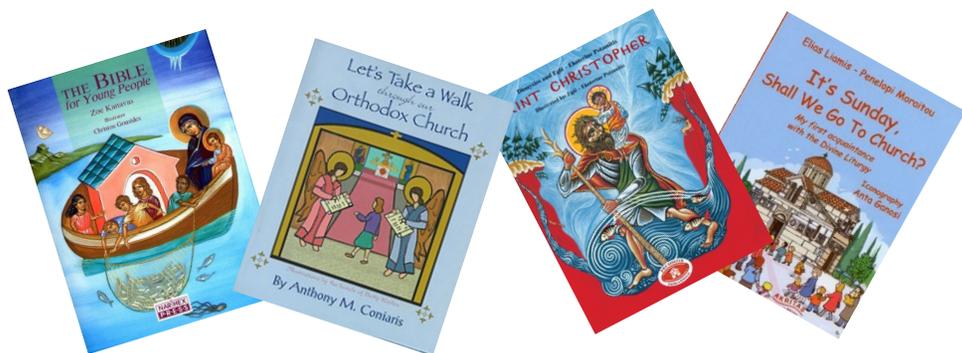


Church School News

Holy Cross is starting a **Children' Orthodox Library**, located in the pre-school classroom. Please **donate an Orthodox book**, suitable for pre-school through high school age. The Church Bookstore has many suitable ones available for purchase. Or pick one from your favorite Orthodox on-line store. **Write a dedication in it...** donate it in honor of a loved one or saint, and put it in the library. Our Kids can read after Liturgy (or when little ones are restless) and take the book home to finish, return it the next week. **Literacy + Orthodoxy!**



Altar project

Dale Kraus is displaying his fine craftsmanship and eye for detail in constructing our new iconostasis. See samples below. **Donations** are still being taken for the ancillary items including **new altar cloths**. Mark your check "altar project." **Thank you** to all who have already made a do-



Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

Address: 6134 Black Bill Rd., Flagstaff, AZ 86004
Mailing Address: PO Box 2164, Flagstaff, AZ 86003

Phone: (928) 225-3814

Web: www.holycrossflagstaff.org

Email: priest@holycrossflagstaff.org

Rev. Father Andrew Barakos

Phone: (480) 991-3009

Email: priest@holycrossflagstaff.org

Services Schedule:

Divine Liturgy 10 AM on Sundays

9th hour Prayers 9:30 AM

Church School 9:30 AM



Bulletin for Sunday, January 28, 2018 Triodion Begins

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred body. O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Where by all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ. Glory unto Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation O You alone who loves all.

Holy Cross Church Apolytikion in the First Mode

Save, O Lord Your people, and bless Your inheritance; grant victory to the faithful against the adversaries of the Faith, and protect Your people by the power of Your Cross.

Seasonal Kontakion in the First Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

Epistle Reading

The Reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 3:10-15

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today

The Reading is from Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Holy and Great Lent begins

Monday, February 19th!

Great and Holy Pascha

April 8th!

Prayer List:

Please keep the following intentions in your prayers:

- Helen Schulz, for healing from illness.
- For Barbara Bryant, for healing from illness.
- Gabriella Kuzmiak, for healing from illness.

Save the Dates!

January

1/28 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930

February

- 2/4 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930
Memorial service for Gheorghe Grecu, father of Doina Grecu
- 2/11 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930
- 2/18 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930
Forgiveness Vespers after Divine Liturgy
- 2/19 Lent Begins
- 2/23 Akathist 6:30 p
- 2/25 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930

Refer to e-mailed Parish Updates for additional events and details

Commemorations and Readings for the Week

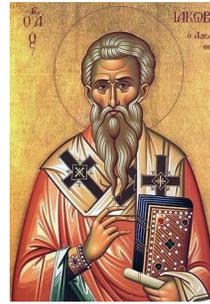
January / February 2018

Day	Commemoration	Readings
Sunday	28 Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee. Tridion Begins Today	Matthew 28:16-20 » II Timothy 3:10-15 » Luke 18:10-14 »
Monday	29 Removal of the Relics of Ignatius the God-bearer	Hebrews 10:32-38 » Mark 9:33-41 »
Tuesday	30 Synaxis of The Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, & John Chrysostom	John 10:9-16 » Hebrews 13:7-16 » Matthew 5:14-19 »
Wednesday	31 Cyrus & John the Unmercenarys	I Corinthians 12:27-31;13:1-8 » Matthew 10:1, 5-8 »
Thursday	1 Trypho the Martyr	Romans 8:28-39 » Luke 10:19-21 »
Friday	2 The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple	Luke 2:25-32 » Hebrews 7:7-17 » Luke 2:22-40 »
Saturday	3 The Synaxis of the Holy and Righteous Symeon the God-Receiver and the Holy Prophetess Anna	Hebrews 9:11-14 » Luke 2:25-38 »

Wine / Oil Allowed  Fish Allowed  Strict Fast 

Saints and Feasts Commemorated

James the Righteous



Saint James the Righteous, also called James Adelphos and James the Brother of Our Lord (died AD 62), was the first Bishop or Patriarch of Jerusalem. According to the Protoevangelion of James, James was the son of Joseph—along with the other 'brethren of the Lord' mentioned in the scripture—from a marriage prior to his betrothal to Mary. He wrote an epistle which is part of the New Testament. St. James is commemorated on October 23; on December 26 and also on the first Sunday after the Nativity, along with David the King and St. Joseph; and on January 4 among the Seventy Apostles.

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Tridion Begins Today

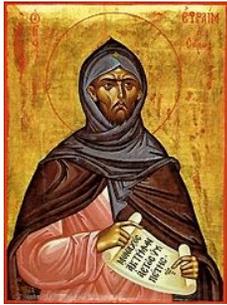


The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.

All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.

Ephraim the Syrian

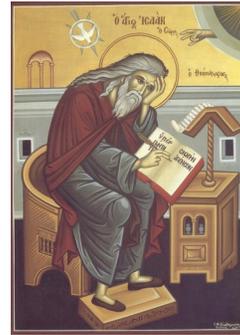


Saint Ephraim was born in Nisibis of Mesopotamia some time about the year 306, and in his youth was the disciple of Saint James, Bishop of Nisibis, one of the 318 Fathers at the First Ecumenical Council. Ephraim lived in Nisibis, practicing a severe ascetical life and increasing in holiness, until 363, the year in which Julian the Apostate was slain in his war against the Persians, and his successor Jovian surrendered Nisibis to them. Ephraim then made his dwelling in Edessa, where he found many heresies to do battle with. He waged an especial war against Bardaisan; this gnostic had written many hymns propagating his errors, which by their sweet melodies became popular and enticed souls away from the truth. Saint Ephraim, having received from God a singular gift of eloquence, turned Bardaisan's own weapon against him, and wrote a multitude of hymns to be chanted by choirs of women, which set forth the true doctrines, refuted heretical error, and praised the contests of the Martyrs.

Of the multitude of sermons, commentaries, and hymns that Saint Ephraim wrote, many were translated into Greek in his own lifetime. Sozomen says that Ephraim "Surpassed the most approved writers of Greece," observing that the Greek writings, when translated into other tongues, lose most of their original beauty, but Ephraim's works "are no less admired when read in Greek than when read in Syriac" (Eccl. Hist., Book 111, 16). Saint Ephraim was ordained deacon, some say by Saint Basil the Great, whom Sozomen said "was a great admirer of Ephraim, and was astonished at his erudition." Saint Ephraim was the first to make the poetic expression of hymnody and song a vehicle of Orthodox theological teachings, constituting it an integral part of the Church's worship; he may rightly be called the first and greatest hymnographer of the Church, who set the pattern for these who followed him, especially Saint Romanos the Melodist. Because of this he is called the "Harp of the Holy Spirit." Jerome says that his writings were read in some churches after the reading of the Scriptures, and adds that once he read a Greek translation of one of Ephraim's works, "and recognized, even in translation, the incisive power of his lofty genius" (De vir. ill., ch. CXV).

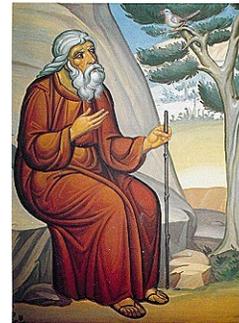
Shortly before the end of his life, a famine broke out in Edessa, and Saint Ephraim left his cell to rebuke the rich for not sharing their goods with the poor. The rich answered that they knew no one to whom they could entrust their goods. Ephraim asked them, "What do you think of me?" When they confessed their reverence for him, he offered to distribute their alms, to which they agreed. He himself cared with his own hands for many of the sick from the famine, and so crowned his life with mercy and love for neighbor. Saint Ephraim reposed in peace, according to some in the year 373, according to others, 379.

Isaac the Syrian, Bishop of Ninevah



The great luminary of the life of stillness, Saint Isaac, was born in the early seventh century in Eastern Arabia, the present-day Qatar on the Persian Gulf. He became a monk at a young age, and at some time left Arabia to dwell with monks in Persia. He was consecrated Bishop of Nineveh (and is therefore sometimes called "Saint Isaac of Nineveh"), but after five months received permission to return to solitude; he spent many years far south of Nineveh in the mountainous regions of Beit Huzaye, and lastly at the Monastery of Rabban Shabur. He wrote his renowned and God-inspired Ascetical Homilies toward the end of his long life of monastic struggle, about the end of the seventh century. The fame of his Homilies grew quickly, and about one hundred years after their composition they were translated from Syriac into Greek by two monks of the Monastery of Mar Sabbas in Palestine, from which they spread throughout the monasteries of the Roman Empire and became a guide to the hesychasts of all generations thereafter.

Palladios the Hermit of Antioch



Saint Theodosius of Totma

