

Word for the Day

from a sermon of St. Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow on the Ladder

Thank you to Fr. Igor for providing these writings.

“All the fasts of the Church, all the ordinances, are mandatory for every Orthodox person. Such ascetics as St. John of the Ladder fasted much more rigorously than the Church prescribes...This the Church does not require of everyone, because it is not in accord with everyone’s strength. But the Church does require of every Orthodox the keeping of those fasts which She has established...”

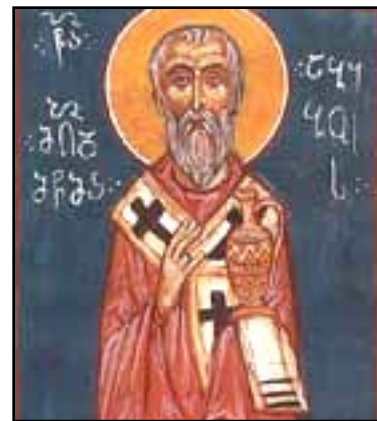
“Let us remember this. St. John Climacus has described the ladder of spiritual ascent; then let us not forget that each Christian must ascend thereon. The great ascetics ascended like swiftly flying eagles; we scarcely ascend at all. Nonetheless, let us not forget that, unless we employ our efforts in correcting ourselves and our lives, we shall cease our ascent, and most assuredly, we shall begin to fall. Amen”

St Abercius, Bishop of Hierapolis, Wonderworker and Equal to the Apostles (167)

He was bishop of Hierapolis in Phrygia of Asia Minor, during the reign of Marcus Aurelius, a persecutor of Christians. During a pagan festival, Abercius was instructed by an Angel to throw down the idols of Apollo and other pagan gods. When his work was discovered, the people of the city were outraged; but instead of hiding, the bishop went to the marketplace and openly confessed the Christian faith. The people grew angrier still, but when Abercius healed three possessed men they were amazed and listened to him more closely. He preached the Faith with such power that the entire city and surrounding countryside became Christian.

These miracles reached the ears of the Emperor, whose daughter was suffering from demonic possession. The Emperor summoned Abercius to Rome, where he was enabled to cast out the spirit and perform several other miracles. The Empress offered him a large reward of gold for healing her daughter, but he would not accept it. On his way home, he was instructed in a vision to travel to Syria. He travelled first to Antioch and surrounding cities, then as far as Mesopotamia, proclaiming Christ and teaching the faith everywhere he went. No other bishop of his time travelled so widely in the service of the Gospel; for this reason he is called Equal to the Apostles.

After several years he returned to Phrygia, where he lived the remainder of his life in peace, shepherding his flock.



ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish Of The New England Diocese ✙ Orthodox Church In America

October 22, 2017

20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Abercius, Bishop and Wonderworker of Hieropolis (ca. 167). The Holy Seven Youths (“Seven Sleepers”) of Ephesus: Maximilian, Jamblicus, Martinian, John, Dionysius, Exacustodian (Constantine), and Antonius (ca. 250).



Divine Services

Wed., Oct 25Reader's Vespers.....6:30 p.m.

(followed by Study Group)

Sat., Oct. 28.....Reader's Vespers.....6:00 p.m.

Sunday, Oct 29Divine Liturgy9:30 a.m.

Guest Priest Fr. Dennis Nagi

(Hours Begin at 9:00 a.m.)

Today's Readings

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Next Week's Readings

Galatians 2:16-20

Luke 8:26-39

For Next Week, Oct. 29

Hours and Thanksgiving PrayersIrene Vassos

Epistle:.....Yanet Tafet

Coffee Hour: Paula Colbert

For the health and well-being of Archpriest Joseph and Matushka Julia, Abdullah, David, Tony, Stanislav, Leonard, Timothy, Helen, Fenaeda, Raya, Dennis, Svetlana, Konstantin, Vladislav, Nancy, Maria, Al, Michael, Ludmila, Nick, Koren, Gregory, Mat. Myra, Theodore, Helen and Carol. Please also keep in your prayers Matushka Marie Kreta, mother of Fr. John Kreta, who is very ill and lives in Arkansas.

October Birthdays

Elena Papurkov (06), Tanya Bogaevskaya (08), Sophia Chelukhova Leinbaugh (21) Irina Trioufanova. (31) **Anniversary:** Nicholas and BaibaKorsakov (02)

Announcements

Today: General Confession at 9:15 a.m.

October Charities. We are collecting for the local **Habitat for Humanity**. This wonderful local and national organization uses volunteers to build low income housing for folks who wouldn't be able to afford financing a home.

ByLaws Update: Last week at a special meeting the Parish, led by Fr. John Kreta and Rick Goudey, voted to accept our new Bylaws, which go into effect immediately. There are plans to form a bylaws committee early in 2018 to make some possible amendments and additions to these bylaws. If you are interested in working on that committee please contact Fr. John or Senior Executive Officer Rick Goudey. Fr. John

and the Council will oversee this action. You are invited also to give your suggestions to Rick and the new committee when it is formed about items you think we should consider for bylaws.

Parish Council Action: The Council decided at last week's meeting to set up a new bank account for the future compensation of a new priest. We will use this account to move monies from our Operation Account into the Compensation fund (Money Market) each month an amount that would approximately equal priest compensation and benefits less what we currently are spending for the guest priest Honorarium and a monthly Diocesan Administrative fee of \$250 to Fr. Kreta. We also converted our Savings account to a Money Market account that will mean 10 times more interest that the Savings account was earning. We renamed this the Investment account.

Upcoming Events

Annual Diocesan Assembly: The 54th New England Diocesan Assembly will convene on October 27-28, 2017, hosted by St. Jacob of Alaska Mission in Northfield, VT. Our representatives are Irene Vassos, a member of the Diocesan Council, and Diane Dunne, representing St. Nicholas as a delegate. Irene will serve as the Lay Chair for Saturday's session.

Annual Visit to Ioka Farms: Sunday School students voted as a group to go to Ioka Farms again, thanks the generous sponsorship of Real and Alla Gadoury are once again sponsoring our annual visit to Ioka Farms after coffee hour on **Oct. 29**. Children and adults are welcome. The Farm features animals, pumpkins, hay rides, a corn maze, apples and cider donuts, a giant pumpkin house, maple syrup, food and gifts.



Snow Phone Tree: The Parish Council will be creating a Telephone Tree for alerting members of the Parish to weather conditions that would result in our need to cancel Sunday church services. Please stay tuned for this list!

Barton's Crossing Meal Schedule

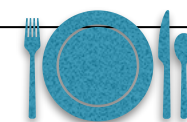
(a charity ministry of St. Nicholas)

Nov 5: Team C: Spaghetti/Meat Balls

(Nick, Marina, Barbara, Diana F., Lucian)

Dec 3: Team A: Chicken-Macaroni Casserole

(Tanya, Irina T, Alla Y, Paula, Galina)



St. Nicholas Food Basket: Remember to donate to the local food pantry by bringing canned and nonperishable donations for the basket in the back.

Collections

Last Week's Collection\$2,116

2017 Budget\$96,142

Progress Towards Budget...\$68,473