

HOLY TRINITY HERALD



September 2020, №18

<http://holytrinitymission.com/index.php/ru/>

<https://www.facebook.com/russian.church/>

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FROM FR. NIKON



Dear brothers and sisters!

The summer months are over and the fall is coming. Contrary to the poet's words, fall, especially early fall, in North Carolina is not a "dull time", but all the same - sunny and hot days of summer are still here. And today, I want to wish everyone just the same to be in your hearts, the summer light and a joyful mood, despite the difficult situation around. In the second half of August, we've celebrated a holiday - a Transfiguration of our Savior, which is a testimony and a covenant of God that and He is amongst us, that we are being transformed into new people for the life eternal. And let our personal transformation be harmonious: we will be able to discover new facets of our

hearts and our daily lives. After all, this is exactly what the whole complex situation in the world spells out for us.

Saint Abbot Alonius said: "If I had not turned everything upside down, I could not have build a building for your soul." And indeed, sometimes certain, even if negative, shake-up in our lives helps not to lose, but to gain. Now we have to respond to the changed realities of life: discover

new strengths in ourselves, realize our talents and gain new experience. Let this be mentioned - a new facet of our lives, leading us to well-being. However, to the well-being and joy of life's changes will lead us only when a new sounding of strings of the heart is added to them, striving for transformation. When will we understand what we need in the first place now is to remember how important support, care, love are for ourselves and our loved ones, mercy, sincerity, hope and faith! Of course, only through God it is truly possible. Peace, goodness, fortitude and strength to all. Prosperity to all. May the Blessing of the Trinity be with you! With love in the Lord, Hieromonk Nikon, rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity in Meban, NC.

With love in Christ,

Fr. Nikon, rector of the Holy Trinity Church in Mebane.

Address from Rector Fr. Nikon to the Holy Trinity parish:

Dear brothers and sisters! Over the past months, we have talked a lot about the current situation in the world related to the spread of a dangerous virus. We have talked about the real need for both sincere trust in the Lord and the extreme importance of taking possible precautions. Now, by the grace of God, we celebrate the Liturgy in the Church together with the parishioners, but we still urge those who prefer self-isolation to wisely refrain from going to Church. However, people who come to the temple should remember to be attentive to their health and the safety of others. We regularly clean and disinfect the Church, and we also expect prudence from the parishioners, especially during periods of increased virus activity.

THEREFORE, EVERYONE WHO COMES TO THE CHURCH MUST ATTEND THE DIVINE SERVICE IN A MASK OF INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION AND TRY TO KEEP A DISTANCE.

SEPTEMBER HOLIDAY CALENDAR

- **Sept 3rd.** Venerable Abramiah, miracle worker archimandrite, wonderworker of Smolensk (1220), and his disciple St. Ephraim (1238). Smolensk (XIII) <http://orthochristian.com/calendar/20200821.html>
- **Sept 8th:** Commemoration of the Meeting of the Vladimir Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos (1395) (the feast day was established in memory of the salvation of Moscow from the invasion of Tamerlane in 1395) <https://pravoslavie.ru/30636.html>
- **Sept 11th.** The Beheading of the Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John. One day fasting. Commemoration of Christian Orthodox soldiers perished on the battlefield <https://pravoslavie.ru/55998.html>
- **Sept 19th.** Miracle of the Archangel Michael <http://orthochristian.com/calendar/20200906.html>

- **Sept 21st:** The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. <https://foma.ru/20-sentyabrya-2013-rozhdestvo-bogorodicyi.html> (website is in Russian)
- **Sept 22nd:** Righteous Godfather Joachim and Anna. Venerable Joseph, Abbot Volotsky, wonderworker (1515) <https://www.pravmir.ru/ioakim-i-anna/>
- **Sept 27th:** Exaltation of the Holy Cross of the Lord. One-day Orthodox fast <https://azbyka.ru/days/prazdnik-vozdvizhenie-chestnogo-i-zhivotvorjashchego-kresta-> website is in Russian
- **Sept 30th:** Martyrs [Sophia](#) and her three daughters, [Faith \(Vera\)](#), [Hope \(Nadezhda\)](#), and [Love \(Lyubov\)](#), at Rome (ca. 137). <http://orthochristian.com/calendar/20200917.html>

MAIN HOLIDAYS IN AUGUST

The Russian Christian Orthodox Church's New Year begins on September 1, according to the old, Julian calendar. In a new, civilian style (also known as Gregorian), it is September 14th. Before Emperor Peter I in Russia the church's New Year coincided with the civil one.

Beheading of John the Baptist - Celebrated on September 11



"16 век, Греция. Афон, монастырь Дионисиат

In commemoration of the beheading of St. John the Baptist Church established a holiday and strict fasting as an expression of the sorrow of Christians about the violent death of the great Prophet.

The Gospels of Matthew (Matthew 14: 1-12) and Mark (Mk.6: 14-29) tell about the martyrdom of the Forerunner of the Lord in 32 the year after Christmas. However, the Holy Tradition of the Apostolic Church retained some details. these events that took place shortly

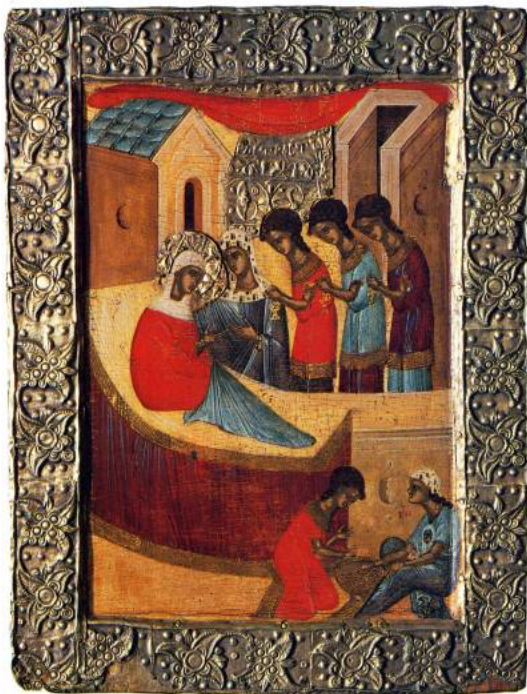
before the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ.

After the death of Herod the Great, the Romans divided the territory of Palestine into four parts and to each unit was appointed a ruler of their protege. Herod Antipas received from the emperor Augustus to rule Galileo. He had a legal wife, the daughter of the Arabian king Arefa. Herod left her and cohabited with Herodias, his brother's wife. Prophet John repeatedly denounced him, but the king did not dare to harm him, since he revered John the Baptist as prophet and feared the anger of the people. Yet Saint John the Baptist was thrown into prison by the king Herod (Luke

3, 19-20). On his birthday, Herod made a rich feast, where Salome danced in front of the guests, daughter of Herodias. She pleased Herod so much that he vowed before the guests to give her everything that she would ask. Salome went to her mother for advice. Herodias told her daughter to ask for a head St. John the Baptist. Herod was saddened: he was afraid of the wrath of God for the murder of the prophet, but couldn't break an unwary oath. John the Baptist was beheaded and the head itself was given to Salome. According to legend, the head continued denounce Herod and Herodias. Furious Herodias pierced the tongue of the prophet with a pin and buried head in an unclean place. But Joanna, the wife of the royal housekeeper Khuza, secretly took the saint's head, put it in a vessel and buried it on the Mount of Olives, in one of Herod's estates. The body of Saint John the Baptist was taken by his disciples and was buried by them.

Also recommended: <https://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints?contentid=182>

Nativity of the Mother of God, The Holy Theotokos - September 21



Конец XIV в. Из Покровского монастыря в Суздале.

Государственный Русский музей, Санкт-Петербург, Россия

incarnated God.

This is the first of the twelve feasts of the church throughout the year and is dedicated to the most important event: the birth of the Virgin, The Mother of God, The Holy Theotokos in the family of the righteous Joachim and Anna. According to Church Tradition, Joachim came from a noble king's family, Anna - from the high priest's one. They were pious, but childless. This time was very special in life of the "chosen people."

The prophets announced that the Messiah would come from the king's circle. All the descendants of King David lived in the hope of giving birth Savior. Infertile families were considered deprived of God's blessing. They were treated with contempt and ridicule. Joachim and Anna prayed fervently for the birth of a child and with humility endured their childlessness. For their fervent prayers, humility. Divine will, love full of chastity and piety Lord gave them great joy. Born from them the young Lady became the Mother of the

Saint John Damascene writes that "the day of the Nativity of the Virgin is a feast of the world's joy, because by the Mother of God, the whole human race was renewed and the sadness of the foremother Eve changed into joyfulness."

Troparion of the nativity of the virgin voice 4

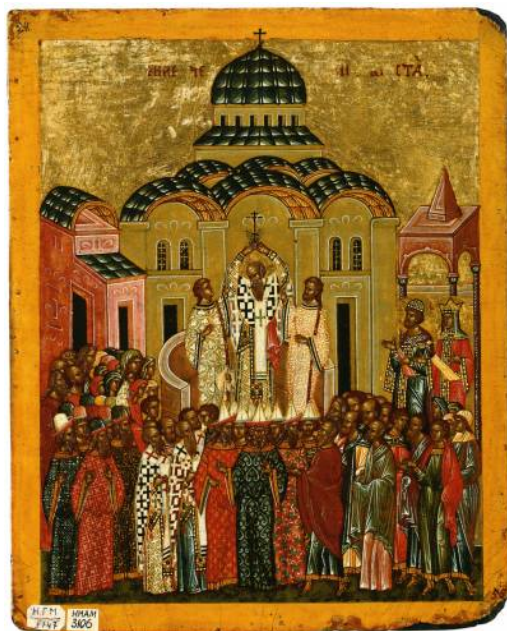
Thy birth, O Mother of God, has brought joy to all the world; for from thee arose the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, Who, having dissolved the curse, has given His blessing, and having abolished death, has granted us life eternal.

Also recommended:

<https://www.pravmir.ru/21-sentyabrya-rozhdestvo-presvyatoj-bogorodicy/>

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2014/09/08/102541-the-nativity-of-our-most-holy-lady-the-mother-of-god-and-ever-vi>

Exaltation of the Cross of the Lord - Celebrated on September 27



"Конец XV — начало XVI вв. Новгородский гос. историко-архитектурный и художественный музей-заповедник, Новгород, Россия

This holiday is based on a historical event: the acquisition of the Equal-to-the-Apostles Tzarina Elena, mother Equal-to-the Apostles Tzar Constantine, the True Cross, on which Jesus Christ was crucified. Romans changed beyond recognition the place of the crucifixion and burial site of the Savior, having filled it up with dirt and building a pagan temple. After some careful excavations there were found three crosses and separately - a plaque with an inscription that was attached to the Cross of The Savior. The cross on which Jesus Christ is crucified was identified after a woman was healed from a serious illness and after the resurrection of the deceased. Both miracles happened after laying on the Cross.

Multitude of people gathered near Calvary wanted see the Cross. Patriarch Makarius raised it three times from high place. People reverently bowed to the Cross of the Lord. This was the beginning of the holiday. It happened

in 326. In memory of this event at the all-night vigil on the eve of the holiday from the altar to the middle of the church. The holy and lifegiving Cross of Christ is brought out for worship. In the chants of the holiday remember not only the acquisition of the cross in the IVth century, but also the death of the Savior on the cross. In remembrance of the sufferings of Christ on the day of the holiday, a one-day fast was established.

Save, Lord, Thy people and bless Thy inheritance, giving victories to resisting, and Thy preserving your residence by the Cross. Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thy inheritance, (Orthodox Christians) granting victory over enemies and Thy Cross, preserving Thy people.

Also recommended:

<https://www.pravmir.ru/vozdvizhenie-kresta-gospodnya-istoriya-ikony-molitvy-propovedi-video/>
<https://www.goarch.org/exaltation>

MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, LADY THEOTOKOS IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE

To Mother of God by Mikhail Yurievich Lermontov, 1837

Faithful before thee, Mother of God, now
kneeling,
Image miraculous and merciful--of thee
Not for my soul's health nor battles waged,
beseeching,
Nor yet with thanks or penitence
o'erwhelming me!

Not for myself,--my heart with guilt
o'erflowing--
Who in my home land e'er a stranger has
remained,
No, a sinless child upon thy mercy throwing,
That thou protect her innocence unstained!

Worthy the highest bliss, with happiness O
bless her!
Grant her a friend to stand unchanging at her
side,
A youth of sunshine and an old age tranquil,
A spirit where together peace and hope abide.

Then, when strikes the hour her way from
earth for wending,
Let her heart break at dawning or at dead of
night--
From out thy highest heaven, thy fairest angel
sending
The fairest of all souls sustain in heavenward
flight!

Glory to the Mother of God by Maximilian Voloshin, Koktebel Crimea November 27 1919

*The secret of mysteries is incomprehensible
The depths of the depths are boundless,
The height is impenetrable!
The joy of earthly joy,
An invincible celebration.
Angelic dorian
Over native land*

*Burning Bush!
The most honest cherubim of all,
Without comparison, the most glorious
Fire gleaming seraphim
The purifier is clean!
Mistress all-blameless
Kind of without the corruption of God*

*Unsettling star
Rejoice, O gracious one!
You are prayer moisture dewy
Life-giving water!
Guarded by angels
The color of the earth is unfading
Dissolved dust with radiance,
Virginly calcined clay,
The flesh born to shine
A creature ascended to God,
Ever-virgin mother!
You are the cover of created nature,
Light in the darkness, dawn flame,
Guiding pillar!
In the terrible hour, when above us
Over forgotten coffins
The trumpet will blow
In the great hour, in the hour of retribution,
In the bitter hour when the constellations
They will fall from the sky
And the land between the worlds
Erupting in flames
Will appear at the judgment
In the hour when all flesh awakens
The womb of death will shudder
The sun will turn black)
And how the book unfolds*

*The sky in two
And the abyss will open
And the voice of the Son will be heard:
Oh, stubborn tribe!
I knocked - you didn't open,
Thirsty - you did not drink,
I was hungry - not fed,
I was naked - you weren't wearing ...
And then you will answer:
I dressed, I fed,
Dissolve the loins of God,
She covered the poor spirit with flesh,
The sun of the world has sheltered
In the womb of darkness ...
At the last hour in the pitch darkness,
Over your sinful land,
You will spread the boards:
Above all who are
Who is in glory at the right hand,
The lamb is coming
So that not a single one disappears
A lump of clay pierced by the spirit,
Without withdrawal forever
And hold the hand of the Son
From the last curse
Irrevocable Court.*

PARISH LIFE

We inform you that we are resuming all the evening services on Saturdays, the day before Sunday Liturgy, beginning of the evening service is at 5pm.

Every Sunday service, as before, is broadcast live on facebook: facebook.com/russian.church (the broadcast starts at 10 o'clock).

Notes on the health and commemoration of the deceased can be sent to Father Nikon by e-mail: rector@holytrinitymission.com.

Our Parish has its own YouTube channel now, where Father Nikon will spotlight events from the life of the Parish, will respond to some questions on current topics and, most importantly, will introduce the faithful with an amazing and joyful world of Christian Orthodoxy and the Church of Christ. Link: <https://youtu.be/qPPzx8PtcxI>

Please make sure to subscribe to the channel and click on the “bell”, so you don't miss the next broadcast events. Also please share the publication in many of today's social networks.

More complete and up-to-date information about **the life of our church** will be constantly updated on the website of our parish and on Facebook: holytrinitymission.com ; facebook.com/russian.church

SISTERHOOD ST. TATIANA

We sincerely thank all the sisters who helped to maintain in the church and church's territory. I would like to highlight Irina and Lyubov help during these past two months. They came every Saturday to the church, were doing some needed cleaning and disinfecting, took good care of flowers and plants.

Sisterhood membership application can be obtained at the church shop or at: sisterhood@holytrinitymission.com

PRAYERS NEEDED

We pray for doctors. Congregational prayer for doctors, health workers and volunteers working with coronavirus infection <https://www.sthermansoca.org/resources/coronavirus-prayer/>

We pray for the people of Belarus, who are going through difficult times now. Our prayer is certainly not of any kind of political action, a friendship gesture to whichever side of the conflict, but is a sincere and an ardent appeal to God for the creation of love, peace and prosperity in our brotherly country.

THANK YOU

Special thanks to the choir of our church, which, despite the difficult situation, always one way or another gets to the temple in order to make each service especially joyful and celebratory.

Our sincere gratitude to parishioners who help maintain order in the church and its grounds.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We ask you to support the church with prayer to God and with donations. You can send your donations: 1. A Check written to the address of the church: Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 6803 US 70, Mebane, NC 27302

2. Online through PayPal, find the “Donate” link in the upper right corner of our website:

holytrinitymission.com

3. Via AmazonSmile when shopping on Amazon. To do this, on the site smile.amazon.com in charity support you can choose the Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Mebane NC. A small percentage of the purchase payment will be automatically transferred (donated).

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Consecration of fruits on Sunday for the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord!

PARISHIONERS RECOMMEND



Dear Friends, for those who are despite the difficult times of the pandemic are still ready to travel while observing SES requirements, I would like to give advice about a wonderful place on west coast of Florida, the side of a peninsula whose shores are washed with warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The name of this place is Tarpon Springs, a small town north of Tampa. This settlement was developed about a hundred years ago. Greek immigrants who came here in search of a better life have settled here. These people mostly were engaged in the extraction of sponges from the gulf's bottom, which still does grow in abundance here.

Here, in addition to a friendly and relaxed atmosphere, are some wonderful tavern style restaurants and souvenir shops and kiosks, is an amazing place: a Christian Orthodox shrine - the Chapel of St. Archangel Michael, built 79 years ago by the parents of an eleven-year-old boy on the territory of your own home. The boy then became seriously ill. More than 15 outstanding doctors and professors looked at him, but no one could diagnose the disease. Day after day went on without any improvement. Every day the boy was losing weight, did not eat, did not speak and did not recognize anyone. Having already fallen into a coma, he one of a sudden asked to bring him an icon of the Archangel Michael. The boy held the icon in his hands, put it on his chest and said that the Archangel wants for a Chapel to be built here. The boy miraculously healed quickly thereafter, and the promised construction of the Chapel was subsequently carried out. Since then many people came here with their prayers and many were blessed. The Chapel is always open, the faithful are welcome here and all those who want to visit this Holy place or sit next to it on the street and pray.

Recommended links:

<https://www.stmichaelacademy.org/theo/shrine.html>

<https://usa.greekreporter.com/2018/12/30/the-miraculous-story-of-st-michaels-shrine-in-tarpon-springs->