

The Sunday of the After-Feast of the Ascension
Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council
May 28, 2023

Hieromartyr Eutychios, bishop of Melitene; Martyr Heliconis of Thessalonica

1st Antiphon

O clap your hands, all ye peoples; shout unto God with the voice of exultation.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

For the Lord Most High is terrible; He is a great King over all the earth. He hath subdued the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

2nd Antiphon

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who didst rise from us in glory to the heavens, who sing unto Thee. Alleluia.

God is known in her palaces when He cometh to our aid. (*Refrain*)

For lo, the kings of the earth were assembled; they came together. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... Only begotten Son and Word of God...

3rd Antiphon

Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the earth. My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. I will incline mine ear to a parable; I will open my dark saying upon the harp. (**then chant the troparion of the Ascension**).

The Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing unto Thee. Alleluia (3x).

Resurrection Troparion (Tone 6)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb. And the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Ascension Troparion (Tone 4)

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing; that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

Troparion for the Holy Fathers (Tone 8)

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

Troparion for St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Tone 3)

Rejoice, O Father Raphael, Adornment of the holy Church! Thou art Champion of the True Faith, Seeker of the lost, Consolation of the oppressed, Father to orphans and Friend of the poor, Peacemaker and good Shepherd, Joy of all the Orthodox, Son of Antioch, Boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor thee.

Kontakion of the Ascension (Tone 6)

When Thou didst fulfill Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting the terrestrials with the celestials, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, inseparable in space, but constant without separation, and crying unto Thy beloved: I am with you, and no one shall be against you.

The Prokeimenon

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For Thou art just in all Thou hast done to us.

The Epistle

Acts 20:16-18; 28-36

In those days, Paul was determined to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening, if possible, to be at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the priests of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you bishops, to shepherd the church of the Lord and God, which He purchased with His own blood. For I know that after my departure ravenous wolves will enter among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, remain watchful, remembering that for three years I did not cease to admonish every one, night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves

know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by such laboring we ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down on his knees with them all, and prayed.

Holy Gospel

John 17:1-13

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

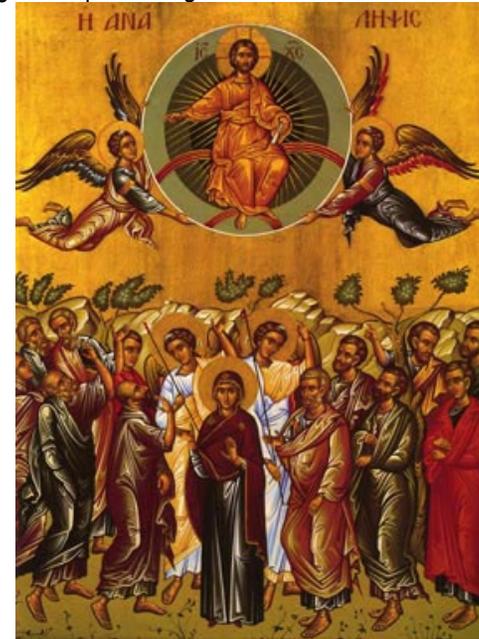
Holy Bread: Kh Meleah Palke

Commemorations(Living): Fr Michael, Pr Vicki, Katherine, John, Corgie, Karen, Maher, Fabiola, Christopher, Steven, Jonathan, Jaime, Justin, George, Joan, Fr Tom, Kh Meleah, Stephen, Sagi, Sky, Carol, Natalia, Alexander, Anthony, Jim, Laura, Michael, Joel, Lisa, Danny, Asa, Cody, Max, Levi, Courtney, Nina, Kenneth, Alex, Christina, Beth, John, Dominick, Yina, Michael, Debra, Lauren, Rashid, Hala, Irina, Fr. Vladimir Paul, all Orthodox missionaries, the suffering believers everywhere.

Departed:

This year's Parish Life Conference will be held at Antiochian Village June 28 – July 2 (Wednesday-Sunday). See www.ny-charplc.org for more details.

We remember with due reverence all those who have given their lives for the preservation of freedom in our blessed country. May their service and sacrifice inspire us to be vigilant in preserving what we have received for future generations.



St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

Metropolitan Saba
Bishop Thomas, Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic

Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

Meeting at Compton Village
14401 Compton Village Dr.
Centreville, Virginia 20121

Fr. Thomas L. Palke, Pastor

Mail: 3041 Donnington Court
Jeffersonton, VA 22724

(703)303-3047/(540)937-2609
email: pastortlp@aol.com
website: www.straphaelva.org

