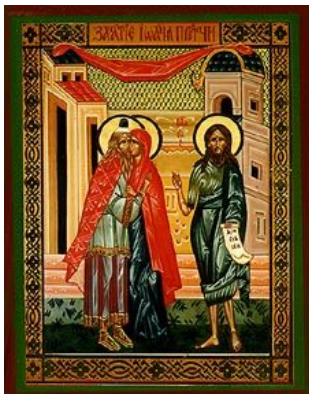




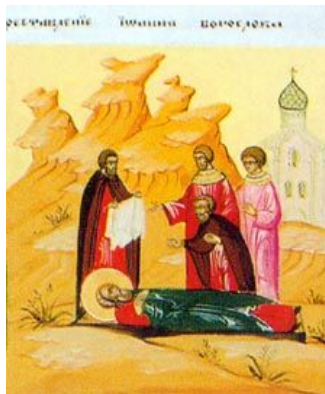
## NEWSLETTER & DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

**18th Week after Pentecost**

**Monday, October 5 — Sunday, October 11, 2020**



**Conception of the Honorable  
Glorious Prophet,  
Forerunner and Baptist John**



**Repose of the Holy Apostle  
and Evangelist John the  
Theologian**



**Venerable Sabbatius,  
Wonderworker of Solovki**

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## ~ A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN ~

And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His Disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the Seacoasts of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases. (Luke 6:17-23) Jesus Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, ministered, healed and fulfilled every dot and tittle of the law in the Holy Land, was crucified on the cross, died and was buried, rose from the dead, ascended into Heaven, brought Resurrection and Salvation to each person. In the Scripture of St. Luke, he is telling us he healed them all. In Baptism and Chrismation, we begin the journey of healing and renewal. We are Paradise bound as we dedicate our daily living to fulfill His Commandments. As we partake of His Body and Blood, and as we confess our sins and repent, we stay on the journey to Paradise. We use every tool he gives us: prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and works of mercy for others, truly loving our God and our neighbor as ourselves.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

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## ~ “TWITTER SUMMARY” ~

***The main points from Sunday’s sermon, in 280 characters or less!***

We will all meet God at the end of life, and our hope is that it will be a positive experience. We also hope to guide others towards God by renouncing ourselves and choosing Christ. Despite the virus restrictions, the Church will continue administering the sacraments.

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**~ THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY ~**

*Scripture and liturgical readings to enrich your prayer life every day of the week*

<p align="center"><b>~ MONDAY~</b> <b>(10/5)</b></p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> Ephesians 4:25-32 Luke 3:19-22</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>Troparion of the Hieromartyr Phocas in Tone IV —</b> As thou didst share in the ways of the apostles/ and didst occupy their throne, / thou didst find thine activity to be a passage to divine vision, / O divinely inspired one. / Wherefore, ordering the word of truth, / thou didst suffer for the Faith even to the shedding of thy blood.// O hieromartyr Phocas, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.</p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b> Hieromartyr Phocas, bishop of Sinope (117)</p>	<p align="center"><b>~ TUESDAY~</b> <b>(10/6)</b></p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> Ephesians 5:20-26 Luke 3:23-4:1 Galatians 4:22-31 Forerunner Luke 1:5-25 Forerunner</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>Conception of St. John the Baptist, Troparion in Tone IV —</b> Make merry, O barren woman, who before wast unable to bear a child!// For, lo! thou hast manifestly conceived the lamp of the Sun,/ who will enlighten the world which suffereth from blindness./ Dance thou, O Zechariah, crying out with boldness:// He who will be born is the prophet of the Most High!</p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b> The Conception of the Honorable, Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John</p>
<p align="center"><b>~ WEDNESDAY~</b> <b>(10/7)</b></p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> Ephesians 5:25-33 Luke 4:1-15</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>Holy Protomartyr and Equal of the Apostles Thecla, Troparion in Tone IV —</b> Taught by the words of Paul, O Thecla, bride of God,/ and confirmed through faith by Peter, O divinely called one,/ thou wast shown to be the protomartyr and first sufferer among women./ Thou didst enter the flame as it were a place abloom with flowers,/ and the wild beasts and bulls stood in awe of thee,/ for thou didst arm thyself</p>	<p align="center"><b>~ THURSDAY~</b> <b>(10/8)</b></p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> Galatians 5:22-6:2 St. Sergius Luke 6:17-23 St. Sergius</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>St. Sergius of Radonezh, Troparion, Tone IV —</b> O thou who wast a struggler for the virtues, as a true warrior of Christ God thou didst contend greatly against the passions in this transitory life, becoming a model for thy disciples in chanting, the keeping of vigils and fasts. Wherefore, the all-holy Spirit made his abode within thee, by Whose activity thou wast splen-didly adorned. As</p>

<p>with the Cross.// Wherefore, O most lauded one, entreat Christ, that our souls be saved.</p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b>          Holy Protomartyr and Equal-to-the-Apostles Thecla of Iconium (1st c.)</p>	<p>thou hast boldness before the Holy Trinity, be thou mindful of the flock which thou hast assembled, O wise one, and forget it not, as thou hast promised, visiting thy children, O Sergius, our venerable father.</p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b>          Repose of Venerable Sergius, abbot, of Radonezh (1392)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ FRIDAY ~</b> <b>(10/9)</b></p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b>          1 John 4:12-19 Repose of the John the Theologian          John 19:25-27; 21:24-25 Repose of the John the Theologian</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b>  <b>Repose of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian, Troparion in Tone II —</b>  <i>O beloved apostle of Christ God,/ haste thou to deliver a defenceless people./ He Who permitted thee to recline against His breast/ receiveth thee, prostrate in supplication./ Him do thou beseech, O theologian,/ that He dispel the gloom of the nations which doth beset us,// asking for us peace and great mercy.</i></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b>          Repose of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ SATURDAY ~</b> <b>(10/10)</b></p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b>          1 Corinthians 15:39-45          Luke 4:31-36</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b>  <b>Holy Martyr Callistratus and his companions, Troparion in Tone IV —</b>  <i>In their sufferings, O Lord,/ Thy martyrs received imperishable crowns from Thee our God;/ for, possessed of Thy might,/ they set at nought the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons.// By their supplications save Thou our souls.</i></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b>          Martyr Callistratus and his company (49 Martyrs) of Carthage (304)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ SUNDAY ~</b> <b>(10/11)</b></p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b>          2 Corinthians 9:6-11          Luke 5:1-11</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion :</b>  <b>St. Chariton of Palestine, Troparion in Tone VIII —</b>  <i>With the streams of thy tears thou didst irrigate the barren desert,/ and with sighs from the depths of thy soul thou didst render thy labors fruitful an hundredfold./ Thou wast a beacon for the whole world,</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>“Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, * their words unto the ends of the world.”</i></b></p> <p>[Prokeimenon of Pentecost, Tone 8, Liturgy]</p> <p><b>To read more:</b>  <a href="https://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/">https://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/</a></p>

radiating miracles.// O our father Chariton ,  
entreat Christ God that our souls be saved.

**Commemoration of the Day:**

Venerable Chariton the Confessor,  
abbot of Palestine (350)

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**~ PONDER THIS ~**

***A few thoughts to ponder in light of this week's lessons and sermons.***

<https://www.oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-daily-cycles-of-prayer/prayer>

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**Prayer**

Prayer is essential to Christian life. Jesus Christ himself prayed and taught men to pray. One who does not pray to God cannot be a follower of Christ.

In the Orthodox Church all prayer is Trinitarian. We pray in the Holy Spirit, through Jesus the Son of God, and in his name, to God the Father. We call God “our Father” because Jesus has taught us and enabled us to do so. We have the capability of addressing God as Father because we are made sons of God by the Holy Spirit (see Rom 8).

In the Church we also address prayers to Christ and the Holy Spirit, the Divine Persons who are one with God the Father and exist eternally in perfect unity with him, sharing his divine being and will.

In the Church we also pray to the saints—not in the same way as we pray to the Persons of the Holy Trinity, but as our helpers, intercessors, and fellow-members of the Church who are already glorified with God in his divine presence. Foremost among the saints and first among the mere humans who are glorified in God’s Kingdom is Mary, the Theotokos and Queen of Heaven, the leader among our saintly intercessors before God. We can also pray to the holy angels to plead our cause before God.

(... TO CONTINUE READING, CLICK ON THE LINK ABOVE)

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## ~LOOK IT UP~

**Did you know:** Saint John reposed when he was more than a hundred years old. He far outlived the other eyewitnesses of the Lord, and for a long time he remained the only remaining eyewitness of the earthly life of the Savior.

**Read more:**

<https://www.o.ca.org/saints/lives/2020/09/26/102731-repose-of-the-holy-apostle-and-evangelist-john-the-theologian>

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## ~ PRAYER CORNER ~

- Father John and Matushka Deborah.
  - Please keep in prayer our older parishioners who, if they contract the COVID-19 virus, will be in greater risk of serious health complications.
  - Anna and her family
  - Ekaterina
  - Please keep in prayer our heroic parishioners who work in the health care profession and are on the front lines of our society's fight against the Novel Corona Virus and COVID-19 disease.
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## ~ THIS WEEK'S SERVICES ~

Monday	6pm - Vespers (Facebook Live)
Tuesday	8am - Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	8am - Matins 6pm - Vespers (Facebook Live) 6:40 - Akathist: St. Nicholas the Wonderworker 7pm - Studies in the Faith Class (Facebook Live)
Thursday	8am - Divine Liturgy 6pm - Vigil
Friday	8am - Divine Liturgy 6pm - Vespers (Facebook Live)
Saturday	7am - Matins

Sunday                      8:30 - Divine Liturgy  
                                    5pm - Vigil (Facebook Live)  
                                    9am - Divine Liturgy

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**~ BOOKSTORE ~**

- New extra-large icons from Russia!
  - *The Heavenly Banquet: Understanding the Divine Liturgy* by Fr. Emmanuel Hatzidakis now in stock!
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To submit **commemorations for the next Divine Liturgy**, to make an appointment with Fr. John to give **confession by telephone**, to alert us to any pastoral needs, to submit an item for the **Prayer Corner**, or just to chat, please contact Fr. John or Mat. Deborah using the following contact information:

Archpriest John Tomasi \* (310) 749-0524 \* [frjohn\\_tomasi@yahoo.com](mailto:frjohn_tomasi@yahoo.com)  
Matushka Deborah Tomasi \* (310) 849-9451 \* [deborah\\_tomasi@yahoo.com](mailto:deborah_tomasi@yahoo.com)

**Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!**