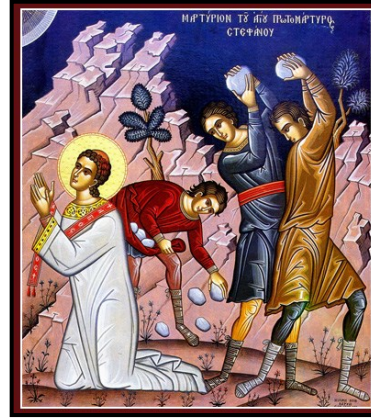


SAINTS, PROPHETS & FEASTS COMMEMORATED

TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF STEPHEN THE PROTOMARTYR

After the First Martyr had been stoned to death (see Dec. 27), Gamaliel, his teacher, encouraged certain of the Christians to go by night and take up the Saint's body and bury it in his field, which was at a distance of some twenty miles from Jerusalem and was called by his name, "Kaphar-gamala," that is, "the field of Gamala," where Gamaliel himself was later buried. About the year 427, a certain pious man called Lucian, who was the parish priest of a church near to that field, received from God a revelation in a dream concerning the place where the First Martyr was buried. He immediately made this known to John, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Thus, coming to the place indicated, and digging there, they found a box with the word "Stephen" in Aramaic letters. On opening it, they took these most sacred relics and transferred them to Jerusalem with great honor and in the company of a very great multitude of the faithful.



UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

Monday, 8/3/26

6:00 PM – Paraklesis

6:30 PM—Catechumen Paperwork Meeting

Wednesday, 8/5/26

6:00 PM – Vespers Divine Liturgy

7:30 PM – Young Adult's Late Night Discussion Group

Friday, 8/7/26

6:00 PM – Paraklesis & Confession

Sunday, 8/9/26

9:00 AM – Matins

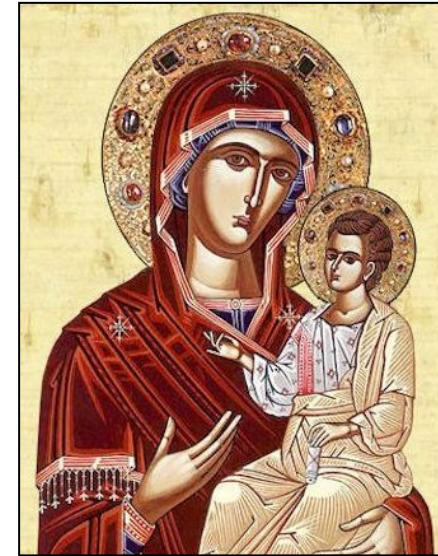
10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

12:00 PM – Agape Fellowship

PHILOPTOCHOS FEATURED SPEAKER

On Sunday August 16th, Philoptochos is sponsoring a talk, given by Dr. Kshitij Thakur, UK Gastroenterology & Hepatology. The PowerPoint presentation and discussion will focus on colon cancer and the current increase in the incidence of colon cancer. The talk will take place after coffee hour in the social hall, and will be open to all. This will run about 45 minutes.

PANAGIA PANTOVASILISSA HOLY MOTHER QUEEN OF ALL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026 9TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

FR. WILLIAM REDMON
PARISH PRIEST

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN KENTUCKY
3001 TATES CREEK ROAD
LEXINGTON, KY 40502
859-266-1921

EPISTLE READING

Prokeimenon. Plagal Fourth Mode. Psalm 75.11,1.

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:22-34

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So

Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.



HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

From on high did You descend, O Merciful Lord; for us did You endure three days in the tomb that we may be released from passions in this world. You who are our Resurrection and our Life, glory to You O Lord.

Apolytikion for Translation of the relics of Stephen in the Fourth Mode

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest Christ thy Saviour standing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

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 Grave Mode

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

The principle and source of the virtues is a good disposition of the will, that is to say, an aspiration for goodness and beauty. God is the source and ground of all supernal goodness. Thus the principle of goodness and beauty is faith or, rather, it is Christ, the rock of faith, who is principle and foundation of all virtues. On this rock we stand and on this foundation we build every good thing (cf. I Cor. 3:11).

St. Gregory of Sinai

On Commandments and Doctrines no. 83, Philokalia Vol. 3 edited by Palmer, Sherrard and Ware; Faber and Faber pg. 228, 14th century

Christ did not command the winds to cease at that time, but Himself stretched forth His hand and took hold of Peter, because here faith was required of him. When we do not do our part, divine (grace) slows and stands still. . . it was not the wind that did Peter harm; his lack of faith sank him. Where faith is fruitful, firm and strong, none of the evils that may befall us can do us any harm.

St. John Chrysostom

The Gospel Commentary edited by Hieromonk German Ciuba, 2002, 4th Century

