

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

www.sttheodosius.org

Father Jan Cizmar
1(440) 732-8182
st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

Office Hours TWTh
9AM-2PM, please call ahead

Subdeacon Michael Tabeling,
Sacristan

Subdeacon Igor Gajewsky
Sacristan

Reader Julius Kovach,
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

Denise "Nisi" Pozderac
dpozderac.tlc@gmail.com
Parish Council President

Mary Swit, Parish Secretary
1(216) 574-4886
StTheodosiusCathedral@protonmail.com
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 17, 2023

28TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE
FOREFATHERS



The Forefeast of the Nativity of the Lord begins on December 20. From now on, most of the liturgical hymns will be concerned with the birth of the Savior. Many of the Church's hymns of this period are slightly modified versions of the hymns of Holy Week.

From December 20-23 we sing the Troparion (Tone 4) "Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all. Adorn yourself, O Ephratha, for the Tree of Life blossoms forth from the Virgin in the cave. Her womb is a spiritual paradise planted with the Divine Fruit; if we eat of it we shall live forever and not die like Adam. Christ comes to restore the image which He made in the beginning."

We also sing the Kontakion (Tone 3) "Today the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth ineffably to the pre-eternal Word. Hearing this, rejoice, O inhabited earth! With the angels and the shepherds glorify the pre-eternal God, Whose will it was to appear as a young child!

During Matins (after the first Sedalen) on the second day of the prefeast
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of the Nativity we sing, “The unapproachable God in His tender mercy approaches me; He wills to be born in the flesh in the city of Bethlehem. He receives human nature from a Virgin maiden. Let us



eagerly run to greet Him, crying out in fear: O Lord, glory to Thee.”

At Vespers for the third day of the prefeast of the Nativity we sing, “Christ is born on earth to crush the power of evil, to enlighten those in darkness, and to free the captives. Let us go forth to meet Him.”

At Compline on the fourth day of the prefeast of the Nativity we sing, “Let us purify our minds, washing ourselves with the divine Mysteries; let us draw near in soul and body to Bethlehem, that we may behold the fearful dispensation of the birth of the Lord” (Ode Five of the Canon).

In Slavic practice, on the eve of the Nativity of the Lord, the liturgical services consist of the Royal Hours with the Typika, Vespers, and the Divine

Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great. At Vigil in the evening, Great Compline is followed by Matins.

If the Nativity falls on a Monday, Royal Hours with the Typika are read on Friday December 22. On Saturday evening and Sunday morning we follow the order for the Sunday before the Nativity with the office of the Forefeast for December 24. On Sunday morning the Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is served. Vigil on Sunday evening consists of Great Compline is followed by Matins. On Monday morning the Liturgy of Saint Basil is celebrated.

On the eve of the Nativity, instead of three readings from the Old Testament at Vespers, there are



eight readings (from Genesis, Numbers, Micah, Isaiah, Baruch, Daniel, and two more readings from Isaiah). The entrance is made with the Gospel.

At the end of Liturgy the priest places a lighted candle in a candlestick in the center of the church. Then the troparion and kontakion of the Feast are sung. At Vigil on the evening of the twenty-fourth, Great Compline is followed by Matins.

Virgin Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia, and 500 men and 130 women with her

The Holy Virgin Martyr Juliana, daughter of an illustrious pagan named Africanus, was born in the city of Nicomedia. As a child, she was betrothed to a certain Elusius, one of the emperor's advisors. Saint Juliana was endowed with a profound intellect and goodness of soul. She saw through the delusion and deception of the pagan faith, and secretly accepted holy Baptism.

When the time of her wedding approached, Juliana refused to be married. Her father urged her not to break her engagement, but when she refused to obey him, he began to beat her viciously. Then Africanus handed his daughter over to the Eparch, who happened to be Elusius, Juliana's former fiancé. Elusius fervently asked Juliana to marry him, promising not to require her to abandon her faith. Saint Juliana refused and said that she'd ra-



ther be put to death.

They beat the saint both long and harshly, but after each beating she received healing and new strength from God. Her punishment took place before a large number of people. Of these, 500 men and 130 women came to confess Christ after witnessing the steadfastness and courage of the holy virgin miraculously healed from her wounds. They were all beheaded, and were baptized in their own blood. Convinced of the futility of attempting to separate the holy virgin from her heavenly Bridegroom, Eleusius sentenced Juliana to death. She accepted the sentence with joy and glorified the Lord for permitting her to receive a martyr's crown. The holy Martyr Juliana was executed in the year 304.

Saint Juliana is the subject of an Anglo-Saxon poem, believed to have been written by Cynewulf in the eighth century.

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!

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.



Q4 2023 Coffee Hour Sign-Up

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

Dec 17 Gayle/Shawna

Dec 31 Gayle (Sponsored by Una & John)

Dec 24 M. Jana

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.



THANK YOU!

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all who supported Zoe house ministry and raised **\$610** in the money jar collections!

THE MERRICK HOUSE ANGEL TREE WAS A BIG SUCCESS!

Thank you, thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Merrick House Angel Tree!

The gifts have been distributed and you have made some kids very happy.

God bless you for another successful year.

-Dan Morris



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 12/17/2023

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 Kearsey (*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 Epele (*father-in-law of Lauren Epele*)

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 Mytrohovich

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 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

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>



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

3:00 PM Christmas Concert

Monday, December 18

Martyr Sebastian at Rome and his companions (ca. 287)

Tuesday, December 19

Martyr Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia, and Righteous Aglaia of Rome (290)

Wednesday, December 20

Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

Repose of St. John of Kronstadt (1908)

6:00 PM Daily Vespers

& 1st Royal Hour

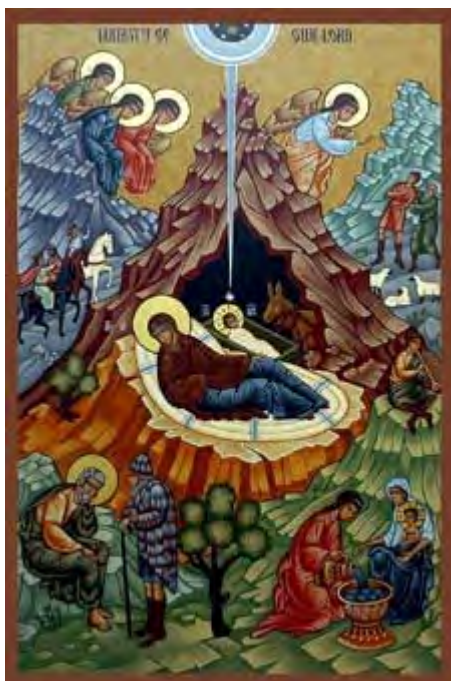
Thursday, December 21

Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

Virgin Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia, and with her 500 men and 130 women (304)

6:00 PM Daily Vespers

& 3rd Royal Hour



WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2023

Friday, December 22

Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

Great Martyr Anastasia,

“Deliverer from Poisons”

6:00 PM Daily Vespers & 6th Royal Hour

Saturday, December 23

Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

Saturday before the Nativity

Holy Ten Martyrs of Crete

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, December 24

29th Sunday after Pentecost

Eve of the Nativity of Christ

Sunday before the Nativity

Nun-martyr Eugenia of Rome

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Vespers to follow Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

6:00 PM Vigil for the Nativity

Monday, December 25

The Nativity of our Lord God and

Savior Jesus Christ

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, December 26

Synaxis of the Most Holy

Mother of God

Second Day of the Nativity

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy