Sunday, June 18, 2023

2nd Sunday of Matthew

The Holy Martyr Leontios

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Second (Mark 16:1-8)

Mode of the Week: First/Πρώτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Our Parish Hymn of the Holy Cross of Christ:

Save, O Lord, save your people and bless Your inheritance. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross.

Σῶσον Κύριε τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς Βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

To our Visitors and Guests: We extend a warm welcome to all worshiping with us today! While Holy Communion, following ancient practice, is reserved for Orthodox Christians, non-Orthodox may receive the blessed bread (antidoron) offered at the conclusion of the service.

Please join us in the Parish House after the Divine Liturgy for Coffee Fellowship!
Epistle Reading

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we hope in You.
Verse: Rejoice greatly in the Lord, O righteous ones; praise is fitting for the upright. (Psalm 32)

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Romans. (2:10-16)

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for every one who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (4:18-23)

2nd Sunday of Matthew

At that time, as Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left their boat and their father, and followed him. And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.
Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- The Holy Martyr Leonias, Hypatios, and Theodoulos of Syria (+73)

This Martyr was from Greece. Being of great bodily stature and strength, he was an illustrious soldier in the Roman legions who had won many victories, and was known for his prudence and sobriety of mind. When it was learned that he gave grain to the poor from the imperial stores, and was moreover a Christian, it was known that he gave grain to the poor from the imperial stores, and was moreover a Christian, Hadrian the Governor of Phoenicia sent Hypatius, a tribune, and Theodulus, a soldier, to arrest him. Saint Leonias converted them to the faith of Tripolis in Phoenicia, where Hypatius and Theodulus were imprisoned and tormented by Hadrian for their confession of Christ. Then Hadrian with many flatteries and many torments strove to turn Leonias from Christ. All his attempts failing, he had Leonias put to such torments that he died in the midst of them, under Vespasian in the year 73.

- The Holy Martyr Aetherios of Nicomedia (+305)

- The Venerable Leontios the Shepherd and Monk

- The Venerable Leontios the Myrrh-Gusher of Argos and of Dionysiou Monastery on Mount Athos (+1605)

- Our Devout Father Amandus of Bordeaux, successor of St. Delphinus as Bishop of Bodeaux in France, Confessor (+431)

- The Holy Martyr Alena of Brussels (+640)

- The Holy New Hieromartyr Ioannicius, Metropolitan of Montenegro, executed by the Communists at the close of World War II (+1945)

By the intercessions of Your Saints, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.


- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Τον ήλιον ορασαν θυγρωμον, First Mode):
The stone having been sealed by the Pharisaees and chief priests, * and Your all-immortal body being guarded by soldiers, * You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. * Then the powers of the heavens cried out to You, O Giver of Life, and shouted, * Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! * Glory to Your eternal rule! * Glory to Your saving plan, O God who love humanity!" (Sung before and after the Small Entrance)

- Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον Κύριε, First Mode):

- The Normal Kontakion of the Theotokos (Προσκύνα των Χριστιανών, Second Mode):

O Protection of Christians that never falls, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you.