

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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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

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

14TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF
THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING
CROSS



The pagan Roman Emperors tried to obliterate the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and rose from the dead, so that they would be forgotten. Emperor Hadrian (117-138) ordered that Golgotha and the Lord's Sepulchre be buried, and that a temple in honor of the pagan "goddess" Venus and a statue of Jupiter be placed there.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the Christian holy places, the Sepulchre of the Lord, and the Life-giving Cross, were discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under Emperor Constan-

tine the Great (306-337) after his victory over Maxentius (in 312), who ruled the Western part of the Roman Empire, and over Licinius, the ruler

of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 Saint Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, by which Christianity was legalized and persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the Empire were stopped. Although Licinius had signed the Edict of Milan in order to oblige Constantine, he continued his cruel persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the Edict of Milan extend also to the Eastern part of the Empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, triumphing over his enemies in three wars, with God's assistance, had seen the Sign of the Cross in the heavens. Written beneath were the words: "By this you shall conquer."

Ardently desiring to find the Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, Saint Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to Saint Makarios, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Saint Helen journeyed to the holy places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings, and where the Mother of God was buried after her Dormition.

Although the holy Empress Helen was no longer young, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. In her search for the Life-giving Cross, she questioned both Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful. Finally, she was directed to a certain elderly Jew named Jude who stated that the Cross was buried beneath the temple of Venus. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Lord's Tomb was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, and a board with the inscription ordered by Pi-

late, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discover on which of the three crosses the Savior had been crucified, Patriarch Makarios alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead man, he was restored to life. After witnessing the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-giving Cross had been found.

Christians came in a huge crowds to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching Saint Makarios to lift the Cross, so that those far off could see it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders lifted the Holy Cross, and the people prostrated themselves before the Honorable Wood, saying "Lord have mercy." This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-giving Cross another miracle took place: a woman who was close to death was healed by the shadow of the Holy Cross. The elderly Jude (October 28) and other Jews believed in Christ and were baptized. Jude was given the name Kyriakos, and later he was consecrated as the Bishop of Jerusalem. He suffered a martyr's death for Christ during the reign of Emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363).

Saint Helen took part of the Life-giving Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. Saint Constantine ordered a majestic and spacious church to be built at Jerusalem in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The church was built in ten years. Saint Helen did not survive until the dedication of the church, she reposed in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Honorable and Life-giving Cross was established.

Another event connected to the Cross of the Lord is remembered also on this day: its return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen year captivity. During the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Phokas (602-610) the Persian king Khozrōēs II attacked Constantinople defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem, capturing both the Life-giving Cross of the Lord and the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633).

The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years, and only under Emperor Herakleios (610-641), who defeated Khozrōēs and concluded peace with his successor and son Syroes, was the Lord's Cross returned to the Christians.

With great solemnity the Life-giving Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Herakleios, wearing a crown and his royal purple garments

carried the Cross of Christ. The Emperor was accompanied by Patriarch Zachariah. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the Emperor stopped suddenly and was unable to proceed. The holy Patriarch explained to the Emperor that an Angel of the Lord was blocking his way. Herakleios was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then Herakleios donned plain clothes, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church.

In a sermon on the Exaltation of the Cross, Saint Andrew of Crete (July 4) says: "The Cross is exalted, and everything true is gathered together, the Cross is exalted, and the city makes solemn, and the people celebrate the feast."

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

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.

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.

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

Archpastoral Message of the Most Reverend DANIEL

Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

For the Annual Seminarian Appeal 2023

September 7, 2023

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (John 10:11)

Beloved Sons and Daughters in Christ,

In the well-known Gospel verse cited above, the Lord Jesus likens His relationship to His people to that of a shepherd to his sheep. He reveals himself as the Good and True Shepherd sent from God to care for the Flock, to protect and guide us in such a way that we are confident in His care. Because the Lord is our Shepherd, we have nothing to fear: as the anaphora of Saint John Chrysostom reminds us, this Shepherd was not “given up ... [but] rather, *gave Himself up for the life of the world.*” He is the Good Shepherd who knows His own sheep, and lays His life down for them (*cf.* John 10:14-15).

Christ has continued His work as the Shepherd of our souls from one generation to the next. He guides us with His voice as He speaks to us in the Holy Gospels. As our Good Shepherd, He gathers us so that we can be nourished with the sacred nourishment of His most Pure Body and Precious Blood. He protects us as we turn to Him in our time of need. He leads us and calls us to follow Him into the Kingdom He has prepared for us. Yet to guide, gather, nourish, and protect us, the Lord calls others to continue His work of caring for and pasturing His Flock. These faithful shepherds, called to minister in the Name of Christ, are recognizable on the local level in the bishop with his priests and deacons.

The Diocese of the Midwest has a long and blessed history of episcopal and priestly service. Throughout the past century and more, the Lord has provided faithful clergy to shepherd the faithful flock of God in our Diocese and across the vast expanse of the American Midwest. Some of these servant-shepherds are now listed among the saints: Saint Tikhon of Moscow, Saint John of Chicago, Saint Alexis of Minneapolis, Saint Raphael of Brooklyn, Saint Madarije of Libertyville, Saint Varnava the New Confessor, and Saint Nikolai of Žiča. In addition to these saints, we can add a long list of other holy bishops, priests, and deacons who have served the Lord and His Church faithfully, sacrificially, and with honor and dignity. Their efforts have borne fruit: they shepherded the flock to Christ the Door, through Whom the sheep have found salvation and green pastures (*cf.* John 10:9).

As we reflect upon the past service of clergy in our Diocese, we should also acknowledge the present. In our own day, the Lord continues to care for His flock in the faithful clergy who are now serving in our parishes and mission communities. And He also continues to provide for the future by calling individuals from our parishes to prepare themselves for ordained ministry. I am grateful to God for the eleven men who are now enrolled in the seminaries of the Orthodox Church in America: Saint Tikhon’s Orthodox Theological Seminary and Saint Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary. These seminarians are men from our own parish communities. They have heard the voice of the Shepherd to follow Him and to prepare themselves, through prayer, study, and service, to take their place as servant-shepherds caring for the flock of Christ.

These men, and others who will follow them, are to be educated in Orthodox Theology and formed in the image of the Good Shepherd so that, God willing, they will one day take their place in the history of the ordained ministry in the Diocese of the Midwest. They sacrifice and make special efforts to that end: most of them are married family men, and their wives and children sacrifice along with them. Just as each one of us needs the support of the clergy now serving in our parishes, so too we need to support our seminarians, so

that they may one day stand at the Holy Altar, preach the Gospel, and offer pastoral care to us, our families, and our parishes. They need our fervent prayers, certainly, but they and their families also need our equally sacrificial financial support.

To that end, each September, our Diocese of the Midwest promotes a project known simply as “Support our Seminarians.” During this month, I ask of all our clergy to increase our common liturgical prayers asking the Good Shepherd to raise among us more servant-shepherds to participate in His work of caring for the flock. I also invite each community and every individual not only to join in these prayers to Christ, the Door of the Sheep (*cf.* John 10:7), but to give generously to our Seminarians’ Fund, as we seek to show our appreciation and support for our diocesan seminarians—present and future.

Yours in Christ,

+DANIEL

Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

Wine Tasting

TO BENEFIT IOCC

Monday, October 16, 2023

6:00 to 10:00 pm

Enjoy a four-course dinner with wine pairings, a silent auction, a wine cork pull for a chance to win an expensive bottle of wine, and learn how your gifts help families around the world.

St. Michael’s Woodside Event Center
5025 Mill Road
Broadview Heights, OH 44147

Early Bird Tickets by September 30 – \$60

Tickets after October 1 – \$70



For Tickets: <https://support.iocc.org/site/Ticketing?view=Tickets&id=102181> Or contact Frank Tkacz 216 789-3267

13th Annual

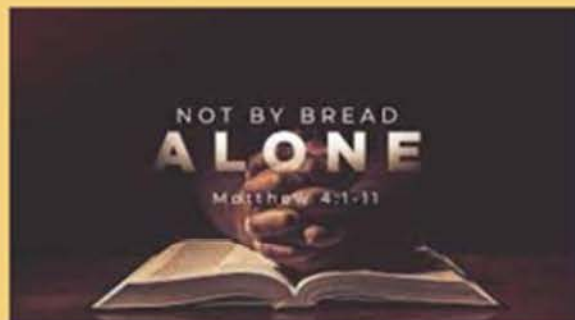
Fr. Prislopsky Memorial Dinner/Lecture

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 9/10/2023

Deceased

Adele Matalycki

Helen Kuklisin (*Mother of Sharon Grechny*)

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*)

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 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 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

Monday, September 11

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Ven. Theodora of Alexandria (474-491)

Tuesday, September 12

Leavetaking of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Hieromartyr Autonomus,
Bishop in Italy (313)

Wednesday, September 13

Forefeast of the Elevation of the Cross.
Commemoration of the Founding of the Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulcher) at Jerusalem (335)
6:00 PM Great Vespers

WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2023



Thursday, September 14

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Lifegiving Cross
Repose of St. John Chrysostom
Archbishop of Constantinople (407)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Friday, September 15

Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross
Greatmartyr Niketas (Nikita) the Goth (ca. 372)

Saturday, September 16

Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Saturday after Elevation
Great Martyr Euphemia the All-praised (304)
Saturday before the Elevation
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, September 17

15th Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation
Martyr Sophia, and her three daughters
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour