

# Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



## Mailing:

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- Archpriest John Zdinak,  
Dean

[dean@sttheodosius.org](mailto:dean@sttheodosius.org)

Cell: 216. 554. 7282

- Protodeacon Daniel Boerio

- Father Jacob Van Sickle

- Subdeacon Theodore  
Lentz, Sacristan

- Reader Julius Kovach,  
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

- Reader Paul Pangrace,  
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

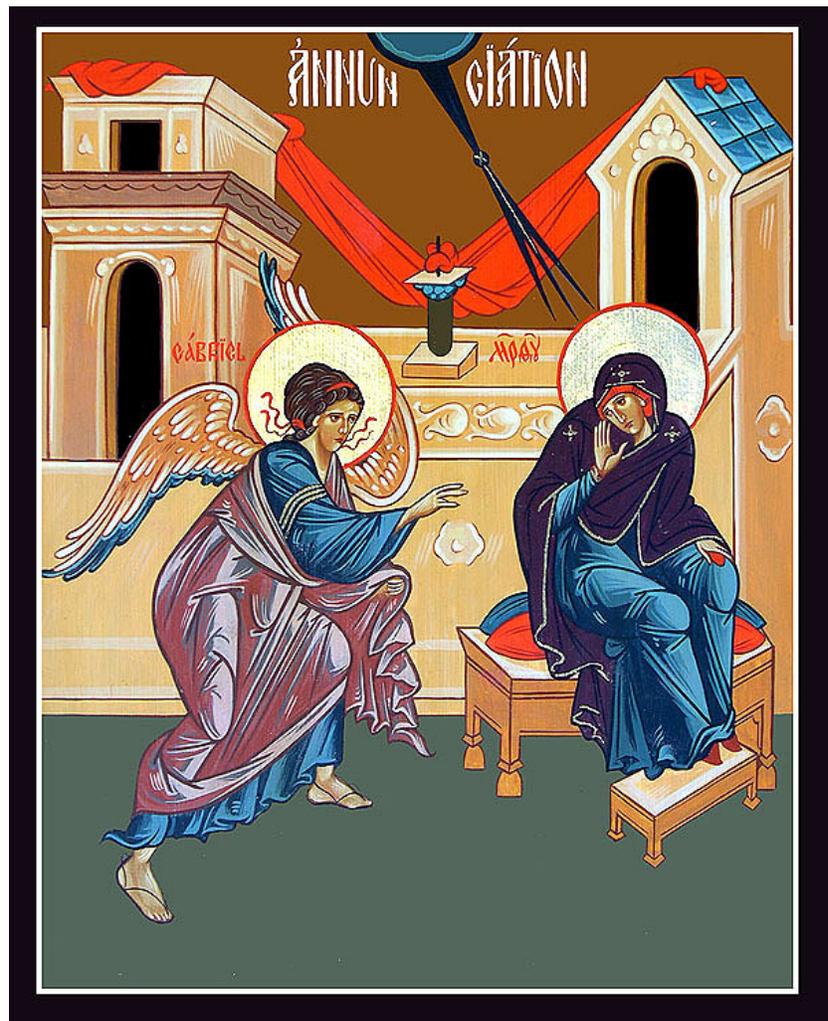
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

\* AMBO: Articles for publication should be submitted to: [sttheocemetery@yahoo.com](mailto:sttheocemetery@yahoo.com) by Wednesday of each week before noon.

\* CALENDAR: Event dates must be submitted by the 15th of each month.

**MARCH 19, 2017**  
**VENERATION OF THE**  
**PRECIOUS CROSS**

ANNUNCIATION MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS



MARCH 25

## THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

The Feast of the Annunciation 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).

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 19

Mar. 19 Heb. 4:14-5:6  
Mark 8:34-9:1

Mar. 21 Genesis 9:8-17  
Proverbs 12:8-22

Mar. 24 Genesis 12:1-7  
Proverbs 14:15-26

Mar. 20 Genesis 8:21-9:7  
Proverbs 11:19-12:6

Mar. 22 Genesis 9:18-10:1  
Proverbs 12:23-13:9

Mar. 25 Heb. 2:11-18  
Luke 1:24-38

Mar. 23 Genesis 10:32-11:9  
Proverbs 13:19-14:6





## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Departed:

**Jason Sasarak (nephew of  
Sonia Sasarak)**  
02-09-17

**Mikolay Jarachovic**  
03-02-17

### Ill Afflicted & Special Intentions:

**Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan**  
**Matushka Catherine Jula**  
**Archpriest Theodore Bobosh**  
**Betty Balasz**  
**Christopher Baymiller (friend of  
Paul Pangrace)**  
**Paula Baymiller (friend of Paul  
Pangrace)**  
**Carol Bohurjak**  
**Marie Borland**  
**Julie Byndas**

**Gregory Cervo**  
**Arlene Czajkowski**  
**Jerry Czajkowski**  
**Joy Jahans (friend of Paul Pangrace)**  
**Stephen Jahans (friend of Paul  
Pangrace)**  
**John Kovalski (friend of Paul  
Pangrace)**  
**Susan Lentz**  
**Chris Magee (Erin Zawolowycz's  
brother)**  
**Melissa McCutcheon**  
**Jethro Miles**  
**Paul Mihal**  
**Andy Mytrohovich**  
**Daniel O'Donnell**  
**Pat O'Donnell**  
**Debra Parhamovich (Karen Felon's  
sister)**  
**Grace Parhamovich (Karen Felon's  
mother)**  
**Gina Petkac**

**Peter Petkac**  
**Elena Rich (Jerry Czajkowski's  
daughter)**  
**Dorothy Romig**  
**Julia Sankovic (Child)**  
**Elaine Sudnick (Joy Pfeiffer's  
mother)**  
**Janice Tkacz**  
**Elisabeth Wright (friend of Paul  
Pangrace)**  
**Erin Zawolowycz**  
**Peter Zimmerman**

**Yohnathan & Melissa King  
(Alex & Debbie Wojnicz's  
daughter) & Unborn Child**

**Deacon Daniel & Mat. Jenn  
Boerio & Unborn Child**

**Fr. Andrew & Presbytera Lori  
Lentz & Unborn Child**



Every Friday of Lent: March 3rd - April 14th

**FISH.  
PASTA.  
PIEROGIES.  
DESSERTS.  
BAR.  
AND MORE...**



**Band Line Up:**  
March 3rd - The Goods Band  
March 10th - One Hit Wonders  
March 17th - Velvet Shake  
March 24th - Caliber Band  
March 31st - Rubix Cubed  
April 7th - Chardon Polka Band  
April 14th - Victory Highway

**Dinner served 5pm-9pm**  
**Live music 8pm-11pm**  
**Rockin' Fish Fry is BACK  
for its 3rd Season**

4630 RIDGE ROAD, BROOKLYN, OHIO 44144 (216) 749-5509  
WWW.COPPERSTONECATERING.COM

**FOCA Lenten Soup Sale**  
**Sunday, March 26th, 2017**  
**Proceeds benefit**  
**Gift of Love Program**  
**Please see Darrell Felon**  
**for more information**

**Commemorations for  
Memorial Saturdays should be  
turned in at the candle stand  
or emailed to**  
**[sttheocemetery@yahoo.com](mailto:sttheocemetery@yahoo.com) as**  
**soon as possible.**

## Welcome Visitors

Our parish welcomes you and thanks you for joining us at today's Divine Liturgy. While only Orthodox Christians may approach the chalice for Holy Communion, everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after Liturgy. You are also invited to join us for fellowship in the Parish Hall following Liturgy.

### COFFEE HOUR & GREETERS SCHEDULES

#### Coffee Hour:

3/19/17	Lauren Miklos & Chandra Czaruk
3/26/17	Dan & Lavinia Morris
4/2/17	Joy & David Pfeiffer
4/9/17	Cathy Weber & Mat. Jenn Boerio
4/16/17	HOLY PASCHA (No Coffee Hour)
4/23/17	Joyce Tabeling & Judy Schwind
4/30/17	Nick & Kate Zolikoff

#### Greeters:

Tammy & Eva Ponomarenko
Nina & Elizabeth Antonik
Paul Pangrace & Michael Tabeling
Tammy & Eva Ponomarenko
Debby Pinta & Michael Tabeling (Midnight Service)
Nina & Elizabeth Antonik
Linda Smotzer & Sonia Vorell



### GOD'S GIFTS TO US - OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Weekly expenses:	\$ 6,538.00
Last week's collection	<u>\$ 2,502.00</u>
Over/Under	< \$ 4,036.00 >

### FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry ministry continues through Merrick House. They currently use the bags in their Moms First program. We can always use your help by "sponsoring a bag". Envelopes are in the foyer, \$10 fills a bag. Thank you and God bless you for helping those in need. - Dan Morris



## Dome Lighters

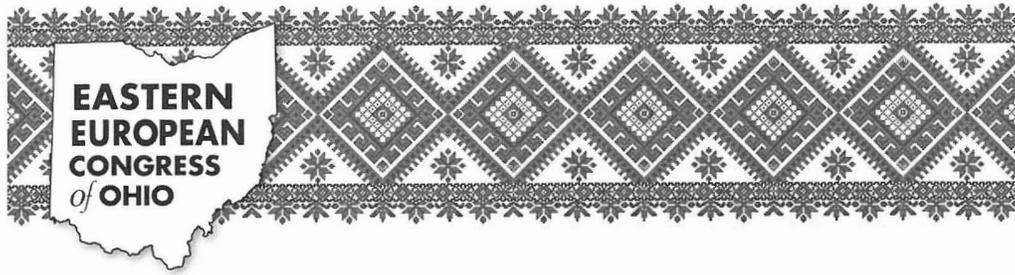
Donations to offset the cost of lighting the domes can be made for *The Health Of* or *In Memory Of* your loved ones. Contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

#### For the entire 2017 year:

In loving memory of Olga Fritskey  
from John & Ruth Fritskey

#### For the month of March:

In loving memory of Jason Sasarak  
from the Sasarak family



## EASTERN EUROPEAN MONTH CELEBRATION DINNER

*Guest Speaker*

**Dick Russ**

*Former Cleveland News Reporter  
Slovenian "Man of the Year"*

Special Honoree: Zoran "Z" Karic, Former Cleveland Crunch Soccer Player

Tuesday, April 4, 2017  
Bohemian National Hall/Sokol Greater Cleveland  
4939 Broadway Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44127  
6:00 pm Social hour (cash bar)  
7:00 pm Dinner

Tickets \$ 45.00 per person, limited seating  
NO tickets available at the door

RSVP by Friday, March 24

Make check payable to "Eastern European Congress of Ohio"  
430 Wakefield Run Blvd. • Hinckley, OH 44233

Or make payment using PayPal: <https://www.paypal.me/eecoh>

For additional information [info@eecoh.org](mailto:info@eecoh.org) or 330-659-0961

The Eastern European Congress of Ohio (EECOH) [www.eecoh.org](http://www.eecoh.org) has actively lobbied Ohio legislators to have Ohio declare **April as Eastern European Month for Ohio!** The EECOH culturally unites the people of Ohio whose ancestry and heritage are from Eastern Europe.

*The Eastern European Congress of Ohio is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit charity.*

**Thank to everyone who greeted, sang, baked,  
cooked & cleaned up for the Sunday of  
Orthodoxy Service. The hospitality that we  
offered was greatly appreciated. - Susan Lentz**



# Encounter The Shroud of Turin

Up-Close and Personal

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**  
 755 S Cleveland Ave, Mogadore, OH 44260

**Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 PM**  
 Doors open at 6:30 PM

Admission is FREE, but seating is limited.  
 Reservations are required and can be  
 made by email at [mprice6@neo.rr.com](mailto:mprice6@neo.rr.com) or  
 at 330-305-9540 by telephone.



**Experience the mystery with a life-size museum quality replica.**



ShroudEncounter.com  
 Shroud of Turin Education Project, Inc

EXPLORE THE SHROUD OF TURIN  
 WITH INTERNATIONAL EXPERT  
 RUSS BREAUULT



## SANDBAGGER'S OPEN

Dorlon Golf Club  
18000 Station Rd  
Columbia Station, OH 44028  
.....

REGISTRATION BEGINS @ 8AM  
SHOTGUN STARTS @ 9AM

INCLUDES:  
LIGHT BREAKFAST  
LUNCH AT THE TURN  
HOLE PRIZES  
DINNER



2017 SATURDAY  
.....  
JUNE 10th



\$85/  
Player

\$340/  
Foursome

\$15/  
Dinner Only

Outing Benefits  
The St. Theodosius Cathedral  
Parish Hall Improvement Fund

Contact for more information or to learn about sponsorship opportunities:  
Jennifer Boerio: 216-513-5667 - janolan23@hotmail.com  
Lauren Epple: 216-956-1845 - lauren.epple@gmail.com

# The Annunciation

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.



**March 25 is the Feast of the Annunciation, the visit of the archangel Gabriel to Mary, proclaiming God's plan that she would give birth to His Son.**

We read the story of the Annunciation on this day, in Luke 1: 24-38. It begins with Gabriel saluting Mary with "Hail," which can be translated as "rejoice." One of the recurring phrases with which Mary is addressed in Orthodox worship is, "Rejoice, O unwedded bride." Origen wrote that a salutation like this is never "addressed to a man; such a special greeting was reserved only for Mary."

Gabriel tells Mary, "The Lord is with you." These words alert us that God is going to do something extraordinary with the person to whom they are addressed. In the Old Testament, Nathan says the words to King David when David plans to build a temple for the Lord (2 Samuel 7:3). In Judges 6: 12 the angel of the Lord comes to encourage Gideon to fight the Midianites, and says, "The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor" (Judges 6: 12).

Mary is understandably troubled by Gabriel's words, and by his formal greeting. She is, after all, just a young girl. In answer to her question of how the birth will take place, Gabriel says, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you." His words tell us that this is a uniquely miraculous birth, far beyond any other, including the birth of John the Baptizer which Gabriel also has foretold.

Once again, similar words occur in the Old Testament, describing something important. In Isaiah 32: 15-20 we read about the future transformation of everything in creation, when "the Spirit is [will be] poured upon us from on high."

Luke uses words that tie Christ's birth to the Old Testament, the preparation for His coming, to remind us that God always prepares us for things. But then he makes it clear that this birth, the coming of Christ, is the end and fulfillment of all that preparation. Gabriel says: "...and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Young Mary stands in the presence of this imposing celestial being. She hears these life-changing words. She knows that Gabriel is waiting for her response. Without equivocation, without any more questions, she calmly says, "Let it be to me according to your word."

Her decision will be costly—Simeon will soon tell her of the sword that is to pierce her soul. But she trusts that agreeing to be "the handmaid of the Lord" is the right thing. A reading for this day, Hebrews 2: 14, tells us that it is indeed the right thing for our salvation: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he [Christ] himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage." Mary is the one through whom this deliverance took place.

#### Troparion - Tone 4

Today is the beginning of our salvation,  
The revelation of the eternal mystery!  
The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin  
As Gabriel announces the coming of Grace.  
Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos:  
Rejoice, O Full of Grace,  
The Lord is with You!

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

2017

**Sunday, Mar. 19**  
**VENERATION OF THE  
PRECIOUS CROSS**  
MARTYR CHRYSANTUS  
AND DARIA  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**Monday, Mar. 20**  
HOLY FATHERS SLAIN AT  
ST. SABBAS' MONASTERY  
6:00 PM Lenten Vespers  
7:00 PM Bible Study @ Parish Hall

**Tuesday, Mar. 21**  
ST. JAMES  
THE CONFESSOR,  
BISHOP OF CATANIA  
6:00 PM Lenten Vespers

**Wednesday, Mar. 22**  
HIEROMARTYR BASIL  
OF ANCYRA  
5:00 PM Confession  
6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy  
Potluck following Liturgy



**MARCH**  
Special Collection  
**ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIAN  
FELLOWSHIP**



**Thursday, Mar. 23**  
MARTYR NIKON  
AND 199 DISCIPLES  
11:00 AM Faith Enrichment @  
Copper Stone  
6:00 PM Lenten Vespers

**Friday, Mar. 24**  
VEN. ZACHARIAH  
THE RECLUSE  
9:00 AM Presanctified Liturgy

**Saturday, Mar. 25**  
ANNUNCIATION  
MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy  
5:00 PM Confession  
6:00 PM Great Vespers

**Sunday, Mar. 26**  
ST. JOHN CLIMACUS  
SYNAXIS OF THE  
ARCHANGEL GABRIEL  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy  
FOCA Lenten Soup Sale



**St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral**  
733 Starkweather Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

MARCH