



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Martyr Arethas and 4,299 Martyrs with him October 24, 2021

Troparion – Tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Troparion – Tone 1

Through the sufferings which Thy holy martyrs Arethas and his companions endured for Thy sake, O Lord, we beseech Thee, O Lover of mankind:// “Heal all of our infirmities!”

Kontakion – Tone 1

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:// “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion – Tone 4

Today the radiant feast of the passion-bearers Arethas and his companions comes to us as a herald of joy;// as we celebrate it, we glorify the Lord on high.

Prokeimenon – Tone 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

Martyr Arethas and 4,299 Martyrs with him

The Martyr Arethas and with him 4299 Martyrs suffered for the Lord Jesus Christ in the sixth century. Arethas was prefect of the Christian city of Negrin in Arabia. The Arabian (or Omirite) king, Dunaan, who was Jewish, decided to eliminate Christianity from the land. He issued an edict that all followers of Christ were to be put to death.

Because the inhabitants of Negrin remained faithful to the Lord, Dunaan came with a large army to destroy the city. At the city walls of Negrin the king’s heralds announced that Dunaan would only spare those who renounced Christ and referred to His Cross as a “sign of malediction.”

Not daring to assault the Christian city by force, Dunaan resorted to a ruse. Dunaan swore an oath that he would not force the Christians into Judaism, but would merely collect a tribute from Negran. The inhabitants of the city would not heed the advice of Saint Arethas, and putting their trust in Dunaan, they opened the city gates.

The very next day Dunaan gave orders to light an immense fire and throw all the clergy of the city into it in order to frighten the rest of the Christians. 427 men were burned. He also threw the prefect Arethas and the other chief men into prison. Then the oppressor sent his messengers through the city to convert the Christians to Judaism. Dunaan himself conversed with those inhabitants brought from the prisons, saying, "I do not demand that you should renounce the God of heaven and earth, nor do I want you to worship idols, I want merely that you do not believe in Jesus Christ, since the Crucified One was a man, and not God."

The holy martyrs replied that Jesus is God the Word, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, Who for the salvation of mankind was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary. Those suffering said, "We shall not abjure Christ, since He is Life for us. To die for Him is to find Life."

More than four thousand Christians, men, women, both the aged and children, from the city of Negran and surrounding villages suffered martyrdom for Christ.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

But this I say: "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.' Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"

Service Schedule for the week of October 24

Today – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday October 30 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday October 31 – 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Weekly Giving

October 17 – 56 adults, 14 youth, \$1,703

Parish Announcements

Visitors and parishioners – please join us for Coffee Hour next door in Daria Hall.

The FOCA Club will have a to-go soup sale on Sunday November 7. Containers will be \$4 each, or 3 for \$10. Weather permitting the soup will be sold outside of the church after Divine Liturgy. Otherwise the soup will be sold in Daria Hall during Coffee Hour.

TURKEY SOCIAL (BINGO): This annual church fundraiser will be held in Daria Hall on Sunday November 14 after Divine Liturgy. Packets of paper cards for all games and specials will be sold for \$10, as we did in the summer at the picnic grounds. Bring dabbers or crayons to mark your cards each game. Food will be served – volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen. **Donations of \$25 gift cards for Target, Walmart, and Amazon, or monetary donations are needed for the game prizes. Please let Nina Laushell know if you will donate a gift card or if you are able to help that day.**

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Elizabeth Cassar – October 26

Have a blessed birthday and God grant you many years!

FOCA ST. NICHOLAS GIFT WISH PROJECT: As we have done for many years, the FOCA Club will once again participate in this project that provides Christmas gifts to Seminarian families. We are asking for parish participation in this worthwhile project to provide help to a Seminarian family for their Nativity celebration. We will be collecting gift cards in any denomination for Target, Kohls, Walmart, or Amazon. Please give your donation to Francine or Nina – the last day we will collect gift cards is Sunday November 28. Thank you for your generosity!

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE – Coffee Hour Preparation Instructions are available in the Daria Hall kitchen

Oct. 24 Alex Godun
Oct. 31 Paula Koerte
Nov. 7 Alex & Brittani Brasowski
Nov. 14 **TURKEY SOCIAL – NO COFFEE HOUR**
Nov. 21 **FAST DAY** Germain & Tahara Ortiz
Nov. 28 **FAST DAY** Darice Keyes
Dec. 5 **FAST DAY** Lynne Sheedy
Dec. 12 **FAST DAY** Blake & Jessica Kilgore
Dec. 19 **FAST DAY** Sunday School Children
Dec. 26 Phyllis Eck
Jan. 2 Sophie Dumas
Jan. 9 Aftan Chowansky
Jan. 16 Dottie Kish & Philip Moldovan
Jan. 23 Walter & Marie Pyl
Jan. 30 Francine Brady & Herman Meyer
Feb. 6 Anna & Leon Brasowski
Feb. 13 Guy Radcliffe
Feb. 20 Dave & Natalie Sichik
Feb. 27 Valeria & Timothy Srock
Mar. 6 Walter & Tanya Tribbey