



# Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

## Sunday, September 27, 2020 - Launch into the Deep



16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7.

Martyrs Callistratus and his company (49 Martyrs—ca. 304).



### Hymns for Today

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

In contest thou wast strengthened by the Holy Spirit, O Martyr Callistratus, and wast glorious in casting down the Enemy. Thou didst offer a noble army of athletes as sweet-smelling incense to Christ. With them pray for us who praise thee with hymns!

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Like stars you have shone upon the world, shedding the light of your contests and miracles upon all who cry to you: “Rejoice, Martyr Callistratus and fellow company of martyrs!”

### Epistle Reading - 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: “In an acceptable time I have heard You, and in the day of salvation I have helped You.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

### Gospel Reading - Luke 5:1-11

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, “Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” But Simon answered and said to Him, “Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.” And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!” For he

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**DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS:** *A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting.*

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and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

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### THIS WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE

*(Services livestreamed on Facebook)*

**TODAY:** 8:40 AM Hours, 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy, Outdoor Coffee Hour

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#### Today's Parastas after Divine Liturgy

In Memory of Stephen Krill

*offered by Mary Krill*

In Memory of Connie Padrezas

*offered by Jeri Basarab*

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#### Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God

**WED,** Sept 30 @ 6:30 PM - Great Vespers

**THURS,** October 1 @ 9 AM - Divine Liturgy

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**SAT, October 3:** 5:00 PM Great Vespers, Parastas for Stephen Krill & Connie Padrezas

**SUN, October 4:** 8:40 AM Hours, 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Annual Parish Meeting

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### PARISH PRAYER LIST

**Living:** Cynthia Dulsky, Theodore & Elenor Sovryda, Nadine Breisch, Rosalie Bagenski, Sonja & Leanne Kay, Mary Krill, Anna Hutz Lahr, Brian Cawley, Josie Bissett, Lisa & Scott Harvey, Daniel & Shannon Bissett, Rebecca King, Connie Padrezas, Delores Karas, Joan Belcher, Antonette Terry, Archpriest Daniel & Matushka Myra Kovalak, Mary DeBenedetto, Violet Filipi, Karl Pfeiffenberger, Lisa Vallone, Christopher Polk, Emma St. Romain & Infant, Catherine, Danny Gobish, Lorraine Pace, Anastasia Homick, Camden Thomas, Dr. Peter Kaminski, Peter Holoviak & Family, Mary Krill, Thomas Padrezas **Departed:** Stephen Krill, Connie Padrezas

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### Altar Server Schedule

**Sunday, Sept 27:** Alec B, Kaleb D, Andrew C

**Sunday, Oct 4:** Alex H, Tommy D, Andrew N

**Sunday, Oct 11:** Christopher D, Symeon C, Ephraim N

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### Parastas Oct 3 after Saturday Vespers

**In Memory of Stephen Krill**, offered by Steve & Helen Lahey & Family. **In Memory of Connie Padrezas** offered by Dave Thorek & Family. Parastas will begin at approx. 5:45 PM following Great Vespers.

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### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES - MANY YEARS!

**Sept Birthdays:** Jason King (9/1), Marriane Haugh (9/3), William Gurka (9/8), Lynn Bankos (9/11), Vladimir Dutko (9/13), Kaleb Dutko (9/19), Brittany Marie Willis (9/20), Steve Hutz 9/29), Alekzandria Dutko (9/30)

**Sept Anniversaries:** Jason & Colleen King (9/5), Diane & Dave Welgus (9/6), Martha & Paul Tumavitch (9/17), Stephen & Joanne Dutko (9/14)

**Upcoming Birthdays:** Paula Holoviak (10/2), Jason Stankieicz (10/18) **Upcoming Anniversaries:** William & Mary Gurka (10/15)

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### TODAY: Downstairs Cleanup for Church School:

Today after church we are in need of helpful hands to clean up the basement and have it ready for Church School beginning October 11th. Moving tables, chairs, boxes, bookcases, vacuuming etc. will sparkle up that area! If you are a parent with kids in church school we humbly request that you and your family help if at all possible. Church School teachers can also set up their classrooms at that time.

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### Wednesday Night Bible Study

The Gospel of Mark

#### **Beginning October 7th - November 18th**

Over six sessions we will read through the Gospel of St. Mark and explore the miracles, parables, teachings and events that shape our faith & Christian lives.

**Classes will be online at 7:30 PM. More details to come!**

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### Annual Parish Meeting

October 4, 2020

Annual Parish Meeting to be held on October 4 immediately following services. To allow for social distancing this meeting will be held in the church pavilion. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

**CEMETERY CLEAN-UP DAY** - There will be a clean-up day for the Holy Resurrection Cemetery on William St in Plains, scheduled for Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup>, (rain date October 17<sup>th</sup>). The goal is to re-mount the Cemetery sign (blown down during a storm), trim back overgrown brush and to generally tidy up the Cemetery grounds. Start time is scheduled for 9:00am to 1:00pm. Items such as pruning shears, chainsaws, weed whackers, hedge trimmers, and rakes would be helpful. Light refreshments will be provided.

### **CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS OCT 11th - SIGN UP!**

Attention all parents! Holy Trinity Church School will begin October 11th. Please sign your kids up using the signup sheet in the back of the church. If you have any questions or concerns relating to precautions being taken due to the pandemic please see Alexanne Conklin OR Joanne Dutko.

### **HELP US COMPLETE OUR PARISH DIRECTORY**

Please check your directory listing on the podium in the Vestibule of the church, make any necessary corrections, and write "Yes" or "No" next to the listing indicating whether or not you would like to be included.

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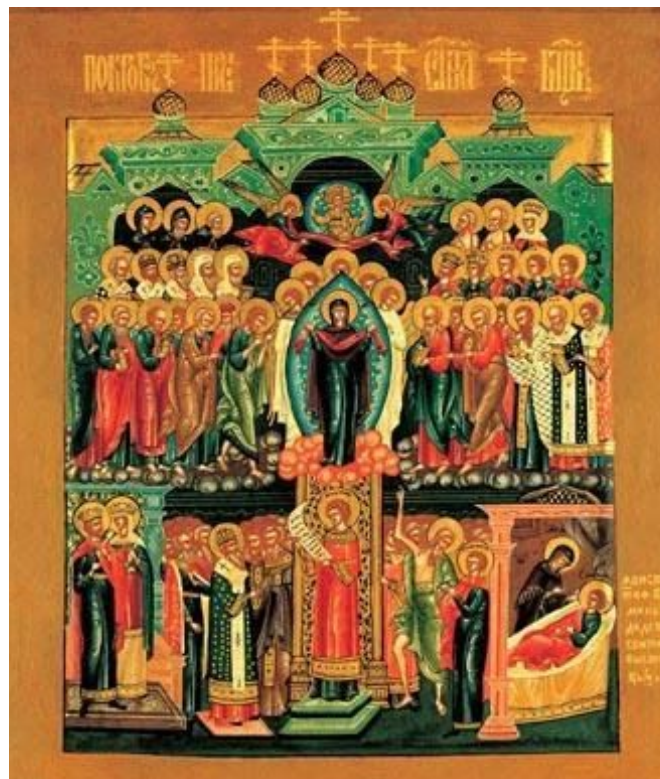
## **October 1st: Feast of the The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos**

"Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church, and with choirs of Saints she invisibly prays to God for us. Angels and Bishops venerate Her, Apostles and prophets rejoice together, Since for our sake she prays to the Eternal God!"

This miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-tenth century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the fifth century.

On Sunday, October 1, during the All Night Vigil, when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ Saint Andrew (October 2), at the fourth hour, lifted up his eyes towards the heavens and beheld our most Holy Lady Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. Saint John the Baptist and the holy Apostle John the Theologian accompanied the

Queen of Heaven. On bended knees the Most Holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming near the Bishop's Throne, she continued her prayer.



After completing her prayer she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. The Most Holy Lady Theotokos was resplendent with heavenly glory, and the protecting veil in her hands gleamed "more than the rays of the sun." Saint Andrew gazed trembling at the miraculous vision and he asked his disciple, the blessed Epiphanius standing beside him, "Do you see, brother, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?" Epiphanius answered, "I do see, holy Father, and I am in awe."

The Ever-Blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His Most Holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession, "O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to You and call on my name for help. Do not let them go away from my icon unheard."

Saints Andrew and Epiphanius were worthy to see the Mother of God at prayer, and "for a long time observed

the Protecting Veil spread over the people and shining with flashes of glory. As long as the Most Holy Theotokos was there, the Protecting Veil was also visible, but with her departure it also became invisible. After taking it with her, she left behind the grace of her visitation.”

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*Saints Andrew and Epiphanius were worthy to see the Mother of God at prayer, and “for a long time observed the Protecting Veil spread over the people and shining with flashes of glory.*

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At the Blachernae church, the memory of the miraculous appearance of the Mother of God was remembered. In the fourteenth century, the Russian pilgrim and clerk Alexander, saw in the church an icon of the Most Holy Theotokos praying for the world, depicting Saint Andrew in contemplation of her.

The Primary Chronicle of Saint Nestor reflects that the protective intercession of the Mother of God was needed because an attack of a large pagan Russian fleet under the leadership of Askole and Dir. The feast celebrates the divine destruction of the fleet which threatened Constantinople itself, sometime in the years 864-867 or according to the Russian historian Vasiliev, on June 18, 860. Ironically, this Feast is considered important by the Slavic Churches but not by the Greeks.

The Primary Chronicle of Saint Nestor also notes the miraculous deliverance followed an all-night Vigil and the dipping of the garment of the Mother of God into the waters of the sea at the Blachernae church, but does not mention Saints Andrew and Epiphanius and their vision of the Mother of God at prayer. These latter elements, and the beginnings of the celebrating of the Feast of the Protection, seem to postdate Saint Nestor and the Chronicle. A further historical complication might be noted under (October 2) dating Saint Andrew’s death to the year 936.

The year of death might not be quite reliable, or the assertion that he survived to a ripe old age after the

vision of his youth, or that his vision involved some later pagan Russian raid which met with the same fate. The suggestion that Saint Andrew was a Slav (or a Scythian according to other sources, such as S. V. Bulgakov) is interesting, but not necessarily accurate. The extent of Slavic expansion and repopulation into Greece is the topic of scholarly disputes.

In the PROLOGUE, a Russian book of the twelfth century, a description of the establishment of the special Feast marking this event states, “For when we heard, we realized how wondrous and merciful was the vision... and it transpired that Your holy Protection should not remain without festal celebration, O Ever-Blessed One!”

Therefore, in the festal celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, the Russian Church sings, “With the choirs of the Angels, O Sovereign Lady, with the venerable and glorious prophets, with the First-Ranked Apostles and with the Hieromartyrs and Hierarchs, pray for us sinners, glorifying the Feast of your Protection in the Russian Land.” Moreover, it would seem that Saint Andrew, contemplating the miraculous vision was a Slav, was taken captive, and became the slave of the local inhabitant of Constantinople named Theognostus.

Churches in honor of the Protection of the Mother of God began to appear in Russia in the twelfth century. Widely known for its architectural merit is the temple of the Protection at Nerl, which was built in the year 1165 by holy Prince Andrew Bogoliubsky. The efforts of this holy prince also established in the Russian Church the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God, about the year 1164.

At Novgorod in the twelfth century there was a monastery of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (the so-called Zverin monastery) In Moscow also under Tsar Ivan the Terrible the cathedral of the Protection of the Mother of God was built at the church of the Holy Trinity (known as the church of Saint Basil the Blessed).

On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, “Remember us in your prayers, O Lady Virgin Mother of God, that we not perish by the increase of our sins. Protect us from every evil and from grievous woes, for in you do we hope, and venerating the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you.”