



SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

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June 28, 2020

3rd Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 2
Translation of the Relics of the Holy and
Wonderworking Unmercenaries Cyrus & John



From the Fathers...

“Unexpected trials are sent by God to teach us to practice the ascetic life; and they lead us to repentance even when we are reluctant.”

- St. Mark the Ascetic



Welcome Visitors!

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us, and we pray that you will be blessed through your participation with us. In the Orthodox Church, the reception of Holy Communion is a mark of membership in the Church. Only those who have been united to the Orthodox Church through Baptism or Chrismation, and have prepared themselves through regular Confession, prayer and fasting are permitted to partake of Holy Communion. We encourage visitors to participate in our prayers and hymns and to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Literature about the Orthodox faith and this parish can be found in the vestibule. Please feel free to ask questions before or after the service, as well as join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship after the Liturgy.



Let us all honor in hymns the two martyrs,/ Cyrus and with him the magnificent John;/ they possess the radiance of the Trinity,/ they are the foundation of the Faith; / they are flowers emitting the true fragrance of the understanding of Christ;// and they ever pray to the Lord for us.

Thou didst shine forth with fasting and a radiant life,/ and later thou didst adorn thy soul with suffering, O glorious Cyrus./ In wisdom, O John, didst thou forsake an earthly army and didst attain the army of heaven./ As ye entreat the Savior, O blessed ones,// pray for those who bless your memory!

O blessed ones, ye are revealed as physicians of the sick/ and never-fading lamps of the divine Father./ Ye uttered your confession together and shared in the lot of martyrs./ Having truly received crowns from Christ, O glorious Cyrus and wise John,// ever pray to the Savior for those who hymn you with faith! (*Stichera of Lord, I Call*)

A PARISH OF THE BULGARIAN DIOCESE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

TODAY'S WORSHIP - HYMNS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

Resurrection Troparion in Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all
the powers of heaven cried out:// "O Giver of life, Christ
our God, glory to Thee!"

Great Martyr George Troparion in Tone 4

As deliverer of captives/ and defender of the poor;/ healer
of the infirm,/ champion of kings;/ victorious Great
Martyr George,/ intercede with Christ our God;// for our
souls' salvation.

Holy Unmercenaries Cyrus & John Troparion in Tone 5

Thou hast given us the miracles of Thy martyrs, Cyrus
and John, / as an invincible rampart, O Christ God;/
through their prayers, frustrate the plans of the heathens,
and strengthen the faith of the Orthodox Christians,// for
Thou alone art good and the lover of man.

Resurrection Kontakion in Tone 2

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,/ seeing the
miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!/ The dead
arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with
Thee,// and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with
God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we
have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and
rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but
we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation
produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and
character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the
love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy
Spirit who was given to us.

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ
died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will
one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even
dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us,
in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we
shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were
enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His
Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved
by His life.

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is
good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is

Great Martyr George Kontakion in Tone 4

As we the faithful flee to thee for refuge and seek thy
protection and speedy help,/ We entreat thee, O Champion of
Christ, that we who sing thy praises may be delivered from
the snares of the enemy/ and from every peril and
adversary,// that we may cry: "Rejoice, O martyr George!"

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Holy Unmercenaries Cyrus & John Kontakion in Tone 3

Having received the gift of miracles through divine grace, O
saints,/ ye work wonders in the world unceasingly./ Ye
remove all of our passions through your invisible surgery,/
divinely-wise Cyrus and glorious John,// for ye are truly
divine physicians.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Steadfast Protectress of Christians in Tone 6

Steadfast Protectress of Christians,/ constant advocate before
the Creator;/ despise not the entreating cries of us sinners,
but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on
you in faith./ Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for
us, O Theotokos,/ for you always protect those who honor
you!

bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the
light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and
love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the
other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you
will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you
will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than
clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor
reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them.
Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying
can add one cubit to his stature?

So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the
field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to
you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one
of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which
today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not
much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not
worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or
'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles
seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these
things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added to you.

THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

Sunday, June 21st

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)

Translation of the Relics of Cyrus and John

St. Paul the Physician, of Corinth

Ven. Sergius and Herman, Wonderworkers of Valaam

Romans 2:10-16, Hebrews 11:33-12:2

Matthew 4:18-23, Matthew 4:25-5:12

Monday, June 29th

7:00 PM Adult Education (Online)

*Holy, Glorious, and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles,
Peter and Paul*

2 Corinthians 11:21-12:9, Matthew 16:13-19

Tuesday, June 30th

*Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles: Peter, Andrew, James
and John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew,*

James, Jude, Simon the Zealot, and Mathias

Romans 10:11-11:2, 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

Matthew 11:16-20, Mark 3:13-19

Wednesday, July 1st

8:00 PM Growing Young (Online)

Holy Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian

Translation of the Relics of Ven. John of Rila

Romans 11:2-12, Matthew 11:20-26

Thursday, July 2nd

Placing of the Robe of the Theotokos at Blachernae

Repose of St. John Maximovitch of San Francisco

Romans 11:13-24, Matthew 11:27-30

Friday, July 3rd

Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea in Cappadocia

St. Anatolius, Patriarch of Constantinople

Romans 11:25-36, Matthew 12:1-8

Saturday, July 4th

5:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream and In Person)

American Independence Day

St. Andrew, Archbishop of Crete

Ven. Andrew Rublev

Romans 6:11-17, Matthew 8:14-23

Sunday, July 5th

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)

Ven. Athanasius, Founder of the Great Lavra

Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Sergius of Radonezh

Romans 6:18-23, Galatians 5:22-6:2

Matthew 8:5-13, Luke 6:17-23

Clint Eastwood Looks at the Hereafter



The Church honors the two great apostles Peter and Paul. Both men faced hostility, danger and powerful enemies as they traveled and preached the good news of the Gospel. Both, in their own ways, spoke about what happens after we die.

Saint Paul famously described the mystery of our resurrection: "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality" (I Corinthians 15: 54).

Saint Peter, to encourage his fellow Christians who were facing persecution, wrote: "You have been born anew, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God" (I Peter 1: 23). In the same letter he reminded them after they suffer on earth, "the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, establish, and strengthen you" (5:10).

The words they wrote, and the things they endured, mark these apostles as men of faith. They also had visions sent by God. This is why we can trust their assurances that we are in God's hands while we live and after we die.

In Clint Eastwood's movie "Hereafter" there is no attempt to assure us that we can trust anybody's words about what happens after we die, though that is a matter of concern to the three main characters. One is Marie, a tsunami survivor who had a near-death experience when the waves overtook her. The second is a young boy who longs to speak with the twin brother who has died suddenly in a car accident. The third, and most compelling, is George, who feels "cursed" with the authentic psychic power he possesses to connect with the dead. He hates being asked to give "readings" because the emotional toll is so heavy for all involved.

The movie doesn't come to any conclusions. When Marie tries to tell her lover that her experience has convinced her there must be "something" after we die, he responds, "If there were something, don't you think somebody would have proved it by now?"

The young boy, Marcus, consults various fake mediums and of course is disappointed. When he finally persuades the reluctant George to give him a reading, he feels that he has at last connected with his dead brother. But even George cannot tell him what happens, or where we go, after we die. Marcus protests, "But you've done all those readings!" George can only answer quietly, "I still don't know."

This movie reflects the curiosity of many people about "the hereafter." But its creators apparently aren't curious enough to investigate the accounts given by the apostles Peter and Paul, who could tell them all they need to know.

HAVE A QUESTION OR NEED TO CHAT? CALL OR EMAIL FR. GREGORY.

Guidance for COVID-19

Reopening Guidelines

The Cathedral remains in Stage 4 of the reopening process.

Please visit the website at stgeorgrossford.org and follow the links in the calendar for the sign up sheet and a video explaining the process.

The sign up sheet will be posted on Monday morning each week for the following weekend. **Please help those who do not have access to the internet with the sign up process. We want everyone to be able to attend!**

In order to maximize the number of people who attend, please limit your sign ups to one Divine Liturgy per month. If space is still available by Friday at 5:00pm, please feel free to sign up.

Livestream Services

All services will continue to be **livestreamed on Facebook** and finished recordings will be **uploaded to YouTube**. **Like, Share, Subscribe** to both to be notified when new postings are available. The schedule is also available online at our website.

Confessions and Visitations

Confessions now available on Saturday evenings and by appointment. Please contact Fr. Gregory directly to schedule. Hospital visitations remain limited by local hospitals. Personal visitations by appointment with proper social-distancing are available. Please contact Fr. Gregory to discuss.

Online Adult Education

Please join us for an Adult Education series “Mothers and Martyrs: An Examination of Women Saints in the Orthodox Church” on Monday evenings starting **Monday, June 29th at 7:00pm**. Online classes will be held via Zoom. A link will be available on our website.

Candles and Bulletin Sponsors

During this time of separation, if you would like a candle lit in church on your behalf or would like to sponsor the sanctuary lamp, please email Fr. Gregory. Donations can be made online on our website.

Stewardship

We encourage you to continue giving your regular offerings during this time. Please review our new online giving option now available on our website!

Growing Young Initiative

The Parish Council supported Growing Young Initiative is meeting every **Wednesday 8:00-9:00pm** online at GoToMeeting.com, If you haven't been invited but would like to be in on the excitement let Steve or Cindy know. What are we doing? Initiatives include mentoring our youth, Card Ministry, education and learning to create authentic dialogue. Join us!

We are praying for...

Departed:

Archimandrite Elias

Health and Well-Being:

Maria, Tanya, Lawrence, Kathleen, Karen, Panka, Barb, and the kidnapped hierarchs Metropolitan Boulos and Archbishop Yohanna of Aleppo; and those being persecuted for their faith in the Middle East.

Catechumens:

Tim, Laura, Ethan, Naomi, Olivia, Daniel, Phoebe, Ezekiel, and Jachin.



Sanctuary Lamp

Sanctuary Lamp sponsorships are available. Sign up at the church or email Fr. Gregory directly.



Celebrations

Birthdays:

Jackie Pappas (6/30)
Sarah Allen (7/1)
Kathleen Killian (7/3)
Alexander Edelman (7/4)

Name's Days:

Pat Heffern (6/29)
Panka Eneff (6/29)

