

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

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

The repose and salvation of –

Shamassy Marie (August 18)

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

**This Wednesday, September 7 – 6:30 PM Great Vespers
for the Nativity of the Theotokos**

**This Thursday, September 8 – 7:00 AM Divine Liturgy
for the Nativity of the Theotokos**

**This Saturday, Sept. 10 – 9:00 AM Parish Strategic Planning
+ 5:30 PM Great Vespers**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 – 6:30 PM GREAT VESPERS FOR THE CROSS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 – 7:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE CROSS

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



**Hieromartyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch
Holy Prophet & Eyewitness of God, Moses**



Greek Orthodox Chapel on the summit of Mount Sinai

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

Rev. Alexander Vallens, *Rector*
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**Hieromartyr Babylas and with him the three youths
Urban, Prilidian, Epolonius and their mother Christodoula**

The emperor Decius (249-251) arranged for a large festival in honor of the pagan gods. At the same time, Babylas, the holy and God-fearing Bishop of Antioch, was serving the Divine Liturgy in church. He prayed for his flock and taught them to endure all tribulations for Christ with courage. The idolater Decius, curious to witness the Divine Mysteries, decided to enter the church. News of this reached the bishop, so he went out to meet Decius and blocked the path to the church, for he was unwilling to permit impiety in the temple of God. When the emperor approached the church doors, St Babylas refused to let him enter. The emperor wanted to take revenge on the saint right away, but when he saw the large throng of Christians, he feared they might riot.

The next day the angry emperor ordered that the church be set on fire, and for Bishop Babylas to be brought before him. When asked why he had insulted the imperial dignity by not allowing the emperor to enter the church, the holy bishop answered, “Anyone who would rise up against God and want to desecrate His sanctuary, is not worthy of respect, but has become the enemy of the Lord.” Decius declared that the holy bishop must worship the idols in order to make up for his lack of respect for the emperor, or else face execution. After convincing himself that the martyr would remain steadfast in his faith, he commanded the military commander Victorinus to put him in heavy chains and lead him through the city in disgrace. The holy martyr replied, “Emperor, these chains are as venerable for me as your imperial crown is for you. For me, suffering for Christ is as desirable as the imperial power is for you. Death for the Immortal King is as precious to me as your life is to you.”

At the trial with Bishop Babylas were three young brothers, who did not forsake him even in this most difficult moment. Seeing them, the emperor asked, “Who are these children?” “These are my spiritual children,” the saint replied, “and I have raised them in piety, I have given them an education, cultivated them with guidance, and here before you in a small body are these great young men and perfect Christians. Test them and see.” The emperor tried in all sorts of ways to entice the youths and their mother Christodoula to renounce Christ, but in vain. Then, in a rage, he ordered each of them to be whipped with a number of blows corresponding to their age. The first received twelve blows, the second, ten, and the third, seven. Dismissing the mother and children, the torturer again summoned the bishop, telling him that the children had renounced Christ. He did not believe the lie, however. Then he commanded all the martyrs be tied to a tree and burned with fire. Seeing the stoic bravery of the saints, the emperor finally condemned them to be beheaded with the sword.

Also this week: *Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of St John the Baptist (September 5); Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae (September 6); Martyr Sozón of Cilicia (September 7); NATIVITY OF OUR MOST-HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY (September 8); Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna (September 9); Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora at Nicomedia (September 10).*

*** “regular” fasting all week ***

Epistle: I Corinthians 9:2-12 (Sunday)

Gospel: Matthew 18: 23-35 (Sunday)

Troparion – Tone 2 (Resurrection)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, /
Thou didst slay hades with the splendor of Thy Godhead! /
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, /
All the powers of heaven cried out: /// O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Troparion – Tone 4 (Hieromartyr)

Like the apostles in character, / A successor on their throne, O divinely-inspired one /
Through visions thou didst find thy work / Rightly dividing the word of truth. /
Thou didst suffer for the sake of the faith / Even to the shedding of thy blood ///
O hieromartyr Babylas, pray Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Troparion – Tone 2 (Prophet)

Thou didst ascend to the heights of virtue, O prophet Moses, /
And was found worthy of beholding the glory of God; /
And having received the grace-filled tablets of the Law /
Thou didst bear the grace of each letter inscribed within thyself; /
Thou art the honored boast of [all] the prophets /// And a great mystery of piety.

Kontakion – Tone 2 (Resurrection)

Hades became afraid, O Almighty Savior, / Seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! /
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, ///
And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Kontakion – Tone 8 (Hieromartyr)

Today the holy Church glorifies thee, O Babylas, the hieromartyr /
As a preacher of piety and the confirmation of all those who [witnessed for Christ]; /
Since thou hast boldness before the Lord, pray to Christ, O much suffering one, /
That He may preserve those who *praise* and magnify thee and grant them perfect peace.

Kontakion – Tone 2 (Prophet)

The assembly of prophets rejoices with Moses and Aaron, /
For the fulfillment of their prophecy stands within our midst: /
Thy Cross, by which Thou hast saved us, shines forth today. ///
By their prayers, O Christ God have mercy on us.