

June 27, 2021: The 1st 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

We are live streaming the Liturgy

As we continue to operate under these restrictions, we are live streaming the Divine Liturgy on You Tube.

To access the Sunday Services, [click here.](#)

Saints Apostles Fast

**Between June 22 - 29 the Orthodox Church observes
Saints Peter and Paul Fast.**

Vespers on Saturday, June 26 at 6:00 PM.

MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Directors extends a warm appeal to all supporters of our parish, asking them to pay their membership as soon as possible.

This way we can ensure that we have the necessary funds to fulfill our financial obligations during the Summer months and for the rest of the year as well.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Sunday Service Attendance

Due to the continuing State of Emergency, and the recent measures imposed by the provincial authorities, the maximum number of people attending Church services is 20.

In order to give more people a chance to attend, we ask those who attended last Sunday, to skip this upcoming Sunday, establishing some sort of a rotation system. Also, only one person from the same family, please!

We apologize for this inconvenience and hope that the restrictions will continue to be relaxed in the near future.

Those who attend, are kindly asked to observe the recommendations of the experts, such as: wearing a mask, washing hands, social distancing, etc.

Thank you all and may God keep us safe!

The Word Magazine

The Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Canada will soon be launching the first issue of *the Word* magazine. Those who would like to be sponsors of this publication with \$100/year (or more) donation can do so by using one of these options:

Wire Transfer:

Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Canada
Royal Bank of Canada
Tranzit: 00541
Bank: 003
Account: 1044502

PayPal: [Click here](#)

Memo: Revista CUVÂNTUL

CHECK:

“Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Canada”
2010 Boul. Marie, Saint-Hubert (Quebec) J4T 2B1 Canada
Memo : Revista CUVÂNTUL

INTERACT(e-transfer):

email finances@episcopia.ca

For registration and confirmation visit: revista@episcopia.ca

Prayer at the time of pandemic

O Lord, our God, who are rich in mercy and, with Your wise care, guard our lives, listen to our prayer, receive our repentance for our sins, stop this pandemic, as You have ceased the punishment of the people in the days of King David. You who are the Physician of our souls and our bodies, give healing to those contaminated with this disease, hastily raising them from their bed of suffering, to glorify You, the Most Merciful Savior, and protect those who are healthy from any disease.

Bless, strengthen and shield, O Lord, with Your grace, all those who, with love of people and sacrifice, care for the sick at their homes or in hospitals. Remove all disease and suffering from the people and teach us to value life and health as gifts coming from You.

Grant us, O God, Your peace, and fill our hearts with unwavering faith in Your protection, with hope in Your help, and with love towards You and our neighbor.

For Yours is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we give glory: Father and Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen!