

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



APRIL 27, 2025

ANTIPASCHA

THOMAS SUNDAY

733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

www.sttheodosius.org

Archpriest 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

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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

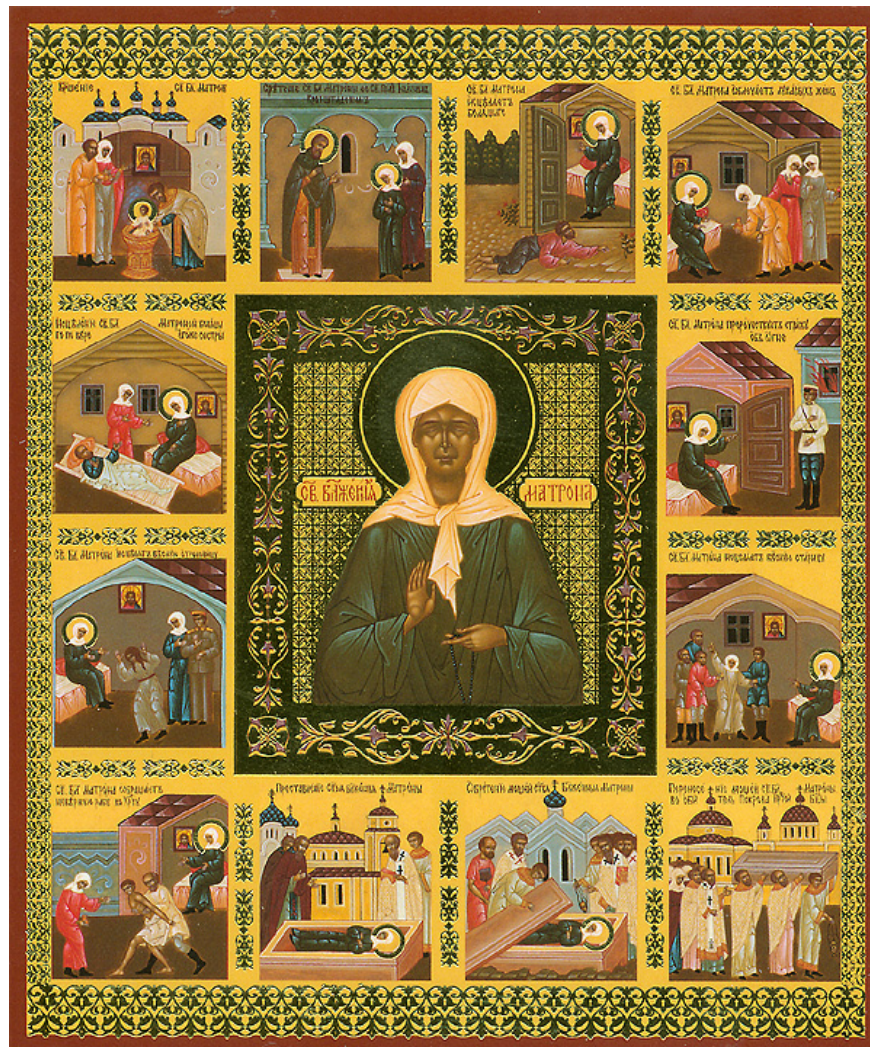
Please check weekly schedule
for specific days (last page).

Previous Ambos on website.

Articles for publication
should be submitted to:

ambo-theodosius

@googlegroups.com



Matrona Dimitrievna Nikonova (May 2) was born in 1881 in the village of Sebino, Tula province, into a God-fearing peasant family. This village is located twenty kilometers from Kulikovo field. During her childhood. Matrona, blind from birth, received from God the gift of spiritual vision, and penetration into mysteries of God's Providence. The grace which rested upon her was manifested in the

gifts of prayer, spiritual reasoning, knowledge, and clairvoyance. Early on, people started coming to her for advice. At first, it was just local residents, and then visitors from other regions. In her seventeenth year, Matrona's legs suddenly became paralyzed, and she permanently lost the ability to walk. She never complained because of her ailments, but humbly bore the cross God had given to her.

Matrona left for Moscow in 1925, which became the place of her asceti-

cal service, and of her righteous repose. Persecuted by the atheists, Matrona was constantly forced to change her place of residence, finding refuge in the homes of believers. An endless stream of people visited Matrona, thirsting for spiritual healing, instruction, and her prayerful help. By her prayers, the infirm were healed of paralysis, or suffering from mental and physical ailments. Her prophecies and predictions helped many people to avoid danger and death, and to find the right path in difficult circumstances. Numerous testimonies of these miraculous events have been preserved.

After her righteous repose, which occurred in

1952, many people came to Matrona's grave in the Danilov cemetery, veneration of the deceased increased, and miracles and healings took place. In 1999, by the decision of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Eldress Matrona of Moscow was numbered among the righteous Saints for local Church veneration in Moscow, and in the Moscow diocese. Her revered relics rest in the Stavropegial Protection Convent in Moscow.

Saint Matrona is commemorated on April 19 / May 2, on March 7 / 20, on the Sunday before August 28 / Sept. 10, the Synaxis of the Moscow Saints, and on September 22 / Oct. 5, the Synaxis of the Tula Saints.

Holy Week Matching Challenge Success!!

We have met the challenge of raising **\$5000.00** and so it has been matched!

Thank you to all who rose to the occasion, and a special thank you to the *Anonymous Donor*.

Mother's Day Men's Potluck!

Gentlemen, it is time to show appreciation by bringing something to the **Mother's Day Men's Potluck**.

We are asking men to bring a dish for all to enjoy on this year's Mother's Day, *Sunday, May 11th*, after Divine Liturgy.

If interested please call *Wayne Vidovich* at 440.989.6165 so he can coordinate. Thank you!



Coffee Hour Quarter 2 2025

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

April 6	May 4	Gammalo
Lina	Cathy	June 8
April 13	May 11	PENTECOST
Tammy & Mary (in memory of Pogorily Family by Mat. Lu Timko)	Men's Potluck (Mother's Day)	Cathy & Tammy
April 20	May 18	June 15
HOLY PASCHA	Joyce & Judy	Vidovich & Whitlock (Father's Day, anonymous sponsor)
April 27	May 25	June 22
Mat. Zdinak & Nikol Gammalo (sponsored by William Lynk)	Mat. Jana (Sponsored by William Lynk)	Joyce & Judy (Ss. Peter & Paul Fast)
June 1	June 1	June 29
Mat. Zdinak & Nikol	Mat. Zdinak & Nikol	Dan & Lavinia



Christ Is Risen!

April 20, 2025
Protocol 04/001

To the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, beloved children in the Lord,

Christ is risen! Indeed he is risen!

“This is the chosen and holy day, first of sabbaths, king and lord of days, the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days. On this day we bless Christ forevermore.”

So we sang at Matins, at the eighth ode of the Paschal canon. St. John of Damascus, the author of that canon, calls today “the feast of feasts,” and as we celebrate this feast of feasts, this first and greatest of feasts, we might ask a seemingly simple question: what are feasts, and why do we celebrate them? This question seems particularly appropriate as the world around us grows ever more chaotic and complex. In the midst of all the change and busy-ness, how can we spare the time just to celebrate and do nothing of use?

Many of us are familiar with the Russian festal greeting, *s prazdnikom*. The key word here is *prazdnik*, the Russian word for feast or holiday, which derives in turn from the adjective *prazdny*, meaning “empty,” and hence “idle.” But this emptiness, or idleness, is not merely an expression of absence. The feast has positive content, but this content is not man-made: it is something made by God, something that our inaction allows us encounter and appreciate. Feasts are days on which we remain idle so that God can act; they are days that we empty of our own works so that we can fill them with the remembrance of the things of God: his deeds, his presence, his glory.

After all, as the Lord says, the sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath (Mk. 2:27). We abused our freewill, sinned, and lost the continual enjoyment of God, instead being cursed to eat by the sweat of our brow (Gen. 3:19). But God, in his mercy, has given us the feast day, a day on which we are able to return to our Edenic state. We set aside the labor that is the result of our sin and, for a day at

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516-922-0550 - metropolitan@oca.org - www.oca.org

least, devote ourselves to true rest, to the one thing needful: worship in spirit and truth, whose hour is coming and now is (Lk. 10:42, Jn. 4:23). As we sang at the canon, the feast is the day on which we bless Christ forevermore.

The feast day, in this way, becomes an icon of the deified person, filled with the divine energies—God's activity, rather than his own. The saints empty their hearts, their lives, their being, of everything worldly and passionate so that God can dwell there as his holy temple. The feast is also thus an icon of the life to come, in which the elect will no longer know toil or care, but only the never-ending banquet of the kingdom, the ceaseless heavenly worship of the one God in Trinity.

Thus, on this first of sabbaths, I pray that we might all set aside our Lenten labors and rejoice in the day which the Lord has made, Bright Sunday, his great and holy Pascha (Ps. 117:24). Following in the footsteps of our self-emptying Master, we worked for six weeks to cleanse our hearts and lives of everything unbecoming, not so that we could be empty, but so we could be filled, according to our own measure and capacity, with the grace that Christ brings into the world through his life-creating Resurrection. Christ rested after his six days of labor, and now after our six weeks of Lenten work, he calls us to enter into his rest, to find our peace in him and the great salvation that he has wrought for us upon the Wood.

Christ is risen, the Peace of God, the divine Peace himself, and so, in the midst of a busy and whirling world, we find everlasting peace on his feast of feasts. May the grace, peace, and joy of his Resurrection abide with all of you, always, now and throughout the ages to come.

Greeting you with festal cheer and Paschal rejoicing, and assuring you of my primatial prayers and blessing, I remain,
Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read '+Tikhon'.

+Tikhon
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada



Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

Thursday, 17 April 2025
Great and Holy Thursday
№. 50

**ARCHPASTORAL GREETINGS OF
THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL
ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST**

ON THE BRIGHT AND JOYOUS FEAST OF PASCHA - 20 APRIL 2025

**Beloved Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful
of the God-protected Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest:**

✠ CHRIST IS RISEN! ✠

Before the dawn Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: "Why do you seek among the dead as a Man the One Who is everlasting Light? Behold the clothes in the grave! Go and proclaim to the world: "The Lord is risen! He has slain death, as He is the Son of God, saving the race of men!"

-Paschal Hours

"You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen!" (Mark 16:6). With these words, the heaven-sent messenger, robed in light, addressed the Holy Myrrhbearing Women who, on that first day of the week, came looking for the tomb of Jesus. In spite of the possibility of great personal harm, their love for the Lord compelled them to come to the tomb to honor His body with a proper Jewish burial. Their deep sorrow was overpowered by their love and care for their Master. On this same "first day of the week," we, too, come seeking the Lord and likewise hear and rejoice in those very words: "He is risen; He is not here."

As Orthodox Christians, we believe that Jesus is not an historic figure from the past, a person whose life and deeds are to be remembered in history books. Yes, He performed wondrous works and healed the sick and suffering and raised the dead. He was betrayed by a friend, brutally beaten and crucified. He died on a cross and was buried in a borrowed tomb. But that is where mere historical facts come to an end. The tomb could not contain Him. He is risen and the tomb is empty! We believe and confess that He lives, is present among us, and walks before us and beside us as one who is alive, as one who calls us to follow Him on the path of eternal life.

Christ is risen! At Pascha we rejoice because Christ did not remain in the tomb, his body did not see corruption (How could the Author of Life be subject to corruption?) Christ belongs to the world of the living, not to the world of the dead; we rejoice because he is the Alpha and the Omega, the

Beginning and the End, the Source and the Fulfillment of all life. He lives not only yesterday, but is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

Christ is risen! But somehow this great reality and wondrous mystery of Christ's Resurrection is situated so far outside our own human experience that, looking inwardly, we find ourselves discussing the same question asked by the disciples coming down from Mount Tabor: What exactly does this "rising from the dead" mean? What does it mean for us? What does it mean for all human history? In attempting to answer this line of questioning, we must begin by admitting that Christ's Resurrection is something more, something different. It is a leap into a completely new order which concerns not only ourselves personally, but the whole of human history.

Christ is risen! Because of His love for us, Jesus could allow himself to die upon a cross. We must recognize, however, that by doing so he broke the seeming finality of death, because in Him the eternal finality of life was present. His death on the cross formed a new reality with life, in such a way that life is the definitive reality.

Christ is risen! In the Gospel of John, Jesus says to his disciples "*I live, and you will also live* (John 14:19). We will live because of our union with the Risen Lord, our Savior. We live and will continue to live through having been united to the One who is life itself. Eternal life and blessed immortality is a gift to us that is ours through our relationship with Christ, the Conqueror of Death. Eternal life comes to us because we have been loved by Him who is Life. He loves us so much that He died on the cross and rose from the dead for us and for our salvation.

Christ is risen! Thus, we can sing full of joy, together with the Church, in the words of the Paschal Troparion:

"Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs bestowing life... And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!"

I extend my joyous best wishes to you all, asking the Risen Lord to bless you, your families, friends, and all your loved ones with His continuing, life-giving presence in your lives.

With love in the Risen Lord,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DANIEL
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

St. Kyranna Young Adult Cooking Class



Who: All Ages 21 – 35(ish)

What: Prayer, Cooking, Fellowship, & Fun

**When: One Saturday Evening Every Other Month*
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Where: Sts. Constantine & Helen, Cleveland Heights

Why: “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Deut 8:3; Matt 4:4).

How: RSVP to tcherpas@stsconstantine.com

**Dates subject to change*



Serbian Golf Outing

Dinner & Music

Net Proceeds for the *Serbian Cultural Garden*

Saturday, July 12, 2025

Sleepy Hollow Golf Course
9445 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

SHOTGUN START FORMAT
WINNING FOURSOME WINS A CASH PRIZE

9:30 A.M. REGISTRATION (WITH A SHOT OF SLIVO)
11:00 A.M. TEE TIME

\$140 FEE INCLUDES:
18 HOLES * CART * ITALIAN LUNCH
PRIZES * MUSIC * DINNER

5:00 P.M. DINNER
ST. SAVA SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (BACK) HALL
2151 WEST WALLINGS ROAD, BROADVIEW HTS., OH 44147

NON-GOLFING SPOUSES, FRIENDS AND GUESTS WELCOME!
\$35.00 INCLUDES DINNER AND MUSIC

CREDIT CARDS & PAYPAL NOW ACCEPTED ON WEBSITE (FEE APPLIES)

OR

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: SERBIAN GOLF OUTING

PAYMENTS DUE NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2025
FOR GOLF, HOLE SPONSORSHIP AND/OR DINNER TO:

Serbian Cultural Garden
P.O. Box 91896
Cleveland, OH 44101

For further information, call: (216) 716-4305
WEBSITE: www.serbianculturalgarden.org



The IOCC Cleveland Metropolitan Committee invites you to the
33RD ANNUAL BANQUET

Monday, May 19, 2025

Doors 6:00 pm | Dinner 7:00 pm

Woodside Event Center at St. Michael's

5025 E. Mill Rd. | Broadview Heights, OH 44147

Learn how your support is helping families in places like
Greece, the Holy Land, Ukraine, and right here in the U.S.

Tickets \$70 | RSVP by Friday, May 5

iocc.org/Cleveland

Or mail checks for IOCC to Julie Hall,
PO Box 560185, Macedonia, OH 44056





Theotokos of Vladimir

EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD
OF GREATER CLEVELAND
SENDS AN OPEN INVITATION
TO MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS



Pan-Orthodox Luncheon

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church Hall
6822 Broadview Road
Parma, OH 44134

Date: Saturday, May 17, 2025
Time: Doors open @ 12:00 AM
Luncheon @ 12:30 PM

Reservations required
No tickets sold at the door
Tickets: Adults - \$15.00
Children 6 to 12 - 7.50
Children under 6 - FREE

Program to include:

- **A delicious luncheon of baked chicken and sloppy joes**
- with plenty of sides and heavenly homemade desserts
- Socialize and relax with family and friends!
- **Auction Gift Baskets / Door Prizes**

- For tickets, see your Parish Representative Karen Felon
- or Call Helen Beverly (440-212-5545)
- Reservations deadline is **Friday, May 9, 2025**

All proceeds go to Orthodox organizations
see list compiled by EOWG -- <https://www.eowgcle.org/charities>

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of Antipascha, 4/27/2025

Deceased

Andriy Butriy

Special Intentions:

Archpriest Jason Kappanadze

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Roger Pinta

Subdeacon Leon Felon

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

Herman Leslie Levin

Russell Schafer

Sonia Vorell

Ivan Lavrisiuk

Elisabeth Lavrisiuk

Phyllis Gindlesperger

Lenore Miroewski

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

Michael Weaver

Mary (*friend of Henry*)

Matushka Ludmila Timko

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

Matthew Hunley

Tammy Ponomarenko

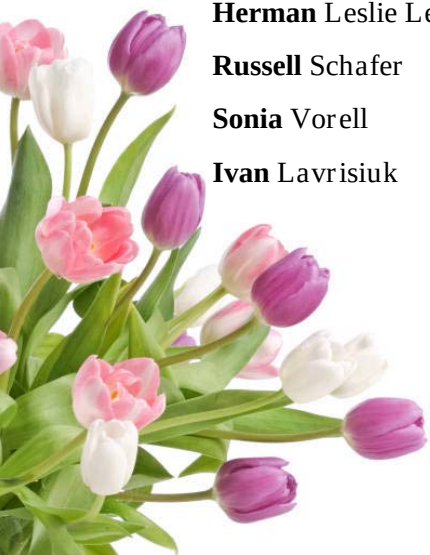
Debra Ellis

Mary Ann Reck

Karen Slowey

Elena Rich

Jerry Czajkowski



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, 5/11, 6/8

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



Sunday, April 27

Antipascha

2nd Sunday of Pascha

St. Thomas Sunday

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

FOCA Meeting to follow

Monday, April 28

Apostles Jason and Sosipater of the Seventy, the Virgin Kerkyra, and those with them (1st c.)

Tuesday, April 29

Day of Rejoicing — (Rádonitsa)
Nine Martyrs at Cyzicus

Wednesday, April 30

Holy Apostle James (Jacob), the brother of St. John the Theologian (44 A.D.)
6:00 PM Akathist to St. Theodosius

Thursday, May 1

Prophet Jeremiah (6th c. B.C.). Ven. Paphnutius, Abbot of Boróvsk (1478)

Friday, May 2

St. Matrona of Moscow. St. Athanasius the Great, Patriarch of Alexandria (373)

Saturday, May 3

Ven. Theodosius, Abbot of the Kiev Caves Monastery and Founder of Cœnobitic Monasticism in Russia (1074)
4:45PM Church School
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, May 4

3rd Sunday of Pascha

Myrrhbearing Women

Virgin Martyr Pelagía of Tarsus in

BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2025



Some icons depicting this event are inscribed "The Doubting Thomas." This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, "The Touching of Thomas." The Slavonic inscription is, "The Belief of Thomas." When Saint Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.

This day is also known as "Antipascha." This does not mean "opposed to Pascha," but "in place of Pascha." Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's Resurrection. Sunday is called "Resurrection" in Russian, and "the Lord's Day" in Greek.

Asia Minor (ca. 290)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Monday, May 5
Great Martyr Irene (1st-2nd c.)

Tuesday, May 6
Righteous Job the Long-suffering (ca. 2000-1500 B.C.)

Wednesday, May 7
Repose of St. Alexis Toth, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America (1909)

Thursday, May 8
Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian (98-117)

Friday, May 9
Prophet Isaiah (8th c. B.C.)

Saturday, May 10
Apostle Simeon the Zealot (1st c.)
St. Simon, Bishop of Vladimir and Suzdal' (Kiev Caves-Near Caves—1226)
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, May 11
4th Sunday of Pascha
Sunday of the Paralytic
Holy Equals-to-the-Apostles Cyril (869) and Methodius (885),
First Teachers of the Slavs
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour