

# Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

733 Starkweather Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

[www.sttheodosius.org](http://www.sttheodosius.org)

Archpriest Jan Cizmar  
1(440) 732-8182  
[st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dpozderac.tlc@gmail.com)  
Parish Council President

Mary Swit  
Parish Secretary  
1(216) 574-4886  
[StTheodosiusCathedral@protonmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:ambo-theodosius)

[@googlegroups.com](https://www.google.com/groups)

MARCH 29, 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. MARY OF EGYPT



## The Raising of Lazarus

Visible triumphs are few in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ. He preached a kingdom "not of this world." At His nativity in the flesh there was "no room at the inn." For nearly thirty years, while He grew "in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52), He lived in obscurity as "the son of Mary." When He appeared from Nazareth to begin His public ministry, one of the first to hear of Him asked: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:46). In the end He was crucified between two thieves and laid to rest in the tomb of another man.

Two brief days stand out as sharp exceptions to the above—days of clearly observable triumph. These days are known in the Church today as Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday. Together they form a unified liturgical cycle which serves as the passage from the forty days of Great Lent to Holy Week. They are the unique and paradoxical days before the Lord's Passion. They are days of visible, earthly triumph, of resurrectional and messianic joy in which Christ Himself is a deliberate and active participant. At the same time they are days which point beyond themselves to an ultimate victory and final kingship which Christ will attain not by raising one dead man or entering a particular city, but by His own imminent suffering, death and resurrection.

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion,  
 Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God!  
 Like the children with the palms of victory,  
 we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death:  
 Hosanna in the highest!  
 Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord!  
 (Troparion of the Feast, sung on both Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday)

Lazarus Saturday

In a carefully detailed narrative the Gospel relates how Christ, six days before His own death, and with particular mindfulness of the people “standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me” (John 11:42), went to His dead friend Lazarus at Bethany outside of Jerusalem. He was aware of the approaching death of Lazarus but deliberately delayed His coming, saying to His disciples at the news of His friend’s death: “For your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe” (John 11:14).

When Jesus arrived at Bethany, Lazarus was already dead four days. This fact is repeatedly emphasized by the Gospel narrative and the liturgical hymns of the feast. The four-day burial underscores the horrible reality of death. Man, created by God in His own image and likeness, is a spiritual-material being, a unity of soul and body. Death is destruction; it is the separation of soul and body. The soul without the body is a ghost, as one Orthodox theologian puts it, and the body without the soul is a decaying corpse. “I weep and I wail, when I think upon death, and behold our beauty, fashioned after the image of God, lying in the tomb dishonored, disfigured, bereft of form.” This is a hymn of Saint John of Damascus sung at the Church’s burial services. This “mystery” of death is the inevitable fate of man fallen from God and blinded by his own prideful pursuits.

With epic simplicity the Gospel records that, on coming to the scene of the horrible end of His friend, “Jesus wept” (John 11:35). At this moment Lazarus, the friend of Christ, stands for all men, and Bethany is the mystical center of the world. Jesus wept as He saw the “very good” creation and its king, man, “made through Him” (John 1:3) to be filled with joy, life and light, now a burial ground in which man is sealed up in a tomb outside the city, removed from the fullness of life for which he was created, and decomposing in darkness, despair and death. Again as the Gospel says, the people were hesitant to open the tomb, for “by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days” (John 11:39).

When the stone was removed from the tomb, Jesus prayed to His Father and then cried with a loud voice: “Lazarus, come out.” The icon of the feast shows the particular moment when Lazarus appears at the entrance to the tomb. He is still wrapped in his grave clothes and his friends, who are holding their noses because of the stench of his decaying body, must unwrap him. In everything stress is laid on the audible, the visible and the tangible. Christ presents the world with this observable fact: on the eve of His own suffering and death He raises a man dead four days! The people were astonished. Many immediately believed on Jesus and a great crowd began to assemble around Him as the news of the raising of Lazarus spread. The regal entry into Jerusalem followed.

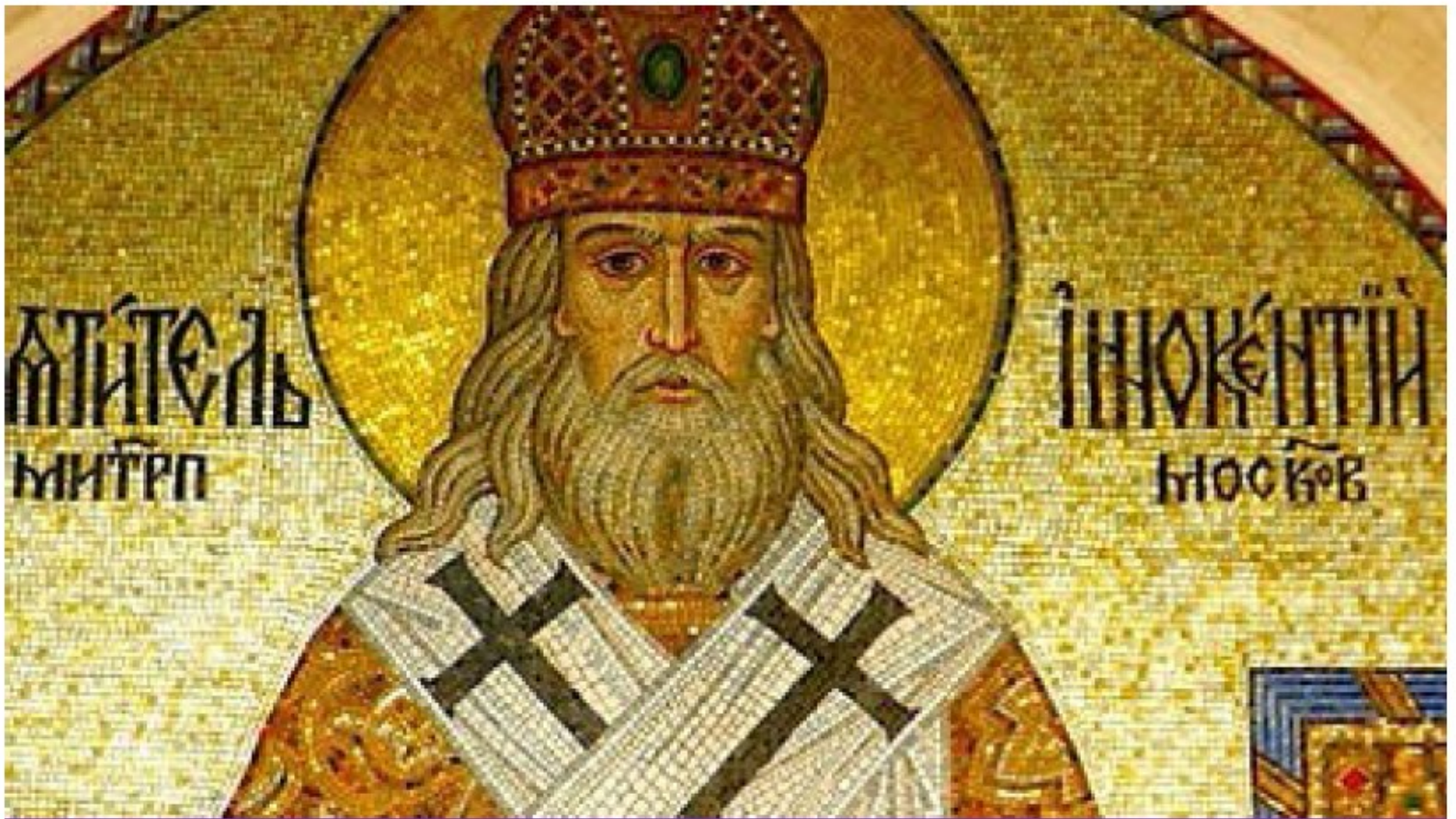
Lazarus Saturday is a unique day: on a Saturday a Matins and Divine Liturgy bearing the basic marks of festal, resurrectional services, normally proper to Sundays, are celebrated. Even the baptismal hymn is sung at the Liturgy instead of Holy God: “As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ.”

Very Rev. Paul Lazor

**Coffee Hour Quarter 1 2026**

Questions/Concerns/volunteer? call Cathy Weber (412-215-1928)

January 4 Mary (anonymous sponsor)	February 8 Cathy & Tammy	March 8 (Great Lent) Heather Openshaw
January 11 Sarah & Mike Brennan	February 15 (Meatfare) Wayne, Gayle, & Shawna	March 15 (Great Lent) Cathy & Tammy
January 18 Joyce & Judy	(anonymous sponsor)	March 22 (Great Lent) Wayne, Gayle, & Shawna
January 25 Nikol	February 22 (Cheesefare) <b>Parish Potluck</b>	March 29 (Great Lent)
February 1 Mary	March 1 (Great Lent) Joyce & Judy	Chris & Emiko Strah



# DEANERY PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY

Come join the members of your deanery family in prayerful celebration of the  
memory of St. Innocent Apostle to America

**Tuesday March 31, 2026 - 6:00pm**  
**St. Innocent Orthodox Church**  
**8526 Usher Rd, Olmsted Township, OH**

**A Lenten Meal will follow**

# REAL CLEVELAND

## Bright Week Fellowship Picnic



Orthodox Young Adults from around Cleveland and Akron gathering to Celebrate Pascha!

**Wednesday April 15th 2026**

**Starts at 6:00 PM**

RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/brightweek-picnic>

Kiwanis Pavilion in Elmwood Park 6363 Selig Dr,  
Independence, 44131



# YAL

NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE  
'26

JULY 1-5 2026

CLEVELAND, OH

Join hundreds  
of young adults for  
a weekend full of  
faith & fellowship!

*Rise & Build:*  
**Claim Your  
Calling!**



Hosted at the  
Cleveland Marriott  
Downtown!

## Featuring:

Engaging speakers - Interactive service project  
Themed evening events - Free time in Cleveland



**Register Now!**  
[clergyiaity.org/yalconference](http://clergyiaity.org/yalconference)

IG/FB @yalnationalconference  
Questions? Email us at [yal@goarch.org](mailto:yal@goarch.org).

**PRAYER REQUESTS**  
3/29/2026

*Deceased*

**Kathleen Spickler**

*Special Intentions:*

**Subdeacon Theodore** Lentz

**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*)

**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

**Elisabeth** Lavrisiuk

**Phyllis** Gindlesperger

**Jerry** Czajkowski

**Christopher** Magee (*Brother of Erin Z*)

**Barbara** Sheean

**Tamara** Ponomarenko

**Paige** Benjamin (*Niece of Una Alexandrovic*)

**Sara** Wilmot (*friend of Tim Clos*)

**Catherine** (*niece of Judy Schwind*)

**Elena** Rich

**Donald & Catherine & unborn child**

**Quinn** (*niece of John Alexandrovic*)

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>



# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2026

### Sunday, March 29

*Fifth Sunday of Great Lent*

#### **St. Mary of Egypt**

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

*Holy Unction Mission Service @*

*St. Nicholas in Mogadore*

*755 S. Cleveland Ave, Mogadore OH*

### Monday, March 30

Ven. John Climacus of Sinai, author of The Ladder (6th c.)

### Tuesday, March 31

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

6:00 PM Deaneer Presanctified Liturgy

@St. Innocent Orthodox Church  
in Olmstead Falls

### Wednesday, April 1

Ven. Mary of Egypt (522)

4:30 PM Confessions

5:30 PM 9th Hour & Typica

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

### Thursday, April 2

Virgin Martyr Theodora of Tyre

### Friday, April 3

Ven. Niketas the Confessor,

Abbot of Medikion (824)

4:30 PM Confessions

5:30 PM 9th Hour & Typica

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

### Saturday, April 4

#### **Lazarus Saturday**

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

*Church School to follow*

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Vigil

(Vespers + Matins)

### Sunday, April 5

#### **ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM**

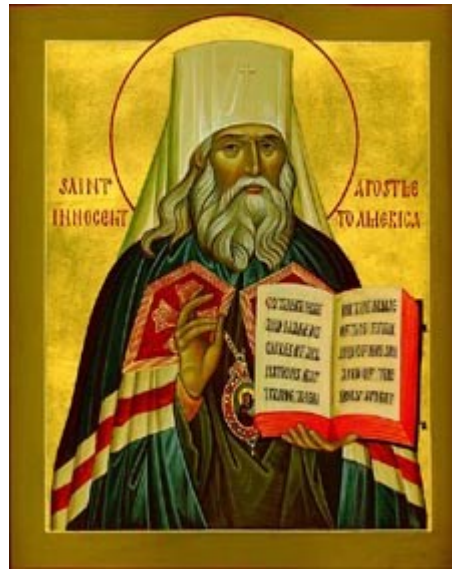
#### **Palm Sunday**

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins for

Great & Holy Monday



#### **Repose of Saint Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts, Apostle to the Americas**

Saint Innocent (Veniaminov), Metropolitan of Moscow and Kolomensk (August 26, 1797—March 31, 1879), was glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church on October 6, 1977. He was born in the village of Anginsk in the Irkutsk diocese. The Apostle of America and Siberia proclaimed the Gospel “even to the ends of the earth”: in the Aleutian islands (from 1823), in the six dialects of the local tribes on the island of Sitka (from 1834), among the Kolosh (Tlingit); in the remotest settlements of the extensive Kamchatka diocese (from 1853); among the Koryak, Chukchei, Tungus in the Yakutsk region (from 1853) and North America (in 1857); in the Amur and the Ussuriisk region (from 1860).

*St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral Ambo - Page 7*

### Monday, April 6

#### **Great and Holy Monday**

2:30 PM Hours & Tipika

3:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

*Potluck to follow*

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins for

Great and Holy Tuesday

### Tuesday, April 7

#### **Great and Holy Tuesday**

2:30 PM Hours & Tipika

3:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

*Potluck to follow*

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins for

Great and Holy Wednesday

### Wednesday, April 8

#### **Great and Holy Wednesday**

2:30 PM Hours & Tipika

3:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

*Potluck to follow*

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins for

Great and Holy Thursday

### Thursday, April 9

#### **Great and Holy Thursday**

2:30 PM Ninth Hour

3:00 PM Vespersal Divine Liturgy

7:00 PM Matins & Passion Gospels

### Friday, April 10

#### **Great and Holy Friday**

9:00 AM Royal Hours

3:00 PM Vespers

7:00 PM Lamentation Matins

### Saturday, April 11

#### **Great and Holy Saturday**

1:00 PM Vespersal Divine Liturgy of

Great and Holy Saturday

*Blessing of Baskets to follow*

8:00 PM Reading of the Acts of the Apostles

10:30 PM Nocturnes + Matins +

Divine Liturgy

*Followed by Agape Meal*

### Sunday, April 12

#### **HOLY PASCHA**

#### **The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior**

#### **Jesus Christ**

*The beginning of the Pentecostarion*

*(no morning Liturgy)*

1:00 PM Paschal Vespers