

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Ian	Stefan
Archpriest Eugene	John
Archpriest Seraphim	Vivian
Reader Aleksei	Jung Sook
Monk Philaret	Thomas
Matushka Mary	Cheyenne
Virginia • Thomas	Nancy
John • Jacqueline	Randall
Euphrosynos	Rose
John • Samuel	Don
Catechumen Rebecca	Norma

The repose and salvation of –

Archpriest Oleg (October 18)	Stephen (October 12)
Kapitolina (October 16)	

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

TODAY AFTER COFFEE HOUR – Great Vespers for the Entrance of the Most-Holy Theotokos into the Temple

TOMORROW, November 21, 7:00 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Entrance of the Most-Holy Theotokos into the Temple

This Thursday, November 24, 9:30 AM

Thanksgiving Divine Liturgy

Next Sunday, November 27, after coffee hour

Children's Thanksgiving Program

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



ST TIKHON ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sunday, November 20, 2016
Forefeast of the Entry of the Most-Holy Theotokos



Relics of St Gregory the Decapolite at the Bistritsa Monastery in Romania

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck
Other services as announced

Rev. Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

priest@sttikhonparker.org

(303) 305-8443

19035 East Plaza Drive, Parker, Colorado 80134

www.sttikhonparker.org

Venerable Gregory the Decapolite

Saint Gregory the Decapolite was born in the Isaurian city of Decapolis (ten cities) in the eighth century. From his childhood he loved the temple of God and church services. He read the Holy Scripture constantly and with reverence.

In order to avoid the marriage which his parents had intended for him, he secretly left home. He spent all his life wandering: he was in Constantinople, Rome, Corinth, and he lived as an ascetic on Olympus for a while. St Gregory preached the Word of God everywhere, denouncing the Iconoclast heresy, strengthening the faith and fortitude of the Orthodox, whom the heretics in those times oppressed, tortured and imprisoned.

Through his ascetic effort and prayer, St Gregory attained the gifts of prophecy and wonderworking. After overcoming the passions and reaching the height of virtue, he was permitted to hear angelic singing in praise of the Holy Trinity. St Gregory left the monastery of St Menas near Thessalonica, where he had labored for a long time, and he went again to Constantinople in order to combat the Iconoclast heresy. At the capital, a grievous illness undermined his strength, and he departed to the Lord in 816.

St Gregory was buried at a monastery in Constantinople, and many miracles took place at his tomb. As a result, the monks removed the holy relics of St Gregory and enshrined them in the church where people could venerate them.

When Constantinople fell to the Turks in 1453, the relics of St Gregory were carried to the region of the Danube by a Turkish official. In 1498 Barbu Craiovescu, the Ban of the Romanian Land (Wallachia) heard of the miracles performed by the holy relics and bought them for a considerable sum of money. Barbu Craiovescu placed the relics in the main church of Bistritsa Monastery which he founded in Rimnicu Vilcea, where they remain to the present day.

Also this week: ENTRANCE OF THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS IN THE TEMPLE (November 21); Apostles of the Seventy Philemon and Archippus, Martyr Apphia, wife of Philemon and Equal-to-the-Apostles, and Onesimus, disciple of St Paul (November 22); REPOSE OF THE RIGHT-BELIEVING GREAT PRINCE ST ALEXANDER NEVSKY, IN SCHEMA ALEKSY (November 23); Greatmartyr Catherine of Alexandria (November 24); Hieromartyr Clement, Pope of Rome (November 25); Repose of St Innocent, First Bp of Irkutsk (November 26).

*** NATIVITY FAST: fish, wine, and oil allowed on Monday and Saturday; wine and oil allowed on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday ***

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18 (Sunday)

Gospel: Luke 12:16-21 (Sunday)

Troparion – Tone 5 (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, /
Co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, /
Born for our salvation from the Virgin; /
For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, /
To endure death, / And to raise the dead /// By His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion – Tone 4 (Forefeast)

Anna now betroths her joy to all, /
For she once gave birth to the only ever-Virgin as a fruit contrary to sorrows. /
And in fulfillment of her prayers, /
Today she brings her with rejoicing into the temple of the Lord; ///
For she is the Temple of God the Word, and His pure Mother.

Troparion – Tone 4 (Saints)

O God of our fathers / Deal with us according to Thy compassion /
Take not away Thy mercy from us / But through the prayers of our fathers ///
Guide our lives along the way of peace.

Kontakion – Tone 5 (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend into hades, O my Savior, / Shattering its gates as Almighty; /
Resurrecting the dead as Creator, / And destroying the sting of death. /
Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, ///
And we all cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

Kontakion – Tone 3 (Saint)

The Church knows thee to be a bright sun, beautiful *with* the virtues, /
Illumining all with the rays of healing, O favorite of Christ. /
Therefore, we celebrate thy precious memory /
And we honor thy struggles, /// O most-blessèd and most wise, father Gregory!

Troparion – Tone 4 (Forefeast)

The whole universe rejoices today /
And rightly celebrates the great feast of the Theotokos, ///
Crying: Truly she is the Tabernacle of heaven!