

Word for the Day

Paraclete

Last week Herman asked about the word “Paraclete” which he read in the Communion Prayers. In the prayer from **St. Simeon the Translator** he intoned:

“You Who by the descent of the Spirit, the Paraclete, did make Your holy Disciples worthy vessels, make me also a recipient of His coming.”

Here the word Paraclete refers to the Holy Spirit. The origin of the word is from the Greek: “para” meaning “alongside” and “kalein” or “kletos” meaning “to call”. We beseech someone to walk with us, to give us strength and to help us in our struggles. The definition of **paraclete** came to mean: advocate or helper or intercessor. We call upon the Holy Spirit to intercede on our behalf, and we do the same with the Saints.

In the Byzantine tradition a service called **Paraklesis** (in the Slavic tradition a **Moleben****) is served for any saint and especially the Theotokos. The Paraklesis to the Theotokos is a Canon of Supplication, asking for her help. In Ode 1 of the Canon is a typical plea for her to intercede on our behalf. In the pattern of the canon the **individual** names his/her temptation or sin, but the repeated refrain appeals to her with the **collective** “us”:

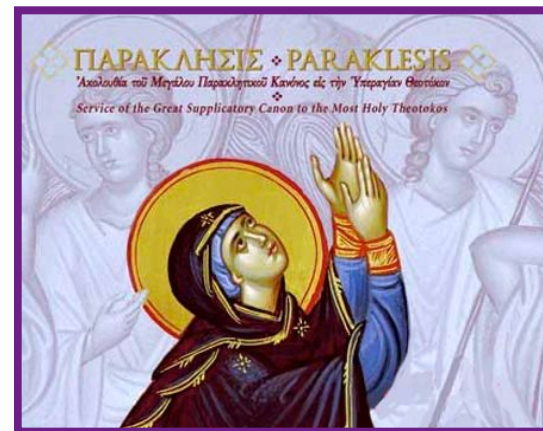
*By many temptations am I distressed.
In search of salvation unto you have I
taken flight. O Mother of the Word and
ever Virgin, from all ordeals and afflic-
tions deliver me.*

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

We are never alone in our need for mercy, to appeal to the Saints who are always working on our behalf as we struggle towards **theosis** or union with God.

I. Vassos

*** a Moleben has a similar structure though the Canon is omitted*

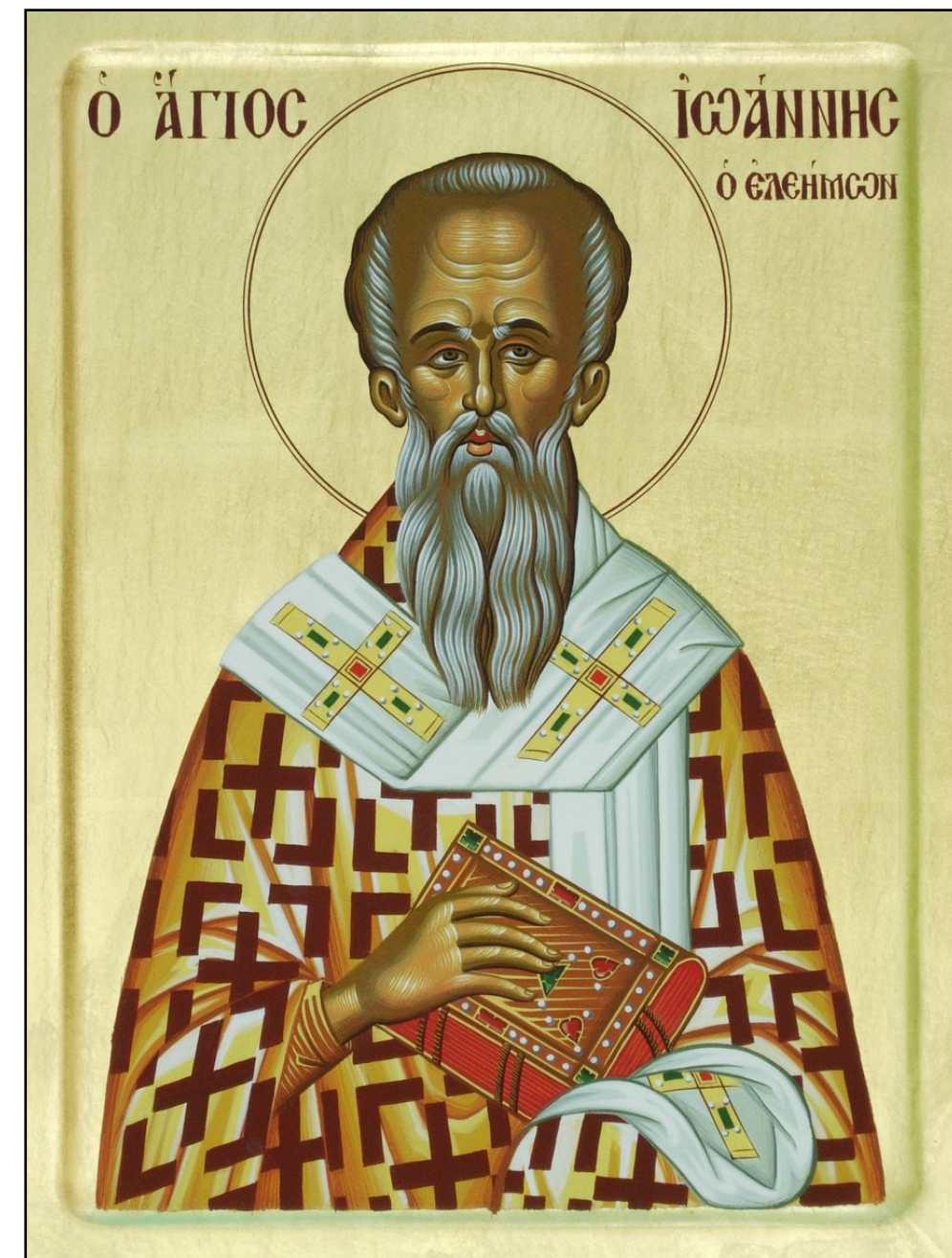


ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

November 12, 2017

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Constantinople (612-20). Ven. Nilus the Faster, of Sinai (5th c.). Bl. John “the Hairy”, Fool-for-Christ, in Rostov (1580). Prophet Ahijah (960 BC). Ven. Nilus the Myrrhusher, of Mt. Athos (1651).



St John the Merciful, Patriarch of Constantinople (612-20)

Divine Services

Wed., Nov. 8Reader's Vespers.....**6:30 p.m.**
(followed by Study Group)

Sat., Nov. 11 Reader's Vespers.....**5:00 p.m.**

Sat. Nov. 12Divine Liturgy**9:30 a.m.**
Hours Begin at 9:00 a.m.

Today's Readings

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

Next Week's Readings

Ephesians 2:14-22

Luke 12:16-21

For Next Week, Nov. 17

Hours and Thanksgiving PrayersBarbara Parhizgar

Epistle:.....Tanya Bogaevskaya

Coffee Hour:Oana Boucher

In Memory of: Matushka Marie Kreta, mother of Fr. John Kreta, our Chancellor and Diocesan Administrator. Her funeral was Oct, 31 at St. Tikhon's Monastery. Mat. Marie reposed on Monday, Oct.. 23.

In Memory of: Archpriest Wsewolod Drobot (father of Sophia Michaels). He reposed in Jordanville on Wednesday, Nov. 8. Fr. Wsewolod was the retired rector of the Nativity of the Mother of God parish in Colonie, NY for over 50 years.

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, Katya, Alexandra, Irina, Gregory, Mat. Myra, Theodore, Helen and Carol.

November Birthdays

Mat. Mary Gall (11/06), Yanet Tafet (11/09), Ana Radulescu (11/20), Patricia Davis (11/21), Helen Makdisi (11/23), Joyce Makdisi (11/23) **Anniversaries:** Danton and Elena Papurkov (11/14); Nick and Marina (11/30)

Announcements

Update on Nick Bobrovsky: Nick's open heart valve surgery on Thursday went very well. He has been moved from ICU to the Cardiac Unit and may be discharged early this coming week. Fr. John Kreta arranged for Fr. Robert Arida (Boston Cathedral) to visit Nick today. Daughter Kathy (O'Gara), a pediatric nurse at Mass General has been a great advocate for Nick. Hopefully he will be back in the Berkshires soon and we can offer our help to him and Marina as he heals at home.

November Charity. We are collecting for the local **Barton's Crossing**, a homeless shelter across the street. The funds we collect this month will be use to purchase toiletries and other items needed for residents of the shelter.

Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving Meal Nov. 23 at 1:00 p.m. Tanya is organizing a Thanksgiving meal in the rectory for those who would like to gather on Thanksgiving Day. a roasted turkey will be provided. Please let Tanya know if you will attend and the side-dish you can bring from this pot-luck event.

Snow Phone Tree: We have created a Telephone Tree for alerting members of the Parish to weather conditions that would result in our need to cancel Sunday church services. We will pass around the phone tree at coffee hour to insure we have correct phone numbers. Everyone on the list will also get a copy. If your name is not on the tree please let Irene know. We don't want to miss anyone.

Confessions December 2: Fr. Igor will come on Saturday, December 2 at 2;00 p.m. to hear confessions for the Nativity Feast. We will post a sign up list in the church if you intend to come for confession. Then at 5:00 Fr. Igor and Deacon Michael will server Great Vespers with us and stay over for Liturgy on Sunday.

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

Barton's Crossing Meal Schedule

(a charity ministry of St. Nicholas)

Dec 3: Team A: Chicken-Macaroni Casserole
(Tanya, Irina T, Alla Y, Paula, Galina)

Collections

Last Week's Collection.....\$1,274
2017 Budget\$96,142
Progress Towards Budget...\$71,781