



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome

November 1, 2020

Troparion – Tone 4

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 8

Holy Unmercenarys and Wonderworkers, Cosmas and Damian, heal our infirmities.// Freely you have received; freely you give to us.

Kontakion – Tone 4

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master,// He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion – Tone 2

Having received the grace of healing, you grant healing to those in need. Glorious wonder-workers and healers, Cosmas and Damian, visit us and put down the insolence of our enemies,// and bring healing to the world through your miracles!

Prokeimenon – Tone 4

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; / in wisdom hast Thou made them all.

V: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great!

Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome

The Monastic Martyr Anastasia the Roman lost her parents when she was three years old, and was taken to be raised by the Igoumeness of a women’s monastery, whose name was Sophia, a nun who had attained a high degree of spiritual perfection. She raised Anastasia in fervent faith, in the fear of God, and obedience. After seventeen years, Anastasia became known as a great ascetic, and she was very beautiful.

The Emperor Decius (249-251) began his persecution of Christians at that time. The city administrator, Probus, following the Emperor's orders, commanded that Anastasia be brought to him. Blessed by her Igoumeness to suffer for Christ, the young martyr Anastasia went out to meet the armed soldiers. Seeing her youth and beauty, Probus first tried flattery to make her deny Christ.

“Why do you waste your youth deprived of pleasure?” he asked. “What is to be gained by enduring tortures and death for the Crucified? Worship our gods, marry a handsome husband, and live with glory and honor.”

While Saint Anastasia stood before the ruler, her mind stood before Christ, and with her spiritual eyes, she beheld the comeliness of her Bridegroom.

The Saint replied, "My spouse, my riches, my life and my happiness are my Lord Jesus Christ, and you cannot turn me away from Him by your deceit!"

Probus had her stripped of her clothing, in order to humiliate her. She told him, "You can have me whipped, beaten, and cut to pieces, and then my nakedness will be hidden by my wounds, and my blood will cover my shame."

Probus subjected Anastasia to horrible tortures. The holy martyr bravely endured all of them, glorifying and praising God. When she became thirsty she asked for some water, and a Christian named Cyril gave her a drink. She thanked him, but Probus had him beheaded.

Then her tormentors cut off her breasts and ripped out her tongue, while an Angel held her upright. When the people witnessed the inhuman and disgusting treatment the Saint received, they became indignant, and Probus was forced to end the tortures by having her beheaded. In this manner, Saint Anastasia received the unfading crown of martyrdom.

Saint Anastasia's body was thrown outside the city limits to be eaten by wild animals, but the Lord did not permit her holy relics to be dishonored. By the instructions of a holy Angel, Igoumeness Sophia found Saint Anastasia's mutilated body. With the help of two Christians, she buried it in the earth.

Saint Anastasia the Roman should not be confused with Saint Anastasia Pharmakolytria, who is commemorated on December 22.

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness. Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned. When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned. Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

Service Schedule for the week of November 1 – services will be streamed live

Today – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday November 7 – 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy and 5:00 PM Vespers

Sunday November 8 – **MASKS REQUIRED** 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Weekly Giving

October 17 & 18 – 36 adults, 15 youth, \$1,731

October 24 & 25 – 46 adults, 13 youth, \$4,950

Parish Announcements

Upcoming service schedule (Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM):

Saturday October 31 – Masks required

Sunday November 1 – Masks not required

Saturday November 7 – Masks not required

Sunday November 8 – Masks required

Saturday November 14 – Masks required

Sunday November 15 – Masks not required

Saturday November 21 – Masks not required

Sunday November 22 – Masks required

Saturday November 28 – Masks required

Sunday November 29 – Masks not required

Saturday December 5 – Masks not required

Sunday December 6 – Masks required

Saturday December 17 – Masks required

Sunday December 18 – Masks not required

The Senior R Club will hold a soup sale next Saturday November 7 and Sunday November 8. The soups will be sold in to-go containers only. Weather permitting, a table will be set outside the church after Divine Liturgy. Otherwise the soup will be sold in Daria Hall after Divine Liturgy. Cost is \$4/container. The Club appreciates your support!

The Ladies Altar Society is taking orders for homemade chruschiki cookies - the sign-up sheet is on the table across from the candle desk. Please sign-up by November 15. Thank you.

The Nativity Fast begins on November 15. It is important to partake in the sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion during this time.

The Senior R Club is once again participating in the St. Nicholas Project and sponsoring a Seminarian family for Christmas. We are asking our parishioners to participate along with us and donate gift cards so the family is able to provide gifts to their children. The following gift cards in any denomination are requested: Amazon, Target, Walmart, Kohls. Gift cards may be given to either Ludwig or Darice at the candle desk, or any other member of the Senior R Club. The last day for donations will be Sunday November 29. Thank you for your generosity!

It's pierogi-making time again! The potato filling will be made on Friday November 13 and pierogies will be made on Saturday November 14. Please let Nadja Nowicki know if you are available to help!

In order to prevent the spread of germs, the Communion prosphora and prosphora after Divine Liturgy will be handed out by an Altar server. We ask that you receive the prosphora in your hand and not reach for the prosphora on the tray or bowl.

The church has been set up for appropriate social distance seating. However, if you are feeling ill, please stay home. Also, those age 65 and over are still considered high risk and should make careful decisions about attending services. Father Volodymyr will continue to stream live Vespers and Sunday Divine Liturgy.

During the pandemic we are grateful that our parishioners have continued to contribute every week so the church can remain operational. We also thank Father Volodymyr for the extra services and Matushka Oksana for stepping in as the choir and Reader when needed. We all continue to pray for everyone's health and well-being!