

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



DECEMBER 11, 2022

26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE
FOREFATHERS

733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

www.sttheodosius.org

Father Jan Cizmar
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[st.theodosiuscathedral@
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Office Hours TWTh
9AM-2PM, please call ahead

Subdeacon Michael Tabeling,
Sacristan

Subdeacon Igor Gajewsky
Sacristan

Reader Julius Kovach,
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

Denise "Nisi" Pozderac
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1(216) 574-4886

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Office Hours MTWTh
10:00AM-2:00PM

Paul Zawolowycz
Ambo Editor

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

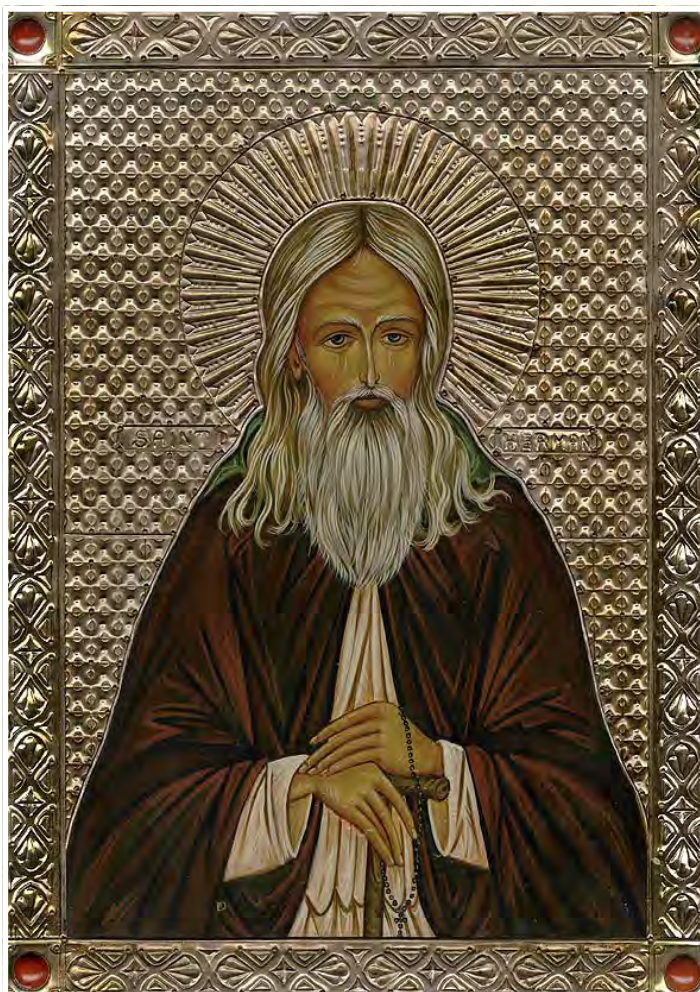
Please check weekly schedule
for specific days (last page).

Previous Ambos on website.

Articles for publication
should be submitted to:

ambo-theodosius

@googlegroups.com



The Repose of Father Herman (observed Dec 13). The time of the Elder's passing had come. One day he ordered his disciple Gerasim to light a candle before the Icons, and to read the Acts of the Holy Apostles. After some time his face glowed brightly and he said in a loud voice, "Glory to Thee, O Lord!" He then ordered the reading to be halted, and he announced that the Lord had willed that his life would now be spared for another week. A week later, again by his orders, candles were lit, and the Acts of the Holy Apostles were read. Quietly, the Elder bowed his head on Gerasim's chest; the cell

was filled with a sweet-smelling odor; and his face glowed, and Father Herman was no more! Thus he died in blessedness, he passed away in the sleep of a righteous man in the eighty-first year of his life of great labor the 25th day of December 1837. (It was the 13th of December according to the Julian Calendar, although there are some records which state that he died on November 28th and was buried on December 26th).

Those sent with the sad news to the harbor returned to announce that the administrator of the colony Kashevarov had forbidden the burial of the Elder until his own arrival. He also ordered that a finer coffin be made for Father Herman, and that he would come as soon as possible and would bring a priest with him. But then a great wind came up, a rain fell, and a terrible storm broke. The distance from the harbor to Spruce Island is not great—about a two hour journey—but no one would agree to go to sea in such weather. Thus it continued for a full month, and although the body lay in state for a full month in the warm house of his students, his face did not undergo any change at all, and not the slightest odor emanated from his body. Finally, through the efforts of Kuzma Uchilischev, a coffin was obtained. No one arrived from the harbor, and the inhabitants of Spruce Island alone buried the remains of the Elder in the ground. Thus the words which Father Herman uttered before his death were fulfilled. After this the wind quieted down, and the surface of the sea became as smooth as a mirror.

One evening, above the village Katani (on Afognak) an unusual pillar of light which reached up to heaven was seen above Spruce Island. Astonished by the miraculous appearance, experienced elders and the Creole Gerasim Vologdin and his wife Anna said, “It seems that Father Herman has left us,” and they began to pray. After a time, they were informed that the Elder had indeed passed away that very night. This same pillar was seen in various places by others. On the night of his death a vision was seen in another of the settlements on Afognak; it seemed as though a man was rising from Spruce Island into the

clouds.

The disciples buried their father, and placed a wooden memorial marker above his grave. Father Peter Kashevarov, the priest on Kodiak, says, “I saw it myself, and I can say that today it seems as though it had never been touched by time; as though it had been cut this day.”

Having witnessed the life of Father Herman glorified by his zealous labors, having seen his miracles, and the fulfillment of his predictions, finally having observed his blessed falling asleep, “in general, all the local inhabitants,” Bishop Peter witnesses, “have the highest esteem for him, as though he was a holy ascetic, and they are fully convinced that he has found favor in the presence of God.”

In 1842, five years after the passing away of the Elder, Archbishop Innocent of Kamchatka and the Aleutians, was near Kodiak on a sailing vessel which was in great distress. He looked to Spruce Island, and said to himself, “If you have found favor in God’s presence, Father Herman then may the wind change.” It seems as though not more than fifteen minutes had passed, said the bishop, when the wind became favorable, and he successfully reached the shore. In thanksgiving for being saved, Archbishop Innocent himself conducted a Memorial Service (Panikhida) over the grave of the blessed Father Herman.

O Holy Father Herman of Alaska, pray unto God for us!

VISITATIONS

Fr. Cizmar would like to know who requires visitation. He is eager to visit those who might have gone a long time without visitation for any reason at all. A key duty of a priest’s ministry is to visit the sick and confined, those unable to attend the holy services for any reason. His phone number and email address are printed on the front of every Ambo, and are repeated here: **Father Jan Cizmar - 1(440) 732-8182 - st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com**

Fr. Jan is asking all couples preparing for a wedding in the coming year to give him a call, or see him before the Nativity feast. Fiancés, or future brides and groom will need to meet with him in January and start the wedding preparation.

Saint Theophanó (Dec 16) was a pious and virtuous Empress, who was greatly praised by the chroniclers of her time because of her evangelical life, her almsgiving, and her exceptional piety. She born in Constantinople, the daughter of Constantine Martinakios and his wife Anna, who raised their daughter with diligence. When she was of a marriageable age, Emperor Basil the Macedonian chose her to be the wife of his son Leo the Wise (886 - 912), with whom she dwelt in marital fidelity for twelve years.

The Holy Empress Theophanó and her husband Leo were imprisoned for three years, because Leo was falsely accused of plotting to assassinate his father, Emperor Basil. After obtaining her freedom, Theophanó spent her life in prayer and fasting, earnestly struggling for her salvation. She was recognized as a Saint and a wonderworker, even during her lifetime, because of the many good works which she performed out of love for her neighbor.

Though she lived in the world, she renounced everything worldly, and

became a benefactor of the poor. She also built churches and monasteries, or restored those in need of repair. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful.



Despite all the grandeur and wealth surrounding her, she preserved her customary humility and modesty. She preferred to dress in simple clothing so that she would not be recognized. Accompanied by two trusted servants, she would visit the homes of the poor and the persecuted, offering her assistance. Her faith was such that she was found

worthy of the gift of performing miracles. When medical science gave up on a patient because it could not heal him, Saint Theophanó restored him to health. In spite of all the bitterness she had experienced in her life, Saint Theophanó could still sing praises to the Lord, according to the words of the Prophet King David: "Sing praises to the Lord, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises" (Psalm 46/47:6).

Saint Theophanó reposed circa 893-894. Even before her death, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophanó, but she forbade him to do so. It was Emperor Leo who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing his wife to be one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated.

The incorrupt relics of Saint Theophanó are preserved in the Patriarchal Church of Saint George, at the Phanar in Constantinople. A particle from her relics is in Dionysiou Monastery on Mount Athos.

Sunday January 8

Saturday February 4

Saturday March 4

Church School Calendar

Saturday April 8 (Lazarus Saturday)

Saturday May 6

Saturday June 3

Thank you, thank you, to all who participated in this year's Merrick House Angel Tree!

All the names have been claimed.

Distribution will be a Merrick House on **Thursday Dec. 15 at 6PM**, and all are invited to attend.

Any problems or questions, please see Dan Morris.

God bless you for your generosity.



WEEKLY AKATHIST AND LECTURE ON THE HOLY THEOTOKOS

The Most Holy Theotokos took the most important place of all of mankind in the incarnation of Christ. In the Nativity hymns we chant:

*The angels offer You a hymn; the heavens, a star;
the Magi, gifts; the shepherds, their wonder;
the earth, its cave; the wilderness, the manger;
and we offer You a Virgin Mother.*

Every week on Wednesday after the Akathists, Fr. Jan will offer a short reflection on the prefigurations of the Mother of God in the Old Testament.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Parma, OH is seeking the services of a Choir Director

“Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day!” (1 Chr 16:23)

Help us lift up our hearts in beautiful worship to the Lord and proclaim the good news of Christ to the world.

Ideal candidates will have formal music education, choral & church conducting experience, vocal and piano proficiency, and a level of liturgical and theological education.

Responsibilities include working with the parish rector for successful operations of liturgical services, leading the choir in all liturgical services, leading rehearsals and teaching good vocal technique, encouraging full congregation participation, actively recruiting new choir members, and engaging our children with music.

The position includes remuneration and will become open and available at the beginning of 2023. Those interested in the position, even if not all qualifications are met, are invited to contact Fr. Christopher Moore:

frchristopher@holy-trin.org, 440-447-7704

Nativity Potluck

Friday, December 30th
6:00 pm in the Parish Hall

Come for an evening of relaxed and fun fellowship!

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and any favorite beverages. Main entrees to be provided.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

There is an opportunity to prepare for the Nativity of our Lord by confession, every Saturday before and after vespers, or by appointment. From Tuesday, December 20 till Friday, December 23 a priest will be available for confession starting at 5pm till 7pm. At 6pm we will have Royal Hours and Vespers.

During the Nativity time, please remember to contact those who are sick and can't come to church, and those who decided to not come for various reasons. Greet them with the feast of the Nativity and light a candle for them. We have some fallen-away brothers and sisters in Christ and they need God and the Church, and our prayers. You might also know about someone who is ill, or can't drive to church. If possible help him and offer a ride, or bring him home a blessed bread (antidoron).

Please, save the date for our Nativity Potluck on 12/30

After January 6th, Fr. Jan will be blessing homes. He asks that anyone wishing to have their home blessed call him at (440) 732-8182 or email him at st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com to make the arrangement.

Sun December 18 8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy 3:00 PM Christmas Concert	Mon December 19 5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Daily Vespers	Tue December 20 5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Daily Vespers + 1st Royal Hour	Wed December 21 5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Daily Vespers + 3rd Royal Hour	Thu December 22 5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Daily Vespers + 6th Royal Hour	Fri December 23 5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Daily Vespers + 9th Royal Hour	Sat December 24 EVE OF NATIVITY (STRICT FAST) 10:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours 11:00 AM Liturgy followed by Vespers 6:00 PM Vigil (Great Compline)
Sun December 25 NATIVITY OF CHRIST 8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great	Mon December 26 SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS 8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy	Tue December 27 PROTODEACON STEPHEN 8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy	Wed December 28 NO FAST	Thu December 29	Fri December 30 NO FAST 6:00 PM Potluck in the church hall	Sat December 31 6:00 PM Great Vespers
Sun January 1 CIRCUMCISION OF THE LORD 8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great	Mon January 2	Tue January 3	Wed January 4 NO FAST	Thu January 5 EVE OF THE THEOPHANY (STRICT FAST) 6:00 PM Vigil and Blessing of Water	Fri January 6 THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF THE LORD 8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (NO FAST)	Sat January 7 6:00 PM Great Vespers

- Presenting The -

ST. THEODOSIUS PARISH HALL ROOF

MATCHING CAMPAIGN!

Our Parish Council President *Nisi Pozderac* has thrown down the gauntlet — She challenges us to a

***\$25,000.00 MATCHING CAMPAIGN ***

to repair the roof of our parish hall!

President Nisi will match every donation totaling up to \$25,000.00 donated for the purpose of fixing the roof.

Campaign ends 12/31/2022

Let us rise to the challenge!

Donations may be made to
St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral
733 Starkweather Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

(Please be sure to mark them for Parish Hall Roof)

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 12/11/2022

Deceased

Priest John Sykaluk

Gregory Ponomarenko

Special Intentions:

Priest Andrew

Deacon Paul Mitchell (*Tom Mitchell's father*)

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Reader Paul Pangrace

Reader Frank Tkacz

Reader Ron Latre (*cousin of Felons*)

Daniel Boerio

Jennifer Boerio

Horia Dascalescu (*Lavinia's brother*)

Diane Kearsey (*Janice Tkacz's Sister*)

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

Rachel Ohlin (*relative of Tatiana*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Michael O'Brien (*friend of Arlene*)

Joseph Czajkowski (*son of Jerry*)

Carol Nielsen (*Paul Pangrace's sister*)

Matthew Ponomarenko

Virginia Medvec

Stephen Chwalyk

Benjamin Udell (*son of Michael and Lacey*)

Jeffrey Parhamovich (*brother of Karen Felon*)

Margaret Parhamovich (*sister-in-law of Karen Felon*)

Margaret Peyton (*Cathy's aunt*)

Kristin Robinson (*friend of Nicholas Kozak*)

Jean Woycitzky Thompson (*Frank's cousin*)

Anna Marie Luvison (*daughter of Matthew & Katie (Ellis) Luvison*)

Martha Musil (*mother of Linda Kovach*)

Debra Parhamovich (*sister of Karen Felon*)

Grace Mary Parhamovich (*mother of Karen Felon*)

Peter

Gayle Vidovich

Emilia (*child of Jeremy & Yvonne*)

Elizabeth Balasz

Christina Hile (*Nisi & Cindy's sister*)

Lonnie Ellis (*Husband to Debra Ellis*)

Robert Martin Prock

Jennifer Humphrey

Anna-Marie

Andrew (*Nephew of Deborah Finley*)

Igor

Irene Alisauskas

Andrew Mytrohovich

Alexandra (*sister of Nicholas K.*)

Please submit names to the Prayer List by emailing them to Fr. Jan

st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

Or calling at 1(440) 732-8182

Names remain on the list for 30 days unless requested otherwise.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 11

Luke 24:1-12
Colossians 3:4-11
Luke 14:16-24

5:15-6:3

Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15
Matthew 11:27-30
Galatians 5:22-6:2

Monday, December 12

1 Timothy 5:1-10
Mark 8:11-21

Luke 6:17-23
1 Timothy 5:11-21
Mark 8:22-26

Tuesday, December 13

Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9
Wisdom of Solomon

Wednesday, December 14

1 Timothy 5:22-6:11
Mark 8:30-34

Thursday, December 15

1 Timothy 6:17-21
Mark 9:10-16

Friday, December 16

2 Timothy 1:1-2, 8-18
Mark 9:33-41

Saturday, December 17

Galatians 5:22-6:2
Luke 14:1-11

Sunday, December 18

Genesis 14:14-20
Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17
Deuteronomy 10:14-21
Luke 24:12-35
Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40
Matthew 1:1-25

ST. THEodosius IS NOW A SUBSCRIBER TO TITHE.LY

In response to requests to be able to donate electronically, we have set up a Tithe.ly account so people can donate either regularly or for special occasions online. Click here to see: <https://www.sttheodosius.org/donate>



Sunday, December 11

26th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday of the Forefathers
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Monday, December 12

Saint Mardarije (Uskokovic) of Libertyville (1935)
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Tuesday, December 13

Repose of Ven. Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America (1837)

Wednesday, December 14

Martyrs Thyrsos, Leukios, and Kallinikos (249-51)
6:00 PM Akathist



WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2022

Thursday, December 15

Hieromartyr Eleutherius, Bishop of Illyria, his mother, Martyr Evanthia, and Caribus the Eparch (2nd c.)

Friday, December 16

Prophet Haggai (Aggæus—50 B.C.)

Saturday, December 17

Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias and Misael (600 B.C.)
5:00 First Holy Confession
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, December 18

27th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday before the Nativity
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour