

THE MESSENGER

Weekly Worship Guide of The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, Atlanta, Georgia

Sunday, August 2, 2020 - Κυριακή, 2 Αυγούστου 2020

8th Sunday of Matthew - Κυριακή Η' Ματθαίου

*Translation of the Relics of St. Stephen the First-Martyr,
The finding of the relics of the Martyrs Maximus, Dadas, Quintillianus,
Phokas the Martyr*

Today's Trisagion Prayers

Found on page 127 of the Divine Liturgy Book
40 Day Trisagion Christopher Stewart
6 Year Trisagion for Georgia Steenekamp

Saint Stephen the First-Martyr



Saint Stephen was a Jew, and, according to a tradition, a disciple of Gamaliel, the teacher of the Law mentioned in Acts 5:34 and 22:3. He was the first of the Seven Deacons whom the Apostles ordained in Jerusalem to care for the poor, and to distribute alms to them. Being a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, he performed great signs and wonders among the people. While disputing with the Jews concerning Jesus, and wisely refuting their every contradiction, so that no one was able to withstand the wisdom and the spirit whereby he spoke, he was slandered as a blasphemer and was dragged off to the Sanhedrin of the elders. There with boldness he proved from the divine Scriptures the coming of the Just One (Jesus), of Whom they had become the betrayers and murderers, and he reproved their faithless and hardheartedness. And finally, gazing into Heaven and beholding the divine glory, he said: "Lo, I see the Heavens opened and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." But when they heard this, they stopped up their ears, and with anger cast him out of the city and stoned him, while he was calling out and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then, imitating the long-suffering of the Master, he bent his knees and prayed in a loud voice for them that were stoning him, and he said, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge," And saying this, he fell asleep (Acts 6, 7), thus becoming the first among the Martyrs of the Church of Christ.

After Stephen, the First Martyr had been stoned to death, Gamaliel, his teacher, encouraged certain Christians to go by night and take up the Saint's body and bury it in his field, which was at a distance of some twenty miles from Jerusalem and was called by his name, "Kaphar-gamala," that is, "the field of Gamala," where Gamaliel himself was later buried. About the year 427, a certain pious man called Lucian, who was the parish priest of a church near to that field, received from God a revelation in a dream concerning the place where the First Martyr was buried. He immediately made this known to John, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Thus, coming to the place indicated, and digging there, they found a box with the word "Stephen" in Aramaic letters. On opening it, they took these most sacred relics and transferred them to Jerusalem with great honor and in the company of a very great multitude of the faithful.

(Adopted from the website of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese)

ORDER OF HYMNS FOLLOWING THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Απολυτικά

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτικίον. ᾠχος βαρύς

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

Ἀπολυτικίον τοῦ Πρωτομάρτυρος. ᾠχος δ'

Βασιλείον διάδημα, ἐστέφθη σὴ κορυφή, ἐξ ἄθλων ὧν ὑπέμεινας, ὑπὲρ Χριστοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ, μαρτύρων Πρωτόαθλε· σὺ γὰρ τὴν Ἰουδαίων ἀπελέγξας μανίαν, εἶδές σου τὸν Σωτῆρα, τοῦ Πατρὸς δεξιόθεν. Αὐτὸν οὖν ἐκδυσώπει ἀεὶ, ὑπὲρ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν.

Κοντάκιον τῶν Κεκοιμημένων. ᾠχος πλ. δ'

Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, ὡς ἀγαθὸς τῶν δούλων σου καὶ ὅσα ἐν βίῳ ἡμαρτον συγχώρησον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰ μὴ σὺ ὁ δυνάμενος καὶ τοῖς μεταστασι δοῦναι τὴν ἀνάπαυσιν.

Ἀπολυτικίον τοῦ Ναοῦ. ᾠχος δ'

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἢ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Κοντάκιον. ᾠχος βαρύς

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

Apolytikia

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode grave

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrhbearing 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.

Apolytikion for the Protomartyr. Mode 4

O Stephen, a crown of royalty was laid on your head * for contests you courageously endured for Christ our God, * as first among Martyr saints. * You stood in accusation of the raging Judeans; * and you saw your Savior at the right hand of the Father. * We pray that you will ever entreat Him to save our souls.

Kontakion for the Departed. Mode pl. 4

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

Apolytikion of the Church. Mode 4

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the mystery which was hidden from eternity. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel announces the grace of this Good News. Let us also join with him, calling to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Woman full of grace; the Lord is with you.

Kontakion. Mode grave

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance.



8th Sunday of Matthew Κυριακή Η' Ματθαίου

**TODAY'S EPISTLE READING IS FROM:
ST. PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS 1:10-17**

PROKEIMENON: THE LORD WILL GIVE STRENGTH TO HIS PEOPLE.

VERSE: BRING TO THE LORD, O SONS OF GOD, BRING TO THE LORD HONOR AND GLORY.

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 quarreling 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 thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispos and Gaius; lest any one 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 any one 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.

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 14:14-22.

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.

"Take up and read, take up and read." St. Augustine, *Confessions* 8:12





GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with the clergy. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy

The following Parish Council members will be on duty today during the Service:

Group: St. Basil the Great

Nick Grivas

Christina Callesis

Ted Kipreos

Al Galloway

Jerry Odenwelder

Costa Panos

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

Attached below is the link to access the meeting, the Password is 1 (Zoom is requiring a password now). When you first enter Coffee Hour your camera and microphone will be on mute by default which you can change once you are settled. Also, please put your display on Brady Bunch Mode (gallery view) for the best experience. If we start to see a large amount of people joining I may use the breakout room function to create 'tables' for people to gather at. If you and a few people would like to use a breakout room please let me know during the meeting with the chat function and I will try to provide it.

Topic: Coffee Hour

Time: August 2, 2020 11:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7143804788?pwd=V0lmWFRRL0R6Tm56QTdRUHN0MWI3QT09>

Meeting ID: 714 380 4788

Password: 1

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,7143804788#,,#1# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,7143804788#,,#1# US (New York)

Join by Skype for Business

<https://zoom.us/skype/7143804788>

Assistive
Listening
System
Available
-Please Ask-



Rev. Fr. Paul A. Kaplanis, *Dean*
Rev. Fr. Christos P. Mars, *Presbyter*
Elias Lampropoulos, *Pastoral Assistant*

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