

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Eugene	Stefan
Archpriest Michael	John
Priest Kyrill & family	Vivian
Priest James	Jung Sook
Priest John	Thomas
Reader Aleksei	Cheyenne
Reader Sergei	Nancy
Monk Philaret	Randall
Matushka Mary	Rose
Matushka Mary Sara	Don
Marie	Norma
John • Euphrosynos	James
Virginia • Thomas	
John • Luke	
Catechumen Rebecca	
Catechumen Jennifer	

The repose and salvation of –

Dzulietta (Sept. 19)

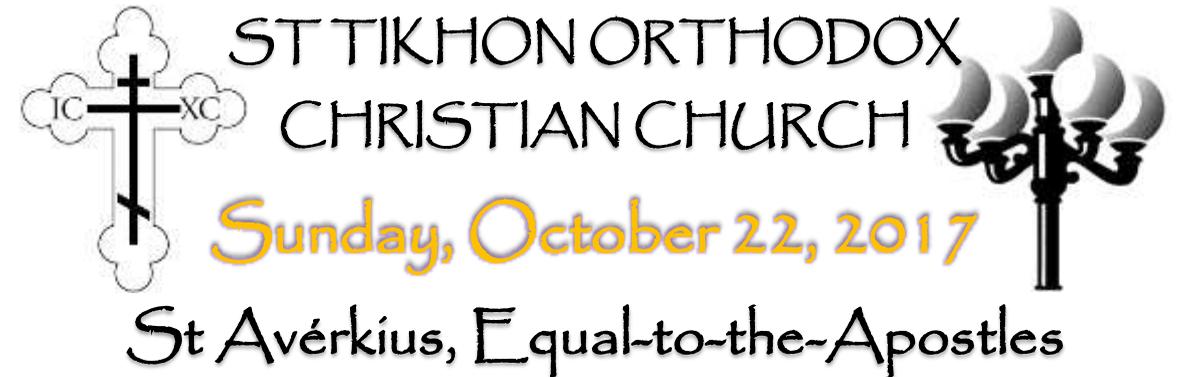
Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.

This Saturday, October 28 – Feed My Starving Children

This Saturday, October 28, 4:30 – Choir Practice

***This Saturday, Oct. 28, 5:30 –
Great Vespers & Confession***

*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,
Orthodox Church in America*



The Cave of the Seven Youths of Ephesus. According to tradition, this cave was also the original burial place of St. Mary Magdalene

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck
Wednesdays 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day
Other services as announced

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St Avérkius, Equal-to-the-Apostles

During the reigns of Emperor Antoninus and his son, Marcus Aurelius, St. Avérkius was the bishop of the city of Hierapolis in Phrygia. The great majority in this city were pagans, and St. Avérkius governed his sparse flock, sorrowing in his heart because of the great number of pagans and idolaters, and diligently praying to God that He would bring them to the light of truth. During a boisterous idolatrous festival, Avérkius became inflamed with God's zeal and entered the idolatrous temple, smashing all the idols. When the enraged pagans sought to kill him, three young madmen, foaming at the mouth and howling, fell down before this man of God, and he drove the demons from them. The young men became sane and calm. This turned the pagans' anger into amazement at the wonderworker of Christ, and five hundred of them immediately desired baptism. Little by little, all of Hierapolis came to believe in Christ and were baptized. The proconsul of the province, Publius, had a mother who was blind. Avérkius restored her sight by prayer, and Publius, his mother and many others believed in Christ. In old age, Avérkius was summoned to Rome, where he healed the emperor's daughter of insanity. The Lord Jesus Christ appeared several times to His faithful follower. People from near and far came to him for miraculous help when they suffered from incurable illnesses. The demons not only feared him, but also served him at his command. At the guidance of the Lord Himself, Avérkius preached the Gospel throughout Syria and Mesopotamia. In great old age, St. Avérkius presented himself to his beloved Lord in Hierapolis, at the end of the second century.

The “Seven Sleepers” of Ephesus

There was a great persecution of Christians during the reign of Decius. The emperor himself came to Ephesus and there arranged a boisterous and noisy celebration in honor of the lifeless idols as well as a terrible slaughter of Christians. Seven young men, soldiers, refrained from the impure offering of sacrifices and they earnestly prayed to the one God to save the Christian people. They were the sons of the most influential elders of Ephesus and their names were Maximilian, Jamblichus, Martin [Martinian], John, Dionysius, Exacustodianus, and Antonin [Antoninus]. When they were accused before the emperor, they retreated to a hill outside Ephesus called Celion and there they hid in a cave. When the emperor learned of this, he commanded that the cave be sealed off. However, God according to His far-reaching Providence caused a miraculous and long-lasting sleep to fall upon the young men. The imperial courtiers, Theodore and Rufinus, secret Christians, built in that wall a copper sarcophagus with lead plaques on which were written the names of these young men and their martyr's death during the reign of Emperor Decius. More than two hundred years then passed. During the reign of Emperor Theodosius the Younger, there was a great dispute about the resurrection. There were some that doubted the resurrection. Emperor Theodosius was in great sorrow as a result of this dispute among the faithful and prayed to God that He, in some way, would reveal the truth to men. At that time of turmoil in the Church some shepherders of Adolius, who owned the hill Celion began to build folds for the sheep and removed stone after stone from that cave. The youths then awakened from their sleep young and healthy, the same as when they fell asleep. The news of this miracle was spread abroad on all sides so that even Theodosius himself came with a great entourage and with delight conversed with the youths. After a week, they again fell into the sleep of death to await the general resurrection. Emperor Theodosius wanted to place their bodies in gold sarcophagi but they appeared to him in a dream and told him to leave them in the earth as they were laid out.

Also this week: HOLY APOSTLE JAMES, THE BROTHER OF THE LORD (October 23); Martyr Arethas and 4299 Martyrs with him (October 24); St Tabitha, the widow raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter (October 25); HOLY AND GLORIOUS DEMETRIUS THE MYRRHGUSHER OF THESSALONICA (October 26); St. Dimitrie the New, Protector of Bucharest (October 27); Venerable Job, Abbot and Wonderworker of Pochaev (October 28).

** Regular fasting this week **

Epistles: Galatians 1:11-19 (Sunday)

Gospels: Luke 16:19-31 (Sunday)

Troparion – Tone 3 (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has *shown* strength with his arm! / He has trampled down death by death! / He has become the first-born of the dead! / He has delivered us from the *depths* of hades, / And has granted to the world /// Great mercy!

Troparion – Tone 4 (Hierarch)

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith, / A model of humility and teacher of abstinence, / So thou didst win the heights of humility, riches by poverty; / O holy hierarch, father Averkius, /// Intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

Troparion – Tone 4 (Martyrs)

Thy holy martyrs, O Lord, / Through their sufferings received their incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God / For having Thy strength they laid low their enemies / And shattered the powerless boldness of demons /// Through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

Kontakion – Tone 3 (Resurrection)

On this day Thou didst rise from the *tomb*, O Merciful One, / Leading us from the gates of death. / On this day Adam exults as *Eve* rejoices; / With the prophets and patriarchs /// They unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Kontakion – Tone 8 (Hierarch)

The whole Church of the faithful *honors* thee as a great hierarch and successor to the apostles, O Averkius,/ Preserve her invincible, *unharm*ed and unshaken by any heresy /// Through thy prayers, O ever-mem'rable one.

Kontakion – Tone 4 (Martyrs)

O Christ Thou hast glorified Thy saints on earth / Before Thy second and awesome Coming. / For by gloriously raising the youths from their sleep/ Thou didst manifest the resurrection to those who knew it not. / By revealing their flesh and clothing incorrupt / Thou didst move the Emperor to cry aloud: /// Truly there is resurrection for the dead!