

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

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

The repose and salvation of –

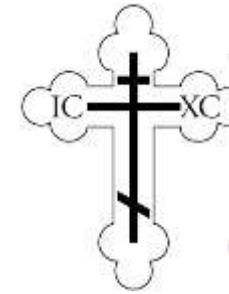
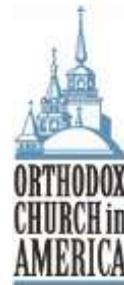
Daniel (August 7)

Betty (August 15)

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

Orthodoxy 101 – Tuesdays at 6:30 PM through September
Friday September 8, 6:30 PM – Great Vespers & Litya
Saturday, September 9, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
for the Nativity of the Most-Holy Theotokos

*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, August 26, 2018

Martyrs Adrian and Natalia and 33 others



Amorgos by Pantelis Zografos

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

Priest Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

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Deacon John Manutes, *Attached*

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Martyrs Adrian and Natalia and 33 others with them

The Martyrs Adrian and Natalia were married in their youth for one year prior to their martyrdom, and lived in Nicomedia during the time of the emperor Maximian (305-311). The emperor promised a reward to whomever would inform on Christians to bring them to trial. Then the denunciations began, and twenty-three Christians were captured in a cave near Nicomedia.

They were tortured, urged to worship idols, and then brought before the Praetor, in order to record their names and responses. Adrian, the head of the praetorium, watched as these people suffered with such courage for their faith. Seeing how firmly and fearlessly they confessed Christ, asked: "What rewards do you expect from your God for your suffering?" The martyrs replied: "Such rewards as we are not able to describe, nor can your mind comprehend." Saint Adrian told the scribes, "Write my name down also, for I am a Christian and I die gladly for Christ God."

The scribes reported this to the emperor, who summoned Saint Adrian and asked: "Really, have you gone mad, that you want to die? Come, cross out your name from the lists and offer sacrifice to the gods, asking their forgiveness." Saint Adrian answered: "I have not lost my mind, but rather have I found it." Maximian then ordered Adrian to be thrown into prison. His wife, Saint Natalia, knowing that her husband was to suffer for Christ, rejoiced, since she herself was secretly a Christian.

She hastened to the prison and encouraged her husband saying: "You are blessed, my lord, because you have believed in Christ. You have obtained a great treasure. Do not regret anything earthly, neither beauty, nor youth (Adrian was then 28 years of age), nor riches. Everything worldly is dust and ashes. Only faith and good deeds are pleasing to God."

On the pledge of the other martyrs, they released Saint Adrian from prison to tell his wife about the day of his execution. At first Saint Natalia thought that he had renounced Christ and thus had been set free, and she did not want to let him into the house. The saint persuaded his wife that he had not fled from martyrdom, but rather had come to give her the news of the day of his execution.

They tortured Saint Adrian cruelly. The emperor advised the saint to have pity on himself and call on the gods, but the martyr answered: "Let your gods say what blessings they promise me, and then I shall worship them, but if they cannot do this, then why should I worship them?" Saint Natalia did not cease to encourage her husband. She asked him also to pray to God for her, that they would not force her into marriage with a pagan after his death. The executioner ordered the hands and the legs of the saints to be broken on the anvil. Saint Natalia, fearing that her husband would hesitate on seeing the sufferings of the other martyrs, asked the executioner to begin with him, and permit her to put his hands and legs on the anvil herself.

They wanted to burn the bodies of the saints, but a storm arose and the fire went out. Many of the executioners even were struck by lightning. Saint Natalia took the hand of her husband and kept it at home. Soon an army commander asked the emperor's approval to wed Saint Natalia, who was both young and rich. But she hid herself away in Byzantium. Saint Adrian appeared to her in a dream and said that she would soon be at rest in the Lord. The martyr, worn out by her former sufferings, in fact soon fell asleep in the Lord.

Also this week: Venerable Pimen the Great (August 27); Uncovering of the relics of the Ven. Job, Abbot and Wonderworker of Pochaev; Ven. Moses the Black of Scete (August 28); BEHEADING OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST OF THE LORD, JOHN (August 29); Translation of the Relics of the Right-Believing Great Prince St Alexander Nevsky (August 30); The Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Most Holy Mother of God; St Aidan, Bp of Lindisfarne (August 31); INDICATION (CHURCH NEW YEAR); ST. SIMEON THE STYLITE (THE ELDER); Righteous Joshua the Son of Nun (September 1).

** "regular" fasting all week, except
STRICT FAST with wine and oil allowed on Wednesday **

Epistle: I Corinthians 16:13-24 (Sunday)

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42 (Sunday)

Troparion – Tone 4 (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel /
The joyous message of Thy Resurrection; / They cast away the ancestral curse /
And elatedly told the apostles: / Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, ///
Granting the world great mercy.

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 4 (Resurrection)

My Savior and Redeemer as God /
Rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. /
He has shattered the gates of hades, / And as Master, /// He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion – Tone 4 (Martyrs)

O Adrian, martyr of Christ God, /
Thou didst preserve in thy heart the divine words of thy pious wife. /
And together with her / Thou didst earnestly accept martyrdom ///
And together obtained crowns of victory.