

When Galaction turned twenty-four, his father resolved to marry him off and they found him a bride, a beautiful and illustrious girl by the name of Episteme. The son did not oppose the will of his father, but by the will of God, the wedding was postponed for a time. Visiting his betrothed, Galaction gradually revealed his faith to her. Eventually, he converted her to Christ and he secretly baptized her himself.

Besides Episteme he baptized also one of her servants, Eutolmius. The newly-illuminated decided on the initiative of Galaction, to devote themselves to the monastic life. Leaving the city, they hid themselves away on Mount Publion, where there were two monasteries, one for men and the other for women. The new monastics had to take with them all the necessities for physical toil, since the inhabitants of both monasteries were both old and infirm.

For several years the monastics struggled in work, fasting and prayer. Once, Episteme had a vision in her sleep: she and Galaction stood in a wondrous palace before a radiant King, and the King bestowed golden crowns on them. This was a prefiguring of their impending martyrdom.

The pagans became aware of the existence of the monasteries, and a military detachment was sent to apprehend their inhabitants. But the monks and the nuns succeeded in hiding themselves in the hills. Galaction, however, had no desire to flee and so he remained in his cell, reading Holy Scripture. When Episteme saw that the soldiers were leading Galaction away in chains, she began to implore the Abbess to permit her to go also, since she wanted to accept torture for Christ together with her fiancé and teacher. The Abbess tearfully blessed Episteme to do so.

The saints endured terrible torments, while supplicating and glorifying Christ. Their hands and legs were cut off, their tongues were cut out, and then they were beheaded.

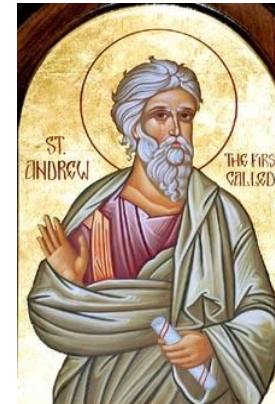
Eutolmius, the former servant of Episteme, and who had become her brother in Christ and fellow ascetic in monastic struggles, secretly buried the bodies of the holy martyrs. He later wrote an account of their virtuous life and their glorious martyrdom, for his contemporaries and for posterity.

Saint Andrew Orthodox Church

201 Penn Avenue,
Lyndora, PA 16045

Church (724) 285 6010 Presbytery (724) 285 1336

www.standrewlyndora.com



November 5, 2017

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Maratyr Galacteon and his wife Epiestemis

Times of Services

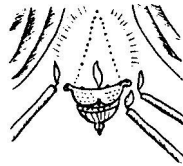
Nov	4	Sat	No Vespers			
	5	Sun	10:00	Divine Liturgy	Reader:	Sally
	12	Sun	10:00	Divine Liturgy	Reader:	James
	19	Sun	10:00	Divine Liturgy	Reader:	Ethan
	21	Tue	Entry of the Holy Theotokos into the temple No liturgy			
	26	Sun	10:00	Divine Liturgy	Reader:	Richard
Dec	02	Sat	No Vespers			

Flowers for Feast Days of the Theotokos



Nov 21 Entry of the Theotokos into the temple; Mary Ann Skero

Festal Candles



November (Red)
Dorothy Hays
December (Gold [Christmas])
In memory of George Milich given by Bill Milich

Future Events/Meetings

Nov	4	Sat	09:00	Liturgy & 2017 Archdiocesan Assembly, Homestead, PA
	12	Sun	11:30	Pre-Advent Dinner at St. Andrews Church Shut-ins to be visited
	18	Sat	09:00	Cookie Sale
Dec	7	Thu	6:30	Thu Parish Council meeting
	9	Sat	10 AM—12 PM	St. Nicholas Breakfast

*Tickets: Children 4 years and younger: free,
Children 5 to 12 years: \$5.00,
Persons older than 12 years (including adults) \$10.00*

Ticket information can be obtained from Mary Ann at (724) 584 3470
The breakfast will be held between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM

Dec 13, 14 & 15 Wed, Thu.. & Fri 08:30 Pierogi Making Party

Pre-Advent Dinner

The pre—Advent dinner will be held at St. Andrew Orthodox Church, around 11:30 AM on 12 November, 2017. It will a pot luck dinner for the parishioners of the is church.

Changing the Altar & Church Cloths

Prior to the dinner, November 12, 2017, Sally we will need helpers to change the clothes on in the church from blue to red over white.

Martyr Galaction and his wife at Emesa

There was a rich and distinguished couple named Kletophon and Leukippe, who lived in the Syrian city of Emesa, and for a long time they were childless. They gave much gold to the pagan priests, but still they remained childless.

The city of Emesa was governed by a Syrian named Secundus, put there by the Roman Caesars. He was a merciless and zealous persecutor of Christians, and to



intimidate them he ordered that the instruments of torture be displayed on the streets. The slightest suspicion of belonging to “the sect of the Galilean” (as thus Christians were called by the pagans), was enough to get a man arrested and handed over for torture. In spite of this, many Christians voluntarily surrendered themselves into the hands of the executioners, in their desire to suffer for Christ.

A certain old man by the name of Onuphrius, concealed his monastic and priestly dignity beneath his beggar’s rags. He walked from house to house in Emesa, begging alms. At the same time, whenever he saw the possibility of turning people away from the pagan error, he preached about Christ.

Once, he came to the magnificent house of Leukippe. Accepting alms from her, he sensed that the woman was in sorrow, and he asked what was the cause of this sadness. She told the Elder about her familial misfortune. In consoling her, Onuphrius began to tell her about the one true God, about His omnipotence and mercy, and how He always grants the prayer of those turning to Him with faith. Hope filled the soul of Leukippe. She believed and accepted Holy Baptism. Soon after this it was revealed to her in a dream that she would give birth to a son, who would be a true follower of Christ. At first, Leukippe concealed her delight from her husband, but after the infant was born, she revealed the secret to her husband and also persuaded him to be baptized.

They named the baby Galaction and his parents raised him in the Christian Faith and provided him a fine education. He could make an illustrious career for himself, but Galaction sought rather an unsullied monastic life in solitude and prayer.