

## Saints Commemorated Today

**Saint Tabitha**, the widow raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter, was a virtuous and kindly woman who belonged to the Christian community in Joppa. Being grievously ill, she suddenly died. At the time, the Apostle Peter was preaching at Lydda, not far from Joppa. Messengers were sent to him with an urgent request for help. When the Apostle arrived at Joppa, Tabitha was already dead. On bended knee, Saint Peter made a fervent prayer to the Lord. Then he went to the bed and called out, "Tabitha, get up!" She arose, completely healed (Acts 9:36).

Saint Tabitha is considered the patron saint of tailors and seamstresses, since she was known for sewing coats and other garments (Acts 9:39).

The **Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius**, Notaries of Constantinople served in a Constantinople cathedral. Marcian was a reader and Martyrius a subdeacon. They both performed in the capacity of notaries, i.e. secretaries, for Patriarch Paul the Confessor (November 6).

Arian heretics expelled and secretly executed the righteous Patriarch Paul. His throne was given to the heretic Macedonius. The heretics attempted to entice Saints Marcian and Martyrius over to their side by flattery. They offered them gold and promised to consecrate them as archbishops, but all the efforts of the Arians were in vain.

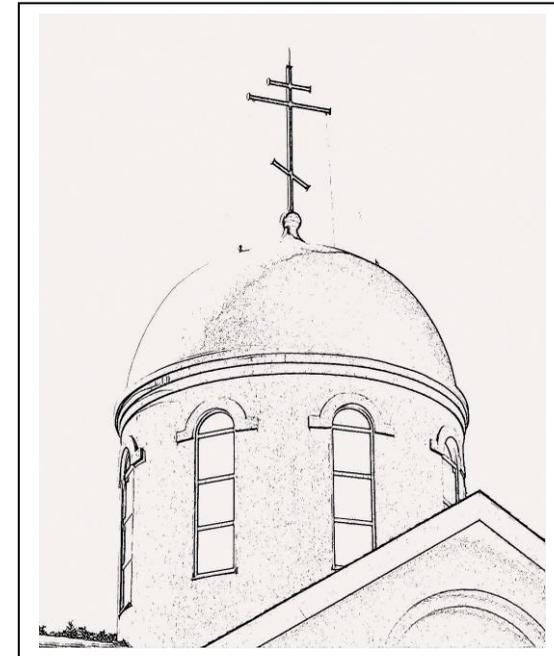
Then the impious threatened to slander them before the emperor, and sought to intimidate them with torture and death. But the saints steadfastly confessed Orthodoxy, as handed down by the Fathers of the Church. Marcian and Martyrius were sentenced to death. Before death, the martyrs prayed, "Lord God, Who has invisibly created our hearts, and directed all our deeds, accept with peace the souls of Your servants, since we perish for You and are considered as sheep for the slaughter (Ps 32/33:15; 43/44:22). We rejoice that by such a death we shall depart this life for Your Name. Grant us to be partakers of life eternal with You, the Source of life." After their prayer the martyrs, with quiet rejoicing, bent their necks beneath the sword of the impious (+ ca. 335).

Their holy bodies were reverently buried by Orthodox Christians. Later, by decree of Saint John Chrysostom, the relics of the holy martyrs were transferred to a church built in their honor. Believers here were healed of many infirmities through the prayers of the saints, to the glory of the One Life-Creating Trinity.

The **Martyr Anastasius the Fuller** lived at Salona in Dalmatia during the third century. He was arrested and brought to trial because of his missionary activity in Salona. Saint Anastasius, boldly and without fear, confessed Christ as the true God and Creator of all. He even painted a cross on his door during the persecution of Diocletian (284-311).

Saint Anastasius was sentenced to death by the decision of the court, and the pagans tied a stone around his neck and threw his body into the sea. A righteous Christian, the rich matron Ascalopia, found the body of Saint Anastasius and reverently buried him in her estate church. The relics of the holy martyr were glorified by many miracles.

WEEKLY



BULLETIN

*Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery. The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you!*

*Troparion of the Annunciation to the Theotokos*

## ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

*A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey of the Orthodox Church in America*

360 Van Zile Road, Brick, New Jersey 08724

Phone: (732) 458-9032 Email: [orthodoxbrick@gmail.com](mailto:orthodoxbrick@gmail.com)

Fax: (732) 295-0007 Website: [www.orthodoxbrick.org](http://www.orthodoxbrick.org)

Very Rev. Fr. Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Very Rev. Fr. Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Very Rev. Fr. Paul Kucynda, *Retired Attached Priest*

Rev. Fr. Alexander Smida, *Attached Priest*

Rev. Fr. Michael Pejovic, *Attached Priest*

Tara Paxton, *Senior Warden*

Reader Matthew Hascha, *Choir Director*

October 25, 2020

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Tone 3. Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius the Notaries, of Constantinople (ca. 355). Ven. Martyrii (Martyrius) the Deacon, Recluse of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.). Martyr Athanasius the Fuller, at Salona in Dalmatia (3rd c.). St. Tabitha, the widow raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter (1st c.).*

### Today's Readings:

*Epistle:* Galatians 1:11-19

*Gospel:* Luke 16:19-31

### Upcoming Service Schedule:

**Today @ 9am** Divine Liturgy

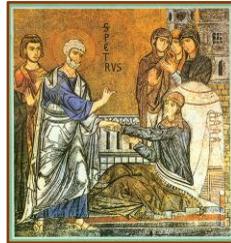
**Saturday @ 6pm** Great Vespers

**Sunday @ 9am** Divine Liturgy

### Next Sunday's Readings:

*Epistle:* Galatians 2:16-20

*Gospel:* Luke 8:26-39



*St. Tabitha being raised  
from the dead*

*The Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors program is an essential vehicle for funding the activities and programs of our diocese. Please consider participating in the program. Brochures are located by the bulletin board in the parish hall or at the diocesan website at [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org).*

### Special Prayers

We pray for **all** our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: **Betty James, Manya Shark, Deryl Tczap, Reader John Economou, Margaret Makara, Tom Collins, Tom Kopec, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak (under hospice care), Pauline Barnowsky, and Catherine Ratushnuk.**

### Memory Eternal

Metropolitan +THEODOSIUS  
+Anastasia Petrides  
+Daniel Shark

*May their souls dwell with the blessed!*

### **MANY YEARS**

Birthdays this week:

Monday – Kristine Nilsen

Wedding Anniversaries this week:

Tuesday – Matt & Liz Petrides (#19)

## Annunciations

**TODAY** – We continue our new system for **participation at Sunday Divine Liturgy**. All potential participants have been placed in one of three groupings, and each group will be invited on a rotating basis. An email that explains the new system has been sent out to all parishioners by email. Anyone who is not on the list but desires to participate should contact Father Gary.

**TODAY** – We are continuing a modified and controlled **Coffee Hour** ministry. The Parish Hall is set up to accommodate social distancing. Masks are required when traveling around the hall, but not when sitting and partaking of the refreshments. The hall will be sanitized after the Coffee Hour.

**TODAY** - We are resuming our **Church School** program with the younger group of parish youth. **Next Sunday**, the older group of youth will begin their sessions.

**THIS SATURDAY** remember to set your clocks **BACK** one hour before retiring for the night.

**NEXT SUNDAY** – **Group 3** is invited to attend Divine Liturgy.

Please continue to sign up online for **Great Vespers and weekday Divine Liturgy**. These services are filled on a first-come-first-served basis.

**Memory Eternal!** His Beatitude, **Theodosius**, the retired Metropolitan of the OCA, who served in that capacity from 1977 to 2002, reposed in the Lord this past week. May his soul dwell with the blessed!

**Condolences to** Manya Shark whose son, Daniel, fell asleep in the Lord this past week. **Memory Eternal!** May his soul dwell with the blessed! May God give comfort and strength to Manya and her family!

**Stewardship Donations** may be brought to the church or mailed to the church address: 360 Van Zile Road, Brick, NJ 08724. **On-line donations** are possible by visiting our website for a link. Many thanks for continuing to support your parish in these challenging times.

**Confessions** continue to be offered either by phone or in person (with proper social distancing). Please **contact Father Gary** to make an appointment for the Sacrament of Confession.

**Grocery Gift Cards** are available for purchase. Please contact Matushka Mary by email ([matmaryb@gmail.com](mailto:matmaryb@gmail.com)) or by phone at (848) 333-7075 to make arrangements.

Keep up on OCA news by visiting [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org), diocesan news and directives by visiting [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org), and parish news by visiting [www.orthodoxbrick.org](http://www.orthodoxbrick.org).