The Great Martyr and Healer, Saint Panteleimon

was born in the city of Nicomedia into the family of the illustrious pagan Eustorgius, and he was named Pantoleon. His mother Saint Euboula was a Christian. She wanted to raise her son in the Christian Faith, but she died when the future martyr was just a young child. His father sent Pantoleon to a pagan school, after which the young man studied medicine at Nicomedia under the renowned physician Euphrosynus. Pantoleon came to the attention of the emperor Maximian (284-305), who wished to appoint him as royal physician when he finished his schooling. The hieromartyrs Hermolaus, Hermippus and Hermocrates, survivors of the massacre of 20,000 Christians in the year 303, were living secretly in Nicomedia at that time. Saint Hermolaus saw Pantoleon time and again when he came to the house where they were hiding. Once, the priest invited the youth to the house and spoke about the Christian Faith. After this Pantoleon visited Saint Hermolaus every day.

One day the saint found a dead child on the street. He had been bitten by a great snake, which was still beside the child’s body. Pantoleon began to pray to the Lord Jesus Christ to revive the dead child and to destroy the venomous reptile. He firmly resolved that if his prayer were fulfilled, he would become a follower of Christ and receive Baptism. The child rose up alive, and the snake died before Pantoleon’s eyes. After this miracle, Pantoleon was baptized by Saint Hermolaus with the name Panteleimon (meaning “all-merciful”). Speaking with Eustorgius, Saint Panteleimon prepared him to accept Christianity. When the father saw how his son healed a blind man by invoking Jesus Christ, he then believed in Christ and was baptized by Saint Hermolaus together with the man whose sight was restored.

After the death of his father, Saint Panteleimon dedicated his life to the suffering, the sick, the unfortunate and the needy. He treated all those who turned to him without charge, healing them in the name of Jesus Christ. He visited those held captive in prison. These were usually Christians, and he healed them of their wounds. In a short time, reports of the charitable physician spread throughout the city. Forsaking the other doctors, the inhabitants began to turn only to Saint Panteleimon. The envious doctors told the emperor that Saint Panteleimon was healing Christian prisoners. Maximian urged the saint to refute the charge by offering sacrifice to idols. Saint Panteleimon confessed himself a Christian, and suggested that a sick person, for whom the doctors held out no hope, should be brought before the emperor. Then the doctors could invoke their gods, and Panteleimon would pray to his God to heal the man. A man paralyzed for many years was brought in, and pagan priests who knew the art of medicine invoked their gods without success. Then, before the very eyes of the emperor, the saint healed the paralytic by calling on the name of Jesus Christ. The ferocious Maximian executed the healed man, and gave Saint Panteleimon over to fierce torture.

~~ read “the rest of the story!” ~~

July 27, 2014
Two-Week Parish Schedule

TODAY
9:45 a.m.  Reading of the Hours
10:00 a.m.  Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.  Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Bishop Michael hosts a picnic for the clergy families of our New York State Deanery at Saint Nicholas Church in Auburn NY.

Wednesday -- July 30, 2014
7:15 a.m.  Daily Matins
followed by a light breakfast

Saturday -- August 2, 2014
6:00 p.m.  Great Vespers
6:45 p.m.  General Confession

Sunday -- August 3, 2014
9:45 a.m.  Reading of the Hours
10:00 a.m.  Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.  Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Tuesday -- August 5, 2014
Eve of the Feast-Day of Our Lord’s Transfiguration
6:30 p.m.  Vesperal Divine Liturgy
To receive the Eucharist (Holy Communion) you should begin fasting from food/drink no later than 1:00 p.m. today.

Wednesday -- August 6, 2014
Feast-Day of Our Lord’s Transfiguration
7:15 a.m.  Daily Matins
followed by a light breakfast

Saturday -- August 9, 2014
6:00 p.m.  Great Vespers
6:45 p.m.  Confessions

Sunday -- August 10, 2014
9:45 a.m.  Reading of the Hours
10:00 a.m.  Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.  Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Parish Council Meeting this week
TUESDAY, 29 July at 7:00 p.m.
in the Parish Resource Center

Birthdays & Anniversaries this week and last . . .
- Joseph Guszcza (July 21)
- Brigid Lynne McNulty (July 23)
- Larry Dunn (July 24)
- Albert “Butch” Joseph, III (July 27)
- Claudia Gwenfrewi Cowling (July 29)
- David Fletcher (July 29)
- Naomi Zerom Hayle (July 29)
- Faith Athanasia Keller (July 31)
- Waita Hailemariam (July 31)
- Endrias Negussie (August 2)
- Cindy & Greg Lane (July 22)

God grant you many years!

Have you seen our NEW parish website?
SaintJohnOrthodox.org

Have you visited the diocesan website recently?
nynjoca.org

What are you waiting for? (“click” now!)

“Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.” ~Saint Paul