Ambo

St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral

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

Denise "Nisi" Pozderac
dpozderac.tlc@gmail.com
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

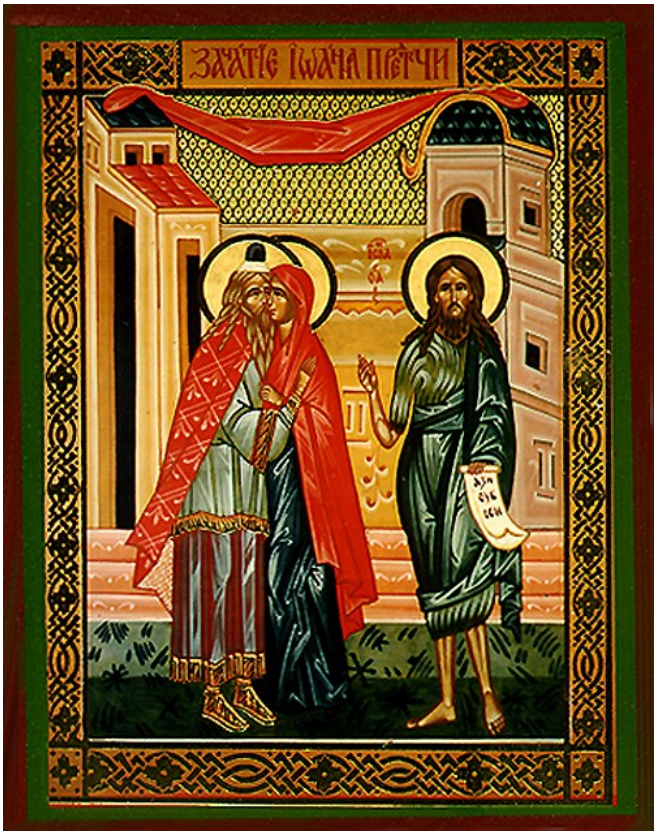
Eve Sundays & Feast Days
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers
Sundays and Feast Days
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Please check weekly schedule for specific days (last page).
Previous Ambos on website.

Articles for publication should be submitted to:
ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION



Conception of the Honorable Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John (Sept 23)

The holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah's birth His Forerunner would appear, and would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner.

In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the righteous priest Saint Zachariah and his wife Saint Elizabeth, zealously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple, however, had a misfortune: they remained childless in their old age, and they prayed unceasingly to God to grant them a child.

Once, when Saint Zachariah took his turn as priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went into the Sanctuary to offer incense. Going behind the veil of the Sanctuary, he beheld an angel of God standing at the right side of the altar of incense. Saint Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the angel said to him, "Fear not, Zachariah, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John." But Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger, and then the angel said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you the good news. Behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words...." Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not do so because he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, and gave birth to John, the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord.

THE HOLY PROPHET JONAH (Sept 22)

The Holy Prophet Jonah lived in the eighth century before the birth of Christ and was a successor of the Prophet Elisha. The Book of the Prophet Jonah contains prophecies about the judgments on the Israelite nation, the sufferings of the Savior, the downfall of Jerusalem, and the end of the world. Besides the prophecies, the Book of Jonah relates how he was sent to the Ninevites to preach repentance (Jon. 3: 3-10).

Our Lord Jesus Christ, addressing the Scribes and the Pharisees who demanded a sign from Him, said that no sign would be given except for the sign of the Prophet Jonah, "As Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, so also shall the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights" (Mt. 12: 40). From these words the Lord shows clearly the symbolic meaning of the Book of the Prophet Jonah in relation to Christ's death on the Cross, descent into Hell, and the Resurrection.

Reproaching the lack of penitence and recalcitrance of the Jews, the Lord said, "The Ninevites shall rise in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and one greater than Jonah is here" (Mt. 12: 41).

Coffee Hour Quarter 3 2026

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

July 5
Joyce & Judy

July 12
Matushka Jana

July 19
Christopher & Emiko

July 26
Mary

August 2 *(Dormition Fast)*
Dan & Lavinia
(Sponsored by Una & John)

August 9 *(Dormition Fast)*
Matushka Jana

August 16
Tammy
(Sponsored by Una & John)

August 23
Joyce & Judy

August 30
Sarah & Mike Brennan

September 6
Shawna
(Sponsored by Anonymous)

September 13
Holly Roe

September 20
Heather

September 27
Shawna

Orthodox Church in America

DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

11 September, 2026
Venerable Theodora of Alexandria
№. 173

ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE OF THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11

To the Clergy, Monastics, Faithful and Friends of the Diocese of the Midwest

Beloved in Christ,

Twenty-five years ago, on the morning of September 11, 2001, death and evil entered the world and our nation in a shocking and violent manner. Thousands of innocent people lost their lives, and the lives of countless others were forever changed. Parents, children, spouses, friends, neighbors, and colleagues were taken. And those who survived were robbed of their loved ones. In the days and years that have followed the terrors of that day, our nation has borne - and continues to bear—profound sorrow and deep grief.

Twenty-five years have now passed, yet 9/11 remains one of the darkest days in our nation's history. In a matter of moments, violence shattered ordinary lives. And that dark moment was played out before our very eyes and is embedded in our memory forever.

However, we also remember that the powers of evil and darkness did not conquer. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5). Indeed, amid the devastation of that horrific day, light broke through. People revealed extraordinary courage, strength, faith, and love. First responders ran toward danger. Strangers carried one another to safety. Communities gathered to pray, mourn, serve, and rebuild. In one of our darkest hours, the light of compassion shone with remarkable power.

On this twenty-fifth anniversary, let us remember those who died, those who continue to mourn them, and all those whose lives were forever changed. Let us honor the courage of those who served and sacrificed. And let us recommit ourselves to being bearers of Christ's unconquered light - choosing mercy over hatred, unity over division, service over indifference, and hope over fear.

May God comfort all who continue to grieve. May God grant peace to our nation and our world. And may the memory of September 11 call us to live with greater faith, compassion, courage, and love.

With love in Christ the Giver of Light,

+Daniel

DANIEL
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

917 North Wood Street • Chicago, Illinois 60622 • 312-202-0420 • www.domoca.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

9/20/2026

Special Intentions:

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Leon Felon

Reader Kenneth Kovach

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

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

Quinn *(niece of John Alexandrovic)*

Erin Zawolowycz

Anthony Swit

Nina Mytrohovich

Alexander Zdinak (Sasha)

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

BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2026

Sunday, September 20
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross
Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross
Greatmartyr Eustáthios (Eustace) Placidas, his wife, Martyr Theopistes, and their children, Martyrs Agapius and Theopistus, of Rome (ca. 118)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Monday, September 21
Leavetaking of the Elevation of the Cross
Apostle Quadratus of the Seventy (ca. 130)

Tuesday, September 22
Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinopè (117)
6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 23
The Conception of the Honorable Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John
6:00 PM Akathist

Thursday, September 24
Holy New Martyrs of Alaska, Hieromonk Juvenaly (ca. 1796) and Peter the Aleut (1815)
6:30 AM Hours and Typica

Friday, September 25
Repose of Ven. Sergius (Sérgii) the Wonderworker, Abbot of Rádonezh (1392)

Saturday, September 26
Repose of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian (2nd c.)
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

We know very little about Saint Peter, except that he was from Kodiak, and was arrested and put to death by the Spaniards in California because he refused to convert to Catholicism. The circumstances of his martyrdom recall the torture of Saint James the Persian (November 27). Both in his sufferings and in his steadfast confession of the Faith, Saint Peter is the equal of the martyrs of old, and also of the New Martyrs who have shone forth in more recent times. Now he rejoices with them in the heavenly Kingdom, glorifying God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, throughout all ages.

Sunday, September 27
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Martyrs Callistratus and his company (49 Martyrs—ca. 304)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Monday, September 28
Ven. Chariton the Confessor, Abbot of Palestine (ca. 350)

Tuesday, September 29
Ven. Kyriakos the Anchorite (556)

Wednesday, September 30
Hieromartyr Gregory, Bishop of Greater Armenia, Equal of the Apostles, Enlightener of Armenia (ca. 335)
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Thursday, October 1
The Protection (Pokrov) of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

Friday, October 2
Hieromartyr Cyprian, Virgin Martyr Justina, and Martyr Theoctistus, of Nicomedia (304)

Saturday, October 3
Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite, Bishop of Athens, and with him Martyrs Rusticus the Presbyter and Eleutherius the Deacon (96)
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, October 4
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens (1st c.)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour