

# Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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Cleveland, Ohio 44113

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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:

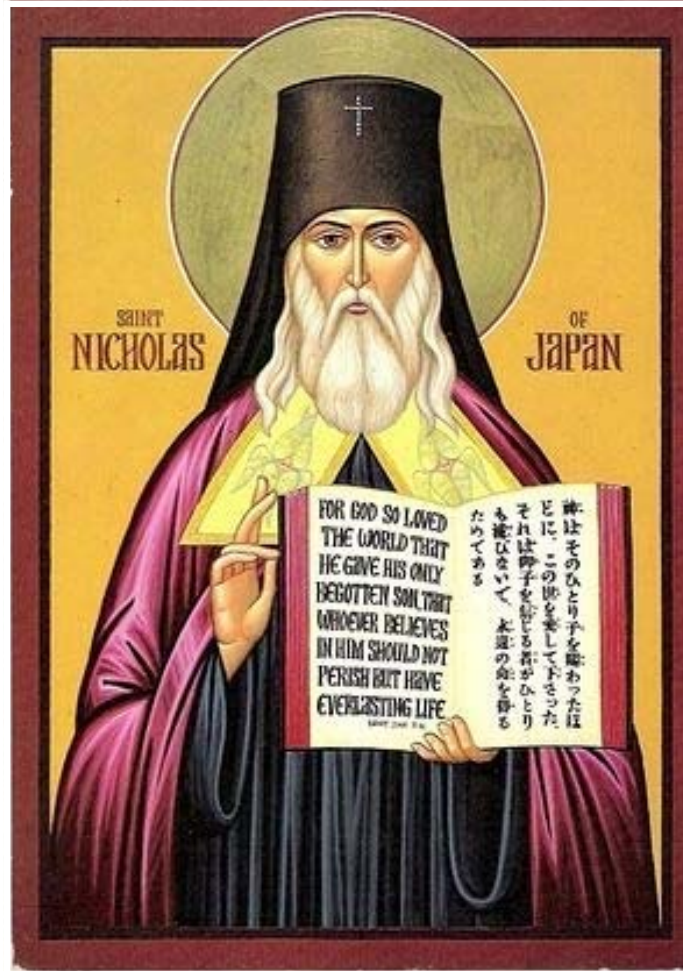
[ambo-theodosius](mailto:ambo-theodosius)

[@googlegroups.com](mailto:@googlegroups.com)

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

34TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE  
PRODIGAL SON



**Saint Nicholas, Enlightener of Japan** (Feb 16), was born Ivan Dimitrievich Kasatkin on August 1, 1836 in the village of Berezovsk, Belsk district, Smolensk diocese, where his father served as deacon. At the age of five he lost his mother. He completed the Belsk religious school, and afterwards the Smolensk Theological Seminary. In 1857 Ivan Kasatkin entered the Saint Peterburg Theological Academy. On June 24, 1860, in the academy temple of the Twelve Apostles, Bishop Nectarius tonsured him with the name Nicholas.

On June 29, the Feast of the foremost Apostles Peter and Paul, the monk Nicholas was ordained deacon. The next day, on

the altar feast of the academy church, he was ordained to the holy priesthood. Later, at his request, Father Nicholas was assigned to Japan as head of the consular church in the city of Hakodate.

At first, the preaching of the Gospel in Japan seemed completely impossible. In Father Nicholas's own words: "the Japanese of the time looked upon foreigners as beasts, and on Christianity as a villainous sect, to which only villains and sorcerers could belong." He spent eight years in studying the country, the language, manners and customs of the people

among whom he would preach.

In 1868, the flock of Father Nicholas numbered about twenty Japanese. At the end of 1869 Hieromonk Nicholas reported in person to the Synod in Peterburg about his work. A decision was made, on January 14, 1870, to form a special Russian Spiritual Mission for preaching the Word of God among the pagan Japanese. Father Nicholas was elevated to the rank of archimandrite and appointed as head of this Mission.

Returning to Japan after two years in Russia, he transferred some of the responsibility for the Hakodate flock to Hieromonk Anatolius, and began his missionary work in Tokyo. In 1871 there was a persecution of Christians in Hakodate. Many were arrested (among them, the first Japanese Orthodox priest Paul Sawabe). Only in 1873 did the persecution abate somewhat, and the free preaching of Christianity became possible.

In this year Archimandrite Nicholas began the construction of a stone building in Tokyo which housed a church, a school for fifty men, and later a religious school, which became a seminary in 1878.

In 1874, Bishop Paul of Kamchatka arrived in Tokyo to ordain as priests several Japanese candidates recommended by Archimandrite Nicholas. At the Tokyo Mission, there were four schools: for catechists, for women, for church servers, and a seminary. At Hakodate there were two separate schools for boys and girls.

In the second half of 1877, the Mission began regular publication of the journal "Church Her-

ald." By the year 1878 there already 4115 Christians in Japan, and there were a number of Christian communities. Church services and classes in Japanese, the publication of religious and moral books permitted the Mission to attain such results in a short time. Archimandrite Nicholas petitioned the Holy Synod in December of 1878 to provide a bishop for Japan.



Archimandrite Nicholas was consecrated bishop on March 30, 1880 in the Trinity Cathedral of Alexander Nevsky Lavra. Returning to Japan, he resumed his apostolic work with increased fervor. He completed construction on the Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ in Tokyo, he translated the service books, and compiled a special Orthodox theological dictionary in the Japanese language.

Great hardship befell the saint and his flock at the time of the Russo-Japanese War. For his ascetic labor during these difficult years, he was elevated to the rank of Archbishop.

In 1911, half a century had passed since the young hieromonk Nicholas had first set foot on Japanese soil. At that time there were 33,017 Christians in 266 communities of the Japanese Orthodox Church, including 1 Archbishop, 1 bishop, 35 priests, 6 deacons, 14 singing instructors, and 116 catechists.

On February 3, 1912, Archbishop Nicholas departed peacefully to the Lord at the age of seventy-six. The Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church glorified him on April 10, 1970, since the saint had long been honored in Japan as a righteous man, and a prayerful intercessor before the Lord.

## Coffee Hour Cheesefare Potluck! (say that ten times fast)

On March 2nd Cheesefare Sunday is upon us, let's have a potluck to make the most of the last coffee hour before the start of Great Lent. If interested, contact Cathy (412-215-1928) to let her know you are making something and what you are planning on making so she can coordinate. Thank you!

Fyi - our treasurer, Nicholas Kozak has prepared the 2024 **contribution letters**, and they are being mailed. You can contact the office if you have not received yours by February 14th or you have any concerns.

## ALTAR SOCIETY

**Next Meeting: 2/9 after Coffee Hour**

*2nd Sunday of each month:*

**3/9, 4/13, 5/11, 6/8**

**JOIN THE ALTAR SOCIETY!**

**\$10 Membership**

**See Joyce Tabeling for details**



### Women's Social Night

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Michelangelo's Winery

5515 Broadview Road, Richfield

6:30pm

Please contact Sarah Brennan to let her know you'll be joining!

Txt 330-620-0365 or sarah.e.brennan.1@gmail.com

## Coffee Hour Quarter 1 2025

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

January 5 Tammy & Mary	February 2 Mat. Jana, (sponsored by	TBA)
January 12 Wayne Vidovich & Shawna Whitlock	February 9 Sarah & Mike Brennan	March 9 Sarah & Mike Brennan
January 19 Joyce Tabeling & Judy Schwind	February 16 Cathy & Tammy	March 16 Georgi & Tsvetelina Galevi (Sponsored by William Lynk)
January 26 Mat. Zdinak & Nikol Gammalo	February 23 (Meatfare) Shawna Whitlock (Sponsored by William Lynk)	March 23 Joyce Tabeling & Judy Schwind
	March 2 PARISH POTLUCK (details	March 30 Mat. Jana



February 5, 2025

Beloved Friends in the Lord,

Greetings! The Orthodox Christian Community of Greater Cleveland and Lorain will soon be honoring the Sunday of Orthodoxy, the first Sunday of the Great Fast. A celebration of this triumph of our Faith will take place on the evening of March 9, 2025, at 5:00pm. This service of Great Vespers will be hosted by St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church, located at 6306 Broadview Road, Parma, OH 44134. His Grace the Right Reverend Irinej, Bishop of Washington-New York and Eastern America, the Serbian Orthodox Church, shall preside as well as offer the homily.

Each year, the Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy (GCCOC) solicits donations to help underwrite this celebration of our Faith, and this year, donations will be given to our local ministries – St. Herman's, St. Panteleimon, St. Mary of Egypt, and ZOE for Life! We humbly ask that you consider providing a contribution to the GCCOC; in return, you will be listed as a "Patron" within the handout at this special service.

If you wish to donate, we ask that you make checks payable to the "Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy," or simply the "GCCOC." Checks can either be given to your parish priest, or they can be mailed to the address below no later than March 2, 2025.

In Christ,  
Pdn. Michael Timko  
GCCOC Treasurer

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**2025 SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY | PATRON DONATION**

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR PARISH NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

**GCCOC, c/o St. Innocent Orthodox Church, PO Box 38208, Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138**

# Adopt a Room

## Become a Parish Partner



St. Herman House – FOCUS Cleveland purchased our transitional house in 2014. At that time many parishes adopted rooms, which enabled us to add fresh paint & inexpensive furniture to each room. While the initial adoption of the rooms was beneficial in their set-up, we are now needing to replace the furniture, bed frames, mattresses, and more. We began the process of renovating rooms in late 2023, and, with your help, we hope to continue this through 2025.

## Your Commitment

When adopting a room, we are asking your parish for a commitment of \$1,500 per year for the next 3 years. This support will provide for the ongoing upkeep of the room, including new flooring, furniture, refrigerators, and more. We will purchase an icon of your parish's patron saint to display in the room that you adopt.



## Why Adopt?

### More than Financial Support

The Adopt-a-Room program is more than just about renovating the room. It is about building a lasting relationship with each resident as they come into the house. Many of them don't have family to support them, so your parish could be that support they need!

### Personal Connection

- Adding the resident to your parish & personal prayers.
- Engaging your youth & older parishioners to send letters of encouragement & support.
- Providing welcome gift baskets, gift cards, birthday cards, snacks or other items.
- Acknowledging success like finding a job or securing housing.
- Supporting them through the move-out process.

Contact Us



(216) 961-3806



sainthermans@focusna.org

## PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 2/16/2025



### *Deceased*

**Jose** Cortes

**Eugene**

**Valentine** Winnyk

**Donna** Jacak

**Stephan** Chwalyk

**Robert** Starr

**Grace Mary** Parhamovich  
(mother of Karen Felon)

### *Special Intentions:*

**Archpriest Jason** Kappanadze

**Subdeacon Theodore** Lentz

**Subdeacon Roger** Pinta

**Subdeacon Leon** Felon

**Subdeacon Peter** Zolikoff

**Reader Frank** Tkacz

**Reader Daniel** Morris

**Horia** Dascalescu (*Lavinia's brother*)

**Janice** Tkacz

**Eleanor** Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

**Rachel** Ohlin (*relative of Tatiana*)

**Erin** Zawolowycz

**Jeffrey** Parhamovich  
(brother of Karen Felon)

**Margaret** Parhamovich

(sister-in-law of Karen Felon)

**Jean** Woycitzky Thompson

(Frank's cousin)

**Debra** Parhamovich (*sister of Karen Felon*)

**Robert** Martin Prock

**Valentina** Zawolowycz (*mother of Paul Z*)

**Child McKenna** Kranek

**Betty** Balasz

**Jeremy, Yvonne, and Unborn Child**

**Herman** Leslie Levin

**Russell** Schafer

**Sonia** Vorell

**Ivan** Lavrisiuk

**Elisabeth** Lavrisiuk

**Phyllis** Gindlesperger

**Daniela** Raisovich

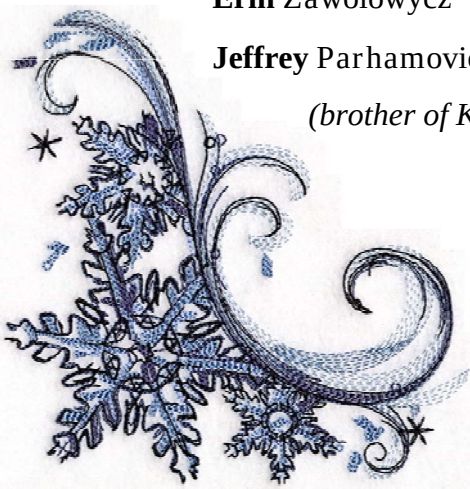
**Alexander** Medvec

**Mary Ann** Reck

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



# 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>



## Boys' Night Out!

We're on, gents! Sunday, February 23, 5PM, we will have a

Boy's Night Out at **The Southside**

2211 W. 11 in Tremont

Please let Dan Morris know if you plan to attend. Thank you!



### Sunday, February 16

34th Sunday after Pentecost

*Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Japan (1912)

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

### Monday, February 17

Great Martyr Theodore the Tyro (Recruit)

("the Recruit"—ca. 306)

### Tuesday, February 18

St. Leo the Great, Pope of Rome (461)

6:30 PM Women's Social Night

*(Michelangelo's Winery)*

### Wednesday, February 19

Apostles of the Seventy Archippus (Arkhipp) and Philemon, and

Martyr Apphia (1st c.)

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Akathist to the Holy Theotokos

### Thursday, February 20

St. Leo, Bishop of Catania in Sicily (ca. 780)

### Friday, February 21

Saint Makarios of Glinsk Hermitage (19c.)

### Saturday, February 22

Saturday of Meatfare Week

Memorial Saturday

Uncovering of the Relics of the Holy Martyrs at the Gate of Eugenius at Constantinople (395-423)

5:00 PM Panichida for Paul Pangrace (1 year)

6:00 PM Great Vespers

### Sunday, February 23

35th Sunday after Pentecost

**Meatfare Sunday**

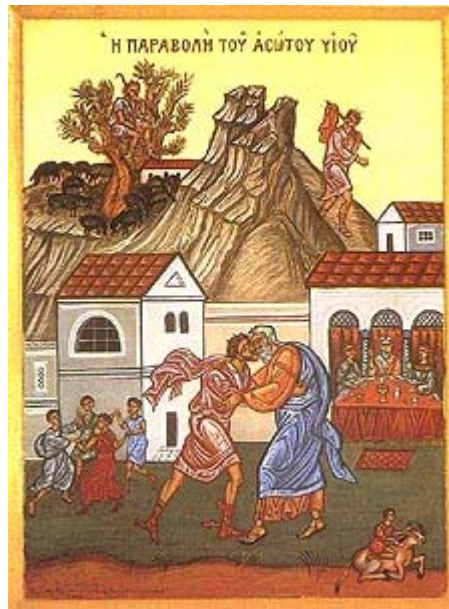
*Sunday of the Last Judgment*

Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (167)

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

## BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2025



The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24).

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Coffee Hour

FOCA meeting to follow

5:30 PM Boys' Night Out

*(The South Side)*

### Monday, February 24

First (4th c.) and Second (452) Finding of the Honorable Head of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John

### Tuesday, February 25

St. Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople (806)

### Wednesday, February 26

"Mezhetsk" Icon of the Mother of God. St. Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza (420)

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Akathist to the Holy Theotokos

### Thursday, February 27

Repose of St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn (1915)

### Friday, February 28

Ven. Basil the Confessor, Companion of Ven. Procopius at Decapolis (750)

### Saturday, March 1

Commemoration of All Departed Righteous Monastics

11:00 AM Baptism of Sofia

4:45PM Church School

5:00 PM 40 Day Panichida for Grace Mary Parhamovich

Confessions

6:00 PM Great Vespers

### Sunday, March 2

36th Sunday after Pentecost

**Cheesefare Sunday**

*Forgiveness Sunday*

**The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise**

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour