

## Life of saints

### Holy and Glorious Prophet Zacharias, Father of St John the Baptist

Much of his story is told in the first chapter of Luke's Gospel. The *Synaxarion* continues: After the birth of Christ, Zacharias plainly declared the virginity of Mary and showed her truly to be the Mother of God; for he appointed her a place in that part of the Temple reserved for the virgins and so brought upon himself the hatred of the priests and levites. When John was six months old, Zacharias hid him and his mother in a cave beyond the Jordan because King Herod, hearing of the birth in Bethlehem of *the king of the Jews* and fearing a rival of his own worldly power, sent soldiers to kill all the male children of Bethlehem. His enemies seized this opportunity to denounce Zacharias to Herod, who had him pursued and put to death within the precinct of the Temple, at the very place the Mother of God abode for a witness to her virginity. As the Prophet's blood flowed within the sanctuary, it signified the withdrawing of the divine Presence. Priests came to take up his body and they buried him with his fathers. From that moment signs and prodigies occurred in the Temple, indicating that the rites of the Law would soon be abolished. No longer would the priests behold the angels of God, or have the grace of prophecy; no longer would they be able to deliver oracles or enlighten the people upon the dark places of holy Scripture, as they had been wont to do.

### Holy Martyrs Abda the bishop, Hormizd and Sunin of Persia (4th c)

Saint Abda lived in Persia during the reign of the Emperor Theodosius II and of the Persian king Yazgerd I; as bishop of the Christians there, he labored tirelessly to care for his own flock and bring the pagans to Christ. One day, full of zeal, he entered the temple at which the king made sacrifice, overturned the sacred fire and set the temple on fire. The enraged king forbade the worship of the Christian God, ordered the destruction of all the churches and monasteries, and arrested all of the clergy. Abda was brought before the king and ordered to rebuild the pagan temple; when he refused, he was cruelly and lengthily tortured until he gave up his soul to God. This was the beginning of a thirty-year period of terrible persecution for Christians in Persia. Of the many who perished for Christ during this time, St Benjamin is commemorated on October 13, and Sts Hormizd and Sunin today.

Saint Hormizd was the son of a Persian governor who became a Christian in his youth. For this, his father condemned him to labor as a naked camel-herder in the desert. Some time later, the King sent Hormizd a linen tunic, promising to restore him to favor if he would return to the religion of the Persians. The Saint tore up the tunic and returned it to the king, for which he was executed. Saint Sunin was a high Persian official who turned to Christ and was rewarded with a crown of martyrdom.

## ANIVERSARE !

50 DE ANI DE PREOTIE AI PARINTELUI CORNELL AVRAMESCU

DUMINICA OCTOMBRIE 31, 2021

SFANTA LITURGHIE

SI MASA ANIVERSARA

SLUJESC INALTPREASFINTITUL PARINTE NATHANIEL

SI PREASFINTITUL PARINTE ANDREI

\*\*\*\*\*

VA ASTEPTAM CU DRAG !



## Biserica Ortodoxa Romana Sf. Maria

Anaheim, California

ROEA-OCA

555 S Walnut Street, Anaheim CA 92802

office # 714-776-1972; paroh@stmaryanaheim.org

**Parish Priest;**

Fr Alin Munteanu, archpriest

**Attached:**

Fr Cornell Avramescu, protopresbyter (retired)

## Buletin Parohial Saptamanal

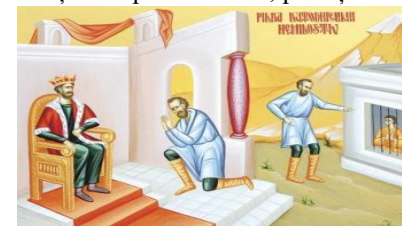
**Septembrie 5, 2021**

Duminica a 11-a după Rusalii.

Ap. 1 Corinteni 9, 2-12; Ev. Matei 18, 23-35 (Pilda datornicului nemilostiv).

Glas 2, voscr. 11

Sf. Proroc Zaharia și Dreapta Elisabeta, părinții Sf. Ioan Botezătorul



## Programul liturgic al săptămânii

**Marti Sept 7, 2021 (Tuesday)**

7pm Vecernie mare cu Litie și Utrenie (The Great Vespers with Litya and Matins)  
**Miercuri Sept 8 2021 Nasterea Maicii Domnului (The Nativity of the Theotokos)**  
8.30am Akatist ; 9am Sf Liturghie (Divine Liturgy)

**Vineri (Friday) 7pm Akatist**

**Sambata (Saturday)**

7pm Vecernie Mare și Utrenie (Great Vespers and Matins)

**Duminica (Sunday)**

8.30am Akatist; 9am Sf Liturghie (Divine Liturgy)

## Calendarul Saptamanii

6 L Pomenirea minunii Sf. Arhanghel Mihail în Colose; Sf. Mc. Eudoxie

7 M Sf. Mc. Sozont; + Sf. Cuv. Simeon și Amfilohie de la Pângărați (Înainte-prăznuirea Nașterii Maicii Domnului)

**8 M (+) Nașterea Maicii Domnului**

9 J Sf. și Dreptii dumnezeiești Părinți Ioachim și Ana; +) Sf. Cuv. Chiriac de la Tazlău; +) Sf. Cuv. Onufrie de la Vorona;

Sf. Părinți de la Sinodul al III-lea Ecumenic

10 V Sf. Mc. Minodora, Mitrodora și Nimfodora

11 S Sf. Cuv. Teodora din Alexandria; Sf. Cuv. Eufrosin bucătarul

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If you or a family member has been admitted to a hospital or has been sick, please notify the church office so Father Alin may visit you. We have no way of knowing if a parishoner has entered the hospital unless we receive a phone call. Rest assured that all information is kept strictly confidential and is not given out unless he/she gives consent. You may call anytime Fr. Alin at 714-776-1972



Pe 31 august, Biserica Ortodoxa praznuieste punerea in racla a cinstitului brau al Maicii Domnului, in Constantinopol. Datorita prezentei acestui sfant vesmant si a ajutorului primit de credinciosi de la el, Constantinopolul a fost numit "orasul Maicii Domnului".

Potrivit Sfintei Traditii, Apostolul Toma nu a fost prezent la inmormantarea Maicii Domnului. El se va invrednici sa primeasca Cinstitul Brau, ca semn al inaltarii ei cu trupul la cer. Acest Brau a fost facut de Fecioara Maria din par de camila. A fost adus in Ierusalim de imparatul Teodosie cel Mare (379-395). In anul 395, Arcadie, fiul lui Teodosie cel Mare, aduce la Constantinopol Braul Maicii Domnului.

In secolul al X lea, imparateasa Zoe, sotia lui Leon al VI-lea Inteleptul (886-912), scapa de prezenta unui duh necurat prin sarutarea acestui sfant vesmant. Drept multumire, imparateasa a brodat Braul Maicii Domnului cu fir de aur si l-a reasezat in racla daruita de imparatul Arcadie. Astfel, sarbatoarea de pe 31 august este dedicata aducerii cinstitului brau in Constantinopol, dar tot in aceasta zi este pomenita si vindecarea miraculoasa a imparatesei Zoe. In secolul al XII-lea, in timpul imparatului Manuil I Comnenul (1143-1180) s-a stabilit oficial sarbatoarea punerii in racla a cinstitului Brau al Maicii Domnului pe 31 august. In trecut, Sfantul Brau se sarbatoarea pe 2 iulie, cand facem pomenire de Asezarea Vesmantului Nascatoarei de Dumnezeu in Vlaherne.

Cu privire la prezenta Braului Maicii Domnului in Manastirea Vatoped, se cunosc doua opinii: sunt persoane care sustin ca el a fost daruit manastirii de cneazul sarb Lazar I (1372-1389) si altele care afirma ca a fost daruit de insusi imparatul bizantin Ioan Cantacuzino (1347-1355)

O parte din Braul Maicii Domnului se pastreaza in Manastirea Kato Xenia, din Grecia, iar cealalta parte din Braul ei este prezenta in Manastirea Vatopedu, din Muntele Athos.

Maica Domnului a facut multe minuni prin Braul sau. Aduce vindecare si in prezent celor care sufera de cancer si ofera ajutor femeilor care nu pot avea copii.

Braul Maicii Domnului a fost cinstit in mod deosebit si de romani. Sfantul Voievod Neagoe Basarab, domnitorul Tarii Romanesti, a innoit incinta Manastirii Vatoped si a construit un paraclis cu hramul „Braul Maicii Domnului“ intre anii 1512 si 1520. Iar racla de argint in care se pastreaza Braul Maicii Domnului la Manastirea Vatoped a fost realizata in secolul al XVIII-lea in Tara Romaneasca. Amintim ca in anul 1813, Braul Maicii Domnului a fost adus in Tara Romaneasca pentru indepartarea ciumei. Epidemia a scazut vizibil, prin ajutorul trimis de Maica Domnului.

Racla cu Braul Maicii Domnului de la Manastirea Kato Xenias a fost adusa de mai multe ori in tara noastra. (crestinortodox.ro)

## THE GOSPEL

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

## SFANTA EVANGHELIE

### Matei 18:23-35



Zis-a Domnul pilda aceasta: Asemănatu-s-a Împărăția Cerurilor omului împărat care a hotărât să facă socoteala cu slugile sale. Și, începând să facă socoteala, i s-a adus un datornic cu zece mii de talanți. Dar, neavând el cu ce să plătească, stăpânul său a poruncit să fie vândut el și femeia lui și copiii și toate câte are, ca să se plătească datoria. Deci, căzându-i în genunchi, sluga aceea i se închina, zicând: Stăpâne, îngăduiește-mă și-ți voi plăti ție tot! Iar stăpânul slugii aceleia, milostivindu-se de el, i-a dat drumul și i-a iertat și datoria. Dar, ieșind, sluga aceea a găsit pe unul dintre cei ce slujeau cu el și care-i datora o sută de dinari. Și, punând mâna pe el, îl sugruma, zicând: Plătește-mi ce ești dator! Deci, căzând cel ce era slugă ca și el, îl ruga zicând: Mai îngăduiește-mă și îți voi plăti! Iar el nu voia, ci, mergând, l-a aruncat în închisoare până ce va plăti datoria. Iar celelalte slugi, văzând cele petrecute, s-au întristat foarte mult și, venind, au spus stăpânului toate cele întâmplate. Atunci, chemându-l stăpânul său îi zise: Slugă vicleană, toată datoria aceea ți-am iertat-o, fiindcă m-ai rugat. Nu se cădea, oare, ca și tu să ai milă de cel împreună slugă cu tine, precum și eu am avut milă de tine? Și, mâniindu-se stăpânul lui, l-a dat pe mâna chinuitorilor până ce-i va plăti toată datoria. Tot așa și Tatăl Meu cel ceresc vă va face vouă, dacă fiecare dintre voi nu va ierta greșelile fratelui său, din toată inima.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

### Upcoming Events

**Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021**

**Sunday School Picnic** immediately after Divine Liturgy ( more info will come)

**Sunday, Oct 17, 2021**

The presentation of our Church (everyone's welcome) (class)

**Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Visit one of the other Church in the neighborhood (10+ years old)  
(Coptic Church in Westminster, Catholic Church Anaheim, Antiochian Church garden Grove)

**Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Bible Bowl (our Church will host the event)

**Sunday, December 19, 2021**

Christmas Celebration Program (Serbare Craciun)

**January 2022**

We are planning to start our **icon painting class under the supervising of Fr Cornell**  
The class is planning to start on January 22, 2022 at every 2 weeks (more info will come)

**Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The Spring Picnic with parents and children from Sunday School - immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

**Sunday, June 12, 2022**

Father's Day Celebration Program (Serbarea de Sfirsit de An)

**We need the full support from the parents!**

**Please stay in contact with the Sunday School teachers!**

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**Avem nevoie de intregul support al parintilor pentru realizarea tuturor obiectivelor Scolii Duminicale a Bisericii Sf Maria!**

**Va rugam sa stati in contact permanent cu profesorii Scolii Duminicale**

For more info please contact the Office of our Church at

# 714-776-1972 /

paroh@stmaryanehim.org



# The Cross

**The Feast of the Exaltation (or Elevation) of the Cross, coming so soon after the beginning of the Church year on September 1st, reminds us that during the whole year the cross will be central to our lives as Christians.**

The story of the feast is familiar to most of us. We admire the persistence of Saint Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine, who despite her age traveled through the Holy Land and established churches in places that had special meaning in the life of Christ. One of the most important of these places of is Golgotha, outside the city walls of Jerusalem. There Helen had workers dig, and there they discovered the True Cross. This was the place where she built the best-known of the churches she established, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

The icon of the feast shows the church, standing in the midst of the city of Jerusalem. The Cross, as we would expect, is very prominent in the icon, and near it stand St. Helen and Emperor Constantine, both with crowns. The Bishop of Jerusalem, Saint Makarios, is shown elevating the Cross for believers to venerate. These figures are joined by a group that includes bishops and priests, monastics, and people who live in the city.

A well-known verse about the cross comes from I Corinthians: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1:18). Saint Paul encourages us here to do two things. First, we can confidently hold to our faith in spite of ridicule and mockery; it is a given that we will face these things because those who don't believe or don't understand the faith will consider it "foolishness." If we know that other believers have faced skepticism before us, we can be prepared for it and not be shaken. Paul adds power to his words by quoting God's own promise, which assures us that He will "destroy the wisdom of the wise" (Isaiah 29:14).

The second thing Paul encourages is patience. Verse 18 refers to "us who are being saved." This calls us to remember that our salvation takes place over the whole time of our life. We can expect that things may not go well for us in this world, because the world is fallen and it's a long journey to the Kingdom. But if we are patient, we will know that we are "being saved" through the course of our life so long as we earnestly strive to be what God wants us to be.

In this same passage, Paul expresses in four words the life work of a Christian: "We preach Christ crucified" (1:23a). We believe it and we also proclaim it. If we meet derision, we can lean on the words of the Troparion for the feast. We know that God will, "by the power of the cross, preserve [His] habitation."

