

Feast day of St. John Climacus, the Righteous



The Church today venerates the memory of John Climacus the Righteous, author of The Divine Ladder of Ascent.

This Saint gave himself over to the ascetic life from his early youth, beginning in the sixth century.

Experienced both in the solitary life of the hermit and in the communal life of cenobitic monasticism, he was appointed Abbot of the Monastery at Mount Sinai and wrote a book containing 30 homilies on virtue.

Each homily deals with one virtue, and progressing from those that deal with holy and righteous activity (praxis) unto those that deal with divine vision (theoria), they raise a man up as though by means of steps unto the height of Heaven. For this cause his work is called "The Ladder of Divine Ascent."

Saint Joseph the Hesychast

