

**Russian Orthodox Church of the
Resurrection of Christ**

1201 Hathaway Lane NE
Minneapolis, MN 55432-5720
Phone: 763-574-1001 / Fax 763-574-7560
web site: www.skete.info/ email: rusmncn@att.net

Schedule for the Week of December 13 - 19, 2009

Sunday Dec 13	St. Andrew the First-Called
Saturday Dec 19	5:30 PM Vigil
Sunday Dec 20	St. Ambrose 8:30 AM Confessions, Nocturns 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия

Мы нашли Мессии

Слова Первозванного апостола «Мы нашли», раздавшиеся на берегу Геннисаретского озера, приводят на память одно другое «я нашел», которое много веков до того пришло в мир на набережной Сицилии.

Это «Эвика! Я нашел!» Архимеда, который вне себя от радости ходил узкими улочками Сиракуз, оглашая обретение решения одной из проблем физики.

Андрей, однако, не вне себя, но со священным страхом возвещает своему брату Петру и другим своим братьям во всех веках, что «мы нашли» решение всех проблем нашей жизни. Мессию Христа!

И эту весть он посылает сегодня с Патрского побережья и с хобразного креста своего страдания – до пределов Мира. «Мы нашли Мессию!»

Путь, и Истину, и Жизнь. (К. Куркулас, греческий писатель)

**Святитель Николай,
Архиепископ мир Ликийских**

С детских лет св. Николай преуспевал в изучении Святого Писания; днем он не выходил из храма, а ночью молился и читал книги. Дядя его, еп. Патарский Николай, радуясь духовным успехам и высокому благочестию племянника, поставил его во чтеца, а затем возвел Николая в сан священника. Служа Господу, юноша горел духом, а опытностью в вопросах веры был подобен старцу, чем вызывал удивление и глубокое уважение верующих.

После смерти архиеп. Иоанна Николай был избран епископом Мир Ликийских. Во время гонений императора Диоклетиана (284-305) св. Николай вместе с другими христианами попал в темницу, где поддерживал заключенных и увещевал их твердо переносить пытки и мучения. По воцарении равноап. Императора Константина святытель был освобожден.

Много чудес и добрых дел совершил св. Николай: по его молитвам г. Миры был спасен от тяжелого голода; святой избавил от смерти трех неправедно осужденных мужей; не раз молитвами Николай спасал утопающих в море.

Скончался свт. Николай ок. 345-351 гг.

Christmas Donation

*Please consider a donation to the Church for
decorating for the Feast of Christ's Nativity:*

From: _____

In Honor/Memory of: _____

Thank You!

**Apostle Andrew, the Holy and All-Praised
First-Called**

The Holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called was the first of the Apostles to follow Christ, and he later brought his own brother, the holy Apostle Peter, to Christ (John 1:35-42). The future apostle was from Bethsaida, and from his youth he turned with all his soul to God. He did not enter into marriage, and he worked with his brother as a fisherman. When the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John began to preach, St Andrew became his closest disciple. St John the Baptist himself sent to Christ his own two disciples, the future Apostles

Andrew and John the Theologian, declaring Christ to be the Lamb of God.

After the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, St Andrew went to the Eastern lands preaching the Word of God. He went through Asia Minor, Thrace, Macedonia, he reached the River Danube, went along the coast of the Black Sea, through Crimea, the Black Sea region and along the River Dniepr he climbed to the place where the city of Kiev now stands.

He stopped overnight on the hills of Kiev. Rising in the morning, he said to those disciples that were with him: "See these hills? Upon these hills shall shine forth the beneficence of God, and there will be a great city here, and God shall raise up many churches." The apostle went up around the hills, blessed them and set up a cross. Having prayed, he went up even further along the Dniepr and reached a settlement of the Slavs, where Novgorod was built. From here the apostle went through the land of the Varangians towards Rome for preaching, and again he returned to Thrace, where in the small village of Byzantium, the future Constantinople, he founded the Church of Christ. The name of the holy Apostle Andrew links the mother, the Church of Constantinople, with her daughter, the Russian Church.

On his journeys the First-Called Apostle endured many sufferings and torments from pagans: they cast him out of their cities and they beat him. In Sinope they pelted him with stones, but remaining unharmed, the persistent disciple of Christ continued to preach to people about the Savior. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the Lord worked miracles. By the labors of the holy Apostle Andrew, Christian Churches were established, for which he provided bishops and clergy. The final city to which the Apostle came was the city of Patra, where he was destined to suffer martyrdom.

The Lord worked many miracles through His disciple in Patra. The infirm were made whole, and the blind received their sight. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the illustrious citizen Sosios recovered from serious illness; he healed Maximilla, wife of the governor of Patra, and his brother Stratokles. The miracles accomplished by the Apostle and his fiery speech enlightened almost all the citizens of the city of Patra with the true Faith.

Few pagans remained at Patra, but among them was the prefect of the city, Aegeatos. The Apostle Andrew repeatedly turned to him with the words of the Gospel. But even the miracles of the Apostle did not convince Aegeatos. The holy Apostle with love and humility appealed to his soul, striving to reveal to him the Christian mystery of life eternal, through the

wonderworking power of the Holy Cross of the Lord. The angry Aegeatos gave orders to crucify the apostle. The pagan thought he might undo St Andrew's preaching if he were to put him to death on the cross.

St Andrew the First-Called accepted the decision of the prefect with joy and with prayer to the Lord, and went willingly to the place of execution. In order to prolong the suffering of the saint, Aegeatos gave orders not to nail the saint's hands and feet, but to tie them to the cross. For two days the apostle taught the citizens who gathered about. The people, in listening to him, with all their souls pitied him and tried to take St Andrew down from the cross. Fearing a riot of the people, Aegeatos gave orders to stop the execution. But the holy apostle began to pray that the Lord would grant him death on the cross. Just as the soldiers tried to take hold of the Apostle Andrew, they lost control of their hands. The crucified apostle, having given glory to God, said: "Lord Jesus Christ, receive my spirit." Then a blazing ray of divine light illumined the cross and the martyr crucified upon it. When the light faded, the holy Apostle Andrew had already given up his holy soul to the Lord. Maximilla, the wife of the prefect, had the body of the saint taken down from the cross, and buried him with honor.

A few centuries later, under the emperor Constantine the Great, the relics of the holy Apostle Andrew were solemnly transferred to Constantinople and placed in the church of the Holy Apostles beside the relics of the holy Evangelist Luke and St Paul's disciple St Timothy.
(From the Synaxarion)

Апостол Андрей

К русским племенам дошел самовидец Христа – апостол Андрей. Водрузил на Киевских горах крест и благодатию Святого Духа сказал слово сильное и неложное: «На этих горах воссияет благодать Божия».

Апостол Андрей сказал слово – семя посеял. Но сколько времени трудился Господь, чтобы семя прозябло, трудился Сам, неведомо и незримо, во мраке языческого жестокого мира, среди избранных людей. Об этом молчит история.
(Архим. Иоанн Крестьянкин)