





## THE HOLY MARTYR SEBASTIANA

**I**n the early Church, many women distinguished themselves by bravely refusing to renounce their belief in Christ despite the threat of persecution, torture and death. One such person was the Holy Martyr Sebastiana. Sebastiana was a follower of St. Paul, receiving her Christian training from this famous Apostle to the Gentiles. Several years after Paul's own martyrdom, another period of persecution against Christians was unleashed by the Emperor Dometian. Sebastiana was arrested and brought before the governor in the city of Marcianopolis to answer for her "crime" of professing her faith in Jesus Christ.

Given the opportunity to forsake her Savior, Sebastiana remained steadfast in her convictions. She was subjected to barbaric tortures -- she was even thrown into a red-hot oven. Miraculously, she was unharmed! Sebastiana was then taken to the city of Heraklea, where additional punishment was ordered. Amazingly, nothing seemed to harm her. Finally, Sebastiana suffered martyrdom by beheading. Pompian, the governor of that region, ordered her body to be tossed into the sea. According to a tradition of the Church, her earthly remains were recovered by angels, who took her sacred body to the island of Rhodes for burial.

The Holy Martyr Sebastiana is a shining example for all of us. We, too, must be willing to sacrifice everything -- even our very lives -- for our beloved Lord, Jesus Christ.

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin* . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.



## ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South*

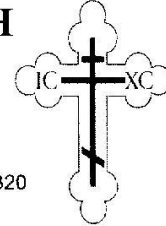
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Please Visit: **www: straphaelchurch.org** Church: 352-201-1320

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**SUNDAY, OCT. 24, 2021 - 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 1.**  
**Martyr Arethas and 4,299 Martyrs with him (523).**

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK	<i>Please join us after Divine Liturgy for a Coffee Fellowship in Myrrhbearers Hall Confessions - Ask Fr. Sergious for a time</i>	DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS
Sat: Great Vespers 4:00 PM		Mon: Philippians 1:1-7, Luke 10:22-24
Sun: Reading of The Hours 9:45 AM		Tue: Isaiah 63:15-64:5; 8-9, Jeremiah 2:2-12, Solomon 4:7-15, Matthew 8:23-27; 10:16-22, Hebrews 12:6-13; 25-27, 2 Timothy 2:1-10, John 15:17-16:2, Philippians 1:8-14, Luke 11:1-10
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM		Wed: Philippians 1:12-20, Luke 11:9-13
Thu.: Akathist to St. Herman 4:00 PM		Thu: Philippians 1:20-27, Luke 11:14-23
		Fri: Philippians 1:27-2:4, Luke 11:23-26
		Sat: 1 Corinthians 15:58-16:3, Luke 8:16-21

**+EPISTLE+ (2 Corinthians 9:6-11) Brethren: But this I say: "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.**

Practice Christianity every day with each person you meet and each word you say.  
 Christ spoke saying: But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.

St. Mat. 15:18 Readings: St. Mat. 15:16-20. St. Mark 7:18-23, St. James 3:5-12,  
 Prov. 18:2-29:20R

**+GOSPEL+ (Luke 16:19-31)** “There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.' Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'”

***Choir Practice Sunday at 9 AM and Monday at 2:30 PM -  
Nativity Practice***

THE GIFTS - OCT.17		VIGIL CANDLES - OCT.17
<p style="text-align: center;">Attendance 40</p> <p>Regular Offerings    1113 Candles                    72</p>		<p><u>Zina Juskin</u> - Memory of husband Vladimir.</p> <p><u>Dolores Lichatz</u> - Health of Matthew &amp; Marlene, Mary Ann.</p> <p><u>Nancy Kinley</u> - Health of Bill, Julianna &amp; Fam., Andrew &amp; Fam., Mary Ann H., Patricia, Judith, Joel, Judy, Pat &amp; Nick, Mona. Memory of Demetrius.</p>
<p><i>We sincerely thank and bless Charles and Lou Ellen Davis for their ongoing generous donations.</i></p>		<p><u>Margaret &amp; Ken Wagner</u> - Memory of our son Michael. Guidance for Zachary.</p> <p><u>Nick Borick</u> - Olga, Eva, Ryan, Mary Ann H., Dolores, Nick &amp; Pat.</p>