



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF JULY 1, 2007

SUNDAY, JULY 1ST 5TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

MONDAY, JULY 2ND ST. JOHN OF SAN FRANCISCO

9:00a.m. Akathist

THURSDAY, JULY 5TH ST. ELISABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

9:00a.m. Akathist

SATURDAY, JULY 7TH 6:00p.m. Vespers

SUNDAY, JULY 8TH 6TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Brunch at Clarion Hotel



Strive as well as you can to enter deeply into the church reading and singing and to imprint these on the tablets of the heart.

Abbot Nazarius

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 8th

Hours: Kathy Parrish
Epistle: Kathy Parrish

Sunday, July 15th

Hours: Oleg Dudkin
Epistle: Oleg Dudkin



Visitation of His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman

On Saturday, July 7th and Sunday, July 8th, Metropolitan Herman, our diocesan bishop, will make his first archpastoral visit to our parish. Following the Divine Liturgy there will be a luncheon held at the Clarion Resort Hotel in Ocean City. All are invited and encouraged to attend!



A Sign-up Sheet

for the meal with Metropolitan Herman on Sunday, July 8th, is in the back of the church. The meal will be a brunch at the Clarion Hotel in Ocean City. There is no charge for the meal, you are only asked to please sign your name to the list if you plan on attending. For questions please see Fr. John as soon as possible. The R.S.V.P. deadline has been extended until today, July 1st.

A Hearty Welcome

as always to all our visitors! And today we are especially happy to have with us, Fr. Ray Valencia from St. Matthew Orthodox Church in Columbia, MD, and Fr. Thomas Soroka from St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in McKee Rocks, PA.

A Tastefully Simple Fundraiser

will be offered on Sunday, July 15th, at the coffee hour. Ginny Seeley, Bill and Kathy Parrish's daughter, is offering 100% of the profits coming from orders of Tastefully Simply Foods. There are brochures and business cards available for pickup in the coffee hour room. Please feel free to take some for yourself, family, and friends. Please be so kind as to return the brochures should you take any.

The Parish Council

will meet with Metropolitan Herman on Saturday, July 7th. The time of the meeting will be announced this week.

Brunch Preview

After coffee hour today, Fr. John and his family will be going to the Clarion Hotel in Ocean City to "test" the quality of the food we'll be serving the Metropolitan next week. All are welcome to join in the sampling!

Spiritual Reading

is an important way for Christians to grow in their relationship with God. This is because the more we come to understand our Faith the better we can live it. What spiritual book are you currently reading? Want a recommendation, just ask Fr. John; he will be placing orders for our bookstore this week.



SAINT JOHN OF SHANGHAI AND SAN FRANCISCO

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Saint John (Maximovitch) of Shanghai and San Francisco was a noted Eastern Orthodox ascetic and hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (ROCOR) who was active in the mid-20th century. He was a pastor and spiritual father of high reputation, a Fool-for-Christ, and a reputed wonderworker to whom was attributed great powers of prophecy, clairvoyance and healing.

Life

St. John was born Michael Maximovitch in 1896 in the village of Adamovka in Kharkov province in what was then southern Russia to the same family as that of St. John of Tobolsk whom he was said to resemble in several respects. From 1907 to 1914 he attended Poltava Military School, and received a degree in law from Kharkov Imperial University in 1918. He was evacuated to Belgrade with his family in 1921, where in 1925 he graduated from Belgrade University with a degree in theology.

In 1926 he was tonsured a monk and ordained a hierodeacon by Metropolitan Anthony (Khrapovitsky), who gave him the name of John after his saintly relative. Later that same year he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Gabriel of Chelyabinsk. For several years afterward he worked as an instructor and tutor, and then in 1934 he was ordained a bishop and assigned to the diocese of Shanghai.

Shanghai

In Shanghai, Bishop John found an uncompleted cathedral and an Orthodox community deeply divided along ethnic lines. Making contact with all the various groups, he quickly involved himself in the existing charitable institutions and personally founded an orphanage and home for the children of indigents. It was here that he first became known for miracles attributed to his prayer, and as a public figure it was impossible for him to completely conceal his ascetic way of life. Despite his actions during the Japanese occupation, when he routinely ignored the curfew in pursuit of his pastoral activities, the Japanese authorities never harassed him. As the only Russian hierarch in China who refused to submit to the authority of the Soviet-dominated Russian Orthodox Church, he was elevated to the rank of archbishop by the Holy Synod of ROCOR in 1946.

When the Communists took power in China, the Russian colony was forced to flee, first to a refugee camp on the island of Tubabao in the Philippines and then mainly to the United States and Australia. Archbishop John traveled personally to Washington, D.C. to ensure that his people would be allowed to enter the country.



Joy of All Who Sorrow Cathedral
Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA

Western Europe

In 1951 he was assigned to the archdiocese of Western Europe with his see first in Paris then in Brussels. Thanks to his work in collecting lives of saints, a great many pre-Schism Western saints became known in Orthodoxy and continue to be venerated to this day. His charitable and pastoral work continued here as it had in Shanghai, even among a much more widely scattered flock.

San Francisco

In 1962 he was once again reassigned by the Holy Synod to the see of San Francisco. Here too he found a divided community and a cathedral in an unfinished state. Although he completed the building and brought some measure of peace to the community he became the target of slander from those who became his political enemies, who went so far as to file a law



Born: June 4, 1896
Kharkov, Russia

Died: July 2, 1966
Seattle, WA

Canonized: July 2, 1994
San Francisco, CA

Relics: Joy of All Who Sorrow
San Francisco, CA

Feastday: July 2nd



Incorrupt Relics of Saint John
Joy of All Who Sorrow Cathedral, San Francisco

suit against him for alleged mishandling of finances related to construction of the cathedral. He was exonerated, but this was a great cause of sorrow to him in his later life.

Death and Veneration

On July 2, 1966 (June 19 on the Julian calendar) St. John died while visiting Seattle at a time and place he was said to have foretold. He was entombed in a sepulcher beneath the altar of the cathedral he had built in San Francisco dedicated to the Theotokos, Joy of All Who Sorrow on Geary Boulevard in the Richmond district. In 1994 he was solemnly glorified on the twenty-eighth anniversary of his death. His unembalmed but incorrupt relics now occupy a shrine in the cathedral's nave. His feast day is celebrated on the 2nd of July. He is beloved

and celebrated worldwide, with portions of his relics located in Serbia, Russia, Mount Athos, Bulgaria, and other countries of the world.

Clairvoyance and Miracles

St. John loved to visit the sick and imprisoned. There are many stories of how he visited the ailing in the local hospitals, both Orthodox and non-Orthodox, often times falling down before an icon in prayer, and then assuring the ailing patient that they would recover, which of course they did. On one occasion, non-Orthodox doctors even agreed to operate on the brain of a hopelessly sick women, only on the condition that St. John be present and pray; needless to say the women recovered.

At another time, St. John stopped a woman from committing suicide when he suddenly telephoned her in the middle of the night; no one told him of her distress – he knew about it only through prayer.

Once, when the orphanage staff came to St. John in a panic because they had no more bread, St. John gathered everyone together and served an Akathist before an icon of the Mother of God. Soon afterwards a local baker arrived with a donation of bread. Then St. John warmly gazed and smiled at the orphanage personnel, as if to say, "Have faith in God and everything will be taken care of."

St. John often visited prisons and celebrated the Divine Liturgy for the convicts. On one occasion in Shanghai, he was asked to give communion to a dying man in a Russian hospital. He took another priest with him and on his arrival he spotted a gregarious young man in his twenties, playing a harmonica. This lad was to be discharged the next day. St. John called to him and said: "I want to give you communion right now." The young man immediately confessed his sins and received communion. The astonished priest asked St. John why he did not go to the one dying, but tarried instead with an obviously healthy young man. St. John answered: "He will die tonight, and the other, who is seriously ill, will live many years." It happened just as he foretold.

Teachings of the Saint

Holiness is not simply righteousness, for which one is accounted worthy to enjoy blessedness in the Kingdom of God. Rather holiness is such a height of righteousness that one is so filled with the grace of God that it overflows to others... Great is their blessedness which proceeds from personal experience of the glory of God. Filled to overflowing with a love for men, which proceeds from a love for God, the Saints are responsive to the needs of men and to their supplications, and become mediators and intercessors for them before God.

What greater benefit can one bring his neighbor than to prepare him for life everlasting... This is not an easy task. One has to do battle with human nature, which has been corrupted by sin. One often encounters misunderstanding, and sometime deliberate opposition...

Troparion – tone 5

Like a spiritual daystar in heaven's firmament / you did encompass the whole world / and did enlighten men's souls. / Hence your name is glorified in the East and West / for you shone with the grace of the Sun of Righteousness, O John our beloved shepherd! / Wherefore cease not to entreat Christ, that He may have mercy on our souls!



FROM THE DESERT FATHERS

A brother came to see Abba Macarius the Egyptian, and said to him, "Abba, give me a word, that I may be saved." So the old man said, "Go to the cemetery and abuse the dead." The brother went there, abused them and threw stones at them; then he returned and told the old man about it. The latter said to him, "Didn't they say anything to you?" He replied, "No." The old man said, "Go back tomorrow and praise them." So the brother went away and praised them, calling them, 'Apostles, saints, and righteous men.' He returned to the old man and said to him, "I have complimented them." And the old man said to him, "Did they not answer you?" The brother said no. The old man said to him, "You know how you insulted them and they did not reply, and how you praised them and they did not speak; so you too if you wish to be saved must do the same and become a dead man. Like the dead, take no account of either the scorn of men or their praises, and you can be saved."



At one time, when Abba Ephrem was on the road, a prostitute tried by her flatteries, if not to lead him to shameful intercourse, at least to make him angry, for no one had ever seen him angry. He said to her, "Follow me." When they had reached a very crowded place, he said to her, "In this place, come, do what you desire." But she, seeing the crowd, said to him, "How can we do what we want to do in front of so great a crowd, without being ashamed?" He replied, "If you blush before men, how much more should we blush before God, Who knows what is hidden in darkness?" She was covered with shame and went away without having achieved anything.



COMMUNING WITH GOD THROUGH PRAYER

From These Truths We Hold

The goal of the Christian's life on earth is salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ and, at the same time, communion with God. The means for this communion is prayer, and through his prayer the Christian is joined in one spirit with the Lord (I Cor. 6:17). Prayer is the focal point and foundation of spiritual life and the source of salvation. Without prayer, as St. John Chrysostom says, there is no life in the spirit. Without prayer man is deprived of communion with God and can be compared to a dry and barren tree, which is cut down and thrown into the fire (Matt. 7:19).

In prayer, the Christian concentrates together all his spiritual acts. Prayer draws down to him the grace of God and is an invaluable instrument of spiritual defense in the Christian's struggles against the sinful passions and vices. By prayer our thoughts, desires and deeds are sanctified, for he who prays receives the blessing of the Lord on his deeds, for, as Holy Scripture tells us, unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain (Ps. 127:1). Nothing so helps us to grow in virtue as our pure and pious prayers to God. Thus it was the shared opinion of all the Holy Fathers that

prayer is the mother of virtues. By repeated and fervent prayer, man is made more worthy of God's mercy and more capable of receiving the gifts of grace which God, by reason of His infinite goodness, is already to bestow on us out of His immeasurable bounties.

In prayer, the Christian prays not only for himself, but for all men, for we all are the children of God. We must pray for the salvation of our neighbor just as we pray for our own salvation, and the best means of correcting our neighbor is to pray for him, because prayer for our neighbor has far greater effect than denunciation of his sins. In addition, we pray not only for the living, but also for the departed, that God may forgive them their sins and grant them repose in the heavenly mansions of the righteous.

THE PROPHET
DAVID
PRAYING



JULY CONGRATULATIONS!

Birthdays:

- 7/7 Genevieve Dudkin
- 7/12 Ellen Gundersen
- 7/22 Alexandra Boris
- 7/28 Frank Pappas

Namesdays:

- 7/5 St. Elisabeth the New Martyr
Elisabeth Parsells
- 7/11 St. Olga the Princess of Russia
Olga Vernigor-Leasure
Olga Holowach
- 7/16 St. Valentina
Isabelle Bekeshka
- 7/17 St. Marina
Denise Royal

If your name is not on this list and it should be, please see Fr. John, as soon as possible!