



St. Elias Melkite Catholic Church

Serving San Jose Valley & Bay Area, CA

Church Information

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Pastor

Rev. Sebastian Carnazzo
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Sunday Service Time

Divine Liturgy: 11:00 am

Confession Times

Wednesdays: 5:30-6:30 pm
Sundays: Before Divine Liturgy

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 6th

Memorial for Souad Elhage
Following Divine Liturgy @ 12:45

Wednesday, November 9th

Bible Study @ 7:00pm
(Online **and** in Church Hall)

Coffee Socials and Qurban

This Sunday, November 6th

Qurban: Marie Elhage
Coffee Social: Marie Elhage

Next Sunday, November 13th

Qurban: Elham Khoury
Coffee Social: Elham Khoury

Please pray for:

The Orthodox Servants of God
Deacon Dennis & Lisa McCarthy
The Elhage Family
Lucia Carnazzo
Timothy Stoner
Katie Genn
Leslie Griffin
The Rider Family
Chloe & Iman Rouhani

The Orthodox Servants Asleep in the Lord

Souad Elhage
Hanna Moussy
Afaf Moussy
Viktor Koldiaev
Matthew McCarthy
Theresa Stoner

If you have names you would like added to the list of commemorations, please send to steliasmelkite@gmail.com

Sunday, November 6, 2016

7th Sunday After the Holy Cross – The Raising of Jairus’ Daughter
Commemoration of our Father among the Saints Paul, Archbishop of Constantinople
The Confessor (Class 5)

Troparion of the Resurrection (8th Tone)

You descended from on high O Compassionate One * and consented to burial for three days * that You might free us from suffering * O Lord, our life and our resurrection * glory to You!

نشيد القيامة باللحن الثامن

إنحدرت من العلاء أيها التحنن، وقبيلت الدفن ثلاثة أيام، لكي تعتقنا من الآلام، فيا حياتنا وقيامتنا، يا رب المجد لك.

Epistle: Ephesians 4:1-7

BRETHREN, I the prisoner in the Lord exhort you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling by which you were called, with all humility and meekness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, careful to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, even as you were called to a single hope in your calling: one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and throughout all, and in all. But to each one of us, grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s imparting.

Gospel of the 7th Sunday of Holy Cross Luke 8:41-56 (The Raising of Jairus’ Daughter)

AT that time behold, there came a man named Jairus to Jesus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at the feet of Jesus, he entreated him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. And it happened as he went that he was pressed upon by the crowds. And a certain woman who for twelve years had had a hemorrhage, and had spent all her means on physicians, but could not be cured by anyone, came up behind him and touched the tassel of his cloak; and at once her hemorrhage ceased. And Jesus said, “Who touched me?” But as all were denying it, Peter, and those who were with him, said, “Master, the crowds throng and press upon you, and you ask ‘Who touched me?’” But Jesus said, “Someone touched me; for I perceived that power had gone forth from me.” But the woman, seeing that she had not escaped notice, came up trembling, and falling down at his feet, declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been healed instantly. And he said to her, “Daughter, thy faith has saved thee; go in peace.” While he was yet speaking, there came one from the house of the ruler of the synagogue, saying to him, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble him.” But Jesus on hearing this word answered the father of the girl, “Do not be afraid; only have faith and she shall be saved.” And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and James and John, and the girl’s father and mother. And all were weeping and mourning for her. But he said, “Do not weep; she is asleep, not dead.” And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But he, taking her by the hand, cried out, saying, “Girl, arise! “And her spirit returned, and she rose up immediately. And he directed that something be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BISHOP’S APPEAL

In today’s amazing Gospel, we learn that simply touching the hem of the garment of the Master brings healing and salvation! It is through the Church that the Lord’s saving power continues to flow out to all who have faith. How much our troubled world needs Christ’s healing and salvation! Your generous gift to the Bishop’s Appeal, will enable our Melkite Church to touch the lives of so many bringing the message of faith, life, and hope to our culture that struggles in the bondage of darkness and sin. **WE NEED YOU...**to assure that our Melkite Church in America will be able to touch more and more people who are in need of the healing and salvation that only the Lord Jesus can bring.

If you have not already sent your gift, please do so today so that 100% of our parish will respond to Sayidna’s call. Thank you for your generosity!

Saint of the Day: Our Father Among the Saints Paul, Archbishop of Constantinople, The Confessor

Paul the Confessor was born in Thessalonica and became the secretary of Alexander, Patriarch of Constantinople. At his death, and while Emperor Constantius the Arian was in Antioch, the Orthodox people of Constantinople elected Paul as his successor. Upon his return to the Capital in the year 399, Constantius deposed him. Paul took refuge in Rome and became the companion in exile of another holy Patriarch, Athanasius of Alexandria. Julius, the Roman Pontiff, gave Paul a letter of recommendation which enabled him to regain his See in 340, but he was exiled a second time in 342. After the Council of Sardica (343-344), under the influence of Constans, brother of Constantius, he returned once more to his See in 346. But when his protector Constans died in Rome in 350, he was again persecuted and exiled to Cucusa in Armenia where he was strangled by order of the Arians.

FROM THE DIOCESE: 7TH SUNDAY AFTER THE FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS: "THE CHOIR OF THE HOLY UNMERCINARIES"

ON THE FIRST SUNDAY in November a number of Byzantine Churches keep a special remembrance (Synaxis) for All the Unmercenary Healers: those who cared for the sick or aged in the spirit of Christ, without concern for gain. These physicians and other medical workers understood their skills in the spirit of St Paul's teaching on spiritual gifts (*"To each is given a manifestation of the Spirit for the common good"* – 1 Cor 12:7).

A Christian's skills are given, according to Paul, not simply to enhance the person who receives them but chiefly to benefit the entire Body of Christ. St Paul lists several of these spiritual gifts: *"To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are inspired by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills"* (1 Cor 12:8-11). Any of these gifts – and of the countless others manifested in the Church – is God's gift to the entire Church given through the one who manifests them. The Unmercenary Physicians adopted this teaching as the guiding principle of their professional lives to a heroic degree. In an age when health care, as rudimentary as it often was, was exclusively for those who could afford it, the Unmercenarities stood out by their compassionate attention to the sick poor. When Christians were still suspect in the pagan Roman Empire, the witness of Holy Unmercenarities led people to see that Christians were living by a higher standard than the leaders of their own culture. Not surprisingly, Unmercenarities took the occasion of caring for the sick as opportunities for preaching the Gospel as well. The ideal of physicians serving without pay for Christ inspired many in the Church to follow their example.

The Great Martyr Panteleimon

Front and center in the icon of the Holy Unmercenarities is the most revered of these saints in the Christian East, St Panteleimon. He was converted to the Christian faith by St Hermolaus, one of the survivors of the great persecution in Nicomedia. Panteleimon achieved renown by tending without expecting payment to wounded and imprisoned Christians in Nicomedia during the last Great Persecution of Christians in the fourth century. Panteleimon effected many cures by prayer alone which brought him the love of his fellow-Christians and the unwanted attention of the imperial authorities. Executed by order of Emperor Maximian on July 27, 305, St Panteleimon is remembered on that day in the Byzantine calendar.

Cosmas and Damian

The hymns for our feast of the Unmercenarities speak of "three pairs of divinely wise saints Cosmas and Damian, who shared the same names and the same ways" (Verse at the Lamp-lighting Psalms). Two of these pairs of brothers were martyred, one at Rome and the other at Aegea (Ajass today) in the region of Cilicia.

The other Cosmas and Damian, who lived in the third century, came from Asia Minor but lived and ministered to the poor in Mesopotamia where they reposed in peace. After their pagan father's death, their Christian mother Theodotia raised them in the faith and saw to their medical education. Under her guidance they used their medical knowledge to heal the sick without expecting any payment. Miracles accompanied their activity in this life and were frequently said to take place at their tomb in the city of Cyrrhus, capital of the Roman province. An imposing basilica was built over their tomb; its ruins may still be seen there. In the sixth century Emperor Justinian sumptuously restored the city in the saints' honor and erected an important church in Constantinople dedicated to them, which became a celebrated place for pilgrimage.

About the same time a basilica was constructed in Rome in honor of the Unmercenarities Cosmas and Damian of Rome (July 1). This church still exists and contains some remarkable mosaics and frescos from before the era of iconoclasm. Raised in a Christian family, these brothers flourished in the late third century at Rome, where they became known for their skill at healing the sick. Since they cared for Christians and non-Christians alike, they became known in the wider community and attracted many to the Church. Accused of sorcery before Emperor Carinus (282-285), they rejected the charge: "We have done evil to no one, we are not involved with the magic or sorcery of which you accuse us. We treat the infirm by the power of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and we take no payment for rendering aid to the sick, because our Lord commanded His disciples, 'Freely you have received, freely give' (Mt. 10: 8)." These saints are commemorated in the Canon of the Roman Mass and in the Litany of the Saints, some of the oldest Western prayers still in use. The last set of brothers came from the Roman province of Arabia (parts of Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia today). They practiced their art in Aegea on what is now the coast of Turkey. They were executed along with their brothers Anthimus, Leontius, and Euprepius during the persecution of Diocletian at the end of the third century.

Devotion to all these Unmercenarities spread from the place of their death throughout the empire.

Other Unmercenarities

Among the twenty saints honored on this feast are St Sampson the Hospitable (June 27), an Unmercenary Healer, who on his parents' deaths, began taking in the poor, sick and homeless. The Patriarch of Constantinople ordained him a priest and the emperor established a hospice for the sick poor and entrusted it to him. Other saints commemorated today include martyred physicians Luke the Evangelist (October 18) and Diomedes of Tarsus (August 16). Other saints whose tombs became sources of miraculous healings like St Antipas (April 11) and St Spyridon (December 12) are also commemorated.

God continues to be glorified by unmercenary healers. Some of them, like the sainted Mother Theresa of Kalikut, are known all over the world. Others, like St Luke of Simferopol, the unmercenary physician who became a Ukrainian Orthodox bishop during the worst days of Communist persecutions, are not as widely known. They all have received gifts of healing and all have shared these gifts as freely as they had received them from God.

Today we praise the blessed choir of the holy unmercenary physicians: the Apostle and Evangelist Luke, the excellent healer of the infirm; the most honored hieromartyrs Antipas, Charalampos and Blaise, Spyridon and Modestus, the all-splendid luminaries of the Church; the three pairs of divinely wise saints Cosmas and Damian, who shared the same names and the same ways; Cyrus and the glorious John; the divine Panteleimon and Hermolaus; Diomedes and Sampson; together with Mocius, Photius and Anicetas, Artemius, Thalaxus and Tryphon.

(Sticheron at Lord to You I call...)