

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.

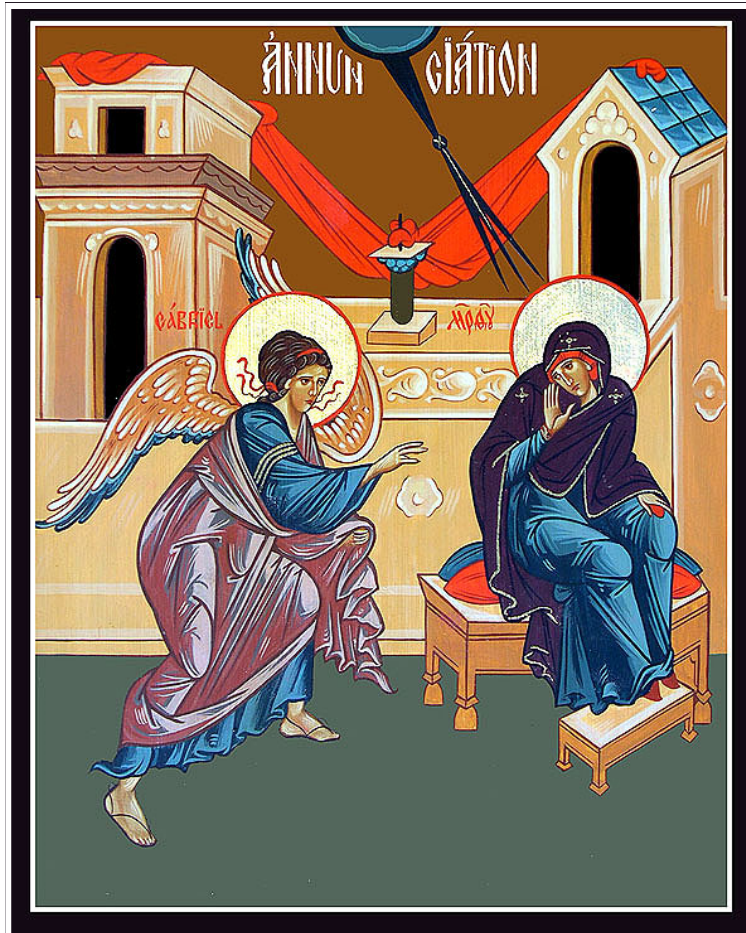
Articles for publication
should be submitted to:

ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com

MARCH 23, 2025

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

VENERATION OF
THE CROSS



The Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) is one of the earliest Christian feasts, and was already being celebrated in the fourth century. There is a painting of the Annunciation in the catacomb of Priscilla in Rome dating from the second century. The Council of Toledo in 656 mentions the Feast, and the Council in Trullo in 692 says that the Annunciation was celebrated during Great Lent.

The Greek and Slavonic names for the Feast may be translated as "good tidings." This, of course, refers to the Incarnation of the Son of God and the salvation He brings. The background of the Annunciation is found in the Gospel of Saint Luke (1:26-38). The troparion describes this as the

"beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the eternal mystery," for on this day the Son of God became the Son of Man.

There are two main components to the Annunciation: the message itself, and the response of the Virgin. The message fulfills God's promise to send a Redeemer (Genesis 3:15): "I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed; he shall crush your head, and you shall lie in wait for his heel." The Fathers of the Church understand "her seed" to refer to Christ. The prophets hinted at His coming, which they saw dimly, but the Archangel Gabriel now proclaims that the promise is about to be fulfilled.

We see this echoed in the Liturgy of Saint Basil, as well: "When man disobeyed

Thee, the only true God who had created him, and was deceived by the guile of the serpent, becoming subject to death by his own transgressions, Thou, O God, in Thy righteous judgment, didst send him forth from Paradise into this world, returning him to the earth from which he was taken, yet providing for him the salvation of regeneration in Thy Christ Himself.”

The Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth in Galilee. There he spoke to the undefiled Virgin who was betrothed to Saint Joseph: “Hail, thou who art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.”

In contrast to Eve, who was readily deceived by the serpent, the Virgin did not immediately accept the Angel’s message. In her humility, she did not think she was deserving of such words, but was actually troubled by them. The fact that she asked for an explanation reveals her sobriety and prudence. She did not disbelieve the words of the angel, but could not understand how they would be fulfilled, for they spoke of something which was beyond nature.

Then said Mary unto the angel, “How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?” (Luke 1:34).

“And the angel answered and said unto her, ‘The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: therefore also that which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible.’ And Mary said, ‘Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.’ And the angel departed from her.” (Luke 1: 35-38)

In his Sermon 23 on the day of the Annunciation, Saint Philaret of Moscow boldly stated that “the word of the creature brought the Creator down into the world.” He explains that salvation is not merely an act of God’s will, but also involves the Virgin’s free will. She could have refused, but she accepted God’s will and chose to cooperate without complaint or further questions.

The icon of the Feast shows the Archangel with a staff in his left hand, indicating his role as a messenger. Sometimes one wing is upraised, as if to show his swift descent from heaven. His right hand is stretched toward the holy Virgin as he delivers his message.

The Virgin is depicted either standing or sitting, usually holding yarn in her left hand. Sometimes she is shown holding a scroll. Her right hand may be raised to indicate her surprise at the message she is hearing. Her head is bowed, showing her consent and obedience. The descent of the Holy Spirit upon her is depicted by a ray of light issuing from a small sphere at the top of the icon, which symbolizes heaven. In a famous icon from Sinai, a white dove is shown in the ray of light.

There are several famous icons of the Annunciation. One is in the Moscow Kremlin in the church of the Annunciation. This icon appeared in connection with the rescue of a prisoner by the Mother of God during the reign of Ivan the Terrible. Another is to be found in the Dormition Cathedral in Moscow (July 8). It was originally located in Ustiug, and was the icon before which Saint Procopius the fool (July 8) prayed to save the city from destruction in 1290. One of the most highly revered icons in Greece is the Tinos icon of the Annunciation (January 30).

The Annunciation falls during Lent, but it is always celebrated with great joy. The Liturgy of Saint Basil or Saint John Chrysostom is served, even on the weekdays of Lent. It is one of the two days of Great Lent on which the fast is relaxed and fish is permitted (Palm Sunday is the other).

Coffee Hour Quarter 1 2025

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

January 5 Tammy & Mary	February 2 Mat. Jana, (sponsored by Una & John Alexandrovic)	March 2 PARISH POTLUCK
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 30 Mat. Jana



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN
THROUGH
5TH GRADE



June 2-6

9am-noon

St. Matthew the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church

10383 Albion Rd

North Royalton

NO COST- free will donations accepted

Email oharmon15@gmail.com to receive a registration form.

Registration ends May 1.

VOLUNTEERS of all ages and abilities are needed! Email Olivia at oharmon15@gmail.com or call her at 440 220 2624

Homemade Paska Bread *Sale!*



Plain
\$8.50 each

with Raisins
\$9.00 each

Supporting Archangel Michael Orthodox Church

ORDER PICK UP IS THURSDAY, APRIL 17

**ALL ORDERS to be picked up at
the Woodside Event Center **Shanty** (drive up)**

2pm to 7 pm

No Shipping - Local Orders Only

****Deadline to order is April 1, 2025****

Contact the Parish Office (440) 526-5192 with questions.

Parishioners of Archangel Michael Orthodox Church can make
arrangements to pickup on Sunday's following Divine Liturgy



**ARCHANGEL MICHAEL
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Order Online amocmarket.square.site

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 3/23/2025

Deceased

Daniela Raisovich

Vincent (*friend of Gabriel & Nicholas*)

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

Infant Jeremiah Patrick

Herman Leslie Levin

Russell Schafer

Sonia Vorell

Ivan Lavrasiuk

Elisabeth Lavrasiuk

Phyllis Gindlesperger

Alexander Medvec

Mary Ann Reck

Lenore Miroewski

(*Sister-in-law to Barbara Clos*)

Michael Weaver

Mary (*friend of Henry*)

Matushka Ludmila Timko

Mitchell "Dale" Peek (*friend of Igor*)

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>



ALTAR SOCIETY

2nd Sunday of each month: 3/9, 4/13, 5/11, 6/8

JOIN THE ALTAR SOCIETY! \$10 Membership, see Joyce Tabeling



Thank you Paul

A special thanks to the late Paul Pangrace, who left us \$110,000.00 to be distributed over ten years, \$11,000.00 per year. We miss you Paul, Memory Eternal

Sunday, March 23

Third Sunday of Great Lent

Veneration of the Cross

Martyr Nikon and 199 disciples with him in Sicily (251)

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

5:00 PM Akathist to the Holy Cross

(At St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
9650 Johnnycake Ridge Rd, Mentor)

Monday, March 24

Forefeast of the Annunciation

Ven. Zachariah the Recluse. St. Artemius (Artemon), Bishop of Seleucia (1st-2nd c.)

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Tuesday, March 25

The Annunciation of our Most Holy Lady, Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

6:00 PM Vespers Divine Liturgy

Festal Evening Meal to follow

Wednesday, March 26

Leavetaking of the Annunciation

Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

Thursday, March 27

Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica (3rd-4th c.)

Friday, March 28

Ven. Hilarion the New, Abbot of Pelekete (ca. 754)

5:00 PM Confessions

5:30 PM 9th Hour & Typica

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, March 29

Memorial Saturday

Hieromartyr Mark, Bishop of Arethusa, Martyr Cyril the Deacon, of Heliopolis, and others who suffered under Julian the Apostate (ca. 364)

5:00 PM Memorial Saturday Panichida

5:20 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, March 30

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent

BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2025



The Third Sunday of Lent is that of the Veneration of the Cross. The cross stands in the midst of the church in the middle of the lenten season not merely to remind men of Christ's redemption and to keep before them the goal of their efforts, but also to be venerated as that reality by which man must live to be saved. "He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Mt.10:38). For in the Cross of Christ Crucified lies both "the power of God and the wisdom of God" for those being saved (1 Cor.1:24).

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St. John Climacus (of The Ladder)

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

FOCA Meeting to follow

Monday, March 31

Repose of St. Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to the Americas (1879)

Tuesday, April 1

Ven. Mary of Egypt (522)

Wednesday, April 2

Virgin Martyr Theodora of Tyre.

Ven. Titus the Wonderworker (9th c.)

5:00 PM Confessions

5:30 PM 9th Hour & Typica

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

Presentation for St. Herman House to follow

Thursday, April 3

Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete.

Ven. Niketas the Confessor, Abbot of Medikion (824)

Friday, April 4

Ven. Joseph the Hymnographer (883)

5:30 PM 9th Hour & Typica

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 5

Saturday of the Akathist to the Most-holy Theotokos

Martyrs Agathopodes the Deacon and Theodulus the

Reader at Thessalonica (ca. 303)

5:00 PM First Holy Confession

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, April 6

Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

St Mary of Egypt

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

5:00 PM Holy Unction

(at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

755 S Cleveland Ave, Mogadore, OH 44260)