

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	John
Hieroschemonk Ambrose	Vivian
Archpriest Eugene	Jung Sook
Priest James	Thomas
Priest John	Randall
Reader Aleksei	Don
Monk Philaret	Norma
Matushka Priscilla	James
Elizabeth • Marie • Marie	
Virginia • Ignatius • Anne	
Thomas • John	
Katherine • Roman	
Clergy & Parishioners of Holy Myrrhbearing Women Church	
Catechumens: Andrew, David, Michael, Sergio, Rachel, Jennifer, and Rebecca	

The repose and salvation of –

Arthur (October 7)	Edith (September 22)
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Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.

Tuesdays at 6:30 PM – Women's Bible Study

This Saturday, November 10, 5:30 PM – Great Vespers & Confession

Next Sunday, November 11 – Parish Council

Nativity Fast begins Thursday, November 15

Sunday, November 18 – Church School

*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 4, 2018

**Venerable Joannicius the Great
Hieromartyrs Nicander and Hermas**



Autumn Landscape by Mikhail Nesterov (1906)

Sundays at 9:10 AM – Hours & Divine Liturgy, followed by agape potluck

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day

Saturdays at 5:30 PM – Great Vespers

Other services as announced

Priest Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

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Deacon John Manutes, *Attached*

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Venerable Joannicius the Great

Saint Joannicius the Great was born in the village of Marikat in Bithynia in 752. His parents were destitute and could not provide him even the basics of an education. From childhood he tended the family cattle, their sole wealth. Love for God and prayer completely dominated his soul. Often, having shielded the herd with the Sign of the Cross, he went to a secluded place and spent the whole day praying, and neither thieves nor wild beasts came near his herd.

By order of the emperor Leo IV, young men were drafted for military service. Joannicius earned the respect of his fellow soldiers for his good disposition, but he was also a brave soldier who struck fear in the hearts of enemies. But after six years, military service weighed heavily on him; his soul thirsted for spiritual deeds and solitude. On the advice of an experienced elder, he spent two years at the monastery, where he became accustomed to monastic rules and practices, studied reading and writing, and learned thirty psalms by heart.

After this, commanded by God to go to a certain mountain, the monk withdrew into the wilderness. For three years he remained in deep solitude, and only once a month a shepherd brought him some bread and water. The ascetic spent day and night in prayer and psalmody. After each verse of singing the psalms he made a prayer, which the Orthodox Church keeps to this day in a somewhat altered form, “The Father is my hope, the Son is my refuge, the Holy Spirit is my protection.”

Only after twelve years of ascetic life did the hermit accept monastic tonsure. He spent the next three years in seclusion, then went to Chelidon to see the great ascetic St George. They spent three years together, during which time St Joannicius learned the entire Psalter by heart. As he grew older, he settled in the Antidiev monastery. Through the mercy of God the saint acquired the gift of prophecy, and levitated above the ground when he prayed. The saint could make himself invisible for people and make others also hidden from sight. Foreseeing his death, St Joannicius fell asleep in the Lord on November 4, 846, at the age of 94.

Hieromartyrs Nicander and Hermas

The Hieromartyrs Nicander, Bishop of Myra, and Hermas the Presbyter, were disciples of the holy Apostle Paul’s follower and fellow ascetic, the holy Apostle Titus of the Seventy, and they were ordained by him. Living the ascetic life amid incessant pastoral works, the saints converted many pagans to Christ. For this they were arrested and brought before the city prefect, Libanius. Neither flattery nor threats swayed the holy martyrs to renounce Christ. Then Libanius gave orders that they be tortured.

The saints endured fierce and inhuman torments: they were tied to horses and dragged over stones, their bodies were raked with iron hooks, and they were cast into a hot oven. The Lord helped them endure things that a mere man by his own strength could not endure. Towards the end, iron nails were hammered into their heads and hearts. They were thrown into a pit, then covered over with earth. After enduring such a cruel death, now they live forever in the joy of the Lord (Matt. 25:21).

Also this week: *Martyrs Gaelection and Episteme (November 5); St Paul the Confessor, Abp of Constantinople (November 6); Holy 33 Martyrs of Melitene (November 7); SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS: Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jehudiel, and Barachiel (November 8); St Nektarios Metropolitan of Pentapolis and Wonderworker of Aegina (November 9); Apostles of the Seventy Erastus, Olympas, Herodion, Sosipater, Quartus, and Tertius (November 10).*

** Regular fasting this week **

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10 (Sunday)

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56 (Sunday)

Troparion – Tone 6 (Resurrection)

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; / The guards *became* as dead men. /
Mary stood by Thy grave, / Seeking *Thy* most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell, /
Not *being* tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. ///
O Lord, Who didst *rise* from the dead: glory to Thee!

Troparion – Tone 8 (Saint)

Thine abundant tears made the *wilderness* sprout and bloom /
And thy suffering made thy *labors* fruitful a hundredfold /
Thou hast become a *shining* torch over all the world ///
O our holy father Joannicius, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

Troparion – Tone 4 (Martyrs)

Thy holy martyr Nikander, O Lord, /
Through his sufferings received his incorruptible crown from Thee, our God’ /
For having Thy strength he laid low his enemies /
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons. ///
Through his intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

Kontakion – Tone 6 (Resurrection)

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, /
Raised all of the *dead* from the valleys of misery with His mighty Hand, /
He bestowed resurrection on the human race. ///
He is the *savior* of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Kontakion – Tone 8 (Saint)

Thou didst appear as a *brilliant* star over all the earth /
Bringing light to those sitting *in* the darkness of the passions; /
And thou wast revealed as a *mighty* physician for all the afflicted. /
As thou hast received the *grace* of healing, grant healing now to those who entreat thee in faith, ///
That we may cry aloud: “*Rejoice*, O holy father Joannicius!”