

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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Office Hours MTWTh
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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

MAY 24, 2026

7TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA

HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST
ECUMENICAL COUNCIL



On the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the holy God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council.

The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, "I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious. The holy martyrs bore witness to the truth of the Savior's words, enduring suffering and death for confessing Christ, but the persecutor's sword is shattered by the Cross of Christ.

Persecution of Christians ceased during the fourth century, but heresies arose within the Church itself. One of the most pernicious of these heresies was Arianism. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, was a man of immense pride and ambition. In denying the divine nature of Jesus Christ and His equality with God the Father, Arius falsely taught that the Savior is not consubstantial with the Father, but is only a created being.

A local Council, convened with Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria presiding, condemned the false teachings of Arius. However, Arius would not submit to the authority of the Church. He wrote to many bishops, denouncing the decrees of the local Council. He spread his false teaching throughout the East,

receiving support from certain Eastern bishops. Investigating these dissensions, the holy emperor Constantine (May 21) consulted Bishop Hosius of Cordova (Aug. 27), who assured him that the heresy of Arius was directed against the most fundamental dogma of Christ's Church, and so he decided to convene an Ecumenical Council. In the year 325, 318 bishops representing Christian Churches from various lands gathered together at Nicea.

Among the assembled bishops were many confessors who had suffered during the persecutions, and who bore the marks of torture upon their bodies. Also participating in the Council were several great luminaries of the Church: Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia (December 6 and May 9), Saint Spyridon, Bishop of Tremithos (December 12), and others venerated by the Church as holy Fathers. With Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria came his deacon, Athanasius [who later became Patriarch of Alexandria (May 2 and January 18)]. He is called "the Great," for he was a zealous champion for the purity of Orthodoxy. In the Sixth Ode of the Canon for today's Feast, he is referred to as "the thirteenth Apostle."

The emperor Constantine presided over the sessions of the Council. In his speech, responding to the welcome by Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea, he said, "God has helped me cast down the impious might of the persecutors, but more distressful for me than any blood spilled in battle is for a soldier, is the internal strife in the Church of God, for it is more ruinous."

Arius, with seventeen bishops among his supporters, remained arrogant, but his teaching was repudiated and he was excommunicated from the Church. In his speech, the holy deacon Athanasius conclusively refuted the blasphemous opinions of Arius. The heresiarch Arius is depicted in iconography sitting on Satan's knees, or in the mouth of the Beast of the Deep (Rev. 13).

The Fathers of the Council declined to accept a Symbol of Faith (Creed) proposed by the Arians. Instead, they affirmed the Orthodox Symbol of Faith. Saint Constantine asked the Council to insert into the text of the Symbol of Faith the word "consubstantial," which he had heard in the speeches of the bishops. The Fathers of the Council unanimously accepted this suggestion.

In the Nicene Creed, the holy Fathers set forth and confirmed the Apostolic teachings about Christ's divine nature. The heresy of Arius was exposed and repudiated as an error of haughty reason. After resolving this chief dogmatic question, the Council also issued Twelve Canons on questions of churchly administration and discipline. Also decided was the date for the celebration of Holy Pascha. By decision of the Council, Holy Pascha should not be celebrated by Christians on the same day with the Jewish Passover, but on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the vernal equinox (which occurred on March 22 in 325).

The First Ecumenical Council is also commemorated on May 29.

An opportunity to assist IOCC in a home rebuild in Tennessee June 14 - 20th.

Homes have been damaged from tornadoes. We will leave from Holy Trinity, Parma, after Divine Liturgy on June 14th. Any level of home repair skills is acceptable. We will carpool. Anyone interested I would need their name, phone number, and email address to begin the registration process. Cost is \$100 which covers much of the food's expenses for the individual for the week. Thank you!

Yours in Christ,

Diane Hastings, IOCC Cleveland Chapter Chairperson, Holy Trinity, 440-364-6045, dianehastings3@gmail.com

Coffee Hour Quarter 2 2026

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

April 5	May 10 (<i>Mother's Day</i>)	June 14 (<i>Apostle's Fast</i>)
Mary	Men's Potluck	Whitlock
April 12	May 17	June 21 (<i>Apostle's Fast, Father's Day</i>)
Holy Pascha	Joyce & Judy	Heather Openshaw
April 19	May 24	(<i>sponsored by anonymous</i>)
Tammy & Cathy	Mat. Jana	June 28 (<i>Apostle's Fast</i>)
April 26	(<i>Sponsored by Una & John</i>)	Gabe Tabeling
Cindy Zdinak	May 31	
(<i>Sponsored by Una & John</i>)	Sarah & Mike Brennan	
May 3	June 7	
Whitlock	Cindy Zdinak	
(<i>Sponsored by Una & John</i>)		



CATCH THE VISION: A DAY AT ST. GREGORY CLASSICAL ACADEMY

Thursday, May 28, 8:30 p.m.

At St. Gregory Classical Academy, our core belief is that each person possesses an inherent dignity that must be cultivated. We are a community where students experience both truth and love, shaped by a curriculum that forms not only the mind, but the heart.

We invite you to experience this vision firsthand. Please fill out this short form by clicking this [link](#) or scanning the QR code to register for our session. Once registered, you will receive a Zoom link to attend the meeting.

During this session, we will explore:

- Our daily routines and student life
- The distinctive features of our classical curriculum
- Feast days, field trips, and the rhythm of the school year
- The spiritual formation of the mind—rooted in the Tradition of the Early Church





EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD OF GREATER CLEVELAND

Unity Through Participation

FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR
YOU," DECLARES THE LORD, "PLANS TO
PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU,
PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.

~JEREMIAH 29:11

Theotokos of Vladimir

Saturday, June 6, 2026 @10:00AM



St. E Premte Albanian Orthodox Church
10716 Jasper Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44111



- **Guest Speaker: Father Ives Babich**
"Orthodox Spiritual Struggles"
- Review of the Year
- Social & Refreshments

SERBIAN GOLF OUTING DINNER AND MUSIC SATURDAY, July 11, 2026

Net proceeds for the *SERBIAN CULTURAL GARDEN*



**\$150 FEE
INCLUDES**

**18 Holes Golf
and Cart
Italian
Luncheon
Prizes * Music
* Dinner**

NEW SHOTGUN FORMAT

SLEEPY HOLLOW GOLF COURSE
9445 Brecksville Road
Brecksville, Ohio 44141
SHOTGUN START FORMAT

TIME	EVENT
11:30 a.m.	Registration (with a shot of Slivo)
12:30 p.m.	Tee time for shotgun start
6:00 p.m.	Dinner, Music and Awards
GOLFER FEE PAYMENT REQUIRED IN ADVANCE	

Winning foursome receives a cash prize!

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church
2151 West Wallings Rd., Broadview Hts., OH 44147
Non-golfing spouses, friends and guests welcome!
\$35.00 includes Dinner, Prizes and Music!



Credit Cards & PayPal now accepted (fee applies) on website:
www.serbianculturalgarden.org

OR Checks payable to the: *Serbian Golf Outing*
Mail to: Serbian Golf Outing, P. O. Box 91896, Cleveland, Ohio 44101

PAYMENT TO BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2026

For further information, call (216) 716-4305 or email
amaoffice80@gmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

5/24/2026

Deceased:

Joseph Wade

Special Intentions:

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Leon Felon

Reader Frank Tkacz

Reader Daniel Morris

Reader Haralambos Steingass

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

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*)

Michael

Allison

Mackenzie

Thomas Virostek

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>



Time for Boys' Night Out!

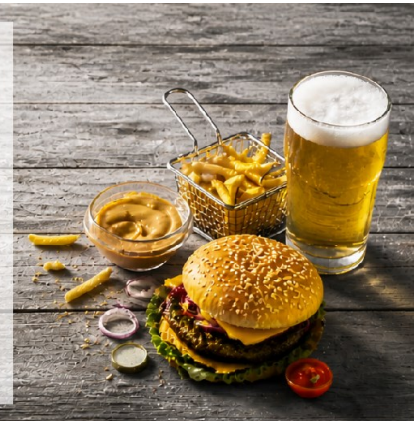
Sunday, May 24th at 5PM

we will have our Boys' Night Out at

The South Side

2207 W11 St. in Tremont

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



Sunday, May 24

Seventh Sunday after Pascha

Afterfeast of the Ascension

Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

5:00 PM Boys' Night Out

Monday, May 25

Afterfeast of the Ascension

Third Finding of the Honorable Head of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John (ca. 850)

10:00 AM Memorial Service with grave blessings at St. Theodosius Cemetery

Tuesday, May 26

Afterfeast of the Ascension

Apostles Carpus and Alphæus of the Seventy (1st c.)

Wednesday, May 27

Afterfeast of the Ascension

Hieromartyr Therapon, Bishop of Sardis (3rd c.)

Thursday, May 28

Afterfeast of the Ascension

St. Niketas, Bishop of Chalcedon (9th c.)
6:00 PM Akathist to St. Theodosius

Friday, May 29

Leavetaking of the Ascension

Holy Virgin Martyr Theodosia of Tyre (307)

Saturday, May 30

Memorial Saturday

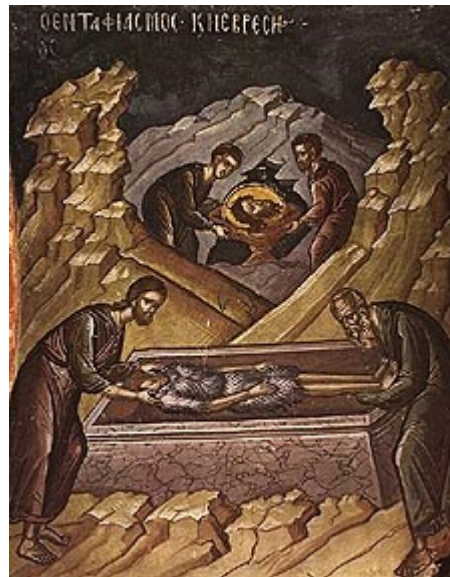
Ven. Isaac, Founder of Dalmátos Monastery at Constantinople (383)

5:00 PM Confessions

5:30 PM Memorial Service

6:00 PM All Night Vigil

BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2026



The Third Discovery of the Venerable Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John occurred in about the year 850 (see the account of the First and Second Discoveries on February 24). The head of Saint John the Forerunner was first found on the Mount of Olives, where it had been hidden by Joanna, wife of Chusa, after the Saint's beheading; and found the second time in the city of Emesia during a time of unrest at Constantinople connected with the exile of Saint John Chrysostom (November 13).

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Sunday, May 31

Eighth Sunday after Pascha

Holy Pentecost: Feast of the Holy Trinity

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

Monday, June 1

Day of the Holy Spirit

Martyr Justin the Philosopher and those with him at Rome

Tuesday, June 2

Third Day of the Trinity

St. Nikephoros the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople (828)

Wednesday, June 3

Afterfeast of Pentecost

Martyr Lucillian and those who suffered with him at Byzantium

Thursday, June 4

Afterfeast of Pentecost

"Surety of Sinners" Icon of the Mother of God of Korets

Friday, June 5

Afterfeast of Pentecost

Hieromartyr Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre (ca. 362)

Saturday, June 6

Leavetaking of Pentecost

Ven. Bessarion, Wonderworker of Egypt (4th-5th c.)

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, June 7

First Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints

"Seven Arrows"

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour