

The Messenger

Sunday, July 30, 2023 Κυφιακή, 30 Ιουλίου 2023

8th Sunday of Matthew Η' Κυριακή Ματθαῖου

Weekly Worship Guide

The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation • Atlanta, GA

Silas, Silvan, Crescens, Epenetus and Andronicus the Apostles of the 70 Julitta of Caesaria

Today's Memorials

Service can be found on p. 127 of the Divine Liturgy Book

40 Day Memorial for Demetrios Karaberis 40 Day Memorial for Demetrios Mazacoufa

St. Julitta of Caesaria



On the 30th of July, the holy Church commemorates the memory of the martyr Julitta of Caesarea. Julitta is one of many, many martyrs who lived during the very turbulent and distressing reign of the Emperor Diocletian. She was being encumbered by a man who was attempting to seize all of her property, not only just property, but the animals she had, the place that she lived; anything connected to her, he was trying to assume. So hoping for some sort of justice, she took him to court. In court, though, things weren't going to go very well for her, because this man began to expose the fact that she was a Christian and did not worship any of the gods that Diocletian did. So he maintained that because of this she was not subject to any of the favorable laws or ordinances that might be provided for someone who was a pagan.

Julitta was not happy with this, as you can imagine, but yet, deep in her heart, although she had a certain amount of wealth, she really cared for none of these things at all. Her only concern for going to court in the first place was because of her servants, because this man who had assumed or was trying to take all of her property, would also take the servants, too, and she was very much afraid that they would not get their proper share in all of this, that he would take everything; they would be left homeless and without any hope. Yet while she was in the court, she also maintained that she, although she admitted to being a Christian, would in nowise reject her Creator and Fashioner, as she said.

Once this was admitted in open court, Julitta was taken out, and she was thrown into a furnace. Her life tells us that almost immediately her soul flew up to the many mansions of heaven, and although her body remained, the fire would not consume it. Her relatives and friends then took her remains, and they became a great source of blessing for everyone around them, curing diseases, healing the sick, causing all sorts of disturbances and oppressions to be resolved.

After this we don't know much more about her life or what happened after her repose, but we do have someone who was a noted fellow-Caesarean, Basil the Great, who wrote a brief encomium to her, and he said that even in this day —referring to his own days—there was a spring that gushed forth at the place of her martyrdom and that all those who were brought there were indeed healed by Julitta's intercession of their many diseases and afflictions, and that the place itself was sanctified by her presence.

Julitta came and went very quickly, as so many during that time did, but St. Basil the Great noticed, and because of this we have a brief description of her life and her struggles, as someone who was simply seeking fairness and justice in the world. Though she was ultimately denied it, she was granted a place in the heavenly kingdom. By her prayers, may we all also be found worthy of such an end.

(From Hidden Saints, Ancient Faith Podcasts)

Order of Hymns Following The Small Entrance

<u>Άναστάσιμον Άπολυτίκιον. Ήχος βαούς.</u>

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυοῷ σου τὸν θάνατον ἠνέωξας τῷ ληστῆ τὸν Παοάδεισον τῶν Μυοοφόρων τὸν θοῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας, ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῷ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Απολυτίκιον των Αγίων. Ήχος γ.

Απόστολοι Άγιοι, πρεσβεύσατε τῷ ἐλεήμονι Θεῷ, ἵνα πταισμάτων ἀφεσιν, παράσχῃ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν.

<u>Άπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ. Ἡχος δ'.</u>

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' ἀἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υίὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υίὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεἰς σὺν ἀὐτῷ τῆ Θεοτόκῷ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Κοντάκιον τῶν Κεκοιμημένων. η Ηχος πλ. δ'.

Μνήσθητι, Κύοιε, ώς ἀγαθός τῶν δούλων σου καὶ ὅσα ἐν βίω ἥμαοτον συγχώρησον οὐδεἰς γὰρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰ μὴ σὺ ὁ δυνάμενος καὶ τοῖς μεταστὰσι δοῦναι τήν ἀνάπαυσιν.

Κοντάκιον. ήΗχος βαούς.

Έπὶ τοῦ ὀους μετεμορφώθης, καὶ ὡς ἐχώρουν οἱ Μαθηταί σου τὴν δὀξαν σου, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἐθεάσαντο, ἵνα ὅταν σε ἴδωσι σταυρούμενον, τὸ μὲν πάθος νοήσωσιν ἑκούσιον, τῷ δὲ κόσμω κηρύξωσιν, ὅτι σὺ ὑπάρχεις ἀληθῶς, τοῦ Πατρὸς τὸ ἀπαύγασμα.

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode grave.

By your cross, O Lord, you destroyed death; to the thief you opened paradise. The myrrh-bearers' sorrow you transformed into joy, and you sent your apostles forth to proclaim that you had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing on all the world your great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Saints. Mode 3.

O holy Apostles, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls forgiveness of offenses.

Apolytikion of the Church. Mode 4.

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the mystery which was hidden from eternity. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel announces the grace of this Good News. Let us also join with him, calling to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Woman full of grace; the Lord is with you.

Kontakion for the Departed. Mode pl. 4.

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

Kontakion. Mode grave.

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance.

Readings

Epistle (St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians 1:10-17)

PROKEIMENON: The Lord will give strength to his people. VERSE: Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

Brethren, I appeal to you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispos and Gaius; lest any one should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Gospel (Matthew 14:14-22)

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 51 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK

Reminders for Receiving Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and/or chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with the clergy. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion.

Thank you.

Support our Cathedral

Welcome, everyone!

We extend a warm welcome to our visitors worshipping with us today in our Cathedral. You are invited to join us for our fellowship following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in Carlos Hall next to the Church. Thank you for your visit! Please stop by our hospitality table and sign the register in the Narthex.

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