

# SERBIAN

News of Orthodox parish  
Charlotte



# CROWN

St. Simeon Mirotocivi  
North Carolina

## THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER



St. Simeon -Serbian Orthodox Church -Mallard Creek Rd, Charlotte, NC, 28262  
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## OUR HOLY ORTHODOX CHURCH Celebrates: SEPTEMBER

### The Beheading of John



St. John the Baptist, forerunner of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose death preceded the voluntary death of our Saviour. Saint John suffered during the reign of Herod Antipas, son of the emperor Herod of Bethlehem (the killer of children), because of his preaching in Galilee. Antipas was against St. John because he divorced his lawful wife, the daughter of the Arabian Emperor, and he murdered his brother Philip and took his wife, Herodias. Antipas demanded John executed, but John was instead thrown into prison, as Herod didn't dare martyr him because people were convinced that John was a prophet. It was Herodias, the daughter of Antipas' wife, that would do it, as Herod was captivated by her beauty and granted her a wish; what she asked for is the head of St. John, the baptist. Herod could not refuse, and had John beheaded, with his head presented to the guests. Herodias did not allow the head to be buried with the body, as she had fears about his death. All the perpetrators involved with the crime would leave this earth tragically. The death of John the

Baptist took place before the Passover (Jewish holiday), and is remembered this 11th of September and that date is determined by the feast of assumption, built and consecrated in the Church, which is his moštimaraised the Emperor Constantine and czarina Helen in honor and gratitude this Saint Nicholas.

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## The Nativity of the Most-holy Theotokos



The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father, and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams. For He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of God. He illumined them not only with temporal joy, but with eternal joy as well. God gave them just one daughter, and she would later give them just one grandson-but what a daughter and what a Grandson! Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple

of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest

Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, the Fount of virginity and purity-this was the daughter given by God to Joachim and Anna. She was born in Nazareth, and at the age of three, was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. In her young womanhood she returned again to Nazareth, and shortly thereafter heard the Annunciation of the Holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most-pure virgin body.

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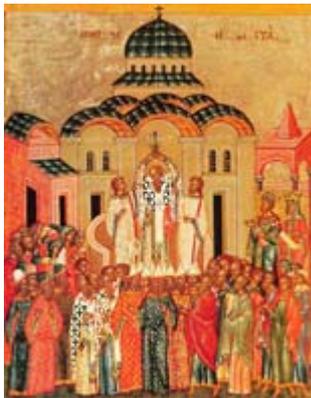
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## Exaltation of the Holy Cross



On this day we celebrate the two events related to the Holy Cross of Christ: the finding of the Holy Cross on Golgotha, and the return of the Holy Cross from Persia to Jerusalem. While visiting the Holy land, the Empress Helena purposed to see the Cross of Christ. By chance, an old Jew named Judas knew where the Cross was hidden, buried under the temple of Venus and forced Empress Dowager of the statement, that the Cross was buried under the temple Venerinim, which was raised on Golgotha by Emperor Adrian. The Empress ordered the temple demolished and in the ruins of the digging they found three crosses. While the Empress was in doubt as to how to discern the Cross of Christ, by chance an escort passed by, accompanying a corpse. Then the Patriarch Macarius said to baptise the corpse, and after using the first two crosses, the corpse lay unchanged. When the third cross was put on, the dead man rose to life. The resurrection was from the honor and life-giving Cross of Jesus Christ.

They then set the cross on a sick woman and the woman became well. The Patriarch then raised the cross, for all the people to see, and the people, with tears, sang: Lord have mercy! The Empress Helena made a casket of silver and placed the cross into it. Afterwards, the Emperor Hozroj, winning Jerusalem, brought many people into baptism and carried the cross of the Lord in Persia. There the cross stayed for 14 years, until 628, where the Greek King Iraklije defeated Hozroja and restored the cross to Jerusalem. Upon entering the city, Iraklije carried the cross on his back. While walking, the king suddenly stopped and couldn't go one step further. The patriarch Zechariah saw an angel, who prevented the emperor in his luxuries to go under the cross, in which the Lord, humiliated, had to walk. The patriarch let the emperor know, and so the emperor then stripped, barefoot, and took the cross, placed it in Golgotha in the temple of the resurrection, to the joy and comfort of the entire Christian world.

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## Behavior during worship

Men usually stand on the right and women on the left side of the center of the church. At your selected place you are standing still, without turning, walking or talking to someone. If someone for some reason is unable to stand for the entire service, they can in certain moments sit down. They should not sit during the shorter and longer walks, reading the gospel, or during the display of incense. If you feel fatigued and the desire to go outside, prayer must be strengthened, because the devil tries to prevent a man in prayer. During the prayers of the legs are assembled, and hand out on my chestor lower down the body, and by no means do not place them behind your back or in your pockets. Prayers to recite to myself. Discreetly watch the cleric's actions, and when it is the sign of the cross, and when in prayer, mentioning the names of Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit, and when the priest the tub all the baptized in the Church and worship. During the reading of the Gospel, where the who found that and stands until the action is complete. If someone knows how to sing, he sings quietly and slowly as to not hinder the chanters. It's better that those of the singing bent join the choir. All in all, the behavior of one during worship should be to strive to be invisible in the temple, without endeavoring to be noticed or observed. Remember, the cocky behavior of the Pharisee in the temple, the Lord condemned and praised the humble posture and prayer of the Customs officer. When leaving the temple, again in the same way venerate the icons, go to the door of the temple, quietly, and turns again towards the Interior of the temple and make the sign of the cross in prayer and gifts.

## Behavior in the temple

The temple is a holy place, and when a man enters, he must enter quietly, gently and with deep reverence and awe. When it comes to the church door, stop, make the sign of the cross and softly present yourself at the temple. If crowded, patiently waiting to buy candles. When you buy candles and light them, bear in mind that the back should not be turned to the altar or Minister during worship. Make the sign of the cross, kiss the candles while being mindful of their purpose (for example: "This candle is for the health to my brother John, may God rest your soul and save it" or "This candle for the repose of the soul of my grandfather, God rest his soul"). Candles for health are to be placed in the upper section, and for the saving of souls in the lower section. When the candles are burning, then quietly - especially if Worship is in progress, go to temple and venerate the icons. That's why it's best to come to service a dozen minutes before the start of the worship, because being late walking through the Temple will interfere with worship and the attention of the faithful.

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## How to venerate icons?

In the middle is an icon of the Saint(s) to which the temple is dedicated to or of the holidays, a little further to the right is an icon of the Savior, and at His left the icon of the mother of God. Be devotional to the icon, double cross yourself, bow, then kiss the icon once more, cross yourself and bow. This is to be done before all three icons - first to the icon in the middle, then to the icon of the Saviour, and then to the icon of the mother of God. After the veneration, go to a free place in the temple.

# PRAYER BOOK

Prayer is a conversation of our soul with God. God heeds the language of prayer, and it is the language of peace, gratitude, godliness and the language for the Kingdom of God. It is therefore very important to spend some time every day praying (talking) with God. Our ancestors and the saints have every day opened and ended with prayer, and a prayer made in front of every work, eating ... That's why we need to see them and pray.

In this and the following issues of our magazine we will publish prayers that we should practice our entire lives.

## Morning Prayer

Rising from sleep, I thank you, the Holy Trinity, because of your great goodness and tolerance you're not mad at me or my sins nor am I lost because of my iniquity, but instead showed mercy and raised me as I lay unconscious, so this morning I may celebrate Your power. And now enlighten my spiritual eyes, open my mouth to teach to your commandments and understand Your will and allow me to sing in heartfelt confession and praise Your holy name, Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit, now and always and for ever and ever. Amen.

## Prayer before breakfast

In the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit. Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse our sins; Bishop, forgive our iniquity; Holy one, visit and heal our infirmities, in the name of thy love.

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## Prayer after breakfast

Worthy is the truth that we call you blessed, Madonna, always the blessed and unflinching, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubs and the incomparable glory of the Seraphim; from You was God the logos born without sin, Merry Christmas Madonna, we magnify thee.

Prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amin.



## Notifications

- 1. The church temple in Charlotte will be officially certified and blessed by his Grace Bishop Mitrofan Kodića – the newly elected Bishop of Canada, 24 and 25 September 2016. The program begins on Saturday September 24th with music and traditional Serbian cuisine, with a later service in the evening and the solemn Academy. On Sunday 25 September 2016- Saint Arhijerejska Liturgy is at 9 am with sanctifying of the Temple, followed by a luncheon..**

**We invite all to mark this date in your calendar to participate in this joyous and historic event. Also we invite all parishioners to turn up for as many of the actions in order to better organized in time for these events.**

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2. Work activities are every Saturday from 8 am to 8 pm, and everyone can adjust their commitments and devote a few hours a week and sacrifice for their Church, the people and future generations ...

For information, please contact:

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Emergency notifications, you can monitor via our facebook site, or the Web site— where you can sign up for our mailing list to receive regular notifications.



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