

# Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



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Cleveland, Ohio 44113

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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](mailto:ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com)

NOVEMBER 13, 2022

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM,  
ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE



Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople, one of the Three Hierarchs [January 30], was born at Antioch in about the year 347 into the family of a military commander. His father, Secundus, died soon after the birth of his son. His mother, Anthusa, widowed at twenty years of age, did not seek to remarry but rather devoted all her efforts to the raising of her son in Christian piety. The youth studied under the finest philosophers and rhetoricians. But, scorning the vain disciplines of pagan knowledge, the future hierarch turned himself to the profound study of Holy Scripture and prayerful contemplation. Saint Meletius, Bishop of Antioch (February 12), loved John like a son,

guided him in the Faith, and in the year 367 baptized him.

After three years John was tonsured as a Reader. When Saint Meletius had been sent into exile by the emperor Valens in the year 372, John and Theodore

(afterwards Bishop of Mopsuestia) studied under the experienced instructors of ascetic life, the presbyters Flavian and Diodorus of Tarsus. The highly refined Diodorus had particular influence upon the youth. When John's mother died, he embraced monasticism, which he called the "true philosophy." Soon John and his friend Basil were being considered as candidates for the episcopal office, and they decided to withdraw into the wilderness to avoid this. While Saint John avoided the episcopal rank out of humility, he secretly assisted in Basil's consecration.

During this period Saint John wrote his "Six Discourses on the Priesthood," a great work of Orthodox pastoral theology. The saint spent four years struggling in the wilderness, living the ascetic life under the guidance of an experienced spiritual guide. And here he wrote three books entitled, "Against the Opponents of Those Attracted to the Monastic Life", and a collection entitled, "A Comparison of the Monk with the Emperor" (also known as "Comparison of Imperial Power, Wealth and Eminence, with the True and Christian Wisdom-Loving Monastic Life"), both works which are marked by a profound reflection of the worthiness of the monastic vocation.

For two years, the saint lived in a cave in complete silence, but was obliged to return to Antioch to recover his health. Saint Meletius, the Bishop of Antioch, ordained him deacon in the year 381. The following years were devoted to work on new theological writings: "Concerning Providence" ("To the Ascetic Stagirios"), "Book Concerning Virginity," "To a Young Widow" (2 discourses), and the "Book of Saint Babylos, and Against Julian and the Pagans."

In the year 386 Saint John was ordained presbyter by Bishop Flavian of Antioch. Saint John was a splendid preacher, and his inspired words earned him the name "Golden-Mouthed" ("Chrysostom"). For twelve years the saint preached in church, usually twice a week, but sometimes daily, deeply stirring the hearts of his listeners.

In his pastoral zeal to provide Christians with a better

understanding of Holy Scripture, Saint John employed hermeneutics, an interpretation and analysis of the Word of God (i.e. exegesis). Among his exegetical works are commentaries on entire books of the Holy Scripture (Genesis, the Psalter, the Gospels of Matthew and John, the Epistles of the Apostle Paul), and also many homilies on individual texts of the Holy Bible, but also instructions on the Feastdays, laudations on the Saints, and also apologetic (i.e. defensive) homilies (against Anomoeans, Judaizers and pagans). As a priest, Saint John zealously fulfilled the Lord's command to care for the needy. Under Saint John, the Antiochian Church provided sustenance each day to as many as 3,000 virgins and widows, not including in this number the shut-ins, wanderers and the sick.

The fame of the holy preacher grew, and in the year 397 with the death of Archbishop Nectarius of Constantinople, successor to Saint Gregory the Theologian, Saint John Chrysostom was summoned from Antioch, and elected to the See of Constantinople. At the capital, the holy archpastor was not able to preach as often as he had at Antioch. Many matters awaited the saint's attention, and he began with the most important -- the spiritual perfection of the priesthood. He himself was the best example of this. The financial means apportioned for the archbishop were channeled by the saint into the upkeep of several hospices for the sick and two hostels for pilgrims. He fasted strictly and ate very little food, and usually refused invitations to dine because of his delicate stomach.

The saint's zeal in spreading the Christian Faith extended not only to the inhabitants of Constantinople, but also to Thrace to include Slavs and Goths, and to Asia Minor and the Pontine region. The saintly hierarch denounced the dissolute morals of people in the capital, especially at the imperial court, irrespective of person. When the empress Eudoxia connived to confiscate the last properties of the widow and children of a disgraced dignitary, the saint rose to their defense. The arrogant empress would not relent, and nursed a grudge against the archpastor. Eudoxia's hatred of the saint blazed forth anew when malefactors told her that the saint apparently had her in mind during his ser-

mon on vain women. A court was convened composed of hierarchs who had been justly condemned by Chrysostom: Theophilus of Alexandria, Bishop Severian of Gabala, who had been banished from the capital because of improprieties, and others.

The slanderers fled to Alexandria. But after only two months a new denunciation provoked the wrath of Eudoxia. In March 404, an unjust council was convened, decreeing the exile of Saint John. Upon his removal from the capital, a fire reduced the church of Hagia Sophia and also the Senate building to ashes. Devastating barbarian incursions soon followed, and Eudoxia died in October 404. Even pagans regarded these events as God's punishment for the unjust judgment against the saint.

In Armenia, the saint strove all the more to encourage his spiritual children. In numerous letters (245 are pre-

served) to bishops in Asia, Africa, Europe and particularly to his friends in Constantinople, Saint John consoled the suffering, guiding and giving support to his followers. In the winter of 406 Saint John was confined to his bed with sickness, but his enemies were not to be appeased. From the capital came orders to transfer Saint John to desolate Pityus in Abkhazia on the Black Sea. Worn out by sickness, the saint began his final journey under military escort, traveling for three months in the rain and frost. He never arrived at his place of exile, for his strength failed him at Comana.

At the crypt of Saint Basiliscus (May 22), Saint John was comforted by a vision of the martyr, who said, "Despair not, brother John! Tomorrow we shall be together." After receiving the Holy Mysteries, the hierarch fell asleep in the Lord on September 14, 407. His last words were, "Glory to God for all things!"

### Church School Calendar

Saturday December 3

Sunday January 8

Saturday February 4

Saturday March 4

Saturday April 8 (Lazarus Saturday)

Saturday May 6

Saturday June 3

### 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](mailto:st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com)**



### TODAY IS ST. THEODOSIUS LADY'S BRUNCH!

Ladies of St. Theodosius Parish, it is time for the first **Lady's Brunch** which will take place today, November 13th, at **The South Side at 12:00 PM.**

### 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.



*Theotokos of Vladimir*

EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD  
OF GREATER CLEVELAND  
UNITY THROUGH PARTICIPATION

*"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast  
love endures forever!" Psalm 107:1*

\*\*\*\*\* **DATE CHANGE** \*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, November 19, 2022**  
**10:00 A.M.**

St. Theodosius Cathedral  
733 Starkweather Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44113

- ♥ **Fellowship and Refreshments** Prepared by Ladies of St. Theodosius
- ♥
- ♥ **Distribute gifts** for Nursing Home and shut-in parishioners
- ♥
- ♥ **Book Review:**
- ♥ **"Giver of Life – The Holy Spirit in Orthodox Tradition"**  
-- Discussion led by Sub-deacon Leon Felon



## PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 11/13/2022

### **Special Intentions:**

**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*)

**Constantine**

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

[st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com](mailto: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

<p><b>Sunday, November 13</b> Composite 2 - Proverbs 10, 3, 8 Composite 4 - Proverbs 10; Wisdom of Solomon 6, 7, 8, 9 Composite 5 - Wisdom of Solomon 4, 6, 7, 2 John 21:15-25 Hebrews 7:26-8:2 John 10:9-16 Galatians 6:11-18 Luke 10:25-37</p>	<p><b>Monday, November 14</b> 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 John 1:43-51 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 Luke 14:12-15</p> <p><b>Tuesday, November 15</b> 1 Thessalonians 1:6-10 Luke 14:25-35</p> <p><b>Wednesday, November 16</b> 1 Peter 1:1-2:6 1 Peter 2:21-3:9</p>	<p>1 Peter 4:1-11 John 21:15-25 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Matthew 9:9-13 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Luke 15:1-10</p> <p><b>Thursday, November 17</b> 1 Thessalonians 2:9-14 Luke 16:1-9</p>	<p><b>Friday, November 18</b> 1 Thessalonians 2:14-19 Luke 16:15-18, 17:1-4</p> <p><b>Saturday, November 19</b> 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 Luke 9:57-62</p> <p><b>Sunday, November 20</b> Matthew 28:16-20 Ephesians 2:4-10 Luke 12:16-21</p>
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### 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>

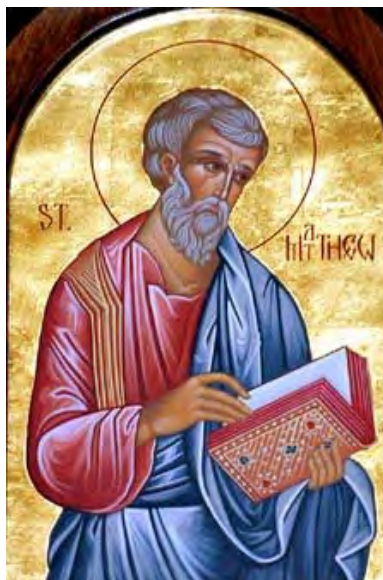


## WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2022

**Sunday, November 13**  
St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople (407)  
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour  
12:00 PM Lady's Brunch (details above)

**Monday, November 14**  
Holy and All-praised Apostle Philip (1st c.)

**Tuesday, November 15**  
Nativity Fast Begins  
Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas, and Abibus, of Edessa (299-306)  
6:00 PM Akathist to the Holy Theotokos



**Wednesday, November 16**  
Holy Apostle and Evangelist  
Matthew (60 A.D.)

**Thursday, November 17**  
St. Gregory, Wonderworker of Neo-Cæsarea (ca. 266-270)  
11:00 AM Faith Enrichment

**Friday, November 18**  
Martyr Plato of Ancyra (ca. 306)

**Saturday, November 19**  
Prophet Obadiah (Abdia—9th c. B.C.)  
6:00 PM Great Vespers

**Sunday, November 20**  
Forefeast of the Entry Into the Temple of the Most-holy Theotokos  
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour