



Sunday, September 20

Sunday after Holy Cross

Eustathius the Great Martyr, his wife and two children

Our Righteous Father Eustathius, Archbishop of Thessalonica

All English Service

First Antiphon

O God, my God, attend to me; why have you forsaken me?

Far from my salvation are the words of my transgressions.

O my God, I will cry to You by day but You will not hear.

Second Antiphon

Why, O God, have you rejected us forever?

Remember Your congregation which You have acquired from the beginning.

This is Mount Zion where You have dwelled.

Third Antiphon

The Lord reigns; let the people rage.

The Lord is great in Zion, and is high over all the people.

HYMNS AT THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Apolytikion of the Holy Cross

Save O Lord Your people and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to our leaders against the adversaries of the faith and protect Your commonwealth by Your Holy cross.

Isodikon

Come let us worship falling down before Christ. Save us O Son of God who didst arise from the dead sing we to Thee Alleluia.

The Resurrection Apolytikion

By death on Thy cross Thou defeated death and opened to the thief the way to paradise, Thou turned to joy the lament of the women bearing myrrh and commanded the disciples the message to proclaim, that Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world Thy great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Holy Cross

Save O Lord Your people and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to our leaders against the adversaries of the faith and protect Your commonwealth by Your Holy cross.

Apolytikion

Your martyrs Lord through their contest have won from You Lord a crown of incorruption having Your power they conquered the tyrants and they shattered the demon's feeble insolence through their supplications, Christ our God, save our souls.

Troparion of Saint Sophia (Holy Wisdom)

Blessed are You O Christ our God, Who as all wise the fishermen You showed forth; By sending your Holy Spirit down upon them and through them the universe You drew unto your net. O lover of mankind Glory to You.

Kondakion

You were lifted up on the cross by Your own will, to the new community that bears your name, O grant Your mercy Christ the God, gladden by your mighty strength our faithful leaders, granting them great victory against their adversaries, and may they have Your alliance the invincible trophy as a weapon of peace.

SAINT SOPHIA CATHEDRAL

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V. Rev. Father John S. Bakas

Dean

Rev. Father Allan Gabriel Boyd

Assistant Priest

Scripture Reading

Faith comes by hearing...

Epistle Reader: Toula Kalatzis

Priest: Let Us Attend...

Reader: The Lord will give strength to his people...bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

Priest: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians (2:16-20)

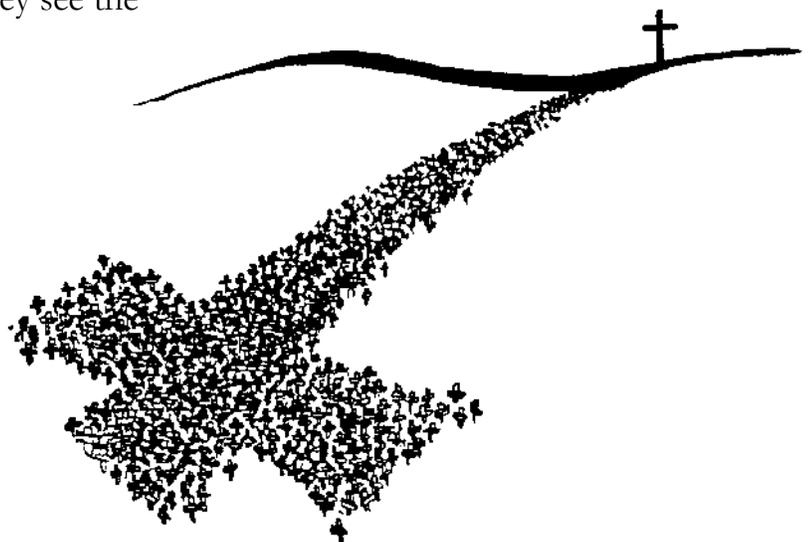
Priest: Let us be attentive...

BRETHREN, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

The Gospel of St. Mark (8:34-38; 9:1)

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the

kingdom of God come with power."



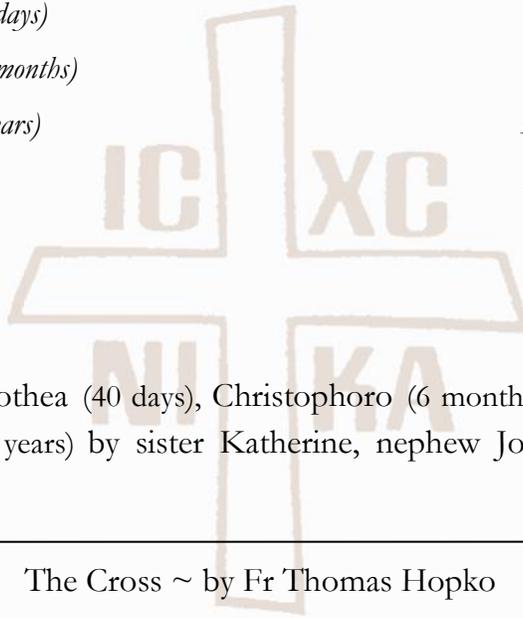
Memorials

May their memory be eternal...

Among the spirits of the righteous perfected in faith, give rest, O Savior to the souls of your servants...

Dorothea Demos (40 days)
Christophoro Demos (6 months)
Stephen Demos (30 years)
Panagiota (18 years)
George (70 years)

Georg (7 years)
Basili (19 years)
Dimitrios (8 years)
Helen Papadakis



ALTAR TABLE CANDLES

Offered in loving memory of Dorothea (40 days), Christophoro (6 months), Stephen (30 years), Panagiota (18 years), George (70 years), Georg (7 years) by sister Katherine, nephew John, niece Georgea, great nephews Shamus and Clayton.

The Cross ~ by Fr Thomas Hopko

When Jesus was hanging on the Cross, He said, “It is fulfilled—sometimes translated, “It is finished.” Jesus wasn’t saying that it was the end of the story. He meant that it’s the total accomplishment of everything. This Cross, then is God’s ultimate Word to those who have ears and are willing to hear. So we have to pray to God, that He would give us ears to hear, minds willing to open up to that mystery in order to perceive what God is doing. The Cross says everything about God, everything about human life, everything about history, everything about the planet, everything about the deepest mysteries that are possibly to be known to us creatures. The Cross says everything, because Christ is all...and in all—and nothing goes beyond that. Death is the great witness to the victory of God in Christ on the Cross. Since we are made in God’s image, then we are called to be divine. If we are called to be divine, then we are called to be crucified, because if God’s ultimate revelation of Himself in this world is on the Cross, then that’s where we reveal ourselves, too. There’s just no way to be a disciple of Jesus without taking up our cross. If He is crucified, then we too have to be crucified. St. Paul uses the expression: “co-crucified”. “We must be co-crucified together with Christ.” First we are co-crucified with Him. Then we are co-rising with Him. We are co-glorified with Him. We are co-reigning with Him. But it’s ALL, ONLY in and with Him. If this is the central act of His life, then it has to be the central act of our life, and there’s no way around it. What does it mean to take up the Cross? What does it mean to be co-crucified with Christ? What does it mean to fulfill oneself as a person made in the image and likeness of God, who is love, who fulfills Himself—(as He said, “It is fulfilled”)—by hanging, dead, on the Cross? What does that mean? It’s actually the fullest, truest expression of love. And God, as love is what is revealed in the Cross. Who doesn’t want to love? Everyone will tell you they’re for love. Who’s not for love? But the problem is that “love” has come to be defined in such shallow, meaningless ways. So, what is love? Love is realized and manifested and actualized ONLY on the wood of the Cross. Ultimately, definitively, absolutely, that’s where you see what love is. When Jesus Christ said, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you,” He was talking about the Cross—about us living in self-sacrificial, self-offering ways to others for His sake.

DAILY VITAMINS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

A man once went to Jesus asking if he could trade out his own cross for something that he felt would work better for him. So he told the Lord, "I see the crosses others are carrying and theirs are much more bearable than mine. Why does my cross have to be so cumbersome and heavy? Other people carry their cross with ease and mine is hindering me. How can I be expected to grow in my faith, when the cross You gave me is so disruptive to my spiritual life?" Looking carefully at the way this poor man was carrying his cross, Jesus said, "Ah, I see just what you mean. Let's get this resolved right away." So Jesus took the man to a very large room full of crosses. Our Lord instructed the man to find an empty spot to lay down his cross and then go through the rest of the room to select a new cross. The only stipulation was that once he made his selection, he could never complain about, or exchange his cross again. Well the man searched for hours on end trying each one on for size. There was quite a large number of big crosses that proved much too heavy for the man. He knew there was no way he could ever carry such a cross. There were smaller crosses there too, but they were surprisingly painful. Some were covered with barbs that constantly punctured one's shoulder and back—a pain much too intense for him to endure. Others were so roughly hewn that they simply rubbed his neck raw. Finally, after searching all day the man came upon a cross that seemed perfect for him. Not too big, and not too uncomfortable. In fact it was so smooth that it rested perfectly on his shoulder. The man exclaimed with joy, "Here it is Lord." Jesus asked the man, "Are you sure? Remember there are no trades or exchanges afterward and no more complaining about your cross." The man replied, "I'm sure. This is the perfect cross for me!" To which Jesus gently responded, "My child, if you look a bit more closely, you'd realize that that is the very same cross you carried in with you today." ✝ The fact is that we all have a cross to bear. Of course, this is not referring to life's normal problems. Both saints and sinners alike have problems in life. We are talking about those things which are difficult for us to carry along in our relationship with Jesus Christ. Maybe it's a temptation we regularly struggle with. Maybe it's a past that we can't seem to escape from. Maybe it's a rebellious attitude that is not willing to truly give God reign over our hearts. Regardless of the type of the cross we bear, the truth is, we all have a cross to bear that was made for us. Each of us is, or should be, carrying a cross for and towards that blessed kingdom of Jesus Christ. As we bear our crosses there are two things each of us needs to keep in mind. First, my cross is my cross and your cross is your cross. Don't look at someone else's cross and think, "Lord, they have it easy," because you do not have a clue how it feels to wear their cross. It may look lighter, but it does not mean it is any less painful. The cross Jesus has placed on your shoulders is your cross. It was made and designed for you. So bear it with humility and grace. Secondly, when your cross seems unbearable, always know that Jesus never puts a bigger cross on you than you can handle. The cross you carry is your cross and God is giving you the strength you need to carry it until the end. Learn to keep your eyes on Him, wherever you are, and know that He will help you make it to the end.



Sunday, September 20

8:15 am — Orthros

9:15 am — Studies in Faith

9:45 am — Memorials

10:00 am — *Divine Liturgy*

— **Coffee Hour:** Maniatakos Fellowship Hall

— **Sunday School Registration and Ice**

Cream Social: after coffee hour in the
Huffington Center's Gym

Tuesday, September 22

7:00 pm— The Forum Fellowship: An
Orthodox Group for Young
Professionals

~Saint Sophia Cathedral exists to Transform Life~

Being Disciples—Making Disciples—Growing Disciples—of Jesus Christ