

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

733 Starkweather Avenue
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www.sttheodosius.org

Father Jan Cizmar
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9AM-2PM, please call ahead

Subdeacon Michael Tabeling,
Sacristan

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Sacristan

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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

DECEMBER 10, 2023

27TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

MARTYRS MENAS, HERMOGENES, AND
EUGRAPHUS, OF ALEXANDRIA



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 ob-

taining 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 monaster-

ies, 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 prais-

es 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.



The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugraphus suffered for their faith in Christ under the emperor Maximian (305-313).

Saint Menas was sent by the emperor from Athens to Alexandria



to suppress the riots that had arisen between the Christians and the pagans. Distinguished for his gift of eloquence, Menas instead openly began to preach the Christian Faith and he converted many pagans to Christ. Learning of this, Maximian sent Hermogenes to Alexandria to place the saints on trial. Moreover, he gave orders to purge the city of Christians.

Hermogenes, although he was a pagan, was distinguished by his reverent bearing. And struck by the endurance of Saint Menas under torture and by his miraculous healing after the cruel torments, he also came to believe in

Christ. Maximian himself then arrived in Alexandria. Neither the astonishing stoic endurance of Saints Menas and Hermogenes under torture, nor even the miracles manifested by God in this city, mollified the emperor. Instead, they vexed him all the more. The emperor personally stabbed **Saint Eugraphus**, the secretary of Saint Menas, who had declared himself a Christian upon witnessing the

endurance of Saints Menas and Hermogenes; and then gave orders to behead the holy Martyrs Menas and Hermogenes.

The relics of the holy martyrs, cast into the sea in an iron chest, were afterwards found (see February 17) and transferred to Constantinople in the ninth century. The emperor Justinian built a church in the name of the holy Martyr Menas of Alexandria.



Saint Joseph the Hymnographer (April 4) composed a Canon in honor of these holy martyrs.

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

The St. Theodosius Events Committee Requests Your Ideas!

Please share any ideas for events you might have with either Wayne Vidovich or Nicholas Zolikoff. We need your ideas!

Thank You!!

On behalf of the seminarian families attending our three seminaries (St. Vladimir's, St. Tikhon's, St. Herman's in Alaska), we want to thank all parishioners who donated to the St. Nicholas Wish List Program. Your generosity is heart-warming and greatly appreciated. You will bring joy to many families this holiday season. May God grant you a blessed Nativity season.



Q4 2023 Coffee Hour Sign-Up

Questions/Concerns: Cathy Weber (412-215-1928)

Dec 10 Nikol and M.Cindy

Dec 24 M. Jana

Dec 17 Gayle/Shawna

Dec 31 Gayle (Sponsored by Una & John)

Church Kiosk

We have a little Church kiosk (shop) with some basic items for daily Orthodox life like prayer books, an Orthodox study bible, baptismal crosses, wedding/baptismal candles, icons, prayer rope, Nativity cards, thank you cards, etc. If you need anything from the kiosk, it will be available for 10min after the Sunday liturgy, or by request; see McKenna Athineo for more details.



Dr Daniel
Hinshaw



Dr Sarah
Byrne-Martelli

LIGHT OF THE WORLD
WEBINAR SERIES
ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24



Darkness into Light:

Working through Grief
During the Holiday Season

THIRD SESSION: DECEMBER 14, 2023 | 7:00 p.m. ET

REGISTER TO ATTEND THIS FREE EVENT AT
www.svots.edu/events

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CATHEDRAL

THE CHRISTIAN WAY OF LIFE ACCORDING TO OUR CHURCH FATHERS

November 1 Fear of God

November 15 Obedience

November 20 Despondency

November 29 Struggle

December 12 Stillness

Each class will follow a worship service beginning
at 6:00 PM

Celebrate

*Join Us for Dinner
To Honor*

Father Andrew Clements'

*40 Years of service in the Priesthood
And
37 Years of Service to St. Nicholas Church*

*Where: Pine Ridge Country Club
30601 Ridge Rd.
Wickliffe, Ohio*

*When: Sunday, January 28th 2024
5:30 – 10:00 PM*

*Cost: \$30/person & Cash Bar
\$15/child (ages 4-10)
Vegan and Gluten-free options available*

*RSVP by January 14th To
Evelyn Wick at bobobskid@yahoo.com (440)-221-8265
9372 Euclid-Chardon Rd.
Kirtland, Ohio 44094*

*All reservations must be paid by January 14th.
Checks payable to St. Nicholas*



The Great Reindeer Hoax

Presented by: Get Away with Murder Inc.

Friday December 29, 2023

5:30 PM

St. Nicholas Banquet Center
755 S. Cleveland Ave.
Mogadore, OH 44260



Tickets: \$100 each

Sponsored by St. Nicholas RBO

Tickets on Sale: Friday Sept. 1st



PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 12/10/2023

Deceased

Mark Stepanovich

Special Intentions:

Fr. Micah Chisholm

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Roger Pinta

Subdeacon Leon Felon

Reader Paul Pangrace

Reader Frank Tkacz

Stephan Chwalyk

Horia Dascalescu (*Lavinia's brother*)

Diane Kearsy (*Janice Tkacz's Sister*)

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

Rachel Ohlin (*relative of Tatiana*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Carol Nielsen (*Paul Pangrace's sister*)

Virginia Medvec

Jeffrey Parhamovich (*brother of Karen Felon*)

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

Margaret Peyton (*Cathy's aunt*)

Jean Woycitzky Thompson (*Frank's cousin*)

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

Debra Parhamovich (*sister of Karen Felon*)

Grace Mary Parhamovich (*mother of Karen Felon*)

Gayle Vidovich

Elizabeth Balasz

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

Lonnie Ellis (*Husband to Debra Ellis*)

Robert Martin Prock

Valentina Zawolowycz (*mother of Paul Z*)

Mark

Michael Kapeluck (*friend of Cathy*)

Jack Zimmerman (*Uncle to Cindy Zdinak, Nisi Pozdarec and Father John Zdinak*)

Robert McKay (*friend of Andrew Myrtrohovic*)

Gwyneth Seddon (*daughter of Eric and Elisa*)

Paul Eppel (*father-in-law of Lauren Eppel*)

Elena Rich (*Jerry Czajkowski's daughter*)

Aaron and Nadine Drummond (Ellis) & unborn child

Wasył Miroewski (*Uncle of Tim Clos*)

Amelia Thombs (*Sister of Ethan*)

Milan Shumkaroff (*friend of Cindy Zdinak*)

Jeanine

Martha (*friend of Linda Kovach*)

Elizabeth Ballasz

Andrea Hochmann (*Clos*)

Andrew Myrtrohovich

Yonathan and Melissa King (Wojnicz) & unborn child. (daughter of Alex Wojnicz)

Please submit names to the Prayer List by emailing them to Fr. Jan Cizmar
st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

Or calling at 1(440) 732-8182

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

ST. THEODOSIUS IS 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>



St. Theodosius Orthodox Christian Cemetery

8200 Biddulph Rd., Brooklyn OH 44144 • Paul Webb, Cemetery Manager 216-296-9739

Grave Prices

Effective January 2024

All graves \$2,100.00 + \$400.00 perpetual care fee = \$2,500.00 total

All infant graves \$ 1000.00

Consider Sponsoring Coffee Hour!

For those who would like to HELP with Coffee Hour but don't cook, you can now sponsor a Coffee Hour! By donating \$65 you can sponsor a Coffee Hour, just put it in a white envelope marked "coffee hour" and place it in the collection basket or coffee hour basket in the Hall.

Sunday, December 10

27th Sunday after Pentecost
Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and
Eugraphus, of Alexandria (ca. 313)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
11:00 AM Panychida for Gregory
Ponomarenko
Coffee Hour

Monday, December 11

Ven. Daniel the Stylite of Constantino-
ple (489-490)

Tuesday, December 12

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

Wednesday, December 13

Repose of Ven. Herman of Alaska,
Wonderworker of All America (1837)
6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2023



Prophet Haggai (Dec 16)

Thursday, December 14

Martyrs Thyrsos, Leukios, and Kallini-
kos (249-51)

Friday, December 15

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

Saturday, December 16

Prophet Haggai (Aggæus—50 B.C.)
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, December 17

28th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday of the Forefathers
Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy
Youths: Ananias, Azarias and Misael
(600 B.C.)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour