

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



August 9, 2009

89th Sunday After Pentecost

SAINT TIKHON OF ZADONSK (AUG. 18)

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Cleveland, Ohio 44113

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- Dn. Daniel Boerio
- Subdeacon Theodore Lentz
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- Reader Julius Kovach
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

Divine Services

Eve Sundays & Feast Days
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sundays and Feast Days
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Fr. John Office Hours
Tuesday & Wednesday
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*Articles for publication in
the AMBO should be sub-
mitted to:
AMBO@sttheodosius.org
by Wednesday of each week
before noon.



Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk, Bishop of Voronezh (in the world Timothy), was born in the year 1724 in the village of Korotsk in the Novgorod diocese, into the family of the cantor Sabellius Kirillov. (A new family name, Sokolov, was given him afterwards by the head of the Novgorod seminary). His father died when Timothy was a young child, leaving the family in such poverty that his mother was barely able to make ends meet. She wanted to give him to be raised by a neighbor, a coachman, since there was nothing with which to feed the family, but his brother Peter would not permit this. Timothy often worked a whole day with the peasants for a single piece of black bread.

As a thirteen-year-old boy, he was sent to a clergy school near the Novgorod archbishop's home, and earned his keep by working with the vegetable gardeners. In 1740, he was accepted under a state grant set up for the Novgorod seminary. The youth excelled at his studies. Upon finishing seminary in 1754, he became a teacher there, first in Greek, and later in Rhetoric and Philosophy. In the year 1758, he was tonsured with the name Tikhon. In that same year they appointed him to be prefect of the seminary.

In 1759, they transferred him to Tver, elevating him to be archimandrite of the Zheltikov monastery. Later, they appointed him rector of the Tver seminary and, at the same time, head of the Otroch monastery.

His election as bishop was providential. Metropolitan Demetrius, the presiding member of the Holy Synod, had intended to transfer the young archimandrite to the Trinity-Sergiev Lavra. On the day of Pascha, at Peterburg, Archimandrite Tikhon was one of eight candidates being considered for selection as vicar-bishop for Novgorod. The lot fell on him three times.

On the same day, during the Cherubic Hymn, Bishop Athanasius of Tver, without realizing it, commemorated him as a bishop while cutting out particles from the prosphora at the Table of Oblation. On May 13, 1761 he was consecrated Bishop of Keksgolma and Ladoga (i.e., a vicar bishop of the Novgorod diocese).

In 1763, St Tikhon was transferred to the See of Voronezh. During the four and a half years that he administered the Voronezh diocese, St Tikhon provided constant edification, both by his life and by his numerous pastoral guidances and soul-saving books. He wrote a whole series of works for pastors:

Concerning the Seven Holy Mysteries

A Supplement to the Priestly Office

Concerning the Mystery of Repentance

An Instruction Concerning Marriage

The saint considered it essential that each priest, deacon and monk have a New Testament, and that he should read it daily. In an Encyclical, he called on pastors to perform the Holy Mysteries with reverence, with the fear of God, and love for one's neighbor. (An Explanation of Christian Duties was often republished in Moscow and Peterburg during the eighteenth century).

At Voronezh the saint eradicated an ancient pagan custom, the celebration in honor of Yarila (a pagan god associated with the fertility of grain and cattle). In the outlying districts where military units of the Don Cossacks were dispersed, he formed a missionary commission to restore sectarians to the Orthodox Church.

In 1765, St Tikhon transformed the Voronezh Slavic-Latin school into a seminary. He invited experienced instructors from Kiev and Kharkhov, and planned the courses for it. He exerted much attention and effort to build up both the churches and the school, and to guide pastors to understand the need for education.

The saint was unflagging in his efforts to administer the vast diocese, and he often spent nights without sleep. In 1767, poor health compelled him to give up running the diocese and withdraw for rest to the Tolshevsk monastery, at a distance 40 versts from Voronezh.

In 1769, the saint transferred to the monastery of the Theotokos in the city of Zadonsk. Having settled into this monastery, St Tikhon became a great teacher of the Christian life. With deep wisdom he set forth the ideal of true monasticism in his Rule of Monastic Living and his Guidances to Turn from the Vanity of the World, and in his own life he fulfilled this ideal. He kept strictly to the precepts of the Church. Zealously (almost daily) he visited the temple of God, and he often sang and read in the choir. In time, out of humility, he altogether ceased participating and serving, but merely stood in the altar, reverently making the Sign of the Cross over himself. He loved to read the Lives of the Saints and the works of the holy Fathers. He knew The Psalter by heart, and he usually read or sang the Psalms on his journeys.

The saint underwent much tribulation because he had to leave his flock. When he recovered his health, he thought about returning to the Novgorod diocese, where Metropolitan Gabriel had invited him to head the Iveron Vallaisk monastery. But when his cell-attendant mentioned this to the Elder Aaron, he declared: "Are you mad? The Mother of God does not direct him to move away from here." The cell-attendant conveyed this to His Grace.

"If that is so," said the saint "I shall not move away from here," and he tore up the invitation. Sometimes he journeyed to the village of Lipovka, where he celebrated church services at the Bekhteev house. The saint journeyed also to the Tolshev monastery, which he loved for its solitude.

The fruition of all his spiritual life were the books that the saint wrote while in retirement: A SPIRITUAL TREASURY, GATHERED FROM THE WORLD (1770), and ON TRUE CHRISTIANITY (1776).

The saint lived in very simple circumstances: he slept on straw, covered by a sheepskin coat. His humility was so great that he paid no attention to the workers who laughed at him as he walked about the monastery, pretending that he did not hear it. He used to say, "It is pleasing to God that even the monastery workers mock me, and I deserve it because of my sins." He often said, "Forgiveness is better than revenge."

Once, a fool named Kamenev struck the saint on the cheek saying, "Don't be so haughty" The saint, accepting this with gratitude, gave the fool three kopeks every day for the rest of his life.

All his life the saint "in troubles, and sorrows, and insults... joyfully endured, mindful that there can be no crown without the victory, nor victory without effort, nor effort without struggle, nor struggle without enemies" (Ode 6 of the Canon).

Strict towards himself, the saint was indulgent towards others. On the Friday before Palm Sunday, he entered the cell of his friend the schemamonk Metrophanes, and he saw him at table together with Cosmas Ignatievich, of whom he was also fond. There was fish on the table, and his friends became upset (Fish is not permitted during Lent, except for Feast days). The saint said, "Sit down, for I know you. Love is higher than fasting." To further calm them, he ate some of their fish soup.

He especially loved the common folk, and comforted them in their grievous lot, interceding with the landowners, and moving them to compassion. He gave away his pension, and gifts from admirers, to the poor.

By his deeds of self-denial and love of soul, the saint advanced in contemplation of Heaven and foresaw the future. In 1778, he had a vision in his sleep: the Mother of God stood in the clouds, and near Her were the Apostles Peter and Paul. On bended knees, the saint prayed to the All-Pure Virgin for the peace of the whole world. The Apostle Paul loudly exclaimed: "When they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction will come upon them" (I Thess. 5:3). The saint fell asleep in trembling and in tears. The following year, he again saw the Mother of God in the air and several people near Her. The saint knelt down, and near him four others in white garments also fell to their knees. The saint en-

treated the All-Pure Virgin for someone, that She would not leave him (the saint did not tell his cell-attendant who the four people were, nor for whom the request was made). She answered, "Let it be as you ask."

St Tikhon prophesied much about the future, particularly the victory of Russia over the French in 1812. More than once they saw the saint in spiritual rapture, with a transformed and luminous face, but he forbade them to speak about this.

For three years before his repose he prayed each day, "Tell me, O Lord, of my end." And a quiet voice in the morning dawn said, "It will be on a Sunday." In that same year, he saw in a dream a beautiful meadow with wondrous palaces upon it. He wanted to go inside, but they said to him: "In three years, you may enter. For now, continue your labors." After this the saint secluded himself in his cell and admitted only a few friends.

Both clothing and a grave were prepared for the time of his death. He often came to weep over his coffin, while standing hidden from people in a closet. A year and three months before his death, in a vivid dream, it seemed to the saint that he was standing in the monastery church. A priest of his acquaintance was carrying the Divine Infant, covered with a veil, out of the altar through the Royal Doors. The saint approached and kissed the Infant on the right cheek, and he felt himself stricken on the left. Awakening, the saint sensed a numbness in his left cheek, his left leg, and a trembling in his left hand. He accepted this illness with joy.

Shortly before his death, the saint saw in a dream a high and twisting ladder and he heard a command to climb it. "At first, I was afraid because of weakness," he told his friend Cosmas. "But when I started to go climb, the people standing around the ladder lifted me higher and higher, up to the very clouds."

"The ladder," said Cosmas, "is the way to the Heavenly Kingdom. Those who helped were those you have helped by your advice, and they remember you." The saint said with tears, "I thought so, too. I feel that my end is near." He frequently received the Holy Mysteries during his illness.

St Tikhon died, as was revealed to him, on Sunday August 13, 1783, at the age of fifty-nine. The first uncovering of his relics occurred on May 14, 1846. Saint Tikhon's glorification took place on Sunday August 13, 1861.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF August 9

August 9	1 Cor. 3:9-17 Matt. 14:22-34	August 11	1 Cor. 15:29-38 Matt. 21:23-27	August 14	2 Cor. 1:12-20 Matt. 22:23-33
August 10	1 Cor. 15:12-19 Matt. 21:18-22	August 12	1 Cor. 16:4-12 Matt. 21:28-32	August 15	Rom. 15:30-33 Matt. 17:24-18:4
		August 13	2 Cor. 1:1-7 Matt. 21:43-46		



Dome Lighters

Donations to offset the cost of lighting the domes can be made for the health of or in memory of your loved ones. Contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

PRAYER REQUESTS

DEPARTED:

Roberta Gracenin + 7/05/09
Army Sergeant First Class
Jason Fabrizi + 7/13/09
(Nephew of Albert Jacob Casey)
Jean Twitchell + 7/15/09

Ill Afflicted & Special Intentions

Fr. Michael Conrad
Fr. Anthony Dimitri
Fr. Stephen Jula
Helen Antonik
Dan Arangelovich
Jerry Arangelovich
Alice Artino
Helen Baldner
John Baranich
Carol Bohurjak

John Conrad
Eugene Erhardt
Tony Eschuk
Anthony & Nikol Gammalo
Julia Grabowski
Maria Hanzel
Donna Jacak
Paul Kappanadze (*son of Fr. Jason Kappanadze*)
Sarah Kersey
Dorothy Laskovich
Paul Laskovich
Shane, Sierra and Taylor McNeilly
Brian Nemec (*Frank Tkacz's Godson*)
Walter & Grace Parhamovich (*Karen Felon's parents*)
David Roman (*Nephew of Margaret Rusynyk*)
Mary Ann Silberhorn

Elsie Sudnick
Damian Tyler
Donald Tipka
Hannah Ward (*God Child of Fr. Andrew Stevens*)
Harrison Ward (*God Child of Fr. Andrew Stevens*)
Deborah Wojnicz
Wayne Yurik
Helen Zawisza (*Joseph Rusynyk's sister*)
Julia Zimmerman
Denise Zweifel (*Sister of Marshall Prock*)
Erik & Gwen Hasselquist & **Unborn Child**
CONGRATULATIONS TO:
Russell Carleton & Tanya Klimova
& **Newborn Natalia**
Born on June 11, 2009

CATECHUMENS:

Erik & Gwen Hasselquist

MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDARS



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

1:00 PM ~ 7:00 PM

PARISH PICNIC

FOCA will provide games for kids.

Please bring a covered potluck dish to share.

We will provide burgers, hot dogs, buns and some beverages.

We look forward to seeing you! Contact Darrell Felon at 440-238-3837.

EMBROIDERY FUND RAISER NOTE

APRONS GALORE!



Custom embroidered apron samples can be seen today during Coffee Hour.

Host—Hostess—Baker—Chef—Other?

See different styles and colors.

For Kids, too. (Maybe some sew-on patches, also.)

Margaret 440-238-7867 rstudios@rusynyk.com

A continuing Altar Society Fundraiser

Welcome Visitors

Our parish welcomes you and thanks you for joining us at today's Divine Liturgy. While only Orthodox Christians may approach the chalice for Holy Communion, everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after Liturgy. You are also invited to join us for fellowship in the Parish Hall following Liturgy.

COFFEE HOUR & GREETERS SCHEDULES

Coffee Hour Hosts:

08/09/09 Maca Tyler/Judy Schwind
08/16/09 Donna Jacak
08/23/09 Mat. Jeanne Homik, Mat. Cindy Zdinak
Mat. Jennifer Boerio
08/30/09 Joyce Tabeling
09/06/09 Nick & Kate Zoikoff

Greeters:

Steve and Eileen Bondor
Linda Smotzer, Sonia Vorell
Debby Pinta/Paul Pangrace
Phyllis Gindlesperger/Virginia Medvec
Debby Pinta/Maria Broslawik

ANNOUNCEMENT

ALTAR SOCIETY

The Altar Society will hold a meeting **TODAY** after Liturgy in the Parish Hall.

For your convenience, we will have **HOMEMADE APRICOT, NUT and POPPYSEED ROLLS** for sale at every Sunday's *Coffee Hour*.

The price is **\$8.00**. Homemade rolls are also available at the **Ridge Manor Party Center**. Please call **Sharon Glagola at: 216-749-5509**.

STEWARDSHIP - ENVELOPES

Please use your assigned church envelopes to ensure that each parishioner receives their proper credit for all donations. If you do not have an assigned envelope number, please see the Treasurer, Mary Lee Erhardt.

MERRICK HOUSE

We are once again collecting school supplies to be distributed through Merrick House. Pencils, 3-ring binders, notebook paper - all school supplies are needed.

Please contribute - supplies can be given to Dan Morris - supplies will be delivered to Merrick House **Tuesday, August 11.**

God bless you for helping needy kids!

GOD'S GIFTS TO US - OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Weekly expenses: \$ 6,538.00

Last week's collection \$ 5,645.00

Over/Under < \$ 893.00 >

ATTENDANCE

Members 93 Visitors 20
Total 113

ANNOUNCEMENT TREMONT ART WALK - FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

Volunteers are needed for Friday night's "TREMONT ART WALK".

Come and share your Orthodox witness and the love you have for our beautiful Cathedral. We begin at 6:00 PM and go until around 10:00 PM.

If you have any questions, please see or call Albert Jacob Casey at 216-773-4721.

FOCA

☛ Parish Council News

Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 18 at 6:00 PM
@ Ridge Manor

Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 26
4:30 PM
@Ridge Manor

FOCA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PICNIC MEETING/DRIVE

Thursday, August 27, 6:00 PM

MEMPHIS METRO PARK PAVILION
(Memphis & Tiedeman Roads)

Present and new members
- ALL ARE WELCOME -

Contact Darrell Felon at 440-238-3837.
FOCA provides burgers and hot dogs. Please
bring a covered dish.

We look forward to seeing you!

IOCC BASEBALL NIGHT

Progressive Field

Friday, September 4, 4:05 PM

Cleveland Indians vs. Minnesota Twins

Mezzanine Seats

\$22.00

Great FIREWORKS after the game...

...see Frank Tkacz in the Bookstore

or call 216-351-1011

DONATIONS ACCEPTED IF UNABLE TO ATTEND.

St. Vladimir Camp & Retreat Center Fundraiser

Are you looking for spring bulbs to plant this fall?
The Ohio District FOCA has an assortment of
twelve different types of bulbs to plant - available
\$10.00 per set. It is a 50/50 split for the camp.

Fundraiser Deadline is August 23.

See Darrell L. Felon to place your order.



ST. MARY
ROMANIAN
Festival
August 21-23, 2009

• FUN
• GOOD FOOD
• ENTERTAINMENT

Free admission! LOCATED IN WESTPARK
JUST SOUTH OF I-90, WARREN ROAD EXIT
3256 Warren Rd., Cleveland, OH 44111
(216) 941-5550. Directions: www.smroc.org

Free parking!

ANNOUNCEMENT FAITH ENRICHMENT CLASSES BEGIN

Thursday, September 10
11:00 AM

Contact Paul Pangrace or
Subdeacon Darrell Felon
for additional information.

The Memorable Words of Micah

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.



This Friday we remember the prophet Micah, who was a younger contemporary of Isaiah but came from a very different background. While Isaiah was an aristocrat, Micah was a working-class man, and it shows in his writing.

He came from a small village in the foothills between the coastal plain and the central highlands of Palestine. He was keenly aware of the struggles of the working poor, and harshly critical of the greedy rich who exploited and oppressed them. Micah couched his prophetic warnings to corrupt public officials in earthy, graphic language:

"Hear, you heads of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel! You who hate the good and love the evil, who tear the skin from off my people, and their flesh from off their bones; who eat the flesh of my people and flay their skin from off them, and break their bones in pieces, and chop them up like meat in a kettle, like flesh in a cauldron" (2:1-4).

It wasn't only Micah's background that distinguished him from Isaiah. He also didn't share the older prophet's firm conviction that Jerusalem, being the holy city of Zion, would never be destroyed. Micah saw the city as a den of corruption rather than a place inviolably protected by God. He wrote: "Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed as a field; Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins..." (3:12).

A century later, the prophet Jeremiah made similar predictions concerning Jerusalem, so infuriating religious leaders that they wanted to put him to death for treason. But others saved Jeremiah's life by reminding everyone of Micah's earlier prophecy, which like Jeremiah's was clearly spoken in the name of the Lord.

For all his scathing rebukes, Micah also gives us beautiful words of peace and hope. In 4:3 we read, "...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." It is Micah who prophesies that "You, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for Me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days" (5:1). He also reminds us "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God" (6:8).

The epistle reading for this day tells us that Jesus Christ never vacillates, never says both Yes and No. In Him it is "always Yes. For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him" (2 Corinthians 1: 20-21).

That faithful "Yes" in God is anticipated in Micah when he says, "I will wait for the God of my salvation" (7:7) and especially in his prophecy's final words: "Thou wilt cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. Thou wilt show faithfulness to Jacob, and steadfast love to Abraham, as Thou hast sworn to our fathers from the days of old" (7:19-20).



OCF News of Greater Cleveland

2009-2010 School year to begin!

Volume 3: August 3, 2009

A **Welcome Back Party** will be hosted at each school in a few weeks so check the website for more information.

Guest speakers will be posted together with regular OCF meetings at the campuses. Our OCF students are invited to attend two Divine Liturgies and a community outreach event every semester.

The Pan-Orthodox Holy unction will be coming up in November.

There are many group events this semester which is a great opportunity for students to meet each other.



College Conference December 27-31, 2009

The College Conference is just around the corner. It is held annually on two coasts where over 400 college students come together to experience fellowship, worship, fun and hear phenomenal speakers. The wonderful location of Antiochian Village in Bolivar, PA is a relaxing setting for the conference. Our Cleveland OCF will sponsor **6 students** so please let us know if you're interested in attending. Thank you to our sponsors!

SHOUT OUT

OCFCleveland.org

Please, visit our website & sign up as a member.

This is a great way to stay connected and receive the latest news as the site is updated regularly with new events and up to date info. Also, a great way to help us go green!

Thank you to all of our board members, parish sponsors, and supporters.



Calendar of upcoming Group Events!



Not traveling home for the holidays?... We have several local Orthodox families looking to "adopt" an OCF student for Thanksgiving & Christmas break so just let us know if you're interested.

Aug. 23, Cycling event

Sept. 22, Indians Game—Free tickets!

Sept. 20, College Student Sunday

Dec. 27-31, College Conference—Antiochian Village

Please join us at: **OCFCleveland.org**

Questions or comments? e-mail us at mirjana1@gmail.com or call 440-888-6213.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, August 9

Ven Herman Of Alaska
Wonderworker Of All America
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Altar Society Meeting
after Liturgy in Parish Hall

**SPECIAL AUGUST
COLLECTION
ST. JOHN
MONASTERY**

Friday, August 14

FOREFEAST DORMITION
Prophet Micah
St. Theodosius-Caves
6:00 PM Dormition Vespers
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Tremont Art Walk

Monday, August 10

Holy Martyr And Archdeacon
Lawrence Of Rome

Saturday, August 15

DORMITION OF THE
MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS
9:00 AM Dormition Divine Liturgy
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Tuesday, August 11

Holy Martyr And Archdeacon
Euplus Of Catania
School Supplies distributed
to Merrick House today.

Sunday, August 16

IMAGE OF CHRIST
"NOT MADE BY HANDS"
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
1:00 PM St. Theodosius
Parish Picnic

Wednesday, August 12

Martyrs Anicetus
And Photius

Thursday, August 13

LEAVE. TRANSFIGURATION
ST. TIKHON
WONDERWORKER OF ZADONSK



St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral
733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113