



OUR LADY OF THE CEDARS CHURCH

A MELKITE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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VERY REV. THOMAS P. STEINMETZ, PASTOR

REV. THEOPHAN LEONARCZYK, Eparchial Chancellor RT. REV. ANDRE ST. GERMAIN (retired)

REV. ROGER BOUCHER - Weekend Ministry

REV. DEACON THOMAS MOSES

*"Enter the Church and repent ... for here is the physician, not the judge.
Here one is not investigated, one receives remission of sins." (St. John Chrysostom)*

July 28, 2019

The Commemoration of the Holy Apostles and Deacons
Procor, Nicanor, Timon, and Parmenas

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Parish Advisory & Finance Council:

KEN MONTY (PRESIDENT), ROBERT ANDERSON, ROBIN ANDERSON, JOHN CULLEN,
MARTHA DAGHER, TIM ERMATINGER, KEN KOMISAREK, MARYLOU LAZOS, JESSICA LOMANNO,
MAURICE PARÉ, RAFAEL PESCHIERA, PAUL ST. GERMAIN, AND JOHN SIWIK

Parish Secretary: ROBIN ANDERSON

Cedars Society President: MARYLOU LAZOS

Sunday School Coordinator: MARTHA DAGHER

N.A.M.Y. Advisor: ROBIN ANDERSON

HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION: Before or after any service, or by appointment;

HOLY MYSTERY OF CHRISTIAN ILLUMINATION: Please contact the clergy in advance to arrange for the required baptismal instructions;

HOLY MYSTERY OF CROWNING: At least six months prior to the proposed wedding, please contact the clergy to arrange for the required interview and instructions;

HOLY MYSTERY OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please contact the pastor at any time when this sacrament is needed;

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK: Anyone too infirm to attend our services may receive Communion in the home. Please advise the clergy whenever this sacrament is needed.

THE ORDER OF TODAY'S LITURGY

The Troparion of the Resurrection (6th Tone) Page 53

The Troparion of the Dormition of the Theotokos (1st Tone): Page 16

Kondakion : "O Never Failing Protectress of Christians": Page 17

THE PROKIMENON:

O LORD, SAVE YOUR PEOPLE AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE!

To You, O Lord, I have called: O my Rock, be not deaf to me!

Today's Readings: Romans 15: 1-7 and Matthew 9:27-35

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday (July 27) 4:30 PM:

For the repose of Charles Aboody (30th), Lucille Holt (34th), Joseph Tutundgy (8th),
John McHugh (5th), Theresa Lawrence (16th), and Willian Baroodly (39th)

Sunday, (July 28) 10:30 AM:

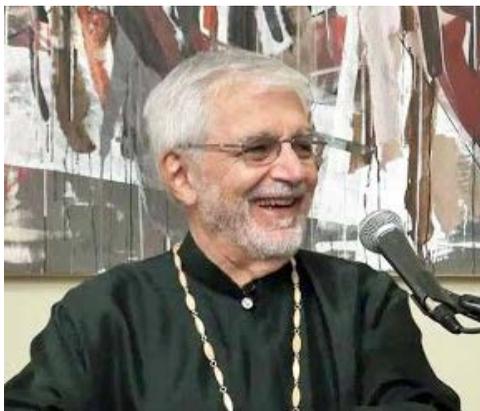
For the repose of Bishop John Elya, B.S.O.,
who fell asleep in the Lord on July 19

Next Saturday, (August 3) 4:30 PM:

For the repose of Salem "Sam" Solomon (6th), Peter Freije (6th),
and Denis O'Keefe (2nd)

Next Sunday (August 4) 10:30 AM:

For the repose Daniel Komisarek (11th Anniversary),
by his brother Kenneth Komisarek



Bishop Nicholas' 30th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday, October 3, 2019

**Our Lady of Annunciation Cathedral
7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA
5 PM Divine Liturgy followed by a Celebration
Banquet at 7 PM**

Invite your family and friends!

Ticket Donation: \$50 per person

More details available in the back of the church!

MAHRAJAN 2019 - How you can you help:

Make a donation for food: Help us with our costs is by donating a food or ingredient. There are signup sheets in the back of the church, along with the cost. Envelopes are also available there, if you would like to use them. We are counting on your generosity. All donors will be recognized in our annual souvenir book.

Help us find ads: We need ads for our Mahrajan 2019 souvenir book. This book is critical to the success of the Mahrajan. You can help us to get ads by soliciting places where you do business.

Add your own message to our book: Please consider placing your message or memorial in the Mahrajan 2019 souvenir book – only \$100 per page!

Sign up to Volunteer: Sign up is fast and easy. You can sign up in the church hall or go on line to: <https://tinyurl.com/sign-up-mahrajan>. You can also email Rachel Minsinger at rcullen.clarinet@gmail.com, or call her at (603) 296-5038.

There is will be a second collection this weekend, for the mortgage.

August 1 to 14: the Fast of the Dormition

The Feast of the Dormition is preceded by a two-week fast, referred to as the Fast of the Dormition. From August 1 to August 14 (inclusive) Eastern Christians fast from red meat, poultry, meat products, dairy products (eggs and milk products), fish, oil, and wine. The Dormition Fast is a stricter fast than either the Nativity Fast (Advent) or the Apostles' Fast, with only wine and oil (but no fish) allowed on weekends. As with the other Fasts of the Church year, there is a Great Feast that falls during the Fast: The Transfiguration (August 6), on which fish, wine and oil are allowed.

Fasting, of course, is not holiness itself, but a tool to use on the path to holiness. How else might we supplement our work of fasting? Try spending ten minutes with the Lord in prayer every day. Call on the Holy Spirit to empower you to live a renewed life in Christ. Read a little from the Bible each day. Make an effort to extend love and forgiveness to someone. Let us resolve as a parish to seek God together during these coming days, and to ask His blessing upon our community.

Attendance Last Sat. 4:30 PM: 19 Sun. 10:30 AM: 91

Last Weekend's Collection: \$1,283.⁰⁰

The average Sunday envelope donation: \$45.⁴⁰

The balance on our mortgage is: \$64,980.⁸⁸

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Wed., July 31	7:00 PM	Divine Liturgy: The Procession of the Holy Cross
Sat., Aug. 3	4:30 PM	Divine Liturgy: The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
Sun., Aug. 4	9:45 AM	Sunday Orthros
Sun., Aug. 4	10:30 AM	Divine Liturgy: The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

August 1:

The Procession of the Holy Cross

Divine Liturgy for this Feast will be celebrated on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM.

The Procession of the Venerable Wood of the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: In the Greek Horologion of 1897 the derivation of this Feast is explained: "Because of the illnesses that occur in August, it was customary, in former times, to carry the Venerable Wood of the Cross through the streets



and squares of Constantinople for the sanctification of the city, and for relief from sickness. On the eve (July 31), it was taken out of the imperial treasury, and laid upon the altar of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (the Wisdom of God). From this Feast until the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos, they carried the Cross throughout the city in procession, offering it to the people to venerate. This also is the Procession of the Venerable Cross."

The Procession of the Cross is celebrated not only to ward off sickness but for two other reasons. First, we are now entering the Dormition Fast where we prepare ourselves to glorify God through His mother, when we contemplate that "strange mystery, great and marvelous" when Mary is translated unto life from death. She is the very icon and embodiment of the saved. To prepare for this "Resurrection" we need the power of the Cross as an aid. It is the same for why we venerate the Cross on the third Sunday of Lent--to be a bulwark and aid to us to continue the fast and prepare.

The second reason the procession of the Cross takes place at this time is because of its proximity to Transfiguration. On Mt. Tabor, Jesus revealed Himself as truly God and truly Man, that it was God Himself who was about to die on the Cross, and that such a death was a willing death, not done for some sort of honor or wrath to be appeased, but for the simple reason that God loves. We honor the Cross and all the things it has accomplished but we do so in the context of realizing who it was that was crucified: the God-Man, Jesus Christ.

Let us rejoice this day in the Cross of our Lord, which heals not only our souls, but also our bodies as well. "We bow in worship before Your Cross of Master, and we give praise to Your Holy Resurrection!"

Glory, O Lord, to the power of Your Cross, which never fails! When the enemy oppresses me with a sinful thought or feeling, and I, lacking freedom in my heart, make the sign of the Cross several times with faith, suddenly my sin falls away from me, the compulsion vanishes, and I find myself free... For the faithful the Cross is a mighty power which delivers from all evils, from the malice of the invisible foe. -*St. John of Kronstadt*

"The Cross, is wood which lifts us up and makes us great ... The Cross uprooted us from the depths of evil and elevated us to the summit of virtue". -*St John Chrysostom*

Saints Prochor, Nicanor, Timon and Parmenas, Apostles of the Seventy,

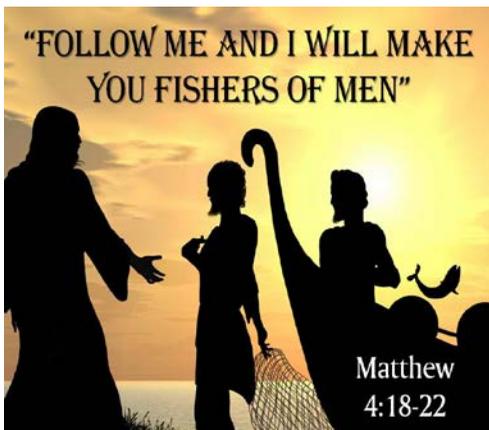
were among the first deacons in the Church of Christ. In the Acts of the Holy Apostles (6:1-6) it is said that the twelve Apostles chose seven men: Stephen, Philip, Prochor, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicholas, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, and appointed them to serve as deacons. They are commemorated together on July 28, although they died at various times and in various places.

At first, St. Prochor accompanied the holy Apostle Peter, who made him bishop in the city of Nicomedia. After the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, Prochor was a companion and coworker of the holy Apostle John the Theologian and was banished with him to the island of Patmos. There he wrote down the Book of Revelation concerning the final fate of the world. Upon returning to Nicomedia, St. Prochor converted pagans to Christ in the city of Antioch, where he suffered martyrdom.

St. Nicanor suffered on the same day that the holy Protomartyr Stephen and many other Christians were killed by stoning.

St. Timon was later appointed by the Apostles as bishop of the city of Bostra in Arabia and suffered from the Jews and pagans for preaching the Gospel. He was thrown into a furnace, but by the power of God he came out of it unharmed. The tradition of the Roman Church says that St. Timon died by crucifixion.

St. Parmenas zealously preached Christ in Macedonia. He died after being afflicted with an illness. Some say that St. Parmenas suffered martyrdom under Trajan (98-117) in the final year of his reign.



In His ministry (as seen in today's Gospel), Christ helps people see reality clearly, frees them from the paralysis (especially of sin) in their lives and stirs up their faith. Paul tells us that the Scriptures are available for our instruction, that we may have hope – and that as we are strengthened, we should look to the weak.

We need priests in our communities to coordinate and see that these ministries continue, that the teaching be given and received, and that the whole Church continues to be what it is called to be. Please encourage vocations to the priesthood for our diocese, for the present and future good of our Church.

Jewel of the Martyrs

FEW CHRISTIANS HAVE NOT HEARD of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. After living in India for twenty years, teaching in a (middle class) girls high school, she received what she termed “a call within a call” to devote the rest of her life to caring for the sick poor while living among them. At her death there were over 4500 sisters in the religious community she founded.

Mother Teresa is a modern example of what our Tradition calls “Unmercenary Healers,” people – usually physicians – who cared for the sick without pay, offering their skills back to God as their sacrifice of praise. The troparion usually sung in honor of these Unmercenaries speaks of them living out the command of Christ to the Twelve, “*Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give*” (*Matthew 10:8*).

Then, as now, physicians were respected members of society and expected to be remunerated for their services, which is why the sick poor were often ignored in the ancient world. The Unmercenary Healers were the exception to this rule.

Unmercenary Healers

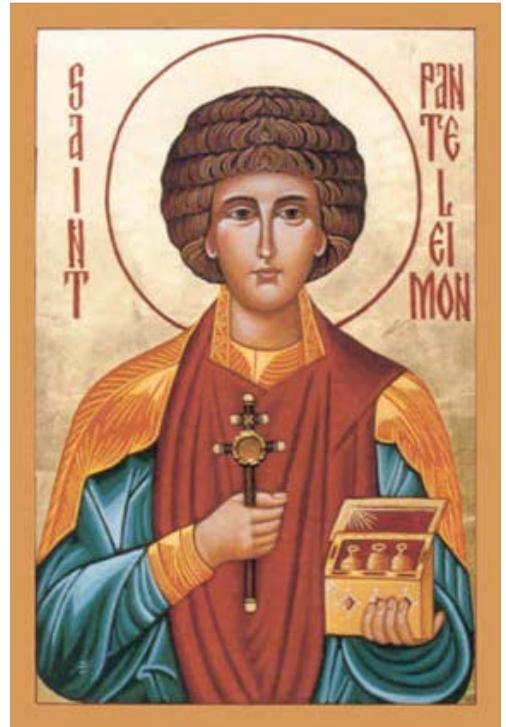
The Eastern Churches have, for centuries, honored a number of Unmercenaries, several of whom were also martyrs in the early persecutions. A few of them (and their feast days) are:

Ss. Cosmas and Damian of Asia Minor (November 1), *Ss. Cosmas and Damian* of Rome (July 1), *Ss. Cyrus and John* in Egypt (January 31), *St Julian* in Homs, Syria (February 6), and the teenaged medical student *St Thallaios* (May 20).

Some Unmercenaries were not trained physicians but rather native healers, usually associated with rural areas and practicing what we might call “alternative medicine” today. Among them we venerate *St Tryphon* (February 1) who healed livestock as well as people in his village, Lampsacos.

Not a few of these Unmercenaries were women. Among them the Church honors *Ss. Zenaida and Philonella* (October 11), who operated a clinic at a healing spring in Thessaly, and the precursors of Mother Teresa, and *Ss. Hermione and Eukhidia* (September 4), who established the first hostel for the homeless poor in Ephesus.

These and others are also remembered in a collective feasts of the Holy Unmercenaries in the calendars of some local Churches, generally in October or November.



The Great Martyr St. Panteleimon

One of the most revered Unmercenaries in both East and West is the Great Martyr St. Panteleimon the Healer. He lived in Asia Minor from 284 to 304 and was thus a contemporary of St. George and other martyrs. Like them he suffered martyrdom in the same persecution.

Our saint was born in Nicemedia, the regional capital, about the year 284 to a pagan father, Eustorgios, and a Christian mother, Eubula. At birth he was given the name Pantaleon, which means “in all things like a lion.” His mother began teaching him the Christian faith but she died when her son was still a boy. Raised by his father, Pantaleon was taught to join him in worshipping the ancestral gods of the region.

The highly intelligent lad was entrusted as a teenager to the noted physician Euphrosinos to learn the practice of medicine. As was the custom, he accompanied his master everywhere to study his methods. Since Euphrosinos was occasionally called to the imperial court Pantaleon attracted the attention of the Eastern emperor, Maximian. He successfully completed his studies and began the practice of medicine himself.

Pantaleon’s Conversion

The young physician often passed a house where three priests – Hermolaos, Hermippos and Hermocrates – were living in seclusion. They had survived a notorious massacre in 303 when thousands of Christians, who had taken refuge in the principal church in Nicomedia, were slaughtered. Hermolaos noticed him and invited him in. In the course of what became frequent conversations, Hermolaos praised Pantaleon for his skills, but also challenged him: “But, my friend, of what use are all your acquisitions in this art, since you are ignorant of the science of salvation?”

Pantaleon was well disposed to Hermolaos’ teaching, but was only convinced to accept baptism through the following event. The young physician once happened to see a child stricken on the street, bitten by a poisonous snake. Pantaleon began to pray to our Lord Jesus Christ that the dead child might be revived and that the poisonous reptile might die. He firmly resolved that, should his prayers be answered, he would become a follower of Christ and would accept baptism. Pantaleon saw the child come back to life and the great viper burst into pieces. Pantaleon was then baptized by Hermolaos and was given the name Panteleimon (“all-compassionate”).

Panteleimon began urging his father, Eustorgios, to accept Christ. When Eustorgios saw his son heal a blind man by invoking the name of Christ, he came to believe and was baptized, along with the man who had regained his sight.

After Eustorgios’ death, Panteleimon dedicated his life to the suffering, sick, needy and indigent. Everyone who came to him he treated without charge, healing them by invoking Jesus Christ. He would visit those in prison, especially Christians, whose numbers were filling the prisons, and treat their wounds, thus living up to his Christian name. This naturally attracted the attention of people and they abandoned their other physicians to be treated by Panteleimon.

The other physicians reacted by denouncing Panteleimon as a Christian. Maximian urged Panteleimon to refute the charge by offering sacrifice to the Roman gods, but he refused. On the contrary, Panteleimon healed a paralyzed man in the emperor’s presence by invoking Christ. Maximian dismissed this as some kind of trick and condemned Panteleimon to death. He suffered martyrdom, along with the three priests who had befriended him, on July 27, 304.

Please remember to pray for the health and protection of Genevieve Allen, Donna Andruskiewicz, Olivia Aragon, Elizabeth Ashooh, Elsie Ashooh, Erin Baroody, Michael Baroody, Henry Bilodeau, Anthony Blando, Helena Burkush, Fr. Michael Carl, Danielle Caron, Michael Cavanaugh, Meghan Connors, Sarah Cullen, Theresa Cullen, Sarah Dagher, Sher Farrow, Julie Fregeau, Peter Fregeau, John Gallagher, Marguerite Ganem, Mary Ann Garvey, Loretto Gauvin, Bonnie Gomez, Gail Fisher, Laurice Haddad, Nick Haddad, Lucille Harper, Laura Jorba, Virginia Kearney, Leila Khoury, Shirley Lanoue, Susan Latvis, Diana Lebel, Haley Lesmerises, Ramona Matias, Susan Merrill, Maria Moser, Joanne Nader, Mimi Nasser, Alfred Nasr, Afef Nasr, Raymond Nehme, Samira Nehme, Stefan Notter, Steven O'Leary, Ellen Osgood, Alice Paymant, Marco Enrique Peschiera, MaryJo Pond, Ellen Powell, Sheila Quinn, Daniel Quintal, Deborah Roberts, Julia Rose, Adam Rubin, Fr. Andre St. Germain, Kara Salvias, Barbara Schultz, Raymond Sherburne, Tarrant Smith, Iris Angelina Velasquez, Catherine Waldron, George Webber, Martha Webber, Kathy Wise, and Marilyn Whitmore.

If you are visiting our church, our parish family is delighted to welcome you here! Please give us the chance to get to know you by joining us for some coffee, pastry, and conversation in the church hall following the Divine Liturgy. If you would like to know more about the Melkite Catholic Church, check out the brochure entitled *“Welcome to this Holy House,”* located on the table in the back of the church.



  <p>Joe Ashooh, Agent 297 South Willow St Manchester, NH 03103 603-624-1000 www.joesthere.com</p> <p>Providing Insurance and Financial Services Call us for a free quote</p>	<p>NORTH HILLS REALTY GROUP, LLC <i>Residential Real Estate Brokers</i> Abraham Dagher, Realtor 814 Elm St., Suite # 302 Manchester, NH 03101 (603) 629-9988</p>	 <p>Chuck Stephen 814 Elm Street, Suite 503 Manchester, NH 03101 Tel # 603.606.3391 Toll Free 866.491.9675 chuck@glenwoodinvestment.com www.glenwoodinvestment.com</p>
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Today's Readings:

A Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (15:1-7)

Now, we the strong should bear the infirmities of the weak, instead of catering to ourselves. Let every one of you please his neighbor by doing good for his edification: for Christ did not seek his own pleasure, but as it is written, The reproaches of those who, reproach you have fallen on me. (Ps.6: 10) For whatever has been written has been written for our instruction, that through the patience and consolation afforded by the Scriptures, we may have hope. May then the God of patience and comfort grant you to be of one mind towards one another according to Jesus Christ, so that being one in spirit you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive one another as Christ has received you, in a manner that gives honor to God.

الرسالة (رومة 15: 1-7)

يا إخوة، يجب علينا نحن الاقوياء أن نحتمل أوهان الضعفاء، ولا نرضي أنفسنا. فليُرضِ كل واحدٍ منا القريب للخير لأجل البنیان. فإن المسيح لم يرضِ نفسه، بل كما كتب، تعبيراتٌ معيريكَ وقعت عليّ. لأن كل ما كُتب من قبل، إنما كُتب لتعليمنا، ليكون لنا الرجاء بالصبرِ وبتعزية الكتب. وليؤتكم اله الصبر والتعزية، اتفاق الآراء فيما بينكم، بحسب المسيح يسوع. حتى إنكم بنفسٍ واحدةٍ وفيّ واحد، تمجدون الله أبا ربنا يسوع المسيح. لذلك فليقبل بعضكم بعضاً كما قبلكم المسيح لمجدِ الله

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist (9: 27-35)

At that time as Jesus was passing on, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying "Have pity on us, Son of David" And when He had reached the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this to you?" They answered Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "Let it be done to you according to your faith." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus strictly charged them, saying, "See that no one knows of this!" But they went out and spread His fame abroad throughout all that district.

Now as they were going out, behold, there was brought to Him a dumb man possessed by a devil. And when the devil had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never has the like of this been seen in Israel." But the Pharises said, "By the prince of devils He casts out devils." And Jesus was going about all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Good News of the Kingdom, and curing every kind of disease and infirmity in the people.

الانجيل متى (9: 27-35)

في ذلك الزمان، فيما يسوع مجتازاً تبعه أعميان يصيحان ويقولان: ارحمنا يا ابن داود. فلما دخل البيت، دنا اليه الاعميان. فقال لهما يسوع: هل تَؤْمَنان أني أقدر أن أفعل ذلك؟ قالا له: نعم يا سيد. حينئذٍ لمسَ أعينهما قائلاً كأيمانكما فليكن لكما. فانفتحت أعينهما. فنهاهما قائلاً احذرا أن يعلم أحد. أما هما فخرجا وشهراً في تلك الارض كلها. وبعد خروجهما، قدموا اليه إنساناً أخرس به شيطان. فلما أخرج الشيطان تكلم الأخرس. فتعجب الجموع قائلين: لم يظهر قطُّ مثل هذا في إسرائيل. أما الفريسيون فكانوا يقولون: إنه برئيس الشياطين يخرج الشياطين. وكان يسوع يطوف في جميع المدن والقرى، ويعلم في مجامعهم، ويكرزُ ببشارة الملكوت، ويشفي كل مرضٍ وكل ضعفٍ في الشعب.

