

Protection Con't

miraculous deliverance followed an all-night Vigil and the dipping of the garment of the Mother of God into the waters of the sea at the Blachernae church, but does not mention Saints Andrew and Epiphanius and their vision of the Mother of God at prayer. These latter elements, and the beginnings of the celebrating of the Feast of the Protection, seem to postdate Saint Nestor and the Chronicle. A further historical complication might be noted under (October 2) dating Saint Andrew's death to the year 936.

The year of death might not be quite reliable, or the assertion that he survived to a ripe old age after the vision of his youth, or that his vision involved some later pagan Russian raid which met with the same fate. The suggestion that Saint Andrew was a Slav (or a Scythian according to other sources, such as S. V. Bulgakov) is interesting, but not necessarily accurate. The extent of Slavic expansion and repopulation into Greece is the topic of scholarly disputes.

In the PROLOGUE, a Russian book of the twelfth century, a description of the establishment of the special Feast marking this event states, "For when we heard, we realized how wondrous and merciful was the vision... and it transpired that Your holy Protection should not remain without festal celebration, O Ever-Blessed One!"

Therefore, in the festal celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, the Russian Church sings, "With the choirs of the Angels, O Sovereign Lady, with the venerable and glorious prophets, with the First-Ranked Apostles and with the Hieromartyrs and Hierarchs, pray for us sinners, glorifying the Feast of your Protection in the Russian Land." Moreover, it would seem that Saint Andrew, contemplating the miraculous vision was a Slav, was taken captive, and became the slave of the local inhabitant of Constantinople named Theognostus.

Churches in honor of the Protection of the Mother of God began to appear in Russia in the twelfth century. Widely known for its architectural merit is the temple of the Protection at Nerl, which was built in the year 1165 by holy Prince Andrew Bogoliubsky. The efforts of this holy prince also established in the Russian Church the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God, about the year 1164.

At Novgorod in the twelfth century there was a monastery of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (the so-called Zverin monastery) In Moscow also under Tsar Ivan the Terrible the cathedral of the Protection of the Mother of God was built at the church of the Holy Trinity (known as the church of Saint Basil the Blessed). On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, "Remember us in your prayers, O Lady Virgin Mother of God, that we not perish by the increase of our sins. Protect us from every evil and from grievous woes, for in you do we hope, and venerating the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you."

Humility
is not thinking less of
YOURSELF,
but thinking of yourself
LESS.
C.S. Lewis

Hebrews 9:1-7 (Epistle, Theotokos)

Then indeed, even the first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary. For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary; and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing the services. But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance;

Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (Gospel, Theotokos)

Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!" But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

EVENTS FROM OUR DIOCESAN WEBSITE

Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit to perform benefit concert October 6

The Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit will perform its seventh annual benefit concert at Saint Lazarus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral, 4575 East Outer Drive, Detroit at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 6, 2017. With the theme “Come Let Us Worship,” the concert program will consist of hymns and liturgical pieces representing a variety of Orthodox Christian traditions.

The choir, which is composed of over 40 volunteer singers from several Orthodox Christian parishes in southeastern Michigan, is directed by Matushka Victoria Kopistiansky, Choir Director at Detroit’s Holy Trinity Church [OCA].

Sponsored by the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit [COCC], in partnership with Cass Community Social Services, the concert will support charitable endeavors provided across the region by the respective organizations.

The concert is open to the public. Tickets are \$20.00 in advance and at the door. For advance tickets, contact COCC President Olga Liskiwsycki at 248-252-8184 or Olgaliss0910@gmail.com, or call Saint Lazarus Cathedral at 313-893-6025.

COCC is a 59-year-old clergy and lay association that represents various canonical Orthodox churches in metropolitan Detroit and sponsors a variety of worship, fellowship, charitable, educational and outreach programs. This year’s concert will open the COCC’s 60th anniversary year.

Chicago Synergy announces 2017 annual Symposium October 21

Dr. Jeannie Constantinou will be the keynote speaker at Synergy’s 2017 annual Symposium at Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL from 9:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 21, 2017.

The symposium theme is “Search the Scriptures.” Dr. Constantinou will offer practical advice for reading the Bible with confidence and Patristic advice for reading the Bible as Sacrament.

A graduate of the University of San Diego, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and Harvard Divinity School, Dr. Constantinou is the author of two books and numerous articles and hosts a popular podcast, “Search the Scriptures,” on Ancient Faith Radio.

PHOTO'S FROM DEDICATION & BLESSING OF THE NEW VOLLEYBALL COURT HERE IN JAMES PARK, MARBLEHEAD



The Mayor presenting a proclamation to Tim Heffernan. It was Tim’s class that got this project started. Great Job!



Following the dedication, Fr. Andrew blessed the new volleyball court! He prayed that all that use it remain safe. On hand were members of the Air Force & Coast Guard!

