



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

812 Grand Street, Trenton, NJ 08610 (609) 393-1234
Rev. Volodymyr Chaikivskiy V. Rev. Paul Shafran, Pastor Emeritus
saintvladimir.org
facebook.com/St-Vladimir-Orthodox-Church-Trenton-NJ-454092552035666

VENERABLE KYRIAKOS THE ANCHORITE SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

TROPARION, KONTAKION & PROKEIMENON

Troparion – Tone 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion – Tone 1

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father Cyriacus. Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! Glory to Him Who granted thee a crown!// Glory to Him Who, through thee, grants healing to all!

Kontakion – Tone 5

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,// and we cry to Thee: “O Lord, save us!”

Kontakion – Tone 8

The sacred Lavra honors thee as a mighty champion and helper, and yearly celebrates thy memory. As thou hast boldness before the Lord: preserve us from our enemies// so that we may sing: “Rejoice, thrice-blessed Cyriacus!”

Prokeimenon – Tone 5

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever.
V. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly!

LITURGICAL COMMEMORATION

Venerable Kyriakos the Anchorite

Saint Kyriakos (Kyriákos)¹ was born in the Greek city of Corinth to the priest John and his wife Eudokía. Bishop Peter of Corinth, who was a family relative, seeing that Kyriakos was a quiet and sensible child, made him a Reader in church. His constant reading of the Holy Scriptures awakened in him a love for the Lord, and made him long for a pure and holy life.

When he was not yet eighteen years old, Kyriakos was deeply moved during a Church Service by the words of the Gospel: “If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me” (Matthew 16:24). He believed that these words applied to him, so he went straight to the harbor without stopping at home, got onto a ship, and went to Jerusalem. After visiting the holy places, Kyriakos lived for several months at a monastery not far from Sion, in obedience to the Igoumen Abba Eustorgios (Eustórgios). Later, with the latter's blessing, he made his way to the wilderness Lavra of Saint Euthymios the Great (January 20). Saint Euthymios, discerning great gifts of God in Kyriakos, tonsured him into the monastic schema and placed him under the guidance of Saint Gerasimos (Gerásimos) (March 4), who trained him in asceticism at the Monastery of Saint Theoktistos (Theóktistos) by the Jordan.

Saint Gerasimos, taking into account the fact that Kyriakos was very young, ordered him to live in a cenobitic monastery with the brethren. The young monk easily fulfilled his monastic obediences: he prayed fervently, he slept little, and ate food only every other day, sustaining himself with bread and water. It was customary for the monks to go into the Rouva wilderness during Great Lent, and return to the Monastery on Palm Sunday. Seeing the young monk's strict abstinence, Saint Gerasimos decided to take him along with him. In complete solitude, the ascetics redoubled their efforts. Every Sunday Saint Gerasimos imparted the Holy Mysteries to his disciple.

After the repose of Saint Gerasimos, the twenty-seven-year-old Kyriakos returned to the Lavra of Saint Euthymios, who was no longer among the living. Father Kyriakos asked for a solitary cell and there he devoted himself to ascetical contests in silence, speaking only to the monk Thomas. But Thomas was sent to Alexandria where he was consecrated as a bishop, and Saint Kyriakos spent another ten years in complete silence. At the age of thirty-seven, he was ordained to the diaconate. When a rift occurred between the monasteries of Saint Euthymios and Saint Theoktistos, Saint Kyriakos withdrew to the Souka Monastery of Saint Khariton (September 28). At this Monastery they received even tonsured monks as novices, and Saint Kyriakos was also received this way. He toiled humbly at various monastic obediences. After several years, Saint Kyriakos was ordained as a priest, and was chosen as the canonarch,² serving in this obedience for eighteen years. In all, Saint Kyriakos spent thirty years at the Monastery of Saint Khariton (September 28). Strict fasting and a complete lack of evil distinguished Saint Kyriakos even among the older ascetics of the Lavra. Each night he read the Psalter in his cell, interrupting his reading only to go to church at midnight. The ascetic slept very little. When he reached the age of seventy, Kyriakos went to the Natoufa wilderness, taking his disciple John with him.

In the desert the hermits ate only bitter herbs, which were made edible by the prayers of Saint Kyriakos. After five years, a certain man found out about the ascetics and brought his demon-possessed son to them, and Saint Kyriakos healed him. From that time, many people began coming to him with their needs, but he desired complete solitude, and fled to the Rouva wilderness, where he dwelt five years more. But the sick and those afflicted by demons also came to him in that wilderness, and the Saint healed them all with the Sign of the Cross and anointing them with oil.

In his eightieth year Saint Kyriakos fled to the remote Sousakim wilderness, near two dried up streams. According to Tradition, the holy Prophet David mentioned Sousakim: "Thou hast dried up the rivers of Etham" (Psalm 73/74:15). After seven years, brethren of the Souka Monastery came to him, beseeching his spiritual help during a period of debilitating hunger and illness, which God allowed. They implored Saint Kyriakos to return to the Monastery, and he settled in the cave where Saint Khariton had once lived. Saint Kyriakos provided great help to the Church in the struggle with the spreading heresy of Origenism. By prayer and by word, he brought the wayward back to the true path, and strengthened the Orthodox in their faith. Cyril, the author of the Life of Saint Kyriakos, and a monk of the Lavra of Saint Euthymios, was a witness when Saint Kyriakos foretold the impending death of the chief heretics Nonos and Leontius, and said that soon the heresy would cease to spread. The Most Holy Theotokos once appeared to Saint Kyriakos in a dream, along with Saints John the Baptist and John the Theologian, ordering him to preserve Orthodox doctrine in its purity. She refused to enter his cell, however, because in it was a book with the writings of the heretic Nestorius. "My enemy is in your cell," she told him.³

At the age of ninety-nine, Saint Kyriakos went to Susakim again and lived there with his disciple John. In the desert, Saint Kyriakos was served by a huge lion, which protected him from robbers. The animal did not bother the brethren, and it ate food from the Saint's hand. The ascetics had stored some water in the hollow of a rock during the winter, but in the heat of summer, all the water dried up. Since there was no other source of water, Saint Kyriakos prayed, and the rain fell, filling the hollow with water. Saint Kyriakos returned to the Monastery two years before his death and settled once more in Saint Khariton's cave. Until the end of his life the righteous Elder preserved his courage, and prayed with fervor. He was never idle, he either prayed or he worked. Before his blessed repose, Saint Kyriakos summoned the brethren and blessed them all. He fell asleep in the Lord, having lived for 109 years.

¹ His name is derived from the Greek word Κύριος, which means Lord, or one who belongs to the Lord.

² A Canonarch is the lead chanter, or Reader. He ensures that other Readers chant from the correct texts and use the proper Tones. He also preserves the canonical order in the liturgical services, according to the Typikon.

³ The appearance of the Most Holy Theotokos to Saint Kyriakos is commemorated on June 8.

EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, CAREGIVERS, AND DECEASED

To add a name, please email Darice at daricekeyes@gmail.com.

For the Sick / Caregiver

Thomas (9/8)

Matushka Mary (9/8)

Father Paul (9/8)

Alexandra (9/8)

Bill (9/15)

Kelly (9/15)

Liam (9/15)

Lynne (9/15)

Lydia (9/22)

Sharon (9/22)

Athanasia-Trudy (9/22)

John (9/22)

Bonnie (9/22)

Paul (9/22)

Carmine (9/22)

Marianne (9/22)

Anthony (9/22)

Erica (9/29)

Subdeacon Serge (9/29)

Melody (9/29)

Michael (9/29)

Charlotte (9/29)

For the Deceased

Chris (9/15)

SERVICES

Service Schedule for the Week of September 29

Sunday September 29 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Monday September 30 – **PROTECTION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS** 7:00 PM Vespers with Litya

Tuesday October 1 – **PROTECTION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS** 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday October 5 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession and Catechumen classes

Sunday October 6 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

DONATIONS

Weekly Giving

September 22 – 98 adults, 22 youth, \$2,123

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a FOCA Club meeting today during Coffee Hour.

Catechumen classes will be held on Saturday evenings after Vespers (5:00 PM). Parishioners are more than welcome to attend along with those studying to convert to the Orthodox faith.

Please plan on attending the Annual Turkey Social (Bingo) on Sunday October 13 after Divine Liturgy. There is no Coffee Hour that day, but we will be selling food. This is a main fundraiser for the church, so please support the event! Gift cards and other items for the Annual Turkey Social are needed for gifts. Please refer to the papers on the tables in Daria Hall. If you have questions or a donation, please see Nina Laushell. All gift items will be needed by next Sunday October 6. Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Ludwig Koerte – September 29

Noah Kilgore – September 29

Andrei Vrinceanu – September 29

Lorenzo DiDonato – September 30

Trudy Ellmore – October 1

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

COFFEE HOUR

Hosts are responsible for providing and setting up the refreshments in Daria Hall at 9:00 AM and after Holy Communion, cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing, drying and putting away dishes, taking out the trash, wiping down the tables, and cleaning up the Coffee Room including turning off and cleaning the coffee and tea pots. Hosts will be informed in advance if cream cheese, butter, or milk is needed. **PLEASE NOTE:** Your assigned Coffee Hour Support Person will provide guidance, however, the Support Person will leave Daria Hall at 9:55 AM to attend church services. If you have arrived late or are not finished, you will be provided the key to lock the Hall when you are leaving for church services. If you have any questions, please contact Melody Stavisky or Alla Strauss.

SUGGESTED MENU:

Bagels / Breads

Donuts / Pastries

Desserts are available to use from the two freezers in Daria Hall

Fruit

Salads

Tortilla chips & Salsa

Hummus

Sugar-free dessert

Oreos (non-dairy)

NOTE: Hosts may provide a luncheon for a specific event or holiday (panikhida, birthday, anniversary, holiday) with advance notice to reserve the specific date to host the event. The hosts will be responsible for all food preparation for such a luncheon.

Sept. 29 Sami Bachir, Nour Ragab

Oct. 6 Virgiliu & Gabriela Plesa, Mihaela & Tiberiu Milosav

Oct. 13 ANNUAL TURKEY SOCIAL – NO COFFEE HOUR

Oct. 20 Eleni Athanatos & Tom Sowanick, Amber Touch

Oct. 27 Sophie Dumas, Melissa Braun

Nov. 3 Tyler Burger, Ludwin Lopez

Nov. 10 Galina Shubina, Vera Pschenyczny

Nov. 17 FAST Fiyori Habtesillasse, Lemlem Woldearegay

Nov. 24 FAST Peter Abdallah, Jim Galcik

Dec. 1 FAST Natalia Kolomatskaia, Trudy Ellmore

Dec. 8 FAST Germain & Tahara Ortiz, Hannah Dougherty

Dec. 15 FAST Mimi & Alan Berck, Amleset Gebrekvistos

Dec. 22 FAST Father Volodymyr & Matushka Oksana, Svetlana Sosedov

Dec. 29 Valeria & Timothy Srock, Guy Radcliffe

Jan. 5 Darice Keyes, Bill & Margie DiCicco

Jan. 12 Aftan Chowansky, Matthew & Nana Barrett

Jan. 19 Juan Garcia, Benjamin & Julie Stell

Jan. 26 Karina Kotelnicki, Paul & Patty Denko

Feb. 2 Anna, Leon & Simeon Brasowski, Brittani & Alex Brasowski

Feb. 9 Corneliu & Florica Balasa, Stefania Balasa

Have a healthy, blessed week!