

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.

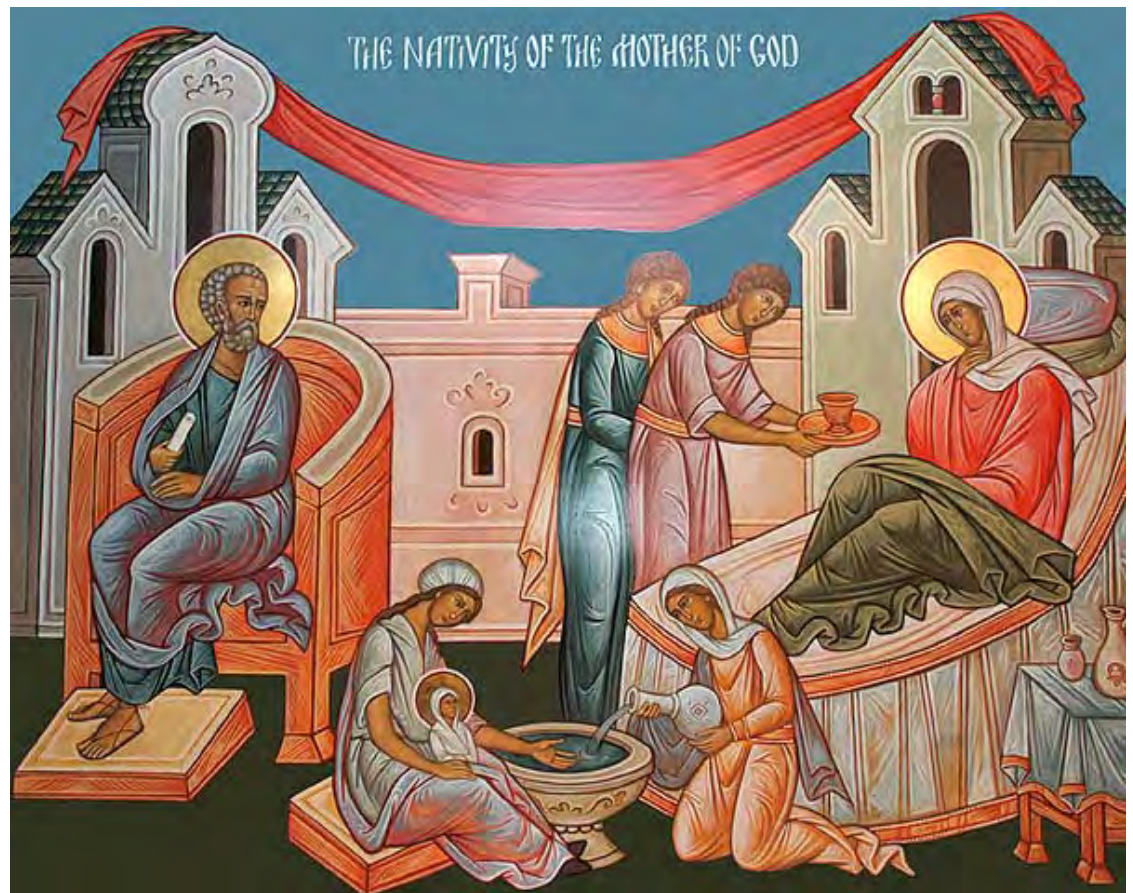
Articles for publication
should be submitted to:

ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

13TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

HIEROMARTYR ANTHIMUS,
BISHOP OF NICOMEDIA, AND
THOSE WITH HIM



The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin

Mary: The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind.

The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Saints Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Saints Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feasts at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

Saint Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Saint Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.



The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.

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

Event Committee Meeting Today!

The next Event Committee meeting will be today, September 3rd, during coffee hour.

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.

A Letter from St. Herman House

Greetings from the men of St. Herman House and all those we serve. Thank you for praying for our community.

I'm writing to seek your assistance. Traditionally, we see a downturn in food donations during the summer months. This year has been really challenging for us as our coolers and freezer are at an all-time low in regards to having prepared meals that we pull out, cook and serve. As we've stated many times, Miracles happen at St. Herman House and we have always been able to provide three meals per day to the community and the men who stay with us. We are in desperate need of a miracle right now.

If you could kindly reach out to those in your parish that might be willing to prepare entrees or a side dish, we would greatly appreciate it. We have been serving around 60 at lunch and over 80 at dinner. As the end of the month draws near those numbers typically become even higher. These can be cooked or uncooked... ready to go in the oven or be frozen for on upcoming meal.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this. As always, we ask that you pray for our community.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Most Holy Theotokos, Pray for us!

ZOE for Life!®

Due to changing federal regulations, dated and used car seats for small children need to be replaced. We are placing collection jars in the church vestibule and hall that can be taken elsewhere and used to collect money for new car seats. Car seats run from about \$80 to \$100.

Collection jars can be returned at any time, but must be returned no later than December 3rd. Please contact Gayle Vidovich or Judi Byndas if you have any questions.

Important Sandwich-related Announcement:

Due to the bishop's upcoming visit, we will be making sandwiches for St. Herman's on Sunday Sept. 3, *not* the following Sunday. If you're able to help out, it's always greatly appreciated, and it goes pretty quickly!

Thank you! -Dan

Blessing Bags: A Simple Way to Serve

What is a blessing bag, anyway? A blessing bag is simply a recycled grocery bag filled with essentials like socks, underwear, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc. as well as non-perishable food items that can be kept in one's car, or taken out into the community, for distribution to those in need.

They are very easy to assemble and depending on how many of the bag's contents get donated, they can cost very little.

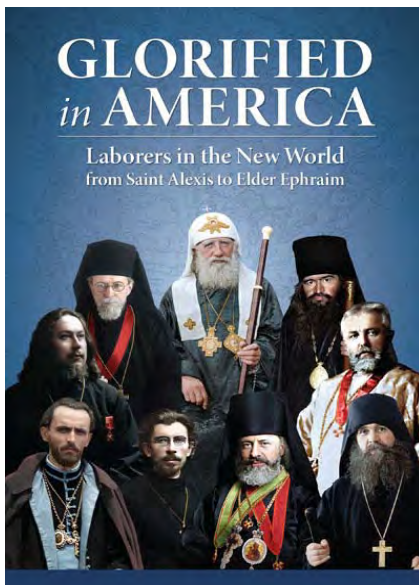
This past weekend, with the blessing of Fr. Andrew Nelko, parishioners at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Weirton, WV, assembled their own blessing bags that they will be keeping in their cars to hand out in their neighborhood.

Blessing bags are a great post-Liturgy or Sunday School project for people of all ages. If you'd like to learn more about simple ways your community can share the love of Christ with others, please contact the FOCUS' Director of Operations and Community Engagement, Steven Christoforou, at schristoforou@focysna.org.

Fr. Jan offers to take any blessing bags donated at St. Theodosius to St. Herman House.

Item of Interest:

A new book on the lives of the Saints of North America: <https://www.holytrinitypublications.com/glorified-in-america>



Glorified in America

Laborers in the New World from Saint Alexis to Elder Ephraim

By The Monastery of St John the Forerunner of Mesa Potamos

Translated by Katherine Psaropoulou-Brits

Introduction by Matthew Namee

Paperback: USD 39.95 / GBP 49.99

AUGUST 27TH'S VOTE RESULTS

On the issue of raising the council's discretionary spending limit from \$10,000 to \$35,000, the issued passed.
(71 yea vs 13 nay, 1 abstained)

On the issue of approving \$94,000 for the replacement of the cemetery fence, the issue passed.
(77 yea vs 8 nay)

St. Kyranna Youth Cooking Class Fellowship Dinner

Sts. Constantine & Helen Cathedral (3352 Mayfield Rd., Cleveland Heights, 44118).
Fellowship dinner co-hosted by the Kokanos and Manuel families on Sat, Sept 16th!
gorealcleveland@gmail.com

St. Matthew the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church - Fruit Sale

Help support our organization by participating in our annual fruit sale! We have partnered with Florida Indian River Groves to provide you with the freshest fruit available. Your fruit will be harvested the very same day it's shipped to us, ensuring that you receive fruit that is hours off of the tree. Now that's fresh! Now's the time to pick up a box of Navel Oranges that are sure to be bursting with flavor or a box of sugar-sweet, Indian River Red Grapefruit. And don't forget your friends, family, and coworkers. Everyone loves Fresh Fruit From Florida! Thank you! We appreciate your support! https://shop.floridaindianrivergroves.com/ecommerce/1033058?member_id=453221



Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

125th Anniversary Grand Banquet
Saturday, September 23, 2023

Ticket Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Number of Tickets Requested:

Adult \$50 - _____ Child (6-12 years old) \$12 - _____

Please circle one: Mail tickets to above address **/or/** Hold tickets at door

Please circle one: Regular menu **/or/** Vegetarian (Pasta) (*how many?*) _____

Menu

Carved Roast of Beef, Chicken, & Halupki

Roasted Redskin Potatoes

Tossed Salad & Fresh Green Beans

Roll & Butter

Dessert

Choice of Beverages

Mail your check and this form to:

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

P. O. Box 443

Marblehead, OH 43440

Questions: Please call Fr. Peter Tomas at 419-798-4591

13th Annual

Fr. Prislopsky Memorial Dinner/Lecture

Keynote Speaker -

V. Rev. Fr. John Memorich

**"Not by bread
alone"**

Feasting and Fasting
in the Orthodox Church



Tuesday, September 19, 2023

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Woodside Party Center

5025 E Mill Road, Broadview Hts., OH

Dinner (Chicken Paprikash) at 6:30 pm

Lecture to follow at 7:00 pm

Donation - \$15 per person

(Doors open at 6:00 PM)

RSVP required by Thursday, Sept 7

CALL - 440-526-5192 or

Email - INFO@STMICHAELSCLEVELAND.ORG



Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

1 September 2023
The Beginning of the Indiction
№. III

ARCHPASTORAL GREETINGS OF THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL,
ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE BEGINNING OF THE INDICTION
AND THE ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR

Beloved Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Diocese of the Midwest,

*Thy Nativity, O Virgin Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole world,
for from thee hath shone forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God,
Who annulling the curse hath bestowed blessing,
and destroying death hath granted us eternal life.*

-Troparion of the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

For Orthodox Christians, September 1st marks the start of the New Church Year, also known as the *Beginning of the Indiction*. As we enter this New Year of Grace, the first Great Feast that we celebrate is the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, September 8.

In reflecting on the birth of Mary of Nazareth and her singular role in the history of salvation, we notice that the Gospel of John speaks of only two moments when the public life of Jesus directly intersects with His Mother. Of course, Mary's very life was intimately connected to that of her Son from the very moment of His conception, and Matthew and Luke make special note of this in their Infancy Narratives. However, John only mentions these two moments: the beginning of the Lord's public ministry at the wedding feast in Cana (John 2:1-12) and the moment when Mary stands beneath the Cross (John 19:25-27). Perhaps the Holy Evangelist wants to show us the Mother of Jesus in these two completely opposite situations in human life: the bright joy of a wedding feast and the profound sorrow at the death of a child.

Let us hone in, however, on the special place of Mary in John's account of the Lord's Passion and Death. The first thing that John mentions is Mary "standing near the cross of Jesus" (John 19:25), close to her Son as He suffered the pains of the Cross and shed His blood for the salvation of mankind. Mary stood there, at the foot of the cross, filled with sorrow—yet

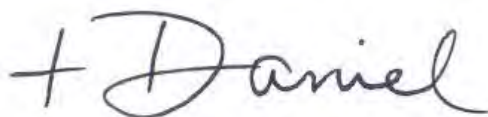
with unwavering conviction, courage, and fidelity. This is the main way that Mary appears in the Gospel of John: she stands near those who suffer and want, those rejected and marginalized by the world, those on the very fringes of our social and economic order. It is in this role as Mother that Mary stands close by us all, steadfast and faithful near the cross of human sorrow and suffering, yet ever under the shadow of the Cross of Her Son.

In this way, Mary also teaches us how to “stand near” these situations. It demands more than simply acknowledging the realities of human suffering; rather, those in painful situations should feel us standing faithfully and fearlessly at their side. All those suffer any pain or loss can experience the Mother who remains near them, for in their sufferings she sees the open wounds of her Son Jesus. She learned this at the foot of the cross. We too are called to respond to the sufferings of others. Following the example of Mary, let us go out to meet our suffering brothers and sisters, to console them and accompany them. Let us not be afraid to experience the power of tenderness, to be involved, even in the most uncomfortable of situations, and to let our lives become complicated for the sake of others. Inspired by Her, the Most Pure One, let us remain steadfast and faithful, our hearts at peace in God in even the most difficult circumstances of life. Let us be ever ready to lift up the fallen, raise up the lowly, showing them the love and that “peace beyond understanding” that only comes from God (*cf.* Philippians 4:7).

Grateful that the beginning of September brings with it this special Feast, let us also acknowledge that every day of every year, no matter the month or the season, offers us the grace-filled occasion to give thanks to God for His many blessings, just as each day presents the opportunity to be present with those who are suffering in any way. Every day of every year invites us to draw closer to Christ, to grow in holiness, to bear witness to our faith, and to continue *stand with* those who are suffering and in any kind of need. As we enter into the New Church Year, we look forward to another Year of Grace, living the Gospel, serving our brothers and sisters, and experiencing the Church’s liturgical cycle which invites us to enter, ever more deeply, into the great mystery of our salvation.

In this new Ecclesiastical Year, let us entrust ourselves, our families and loved ones, our parishes, and all the world to the loving maternal care and protection of the Holy Theotokos.

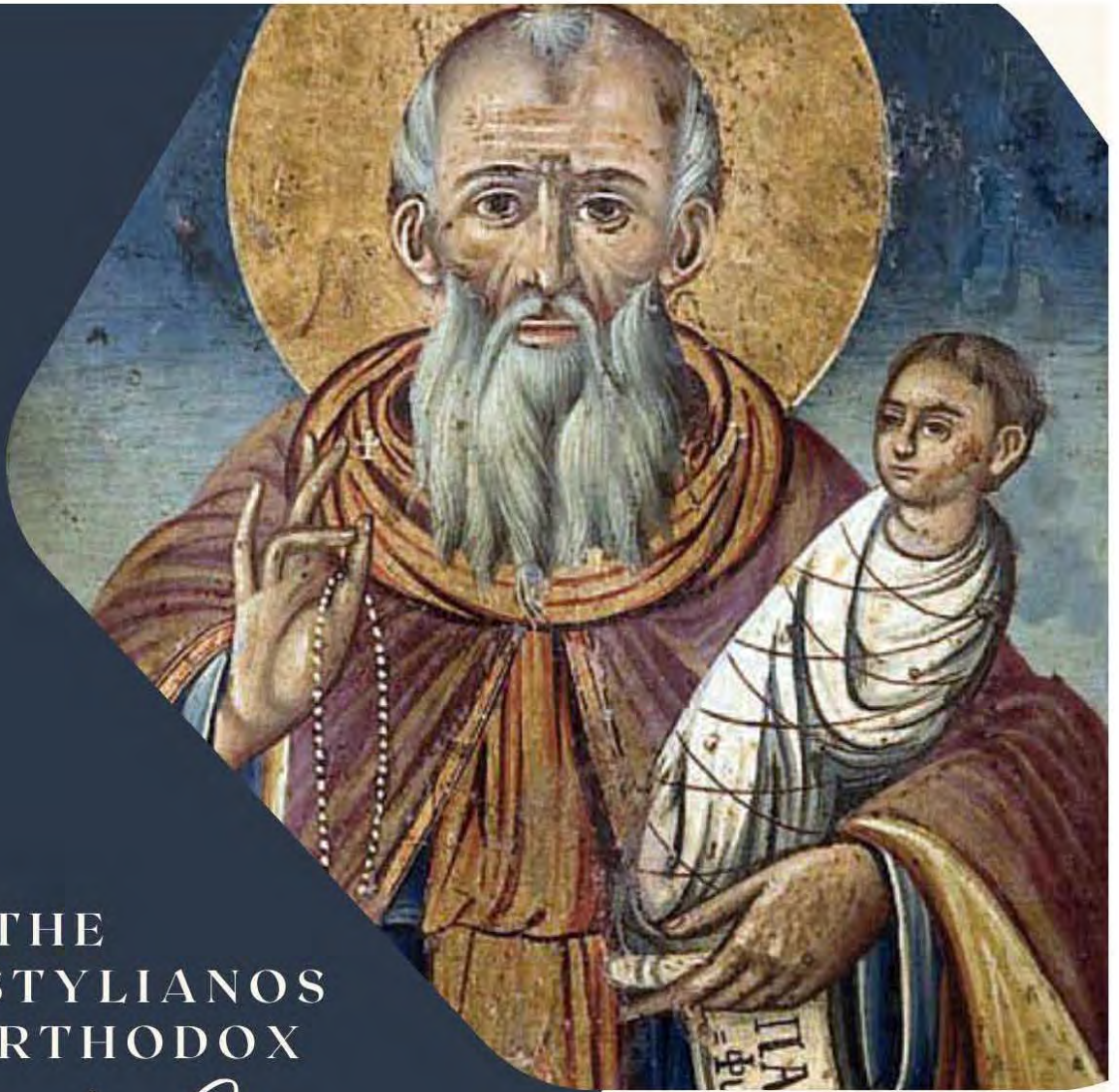
With love in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'D'.

DANIEL

Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral Ambo - Page 8



THE
SAINT STYLIANOS
PAN-ORTHODOX
Children's Choir
OF CLEVELAND

Amelia Tatalovic, Director

Twice-monthly rehearsals on Thursday evenings | 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Saint Innocent Orthodox Church

8526 Usher Road | Olmsted Township, Ohio 44138

For information: tulevski@gmail.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will there be performances?

The primary purposes of the choir are to foster a love for Orthodox Liturgical singing and to encourage good musicianship among our youth. Performances could eventually be a possibility if enough families showed genuine interest, but for now the goal is simply to come together and sing – to the glory of God!

Who is welcome to join?

The choir is pan-Orthodox and open to children of all ages and experience levels. The ability to read music is not required. An audition is not required.

There is no minimum age requirement, but we kindly ask that all singers come to rehearsals focused and able to participate.

Should there be sufficient interest, we would love to establish an additional ensemble exclusively for teens and young adults. In the meantime, interested teens are welcome to participate in the children's choir.

Can my child be dropped off at rehearsals?

For safety, we ask that all children be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. It is not necessary to remain in the rehearsal space, but please do remain on the premises.

What should my child bring?

Only a pencil and, if desired, a water bottle. Please do not bring other food or drink. If you'd like to contribute anything toward the cost of sheet music, your donation is sincerely appreciated; however, it is not required.

Does participation count toward homeschooling hours?

Yes! You may log all hours in which your child participates. Rehearsals can count toward general hours as well as music hours.

Interested in joining? Have questions?

We are happy to connect with you! Please reach out to Amelia, the director, at tulevski@gmail.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 9/3/2023

Deceased

Marie Borland

Adele Matalycki

Special Intentions:

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*)

Michael and **Nichole** Zolikoff and **child Declan**

Mark

Michael Kapeluck (*friend of Cathy*)

Edward Aleerty

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*)

Emerson Joy Seddon (*granddaughter of Eric and Elisa*)

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

Elena Richv (*Jerry Czajkowski's daughter*)

Aaron and Nadine Drummond (Ellis) & unborn child

Wasył Miroewski (*Uncle of Tim Closs*)

Amelia Thombs (*Sister of Ethan*)

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>



Daily Scripture Readings

Scripture readings are listed in the calendar. They are also available on the OCA website at <https://www.oca.org/readings> (clicking on a reading expands it for reading—very convenient)



UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS



- September 10th—Patron Saints Day Banquet
(His Eminence Archbishop Daniel to attend)
- October 5th—Wine Tasting Event
- November 5th—Chili Cook Off
- December 17th—Annual Christmas Choir Concert

Sunday, September 3

13th Sunday after Pentecost
Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of
Nicomedia, and those with him
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
(Today is a Sandwich Sunday)
Coffee Hour

Monday, September 4

Hieromartyr Gorazd, Bishop of
Bohemia and Moravia-Silesia
(Serbian 1942)

Tuesday, September 5

Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous
Elizabeth, parents of
St. John the Baptist
6:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 6

Commemoration of the Miracle of the
Archangel Michael at Colossæ

Thursday, September 7

Forefeast of the Nativity of the
Theotokos
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Friday, September 8

**The Nativity of Our Most Holy
Lady, Theotokos and Ever-Virgin
Mary**
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday, September 9

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the
Theotokos
Uncovering of the Relics of St.
Theodosius, Archbishop of
Chernigov (1896)
Saturday before the Elevation
6:00 PM All Night Vigil

Sunday, September 10

14th Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Nativity of the
Theotokos
Sunday before the Elevation
Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and
Nymphodora, at Nicomedia
(305-311)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
Festive Lunch

WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2023

