

## June 15, 2014: The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Of all Saints)

**Epistle: Hebrews 11:30-40; 12:1-2:**

*By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

**Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30:**



*“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. Then Peter answered and said to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?” So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.*”

In the Orthodox Church, we believe in the Communion of Saints that is the unending dialogue between us, the visible Church, and the invisible/heavenly Church, constituted of all those who have found favor before God.

The saints are those who throughout history have put their lives in the service of God and their fellow human beings, and by so doing, have very often paid the ultimate price.

If we read carefully the above words of St. Paul to the Hebrews, we have an idea of the kind of the unthinkable and brutal violence launched upon those who dedicated themselves to God. And these are just those who lived before the coming of the Lord into the world.

What about the apostles, the martyrs, the confessors and many others who have suffered similar deaths during the many centuries of persecution in the New Testament?

Again, what can we say about those who have suffered lengthy imprisonment, torture, starvation, humiliation and death in the Communist gulags? They are indeed the ones who confessed Christ before men and, as a result, have received "*a hundredfold, and inherited eternal life.*"

May all of them be an inspiration to us!

**Fr. George Bazgan**

## **Sunday Fellowship**

**The following families are scheduled to look after  
this Sunday's fellowship:**

**Petre & Loredana Dorobanțu**

**Marius & Ileana Gavriș**

**Horia & Camelia Tănăsoiu**

**Thank you all very much!**

**Note: We kindly ask all participants in this program to bring cooked food only, which can be warmed up using the stove in the small fellowship hall.**

**Thank you!**

## **Sunday School Awards**

**The Religion Olympic concluded another Sunday School year.  
We are proud to announce that two of our students (Matei and Elisabeta Sasu)  
have place first in their respective groups.**

**Unending gratitude to our dedicated teachers: Veronica Ciocan, Ileana Gavriș,  
Gabriela Luca-Dămian and Vasilica Ionescu.**

**For information regarding the Summer Camp for the children, organized by our  
Archdiocese, please click here. To download the application form click here.  
The awards for all students will be presented on June 15 after the Divine Liturgy.**

**Special thanks to the students and all the parents!**

**HAVE A BLESSED SUMMER!**

## **Eminescu Aniversary**

**On the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the passing into eternity of Mihai Eminescu (June 15, 1889), there will be a presentation about our national poet on Sunday, June 15, during the fellowship. A crown of flowers will be laid at Eminescu's statue in the church yard.**

## **SUMMER SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES**

**Due to the fact that Fr. George will be away, between July 2 -August 1, there will be some changes regarding our Church services.**

**The church will be open every Sunday and  
Fr. Deacon Severian will serve the Akathist at 10:00 AM.**

**For any emergency, please call Fr. Mircea at 780-456-7737.**

**Have a pleasant Summer!**

**The families in charge of the fellowship during the month of July have been rescheduled for October-November.**



**St. Philip  
Antiochian Orthodox Church  
15804 – 98 Avenue.  
Edmonton, AB.  
(780) 489 7943**

Presents

**"You Shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself"** (Luke 10: 27).

**A Two Day Conference: June 13 – 15, 2014.**

**Featuring:**

***The V. Rev. Fr. Patrick O'Grady***

Pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Antiochian Orthodox Church  
Pomona, California.



**Schedule:**

**Friday June 13:** 7:00 pm: Introduction.

**Saturday June 14:** 9:30 AM: Morning Prayer.

Session one: **OBEDIENCE**

Session Two: **REPENTANCE**

Session Three: **PRAYER**

**3:30 PM: Great Vespers.**

**7:00 pm - Young Adults/Youth chat session with Fr. Patrick.**

**Sunday June 15:** Matins: 9:45 AM.

Divine Liturgy: 11:00 AM. Fr. Patrick will deliver the Homily.

Lunch & Fellowship to follow Divine Liturgy.

**This fascinating retreat is open to all who desire to live a life of gladness.**

**Reservation is required prior to  
June 11, 2014.**

**Contact: Fr. Elias Ferzli: (780) 489 7943 / (780) 340 7865  
[frelias@telus.net](mailto:frelias@telus.net)**

**Cost: \$20.00** (Includes refreshments, meals and Sunday's lunch).

