



Sunday, June 23

Bilingual Liturgy

*Sunday of All Saints
Agrippina the Martyr of Rome*

First Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless His holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all that He
has done for you.

The Lord in heaven has
prepared His throne, and
His kingdom rules over
all.

Second Antiphon

Praise the Lord, O my soul; I
will praise the Lord in my
life; I will chant unto my
God for as long as I have
my being.

Blessed is He of whom the
God of Jacob is his help,
whose hope is in the Lord
his God.

The Lord shall be King unto
eternity; your God, O
Zion, from generation
to generation.

Third Antiphon

This is the day the Lord has
made; let us rejoice and
be glad in it.

Let the heavens and the earth
praise Him.

HYMNS AT THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Resurrection Apolytikion

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Descending from on high O compassionate one, to free us all from our iniquities. Humbling Yourself by dwelling three days in the tomb, our life and resurrection. Lord, Glory to You.

Apolytikion for the Sunday of All Saints

Τῶν ἐν ὄλῳ τῷ κόσμῳ Μαρτύρων σου, ὡς πορφύραν καὶ βύσσον τὰ αἵματα, ἡ Ἐκκλησία σου στολισαμένη, δι' αὐτῶν βοᾷ σοι: Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, τῷ λαῷ σου τοὺς οἰκτιρμοὺς σου κατὰπεμψον, εἰρήνην τῇ πολιτείᾳ σου δώρησαι, καὶ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Your Church has adorned Herself with the blood of all martyrs as if it were purple and fine linen through them we cry out to You Christ the God: Send Your mercy down to Your people grant peace to Your commonwealth and to our souls grant great mercy.

Troparion of Saint Sophia (Holy Wisdom)

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας, καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας, φιλόανθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Blessed are You O Christ our God, Who as all wise the fishermen You showed forth; By sending your Holy Spirit down upon them and through them the universe You drew unto Your net. O lover of mankind glory to You.

Kondakion

Ὡς ἀπαρχὰς τῆς φύσεως, τῷ φυτουργῷ τῆς κτίσεως, ἡ οἰκουμένη προσφέρει σοι Κύριε, τοὺς θεοφόρους Μάρτυρας ταῖς αὐτῶν ἰεσiais, ἐν εἰρήνῃ βαθείᾳ, τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν σου, διὰ τῆς Θεοτόκου συντήρησον, πολυέλεε.

The universe offers to You Lord Your God bearing martyrs as the first fruits of nature to the planter of creation, through their entreaties and through the Theotokos preserve Your Church in peace most merciful One.

Communion Hymn

Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, δίκαιοι, ἐν Κυρίῳ· τοῖς εὐθέσι πρέπει αἴνεσις. Ἀλληλοῦῖα.

Rejoice greatly in the Lord, all ye righteous; praise belongs to the upright. Alleluia.

SAINT SOPHIA CATHEDRAL

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V. Rev. Father John S. Bakas

Dean

Rev. Fr. Chris Kolentsas

Assistant Priest

Scripture Reading

Faith comes by hearing...

Epistle Reader: John Boudouvas

Priest: Let Us Attend...

Reader: God is wonderful among his saints...bless God in the congregations.

Priest: Wisdom.

Reader: The Reading is from Saint Paul's letter to the Hebrews (11:33-40; 12:1-2)

Priest: Let us be attentive...

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW (10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30)

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him 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 me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, 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 children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."



FOUR MYTHS ABOUT THE CRUSADES

Concluded — Paul Cranford Myth

#4: The crusades taught Muslims to hate and attack Christians.

Continued from previous Sunday

Bin Laden's conception of history is a feverish fantasy. He is no more accurate in his view about the crusades than he is about the supposed perfect Islamic unity which he thinks Islam enjoyed before the baleful influence of Christianity intruded. But the irony is that he, and those millions of Muslims who accept his message, received that message originally from their perceived enemies: the West.

So it was not the crusades that taught Islam to attack and hate Christians. Far from it. Those activities had preceded the crusades by a very long time, and stretch back to the inception of Islam. Rather, it was the West which taught Islam to hate the crusades. The irony is rich.

Back to the Present

Let us return to President Clinton's Georgetown speech. How much of his reference to the First Crusade was accurate?

It is true that many Muslims who had surrendered and taken refuge under the banners of several of the crusader lords, an act which should have granted them quarter, were massacred by out-of-control troops. This was apparently an act of indiscipline, and the crusader lords in question are generally reported as having been extremely angry about it, since they knew it reflected badly on them. To imply or plainly state that this was an act desired by the entire crusader force, or that it was integral to crusading, is misleading at best. In any case, John France has put it well: "This notorious event should not be exaggerated. . . . However horrible the massacre . . . it was not far beyond what common practice of the day meted out to any place which resisted." And given space, one could append a long and bloody list, stretching back to the seventh century, of similar actions where Muslims were the aggressors and Christians the victims. Such a list would not, however, have served Mr. Clinton's purposes.

Mr. Clinton was probably using Raymond of Aguilers when he referred to "blood running up to [the] knees" of crusaders. But the physics of such a claim are impossible, as should be apparent. Raymond was plainly both bragging and also invoking the imagery of the Old Testament and the Book of Revelation. He was not offering a factual account, and probably did not intend the statement to be taken as such.

As for whether or not we are "still paying for it," see Myth #4, above. This is the most serious misstatement of the whole passage. What we are paying for is not the First Crusade, but western distortions of the crusades in the nineteenth century which were taught to, and taken up by, an insufficiently critical Muslim world.

The problems with Mr. Clinton's remarks indicate the pitfalls that await those who would attempt to explicate ancient or medieval texts without adequate historical awareness, and they illustrate very well what happens when one sets out to pick through the historical record for bits distorted or merely selectively presented which support one's current political agenda. This sort of abuse of history has been distressingly familiar where the crusades are concerned.

But nothing is served by distorting the past for our own purposes. Or rather: a great many things may be served . . . but not the truth. Distortions and misrepresentations of the crusades will not help us understand the challenge posed to the West by a militant and resurgent Islam, and failure to understand that challenge could prove deadly. Indeed, it already has. It may take a very long time to set the record straight about the crusades. It is long past time to begin the task.

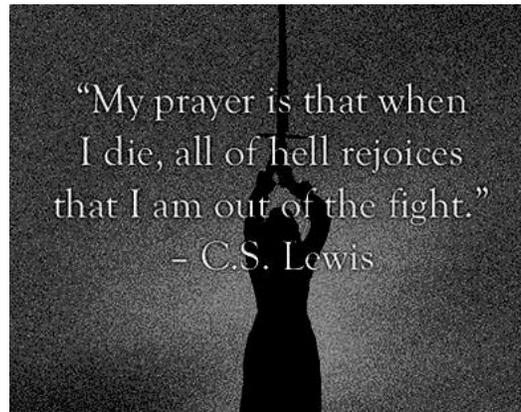
GUARDED SOULS

Athanasius

Let us dwell on the fact that while the Lord is with us, our enemies can't hurt us. When they approach us, they conform to the state they find us in. They adapt their delusions to the condition of our minds. Therefore, if they find us timid and confused, they will attack us like robbers, finding our minds unguarded. They think of us as we think about ourselves. For if they find us to be weak and cowardly, they increase our terror by delusions and threats; the unhappy souls are then tormented by these things. But if they see us rejoicing in the Lord, contemplating future bliss, mindful of the Lord, regarding all things to be in His hand, and knowing that no evil spirit has any strength against Christians, nor power over anyone-our enemies are defeated and turned backwards by the strength of these thoughts. Seeing Job fortified in this way, the enemy withdrew from him. But finding Judas unguarded, the enemy took him captive. Therefore, if we want to look down on the enemy, we must always think about the things of the Lord. Our souls must always rejoice in hope. Then we will see that the devil's snares are like smoke and the evil ones will flee rather than pursue us.

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

-Romans 8:6-



"My prayer is that when
I die, all of hell rejoices
that I am out of the fight."
- C.S. Lewis

The Mission of Saint Sophia Cathedral

- 1. Proclaim and teach the Gospel according to the Orthodox Christian Faith*
- 2. Sanctify and enhance the spiritual life of the faithful through Orthodox Christian worship.*
- 3. Receive persons into the Church through instruction, baptism and/or chrismation.*

UPCOMING SERVICES



Sunday, June 23

8:45 am — Orthros

10:00 am — *Divine Liturgy*

Monday, June 24

Nativity of the Forerunner John the Baptist

9:00 am — Orthros

10:00 am — Divine Liturgy

