belief and practice alike, it is reserved for observant Orthodox Christians. This does not mean, however, that non-Orthodox are 'excluded' – rather, the Orthodox choose not to make an external display of unity when actual unity does not exist. While working to restore the full communion that did exist in antiquity, today we offer the sign of the blessed bread at the service's conclusion as a symbolic gift of hospitality and growing unity that is offered to all present. If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox way of life, or have any questions about worship or Holy Communion, please approach Fr. Michael or one of the clergy following services.

Thank you for joining us, and again, we welcome you all.

A Note from Philoptochos

Philoptochos News

Please join us for a complimentary Feast Day Luncheon on Wednesday, September 14 following Liturgy. Donated fasting items will also be accepted. Please contact me if you are able to help at the luncheon.

Thank you to ALL who prepared the koulourakia on Monday!

Autumn Food Fair yard signs are available in the vestibule and community center! Please volunteer at the Autumn Food Fair and call a chairperson listed in today's bulletin!

Elaine Sofis

Philoptochos President

Community News

GOLDEN CLUB: Please join us on Tuesday, September 20th, as we travel by van to Akron, Ohio to tour the Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. The country estate was home to F.A. Seiberling, co-founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, and his family. Built at the turn of the 20th century, the estate is one of the largest homes in the United States and includes five historic buildings and eight gardens on 70 acres. The fee of \$15.00 includes admission and transportation by van. We will be departing from Holy Cross at 8:30 a.m., arriving in Akron at approximately 11:00 a.m. At that time, we will have lunch before proceeding to the estate for our guided tour at 1:00 p.m. We will return to Holy Cross at approximately 6:30 p.m. Reservations and payment by check are due no later than September 7th. Please call Cynthia Kostelnik at 412-833-9423 for reservations and any questions or email her at cakostelnik@yahoo.com. Please make checks payable to: Golden Club of Holy Cross and mail to Rene Koett, 2285 Sidgefield Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15241. We look forward to seeing you!

Save the Date

Youth Ministries Registration Day

Sunday September 11 we will be having a registration day for Sunday School, Greek School, GOYA, and JOY.

It is important to have as much participation as possible as we will be gathering contact information used to disseminate information about these programs throughout the year.

We look forward to seeing you all at Coffee Hour in the Social Hall following Liturgy! Circle of Angels will be meeting during coffee hour on Sunday, September 11th.

Circle of Angels is the visiting ministry group of our Holy Cross Philoptochos Society, visiting the sick and home bound parishioners and those in nursing homes.

We welcome new members...please join us!

GOYA Kickoff!!!

The GOYA Kickoff Party will be **Sunday September 18th** so mark it on your calendar! This is a great way to meet or reconnect with everyone who will be participating in the GOYA events with you this year! Any parents able to help cook or host, please contact Denise.

Deposit from Weeks of 8/21 & 8/28	
Account Name	Deposit
Pledges from 2015	
Pledges for 2016	\$8,714
Bulletin	
Candles	\$660
Donations – Unspecified	
Flowers/Communion Wine	\$100
Loose Offerings	\$464
Greek School	
Sunday Church School	
Vacation Church School	
Special Envelopes	
Holy Week Envelopes	
Christmas Cards	
Baptismal Candles	
Socials/Special Projects	
Hall Deposits – Current Year	\$650
Hall Deposits – Next Year	
Hall Rental Income - 2016	
Caterers	
Total Deposit	\$10,588

Mini Capital Campaign Update

	Pledged	Received	Balance
Matching Donors	\$75,000	\$72,750	\$2,250
Donations from Parishioners	\$75,000	\$68,502	\$6,498
Total	\$150,000	\$141,252	\$8,748
Disbursements Made to Date			\$27,516
Building Fund Balance			\$141,450

Financial Snapshot based on \$2,075.33 per day operating cost

Date	Weekly Collections	Weekly Collections Total	Estimated operational needs to following Sunday	Difference
Total through July	\$347,830.61	\$347,830.61	\$456,572.60	-\$108,741.99
8/7	\$5,425	\$353,255.61	\$485,627.22	-\$132,371.61
8/14	\$11,873	\$365,128.61	\$500,154.53	-\$135,025.92
8/21	\$6,069	\$371,197.61	\$514,681.84	-\$143,484.23
8/28	\$4,519	\$375,716.61	\$529,209.15	-\$153,492.54