

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

*For December 2016.*

- 04.12. - **THE ENTRY INTO THE TEMPLE OF THE THEOTOKOS** (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 11.12. - (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 18.12. - (Sunday), **Children's Day** - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 19.12. - **ST. NICOLAS** (Monday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 25.12. - (Sunday), **Mother's Day** - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am

СВИМ СЛАВАРИМА У МЕСЕЦУ ДЕЦЕМБРУ СВЕШТЕНИК  
СА УПРАВОМ ЧЕСТИТА КРСНУ СЛАВУ.  
На многаја љета!

## **ОБАВЕШТЕЊА**

- Канцеларија ЦШО отворена уторком, четвртком и петком од 9 - 12 часова
- РЕДОВНА ГОДИШЊА СКУПШТИНА ЦРКВЕНЕ КОРПОРАЦИЈЕ одржаће се у недељу 25. децембра после Литургије.



НЕДЕЉНИ

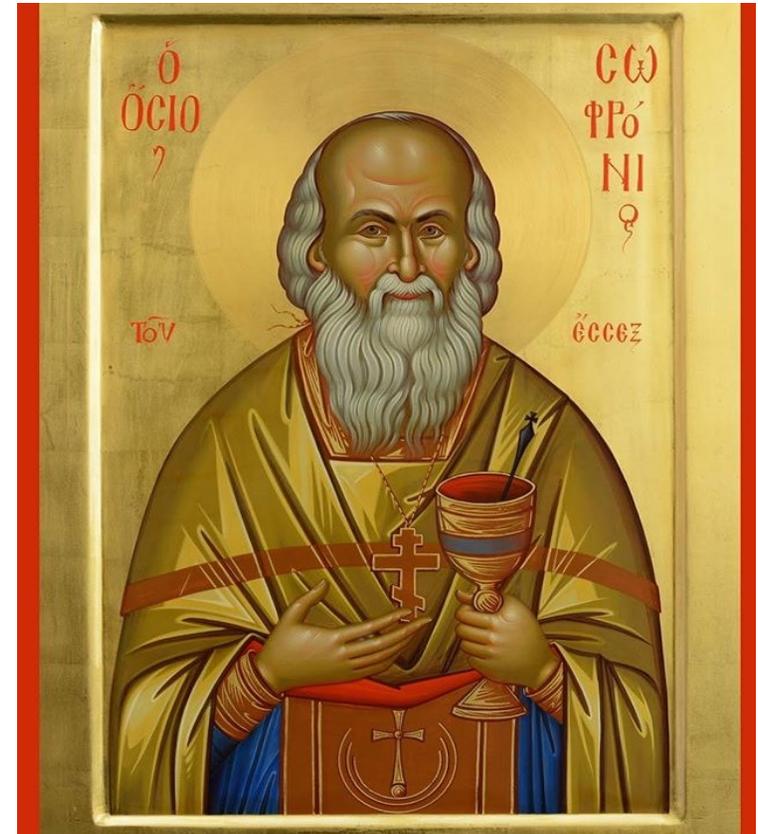
# ЦРКВЕНИ ЛИСТИЋ

Ц.Ш.О. Св. Архангела Михаила - Торонто

SERBIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ARCHANGEL MICHAEL  
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## THE HOLY MARTYR SEBASTIAN

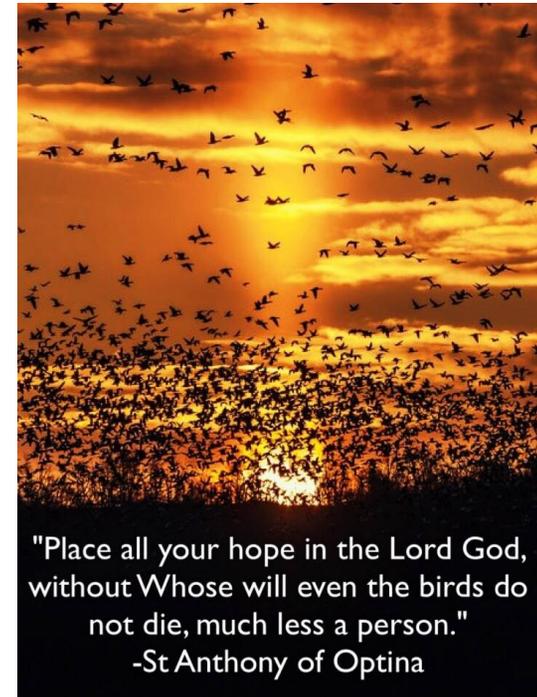


This glorious martyr of Christ was born in Italy and brought up in the city of Milan. He was destined in his youth to be a soldier, and, as an educated, handsome and courageous man, commended himself to the Emperor Diocletian, who made him captain of the imperial guard. He secretly confessed the Christian faith, and prayed to the living God. An honourable, upright and merciful man, Sebastian was greatly loved by his soldiers. Whenever possible, he saved Christians from torture and death and, when this was not possible, gave them courage to die for Christ the living God without turning back. Two brothers, Marcus and Marcellinus, who were in prison for Christ and already on the verge of denying Him and worshipping idols, were confirmed in their faith and

strengthened in their martyrdom by Sebastian. As he spoke with them, exhorting them not to fear death for Christ, his face was illumined like that of an angel of God. Sebastian supported his words by marvels: he healed Zoë, the wife of Nicostratus the gaoler, who had been dumb for six years, and brought Nicostratus and his whole household to baptism; he healed the two sick sons of Claudius the commander, and brought him and his whole household also to baptism; he healed Tranquillianus, the father of Marcus and Marcellinus, of gout and pains in his legs which had troubled him for eleven years, and brought him to baptism together with his whole household; he healed the Roman Eparch, Chromatius, of the same infirmity and brought him and his son Tiburtius to baptism. Of these, Zoë was the first to suffer, being seized while at prayer beside the tomb of the Apostle Peter. After torture, she was thrown into the river Tiber. Then Tiburtius was seized, and the judge placed live coals before him, challenging him to choose life or death: to cast incense on the coals and cense the idols, or to stand himself barefoot on the coals. St Tiburtius made the sign of the Cross and stood barefoot on the coals, and remained unharmed. He was then beheaded with the sword. Nicostratus was killed with a stake, Tranquillianus was drowned and Marcus and Marcellinus were run through by spears. Then Sebastian was taken before the Emperor Diocletian. The Emperor rebuked him for his betrayal, but he said: "I always pray to my Christ for your health, and for the peace of the Roman Empire." The Emperor ordered that he be stripped and shot at with arrows. The soldiers then shot at him, until the martyr's whole body was so covered with arrows that it was invisible beneath them. When they thought that he was dead, he showed himself alive and healed of all his wounds. Then the pagans beat him to death with staves. He suffered gloriously for Christ his Lord and entered into the heavenly Kingdom in 287, when Gaius was Bishop of Rome.

## ST. AMPHILOCHIUS OF ICONIUM

A fellow-countryman and friend of St Basil the Great and other great saints of the fourth century, Amphilochius early forsook the bustle of the world and withdrew to a cave where, as a solitary, he lived in asceticism for forty years. The episcopal throne in Iconium then fell empty, and Amphilochius was chosen in a wonderful way and consecrated as Bishop of Iconium. He was a marvellous shepherd and a great defender of the purity of the Orthodox faith, and took part in the Second Ecumenical Council in 381. He fought zealously against Macedonius, and against the Arians and the Eunomians. He personally begged Theodosius the Great to drive the Arians out of every city in the Empire, but the Emperor did not comply with his request. After a few days, Amphilochius came before the Emperor again. When the bishop was taken into the presence-chamber, the Emperor was sitting on his throne with his son Arcadius, whom he had taken as co-Emperor, sitting at his right hand. Entering the room, Amphilochius did reverence to Theodosius, but ignored Arcadius as though he were not there. Infuriated by this, the Emperor Theodosius commanded that Amphilochius be instantly driven from court. The saint then said to the Emperor: "Do you see, O Emperor, how you do not tolerate a slight paid to your son? In the same way, God the Father does not tolerate dishonour paid to His Son, turning with loathing from those who blaspheme against Him, and being angered at that accursed Arian heresy." Hearing this, the Emperor understood the reason for Amphilochius's seeming disrespect towards his son, and marvelled at his wisdom and daring. Among many other works, Amphilochius wrote several books on the Faith. He entered into rest in 395 in great old age, and went to immortal life.



"Place all your hope in the Lord God,  
without Whose will even the birds do  
not die, much less a person."  
-St Anthony of Optina