

**ST. ELIJAH SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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September 10, 2017

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**Martyr Andrew Stratelates in Cilicia**

The Martyr Andrew Stratelates was a military commander in the Roman army during the reign of the emperor Maximian (284-305). They loved him in the Roman army because of his bravery, invincibility and sense of fairness. When a large Persian army invaded the Syrian territories, the governor Antiochus entrusted Saint Andrew with the command of the Roman army, giving him the title of "Stratelates" ("Commander"). Saint Andrew selected a small detachment of brave soldiers and proceeded against the adversary.

His soldiers were pagans, and Saint Andrew himself had still not accepted Baptism, but he believed in Jesus Christ. Before the conflict he persuaded the soldiers that the pagan gods were demons and could not help them in battle. He proclaimed to them Jesus Christ, the omnipotent God of Heaven and earth, giving help to all who believe in Him.

The soldiers went into battle, calling on the help of the Savior. The small detachment routed the numerous host of the Persians. Saint Andrew returned from the campaign in glory, having gained a total victory. But jealous men denounced him to the governor Antiochus, saying that he was a Christian who had converted the soldiers under his command to his faith.

Saint Andrew was summoned to trial, and there he declared his faith in Christ. The local bishop Peter and Bishop Nonos of Beroea baptized all the soldiers.

Seleucus came upon the martyrs in the passes of Mount Tauros, where they were evidently soon to suffer. Saint Andrew, calling the soldiers his brothers and children, urged them not to fear death. He prayed for all who would honor their memory, and asked the Lord to create a curative spring on the place where their blood would be shed.

At the time of this prayer the steadfast martyrs were beheaded with swords. During this time, a spring of water issued forth from the ground. Bishops Peter and Nonos, with their clergy, secretly followed the company of Saint Andrew, and buried their bodies. One of the clergy, suffering for a long time from an evil spirit, drank from the spring of water, and at once he was healed. Reports of this spread among the local people and they began to come to the spring. Through the prayers of Saint Andrew and the 2593 Martyrs suffering with him, they received gracious help from God.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** EPISTLE-2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 GOSPEL Matthew 22:1-14

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**SERVICE:** Tomorrow, September 11<sup>th</sup> we will have Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. for The Beheading of the Prophet, Forerunner of the Lord, John the Baptist, please attend! STRICT FAST DAY!

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**VISITS-**Margarita Kosanovich - Sewickley Hospital Bob Sparcie, Mary Ann Rosati - Heritage Valley  
Mildred Korpash - at home Slavka Nikolich - Villa St Joseph  
Joe & Carol Kascur, Ann Belich, Robin Lapcevic, Ted Belich - Friendship Ridge

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**FUNERAL-**Give rest O Lord to thy departed servant **SAM REBACK** and make his memory to be eternal. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family, kumovi and friends. **VJECNAJA PAMJAT!**

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**WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT:** Ashton Churchin and Julian Mikola will be united in the Holy Sacrament of Marriage on September 30th

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Church School begins on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> please see the flyer by the bulletin  
Mother's Club Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>  
Serbian Language Classes are available please see flyer

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**JADRAN BEAVER VALLEY JR TAMBURITZANS** are accepting new members! Practices are held on Wednesday evenings. Anyone aged 5-18 may join. For more information visit them on Facebook @Jadran Beaver Valley Tammies or call Barb at 724-777-4700

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**...WANTED...**

To Attend

**ST ELIJAH CHURCH CHOIR ANNUAL CONCERT~ SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2017**

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. for those who make Dinner Reservations  
Donation for dinner, concert, dance, \$25 Dinner Tickets may be purchased until **MONDAY, September 18th!**

The theme this year is **WESTERN!**



So put on your checkered shirts, flowing skirts and cowboy boots and hats and join us!  
Menu: Chicken, Short Ribs, Scalloped Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Veggies, corn bread, and dessert  
**Reservations must be made in advance! CONCERT begins at: 6:30 p.m.**  
**Honored Guest Choir: Tsar Lazar Male Choir of the greater Pittsburgh area**  
**who will also sing responses on Sunday at Divine Liturgy and**  
**Dr. Laza Kostich Choir- Midland AND Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir-Pittsburgh**

