

# Ambo

ST. THEodosius ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



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Cleveland, Ohio

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September 9, 2007

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Glorification of St. Theodosius

## Glorification of St. Theodosius

- 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*

### **Elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross - September 14**

The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: The pagan Roman emperors tried to completely eradicate from human memory the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and was resurrected for mankind. The Emperor Hadrian (117-138) gave orders to cover over the ground of Golgotha and the Sepulchre of the Lord, and to build a temple of the pagan goddess Venus and a statue of Jupiter.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols there. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the great Christian sacred remains, the Sepulchre of the Lord and the Life-Creating Cross were again discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under the Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory in the year 312 over Maxentius, ruler of the Western part of the Roman empire, and over Licinius, ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 he had issued the Edict of Milan, by which the Christian religion was legalized and the persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the empire were stopped. The ruler Licinius, although he had signed the Edict of Milan to oblige Constantine, still fanatically continued the persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the 313 Edict of toleration extend also to the Eastern part of the empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, having gained victory over his enemies in three wars with God's assistance, had seen in the heavens the Sign of the Cross, and written beneath: "By this you shall conquer."

Ardently desiring to find the Cross on which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, St Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to St Macarius, Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Although the holy empress Helen was already in her declining years, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. The empress gave orders to destroy the pagan temple and the statues in Jerusalem. Searching for the Life-Creating Cross, she made inquiry of Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful.

Finally, they directed her to a certain elderly Hebrew by the name of Jude who stated that the Cross was buried where the temple of Venus stood. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Tomb of the Lord was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discern on which of the three crosses the Savior was crucified, Patriarch Macarius alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead one, he came to life. Having beheld the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-Creating Cross was found.

Christians came in a huge throng to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching St Macarius to elevate the Cross, so that even those far

off might reverently contemplate it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders raised up the Holy Cross, and the people, saying "Lord have mercy," reverently prostrated before the Venerable Wood. This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-Creating Cross another miracle took place: a grievously sick woman, beneath the shadow of the Holy Cross, was healed instantly. The elder Jude and other Jews there believed in Christ and accepted Holy Baptism. Jude received the name Cyriacus and afterwards was consecrated Bishop of Jerusalem.

During the reign of Julian the Apostate (361-363) he accepted a martyr's death for Christ (see October 28). The holy empress Helen journeyed to the holy places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings and where the Mother of God was buried after her death.

St Helen took part of the Life-Creating Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. The holy emperor Constantine gave orders to build at Jerusalem a majestic and spacious church in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-Giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The temple was constructed in about ten years. St Helen did not survive until the dedication of the temple, she died in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross was established.

Another event connected to the Cross of the Lord is remembered also on this day: its return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen year captivity. During the reign of the Byzantine emperor Phocas (602-610) the Persian emperor Khosroes II in a war against the Greeks defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem and captured both the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord and the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633).

The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years and only under the emperor Heraclius (610-641), who with the help of God defeated Khosroes and concluded peace with his successor and son Siroes, was the Cross of the Lord returned to the Christians.

With great solemnity the Life-creating Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Heraclius in imperial crown and royal purple carried the Cross of Christ into the temple of the Resurrection. With the emperor went Patriarch Zacharios. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the emperor suddenly stopped and was not able to proceed farther. The holy Patriarch explained to the emperor that an angel of the Lord was blocking his way. The emperor was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world from sin had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then Heraclius donned plain garb, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church.

We are taking orders for Embroidered Polo Shirts. The official "volunteer" shirt is Seafoam Green with Dark Teal Green Thread. Mike Tabeing has a sample of the shirt that you can see at coffee hour. Shirts are also available in other colors and many sizes. Please see Mike Tabeing or Debby Pinta to order your shirt. These shirts are \$26 each. The deadline for ordering shirts for the Tremont event will be Sept 3rd. Payment is also required at that time. These shirts will be available after the initial cutoff, and there are additional thread colors/shirt colors available. The price will be between \$27 & \$30. Please contact Debby Pinta for information.

## Dome Lighters



*Week of September 9*

*In Memory of Gregory Demko*

*by Roger & Debbie Pinta*

**25th Anniversary and Pilgrimage  
St. John's Monastery, Hiram, Ohio  
Wednesday, September 26th, 2007**



**Eastern Orthodox Women's Guild  
of Greater Cleveland  
† 45th Anniversary Year †**

You are cordially invited to attend the meeting of the E.O.W.G.  
on

Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Ss. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church  
3352 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

Program: A Mission Journey --  
The Orthodox Church in India (Video Presentation)

We would like to start a weekly Bible Study on a weekday evening. The cost for materials would be approximately \$30 per person. Fr. John will be conducting the sessions. Please give your name to Paul Pangrace if you are interested. We would like to start in September if possible.

## Please Note

**Please put your envelope number on EACH offering envelope this month. The company switched computer programs and numbers were omitted. They should be on your October envelopes**

## Upcoming Events

### Prayer Requests Departed:

Wasył Fedchenko + 7/  
25/07  
(brother of Tatiana Bo-  
ryczewski)  
Nick Safonovs +8/23/07

### Ill-afflicted:

Helen Baldner  
John Clements  
Henry & Julia Gra-  
bowski  
John & Ann Shuleva  
Jeanne Twitchell  
Mary Wazevich  
Roy A. Baldner  
Helen Kozak  
Mary Ann Silberhorn  
Margaret Rusynyk  
John Conrad  
George Ponomarenko  
Joyce Surplus (Tylers'  
Aunt)  
Jeanne Kish  
Timothy Winsky  
Terrence Winsky  
Martha Bondor  
Dorothy Laskovich  
William J. Spurlock  
Helen Barski  
Eugene Erhardt  
June Stuchlak  
Mary Sudnick  
James Shehan  
Donna Jacak  
Mary Lee Erhardt  
Matthew Fox



*September 9 - St. Theodosius Feast Day and Banquet*

*September 9 - Church School Registration*

*September 10 - 90CC Golf Outing @ Lake Forest CC*

*September 11 - EOWG Meeting @ Ss. Constantine & Helen*



*September 14 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross*

*September 15-16 - Tremont Arts and Cultural Festival*

*September 16 - Church School Registration*

*September 21 - 90CC Baseball Night @ Indians vs. Oakland*

*September 22 - Church School Begins!*

*September 23 - October 28 - Sunday Evening Adult Education @*

*St. Matthew's "The Book of Revelation - an Introduction"*



*September 26 - 25th Anniversary St. Johns Monastery*

*September 27 - St. Herman's 30th Anniversary Fundraiser @*

*Massimo da Milano's. Info 216-524-6306.*

**Save this Date!**

**October 14, 2007**

**St. Mary of Egypt**

**15th Anniversary Lunch-  
eon**

**St. Paul's Greek Orthodox  
Details to Follow**

**The September Special  
Collection is designated  
for Fence Replacement**

Church School  
Registration

September 9, 2007

September 16, 2007

Following Liturgy

Parish Hall

### Parish Council News

6:00 PM - Tuesday,  
October 9, 2007  
@ Ridge Manor

### Coffee Hour & Greeters Schedules

#### Coffee Hour Hosts:

9/09 Wojnicz Family

9/16 Mary Swit & Tammy Ponomarenko  
Felon

9/23 Joyce Tabeling

#### Greeters:

Debby Pinta & Tom Broslawik

Michael Tabeling & Karen

Steven & Eileen Bondor

#### 2007 Dues

\$250.00 per  
Adult member  
(18 and older)



## Weekly Schedule

**September 9**

**15th Sunday after Pentecost**

**St. Theodosius Feast Day**

*9:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Bishop IRINEJ*

*12:30 PM Parish Dinner*

**Monday September 10**

**Tuesday September 11**

**Wednesday September 12**

**Thursday September 13**

*11:00 AM Faith Enrichment*

*6:00 PM Great Vespers*

**Friday September 14**

**Elevation of the Cross**

*9:00 AM Divine Liturgy*

**Saturday September 15**

*6:00 PM Great Vespers*

**September 16**

**16th Sunday after Pentecost**

*9:00 AM Divine Liturgy*

*Church School Registration*



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**8200 Biddulph Rd**

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*Addressee*