

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



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July 22, 2007

8th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Myrrbearer Mary Magdalene,
Equal to the Apostles

Glory to God for All Things!

- Archpriest John Zdinak
Dean
- Archpriest Pavel Soucek
Retired/Attached
- 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



Welcome Visitors

We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the fellowship of our social hour following Liturgy.

Myrrhbearer and Equal of the Apostles Mary Magdalene Commemorated on July 22

The Holy Myrrh-Bearer Equal of the Apostles Mary Magdalene. On the banks of Lake Gennesareth (Galilee), between the cities of Capharnaum and Tiberias, was the small city of Magdala, the remains of which have survived to our day. Now only the small village of Mejhdel stands on the site.

A woman whose name has entered forever into the Gospel account was born and grew up in Magdala. The Gospel tells us nothing of Mary's younger years, but Tradition informs us that Mary of Magdala was young and pretty, and led a sinful life. It says in the Gospels that the Lord expelled seven devils from Mary (Luke. 8:2). From the moment of her healing Mary led a new life, and became a true disciple of the Savior.

The Gospel relates that Mary followed after the Lord, when He went with the Apostles through the cities and villages of Judea and Galilee preaching about the Kingdom of God. Together with the pious women Joanna, wife of Choza (steward of Herod), Susanna and others, she served Him from her own possessions (Luke 8:1-3) and undoubtedly shared with the Apostles the evangelic tasks in common with the other women. The Evangelist Luke, evidently, has her in view together with the other women, stating that at the moment of the Procession of Christ onto Golgotha, when after the Scourging He took on Himself the heavy Cross, collapsing under its weight, the women followed after Him weeping and wailing, but He consoled them. The Gospel relates that Mary Magdalene was present on Golgotha at the moment of the Lord's Crucifixion. While all the disciples of the Savior ran away, she remained fearlessly at the Cross together with the Mother of God and the Apostle John.

The Evangelists also list among those standing at the Cross the mother of the Apostle James,

and Salome, and other women followers of the Lord from Galilee, but all mention Mary Magdalene first. St John, in addition to the Mother of God, names only her and Mary Cleopas. This indicates how much she stood out from all the women who gathered around the Lord.

“I have
seen the
Lord!”

She was faithful to Him not only in the days of His Glory, but also at the moment of His extreme humiliation and insult. As the Evangelist Matthew relates, she was present at the Burial of the Lord. Before her eyes Joseph and Nicodemus went out to the tomb with His lifeless Body. She watched as they covered over the entrance to the cave with a large stone, entombing the Source of Life.

Faithful to the Law in which she was raised, Mary together with the other women spent following day at rest, because it was the great day of the Sabbath, coinciding with the Feast of Passover. But all the rest of the peaceful day the women gathered spices to go to the Grave of the Lord at dawn on Sunday and anoint His Body according to the custom of the Jews.

It is necessary to mention that, having agreed to go on the first day of the week to the Tomb early in the morning, the holy women had no possibility of meeting with one another on Saturday.

They went separately on Friday evening to their

own homes. They went out only at dawn the following day to go to the Sepulchre, not all together, but each from her own house.

The Evangelist Matthew writes that the women came to the grave at dawn, or as the Evangelist Mark expresses, extremely early before the rising of the sun. The Evangelist John, elaborating upon these, says that Mary came to the grave so early that it was still dark. Obviously, she waited impatiently for the end of night, but it was not yet daybreak. She ran to the place where the Lord's Body lay.

Mary went to the tomb alone. Seeing the stone pushed away from the cave, she ran away in fear to tell the close Apostles of Christ, Peter and John. Hearing the strange message that the Lord was gone from the tomb, both Apostles ran to the tomb and, seeing the shroud and winding cloths, they were amazed. The Apostles went and said nothing to anyone, but Mary stood about the entrance to the tomb and wept. Here in this dark tomb so recently lay her lifeless Lord.

Wanting proof that the tomb really was empty, she went down to it and saw a strange sight. She saw two angels in white garments, one sitting at the head, the other at the foot, where the Body of Jesus had been placed. They asked her, "Woman, why weepest thou?" She answered them with the words which she had said to the Apostles, "They have taken my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." At that moment, she turned around and saw the Risen Jesus standing near the grave, but she did not recognize Him.

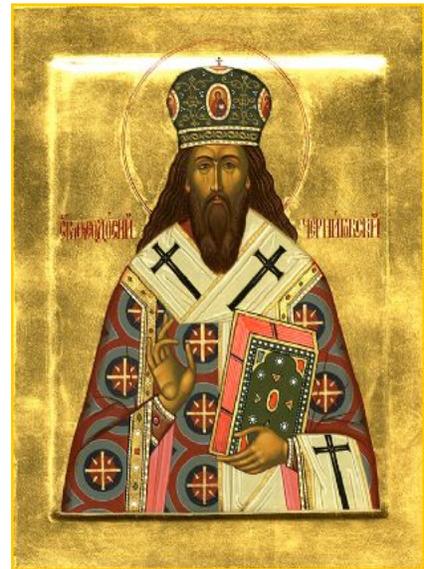
He asked Mary, "Woman, why weepest thou? Whom dost thou seek?" She answered thinking that she was seeing the gardener, "Sir, if thou hast taken him, tell where thou hast put Him, and I will take Him away." Continued on page 5

The **CHURCH PICNIC** will be held **TODAY**,
July 22, 2007 at the Ridge Manor Picnic Area from
1 pm - 5 pm. The Church will provide hot dogs, hamburg-
 ers and drinks. If you wish to bring anything additional to
 the table, you may do so. More importantly, **PLEASE**
COME FOR FOOD & FELLOWSHIP!



Saturday, September 15th
11AM - 6 PM

Sunday, September 16th
NOON - 5 PM



St Theodosius the Archbishop of Chernigov

St Theodosius Feast Day &
 111th Anniversary of our Parish
BANQUET

Sunday, September 9, 2007
 Ridge Manor Party Center
12:30 PM

Ticket Information

Tickets go on sale August 5
 Adults: \$17.00 Children: \$7.00 (12 years and under)
 Tickets are by **Advance Sale** only
 (no tickets available at the door)
 To purchase your tickets see:
 Nina Antonik 440 843-5804
 Judy Schwind 440 235-5468
 Or Maca Tyler 440 899-0053

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL -- The Orthodox Christian Network's "Come Receive the Light" program schedule for July was recently released.

07/21-22/07 Topic: 40 Years of Service to the Church and the Media Guest: Chris Botsaris

07/28-29/07 Topic: How to Keep Your Spouse Guest: Fr. Charles Joanides

In Cleveland tune in every Sunday at 2:30 PM to WHK 1220 AM radio to hear these broadcasts.

Listen to "The ARK" your 24/7 source for Orthodox Christian music and much more. Programs are subject to change; please visit our web site for more information on programs, featured segments, and to subscribe to our e-newsletter.

Introducing "The Rudder", Orthodox Christian Network (OCN's) second 24/7 Internet radio station—now live! The Rudder features traditional Orthodox Christian liturgical music, hymns and chants from around the world, and powerful teaching programs. Listeners searching for uplifting and ancient Orthodox Christian music and reflections will find their daily inspiration on "The Rudder". www.receive.org/



St. Andrew's Open

Saturday August 25, 2007

Shawnee Hills Golf Course

18753 Egbert Rd., Bedford

\$65 - 18 holes or \$45 - 9 holes

Price includes Golf, cart, lunch, dinner at St.

Andrew Church Hall

Starting Tee Time 10:00 am

Reservation Deadline 8/15/07

Corporate donations welcomed

Michael J. Molchan, 6321 Brecksville

Rd., Independence, OH 44131

216.447.0373

*Arise, shine; For your
 light has come! And the
 glory of the Lord is risen
 upon you.... The Gentiles
 shall come to your light....
 Lift up your eyes all around,
 and see: They all gather to-
 gether, they come to you....*

Isaiah 60:1,3-4

The illuminated domes are waiting to be "adopted" for the months of August, September and November! Call or e-mail the office to pledge, place your contribution in the special collection envelope, mark it "DOMES" and include it in the next weekly collection. Rates are \$42.50 a week or \$170 a month. Call 216.741.1310 or write sttheocemetery@yahoo.com

Prayer Requests

Departed:

Victor Jermakov + 6/16/07

Ill-afflicted:

Fr. Stephen Jula
 Helen Baldner
 John Clements
 Henry & Julia Grabowski
 John & Ann Shuleva
 Jeanne Twitchell
 Mary Wazevich
 Roy A. Baldner
 Michael & Jennifer Turczyk
 Helen Kozak
 Nick Jarachovic
 Mary Ann Silberhorn
 Margaret Rusynyk
 John Conrad
 George Ponomarenko
 Joyce Surplus (Tylers' Aunt)
 Jeanne Kish
 Timothy Winsky
 Terrence Winsky
 Martha Bondor
 Nick Safonovs
 Dorothy Laskovich
 William J. Spurlock
 Mary Mishko
 Helen Barski
 Wasil Fedchenko (brother of
 Tatiana Boryczewski)
 Eugene Erhardt
 June Stuchlak
 Mary Sudnick
 Daniel Morris
 James Shehan

St. John's Monastery
 John Burnett (OCMC Missionary
 in Uganda)

Parish Council News

The July 12th Parish Council Meeting was cancelled. An August meeting will soon be scheduled.

Upcoming Events

- July 19-22 - St. Paul Grecian Festival
- July 21 - 22 - St. Sava Cathedral Serbian Festival
- July 22 - Nora Grace Oprisko Baptism
- JULY 22 - PARISH PICNIC @ RIDGE MANOR**
- July 22 - Sacred Music Concert 5 pm @ St. Sava Cathedral
- July 22 - St. Innocent Golf Outing at Sweetbriar, Avon Lake
- July 27-29 - FOCA Sports Tournament in Weirton, WV
- August 6 - Transfiguration of our Lord
- August 6-10 - Vacation Church School @ St. Vladimir, Parma
- August 15 - Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos
- August 17-19 - St. George Shish-Ka-Bob Festival
- August 17-19 - St. Mary Romanian Festival
- August 23-26 - Ss. Constantine & Helen Greek Festival
- August 25 - St. Andrew's Golf Tournament @ Shawnee Hills
- August 29-September 3 - FOCA Convention in Nashville, TN
- September 1-2 - St. Sava Church Soccer Tournament
- September 8 - Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos
- September 9 - St. Theodosius Feast Day and Banquet
- September 9 - Church School Registration
- September 14 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- September 15-16 - Tremont Arts and Cultural Festival
- September 16 - Church School Registration
- September 22 - Church School Begins!

Congratulations to the newly Baptized & illuminated Nora Grace Oprisko and her parents, Mara & Will.

St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Vacation Church School

August 6-10, 2007, 9:30-12:00

Pray Without Ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

\$15 per child Ages 3-15

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For more information, contact:

Mary Ann Sklaryk 216.642.9355

Coffee Hour & Greeters Schedules

Coffee Hour Hosts:

7/22 Patti Sankovic, Natalia Pricinovskis
 7/29 Maca Tyler & Judy Schwind
 8/05 Donna Jacak
 8/12 Mat. Cindy Zdinak
 8/19 Dan & Lavinia Morris
 8/26 Albert Casey

Greeters:

Steven & Eileen Bondor
 Phyllis Gindlesperger & Virginia Medvec
 Linda Smotzer & Karen Felon
 Debbi Pinta & Michael Tabeling
 Steven & Eileen Bondor
 Paul Pangrace & Karen Felon

2007 Dues

\$250.00 per Adult member (18 and older)

The July Special Collection is designated for St. John's Monastery.

Continued from page 2

Then she recognized the Lord's voice. This was the voice she heard in those days and years, when she followed the Lord through all the cities and places where He preached. He spoke her name, and she gave a joyful shout, "Rabbi" (Teacher).

Respect and love, fondness and deep veneration, a feeling of thankfulness and recognition at His Splendor as great Teacher, all came together in this single outcry. She was able to say nothing more and she threw herself down at the feet of her Teacher to wash them with tears of joy. But the Lord said to her: "Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and tell them: "I ascend to My Father, and your Father; to My God and to your God."

She came to herself and again ran to the Apostles, to do the will of Him sending her to preach. Again she ran into the house, where the Apostles still remained in dismay, and proclaimed to them the joyous message, "I have seen the Lord!" This was the first preaching in the world about the Resurrection.

The Apostles proclaimed the Glad Tidings to the world, but she proclaimed it to the Apostles themselves.

Holy Scripture does not tell us about the life of Mary Magdalene after the Resurrection of Christ, but it is impossible to doubt, that if in the terrifying minutes of Christ's Crucifixion she was the foot of His Cross with His All-Pure Mother and St John, she must have stayed with them during the happier time after the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ. Thus in the Acts of the Apostles St Luke writes that all the Apostles with one mind stayed in prayer and supplication, with certain women and Mary the Mother of Jesus and His brethren.

Holy Tradition testifies that when the Apostles departed from Jerusalem to preach to all the ends of the earth, then Mary Magdalene also went with them. A daring woman, whose heart was full of reminiscence of the Resurrection, she went beyond her native borders and went to preach in pagan Rome. Everywhere she proclaimed to people about Christ and His teaching. When many did not believe that Christ is risen, she repeated

to them what she had said to the Apostles on the radiant morning of the Resurrection: "I have seen the Lord!" With this message she went all over Italy.



Tradition relates that in Italy Mary Magdalene visited Emperor Tiberias (14-37 A.D.) and proclaimed to him Christ's Resurrection. According to Tradition, she took him a red egg as a symbol of the Resurrection, a symbol of new life with the words: "Christ is Risen!" Then she told the emperor that in his Province of Judea the unjustly condemned Jesus the Galilean, a holy man, a miracleworker, powerful before God and all mankind, had been executed at the instigation of the Jewish High Priests, and the sentence confirmed by the procurator appointed by Tiberias, Pontius Pilate.

Mary repeated the words of the Apostles, that we are redeemed from the vanity of life is not with perishable silver or gold, but rather by the precious Blood of Christ.

Thanks to Mary Magdalene the custom to give each other paschal eggs on the day of the Radiant Resurrection of Christ spread among Christians over all the world. On one ancient Greek manuscript, written on parchment, kept in the monastery library of St Athanasius near Thessalonica, is a prayer read on the day of Holy Pascha for the blessing of eggs and cheese. In it is indicated that the igumen in passing out the blessed eggs says to the brethren: "Thus have we received from the holy Fathers, who preserved this custom from the very time of the holy Apostles, therefore the holy

Equal of the Apostles Mary Magdalene first showed believers the example of this joyful offering."

Mary Magdalene continued her preaching in Italy and in the city of Rome itself. Evidently, the Apostle Paul has her in mind in his Epistle to the Romans (16: 6), where together with other ascetics of evangelic preaching he mentions Mary (Mariam), who as he expresses "has bestowed much labor on us." Evidently, she extensively served the Church in its means of subsistence and its difficulties, being exposed to dangers, and sharing with the Apostles the labors of preaching.

According to Church Tradition, she remained in Rome until the arrival of the Apostle Paul, and for two more years following his departure from Rome after the first court judgment upon him. From Rome, St Mary Magdalene, already bent with age, moved to Ephesus where the holy Apostle John unceasingly labored. There the saint finished her earthly life and was buried.

Her holy relics were transferred in the ninth century to Constantinople, and placed in the monastery Church of St Lazarus. In the era of the Crusader campaigns they were transferred to Italy and placed at Rome under the altar of the Lateran Cathedral. Part of the relics of Mary Magdalene are said to be in Provage, France near Marseilles, where over them at the foot of a steep mountain a splendid church is built in her honor.

The Orthodox Church honors the holy memory of St Mary Magdalene, the woman called by the Lord Himself from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God.

Formerly immersed in sin and having received healing, she sincerely and irrevocably began a new life and never wavered from that path. Mary loved the Lord Who called her to a new life. She was faithful to Him not only when He was surrounded by enthusiastic crowds and winning recognition as a miracle-worker, but also when all the disciples deserted Him in fear and He, humiliated and crucified, hung in torment upon the Cross. This is why the Lord, knowing her faithfulness, appeared to her first, and esteemed her worthy to be first to proclaim His Resurrection. ✚

Weekly Schedule

Sunday July 22

8th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Baptismal Liturgy: Nora Grace Oprisko

1:00 PM Parish Picnic at Ridge Manor

Monday July 23

Tuesday July 24

Wednesday July 25

Thursday July 26

Friday July 27

Saturday July 28

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday July 29

9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

*Be imitators of God
... as dearly loved
children and live a
life of love...*

*as a fragrant offering
and sacrifice to God.*

Ephesians 5:1-2

...I have summoned you by name;
you are mine.

When you pass through the waters,

I will be with you...

they will not sweep over you...

because I **love you...**

Isaiah 43:1-2 & 4

**Every good thing the Lord promised
them came true.**

Joshua 21:45



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Addressee