

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



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Cleveland, Ohio

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- Archpriest John Zdinak
Dean
- Archpriest Pavel Soucek
Retired/Attached
- Deacon Peter Homik
- Subdeacon Theodore Lentz
Sacristan
- 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

March 12, 2006

Sunday Of Orthodoxy

Originally, the Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage.

Today we commemorate the "Triumph of Orthodoxy," the restoration of the holy icons in the reign of the holy Empress Theodora (February 11).

Troparion

For the Sunday of Orthodoxy - Tone 2

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One,
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ God.

Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh
to deliver Your creatures from bondage to the enemy.

Therefore with thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:

You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,
by coming to save the world.

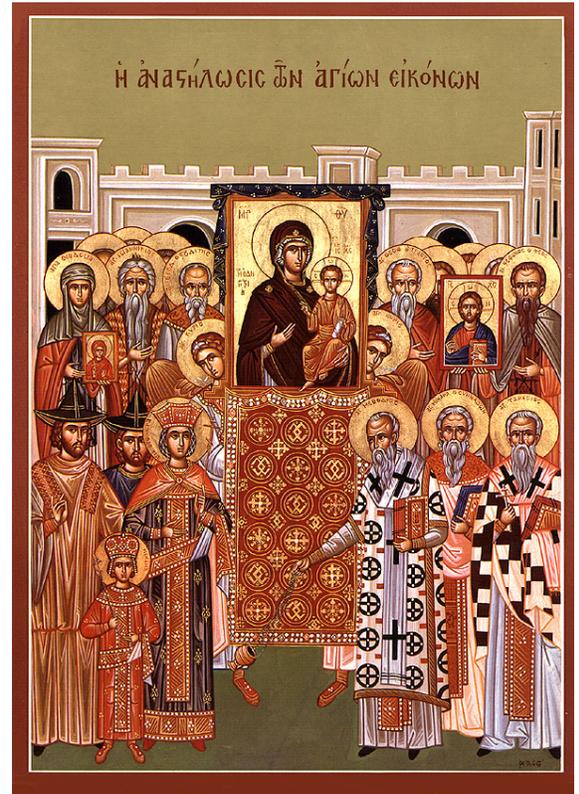
Kontakion

For the Sunday of Orthodoxy - Tone 8

No one could describe the Word of the Father;

but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described,
and restored the fallen image to its former beauty.

We confess and proclaim our salvation in word and images.



Prayer Requests

Departed:

Ann Clifford

Ill-afflicted:

Archpriest Victor Sokolov
Archpriest Thomas Succarotte
Mat. Tatiana Succarotte
Mother Ana
Helen Baldner
Gregory Berzonsky
John Clements
John Conrad
Alex Dobay
Eileen Eschuk
Janet Franks
Gayle & Joyce Franks
Henry & Julia Grabowski
Lynette Hope
Sergei Kluchnik & Family
Mary Ann Mishko
Margaret Rusnyk
John & Ann Shuleva
Billy J. Spurlock
Jan Tkacz
Jeanne Twitchell
Pauline Timm

PARISH NEWS

*Kolachky and Russian Tea Biscuits
for sale at Coffee Hour this week.
See Sonia Vorell or Jeanne Homik*

Altar Society Meeting

TODAY

Sunday March 12
following Divine Liturgy

Thank You

*Thank you all for the prayer, cards,
and expressions of concern that I re-
ceived during my recent recovery
from a hip fracture. Hopefully, the
process resuming normal activities
will be uneventful.*

Margaret Rusnyk

Lenten Mission Schedule

March 12 Sunday of Orthodoxy
6:00 PM St. Paul Greek Orthodox
Church- N. Royalton, OH

March 19
St. Andrews – Maple Hts. 5:00 pm

March 26
St. Theodosius – Cleveland 5:00 pm

April 2 -
Holy Cross Mission - Nashville/
Wooster- 5:00 pm

April 9 -
St. Nicholas - Mentor - 5:00 pm

Parish Council News

 **The next Parish Council Meeting is Thursday, March 23, 2006. Any parish member is welcome.**

Memorial Saturday Commemorations

Names for Memorial Saturday Commemoration can be given to the vestrymen or to Fr. John. You can also send them to the Cemetery office or email them.

Community Outreach Workers

Thank you to all the volunteers, especially Maca & Sonia, who helped with our Merrick House luncheon. The turnout was unfortunate, but we know we must not "grow weary in well-doing". May God bless each of you for your efforts.

Dan Morris, Charities Committee Chair

Coffee Hour & Greeters Schedules

Coffee Hour Hosts:

3/12 MacaTyler & Judy Schwind
3/19 Joyce Tabeling
3/26 Tammy Ponomarenko & Mary Swit
4/2 Sonya Vorrell & Donna Jacak
4/9 Mat. Jeanne Homik & Mat. Cindy Zdinak
4/16 Dan & Livinia Morris

Greeters:

Michael Tabeling
Paul Pangrace
Paul Pangrace/M. Tabeling

2006 Dues

\$250.00 per

Adult member

(18 and older)

Concerning Prayers for the Dead

A story of St. Theodosius of Chernogov

How important commemoration at the Liturgy is may be seen in the following occurrence: Before the uncovering of the relics of St. Theodosius of Chernogov (1896), the priest-monk (the renowned Staretz Alexis of Goloseyevsky Hermitage, of the Kiev-Caves Lavra, who died in 1916) who was conducting the re-vesting of the relics, becoming weary while sitting by the relics, dozed off and saw before him the Saint, who told him: "I thank you for laboring me. I beg you also, when you will serve the Liturgy, to commemorate my parents" —and he gave their names (Priest Nikita and Maria).* "How can you, O Saint, ask my prayers, when you yourself stand at the heavenly Throne and grant to people God's mercy?" the priest-monk asked. "Yes, that is true," replied St. Theodosius, "but the offering at the Liturgy is more powerful than my prayer."

Therefore, panikhidas and prayer at home for the dead are beneficial for them, as are good deeds done in their memory, such as alms or contributions to the church. But especially beneficial for them is commemoration at the Divine Liturgy. There have been many appearances of the dead and other occurrences which confirm how beneficial is the commemoration of the dead. Many who died in repentance, but who were unable to manifest this while they were alive, have been freed from tortures and have obtained repose. In the Church prayers are ever offered for the repose of the dead, and on the day of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, in the kneeling prayers at vespers, there is even a special petition "for those in hell."

St. Gregory the Great, in answering in his Dialogues the question, "Is there anything at all that can possibly benefit souls after death?" teaches: "The Holy Sacrifice of Christ, our saving Victim, brings great benefits to souls even after death, provided their sins (are such as) can be pardoned in the life to come. For this reason the souls of the dead sometimes beg to have Liturgies offered for them ... The safer course, naturally, is to do for ourselves during life what we hope others will do for us after death. It is better to make one's exit a free man than to seek liberty after one is in chains. We should, therefore, dispense this

world with all our hearts as though its glory were already spent, and offer our sacrifice of tears to God each day as we immolate His sacred Flesh and Blood. This Sacrifice alone has the power of saving the soul from eternal death, for it presents to us mystically the death of the Only-begotten Son" (Dialogues IV: 57, 60, pp. 266, 272-3).

St. Gregory gives several examples of the dead appearing to the living and asking for or thanking them for the celebration of the Liturgy for their repose; once, also, a captive whom his wife believed dead and for whom she had the Liturgy celebrated on certain days, returned from captivity and told her how he had been released from his chains on some days—the very days when the Liturgy had been offered for him. (Dialogues IV: 57, 59, pp. 267, 270).

Protestants generally find the Church's prayer for the dead to be somehow incompatible with the necessity of finding salvation first of all in this life: "If you can be saved by the Church after death, then why bother to struggle or find faith in this Life? Let us eat, drink, and be merry..." Of course, no one holding such a philosophy has ever attained salvation by the Church's prayer, and it is evident that such an argument is quite artificial and even hypocritical. The Church's prayer cannot save anyone who does not wish salvation, or who never offered any struggle for it himself during his lifetime. In a sense, one might say that the prayer of the Church or of individual Christians for a dead person is but another result of that person's life: he would not be prayed for unless he had done something during his lifetime to inspire such prayer after his death.

St. Mark of Ephesus also discusses this question of the Church's prayer for the dead and the improvement it brings in their state, citing the example of the prayer of St. Gregory the Dialogist for the Roman Emperor Trajan—a prayer inspired by a good deed of this pagan Emperor.

*These names had been unknown before this vision. Several years after the canonization, St. Theodosius' own Book of Commemoration was found in the monastery where he had once been abbot, which confirmed these names and corroborated the vision.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday March 12 Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

6:00 PM Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers - St. Paul
Greek Orthodox Church - N. Royalton

Monday March 13

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Daily Vespers

Tuesday March 14

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Daily Vespers

Wednesday March 15

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts & Potluck

Thursday March 16

11:00 AM Faith Enrichment

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Daily Vespers

Friday March 17

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts & Potluck

Saturday March 18 - Memorial Saturday

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday March 19 St. Gregory Palamas

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

5:00 PM Deanery Mission Vespers - St. Andrew
Church - Maple Heights

*Fr. John is also available for Confession after
Services for those who cannot come earlier.*



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Addressee