

SAINTS, PROPHETS & FEASTS COMMEMORATED

FINDING OF THE RELICS OF CYRUS AND JOHN THE UNMERCENARIES

These Saints lived during the years of Diocletian. Saint Cyrus was from Alexandria, and Saint John was from Edessa of Mesopotamia. Because of the persecution of that time, Cyrus fled to the Gulf of Arabia, where there was a small community of monks. John, who was a soldier, heard of Cyrus' fame and came to join him. Henceforth, they passed their life working every virtue, and healing every illness and disease freely by the grace of Christ; hence their title of "Unmercenaries." They heard that a certain woman, named Athanasia, had been apprehended together with her three daughters, Theodora, Theoctiste, and Eudoxia, and taken to the tribunal for their confession of the Faith. Fearing lest the tender young maidens be terrified by the torments and renounce Christ, they went to strengthen them in their contest in martyrdom; therefore they too were seized.

After Cyrus and John and those sacred women had been greatly tormented, all were beheaded in the year 292. Their tomb became a renowned shrine in Egypt, and a place of universal pilgrimage. It was found in the area of the modern day resort near Alexandria named Abu Kyr.



SERGIOS THE MAGISTER

The Holy and Venerable Sergius of Paphlagonia came from the town of Niketia in Amastris on the Black Sea. He belonged to an aristocratic family, and was related to the family of Empress Theodora, the wife of the iconoclastic Emperor Theophilus. Saint Sergius excelled in his studies and soon attained high military and political posts.

Although Theophilus was a staunch supporter of the iconoclasts, Sergius remained a Confessor of the Orthodox Faith, making great efforts to restore the Holy Icons. He also became the protector of many who defended the Holy Icons, and were being persecuted by Theophilus. After the Emperor's death, Saint Sergius made great contributions and used all of his influence to strengthen Theodora's decision to convene an Ecumenical Council for the restoration of the Icons.



UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

Monday, 6/29/26 – Saturday, 7/4/26 (NO SERVICES)

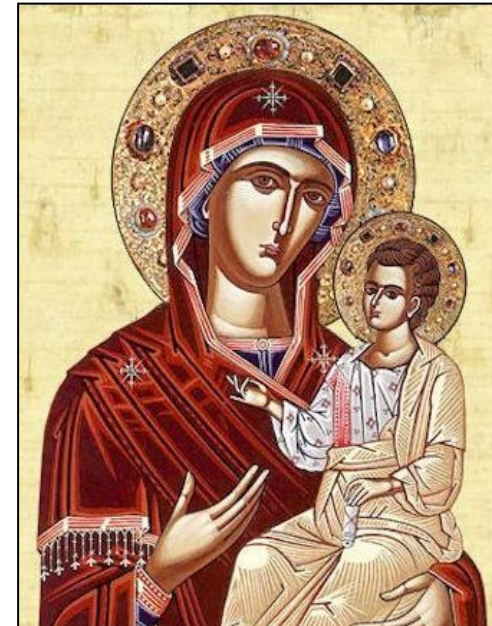
Sunday, 7/5/26

9:00 AM – Matins

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

12:00 PM – Agape Fellowship

PANAGIA PANTOVASILISSA HOLY MOTHER QUEEN OF ALL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2026
4TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

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PARISH PRIEST

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EPISTLE READING

Prokeimenon. Third Mode. Psalm 46.6,1.

Sing praises to our God, sing praises.

Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 6:18-23

Brethren, having been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 8:5-13

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.



HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the heavens rejoice; let the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of His arm. He trampled down death by death and became the firstborn of the dead. From the depths of Hades, He delivered us and granted to the world great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Church in the Fourth Mode

Your Birth o Theotokos, brought joy to the whole world. For from you rose the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He cancelled the curse and poured forth His grace: He vanquished death and granted us eternal life.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

The protection of Christians unshameable, intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, do not turn from the prayerful cries of those who are in sin; instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: Hasten to intercession and speed now to supplication as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Never say in your heart my power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth (Deut. 8:17). Rather always remember well that the Lord gave you that power (Deut. 8:18). For without me ye can do nothing, He said to His disciples (John 15:5). Remember well these words of the Lord. They are a great bulwark against pride and arrogance to which all of us are so very inclined and which is so clearly ruinous for all of us.

Metropolitan Gregory (Postnikov) of St. Petersburg

How to Live a Holy Life | by Metropolitan Gregory (Postnikov) of St. Petersburg p.72

Thus let us purify our heart! Let us throw out all the dusty trash that is stored there; let us scrub the dirty floor, wash the windows and open them, in order that light and air may come into the room we are preparing as a sanctuary for the Lord. Then let us put on clean garments, so that the old musty smell may not cling to us and we find ourselves thrust out (Luke 13:28).

Tito Colliander

Way of the Ascetics p.14

As you sail across the sea of the intellect, put your trust in Jesus, for secretly in your heart He says: 'Fear not, my child Jacob, the least of Israel; fear not, you worm Israel, I will protect you' (cf. Isa. 41:13-14). If God is for us, what evil one is against us (cf. Rom. 8:31)?

St Hesychios The Priest

Philokalia, Vol. 1 p.188