

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



Mailing:

733 Starkweather Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44113

T 216. 741. 1310

F 216. 623. 1092

www.sttheodosius.org

- Archpriest John Zdinak,
Dean

dean@sttheodosius.org

Cell: 216. 554. 7282

- Dn. Daniel Boerio

- Subdeacon Theodore
Lentz, Sacristan

- Reader Julius Kovach,
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

- Casandra Vasu,
Office Administrator
Office Hours, M-F
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

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 by Wednesday of each week before noon.

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

SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

**FOUNDING OF CHURCH
OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE**

EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS



SEPTEMBER 14

The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: The pagan Roman emperors tried to completely eradicate from human memory the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and was resurrected for mankind. The Emperor Hadrian (117-138) gave orders to cover over the ground of Golgotha and the Sepulchre of the Lord, and to build a temple of the pagan goddess Venus and a statue of Jupiter.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols there. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the great Christian sacred remains, the Sepulchre of the Lord and the Life-Creating Cross were again discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under the Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory in the year 312 over Maxentius, ruler of the Western part of the Roman empire, and over Licinius, ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 he had issued the Edict of Milan, by which the Christian religion was legalized and the persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the empire were stopped. The ruler Licinius, although he had signed the Edict of Milan to oblige Constantine, still fanatically continued the persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the 313 Edict of toleration extend also to the Eastern part of the empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, having gained victory over his enemies in three wars with God's assistance, had seen in the heavens the Sign of the Cross, and written beneath: "By this you shall conquer."

Ardently desiring to find the Cross on which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, St Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to St Macarius, Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Although the holy empress Helen was already in her declining years, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. The empress gave orders to destroy the pagan temple and the statues in Jerusalem. Searching for the Life-Creating Cross, she made inquiry of Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful.

Finally, they directed her to a certain elderly Hebrew by the name of Jude who stated that the Cross was buried where the temple of Venus stood. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Tomb of the Lord was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discern on which of the three crosses the Savior was crucified, Patriarch Macarius alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead one, he came to life. Having beheld the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-Creating Cross was found.

Christians came in a huge throng to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching St Macarius to elevate the Cross, so that even those far off might reverently contemplate it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders raised up the Holy Cross, and the people, saying "Lord have mercy," reverently prostrated before the Venerable Wood. This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-Creating Cross another miracle took place: a grievously sick woman, beneath the shadow of the Holy Cross, was healed instantly. The elder Jude and other Jews there believed in Christ and accepted Holy Baptism. Jude received the name Cyriacus and afterwards was consecrated Bishop of Jerusalem.

During the reign of Julian the Apostate (361-363) he accepted a martyr's death for Christ (see October 28). The

holy empress Helen journeyed to the holy places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings and where the Mother of God was buried after her death.

St Helen took part of the Life-Creating Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. The holy emperor Constantine gave orders to build at Jerusalem a majestic and spacious church in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-Giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The temple was constructed in about ten years. St Helen did not survive until the dedication of the temple, she died in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross was established.

Another event connected to the Cross of the Lord is remembered also on this day: its return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen year captivity. During the reign of the Byzantine emperor Phocas (602-610) the Persian emperor Khozroes II in a war against the Greeks defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem and captured both the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord and the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633).

The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years and only under the emperor Heraclius (610-641), who with the help of God defeated Khozroes and concluded peace with his successor and son Syroes, was the Cross of the Lord returned to the Christians.

With great solemnity the Life-creating Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Heraclius in imperial crown and royal purple carried the Cross of Christ into the temple of the Resurrection. With the emperor went Patriarch Zacharios. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the emperor suddenly stopped and was not able to proceed farther. The holy Patriarch explained to the emperor that an angel of the Lord was blocking his way. The emperor was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world from sin had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then Heraclius donned plain garb, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church.

In a sermon on the Exaltation of the Cross, St Andrew of Crete (July 4) says: "The Cross is exalted, and everything true gathers together, the Cross is exalted, and the city makes solemn, and the people celebrate the feast".

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13

Sept. 13 2 Cor. 4:6-15
Matt. 22:35-46

Sept. 15 Gal. 5:11-21
Mark 7:5-16

Sept. 18 Eph. 1:7-17
Mark 8:1-10

Sept. 14 1 Cor. 1:18-24
John 19:6-11,13-20
25-28,30-35

Sept. 16 Gal. 6:2-10
Mark 7:14-24

Sept. 19 1 Cor. 10:23-28
Matt. 24:34-44

Sept. 17 Eph. 1:1-9
Mark 7:24-30

**Tremont Arts and Cultural Festival
Saturday and Sunday,
September 19th & 20th, 2015**

**We are looking for volunteers to fill the ministry of sharing our love for Christ;
an opportunity to welcome guests to experience the beauty of
St. Theodosius Cathedral.**

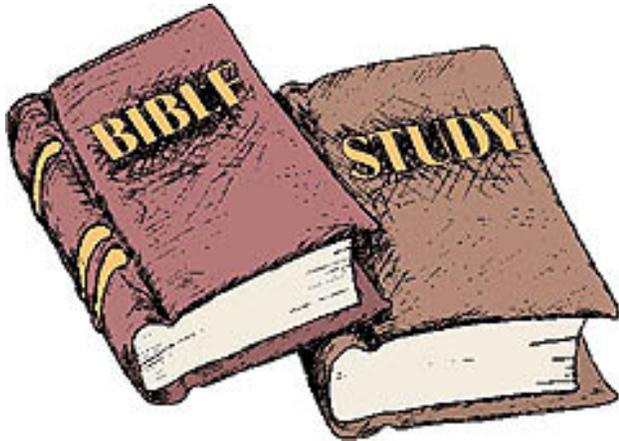
**We need your help at the booth in Lincoln Park
and to greet & welcome guests and lead tours of the Cathedral.**

We will be developing the schedule for both days for 1 hour blocks of time.

Please see Michael Tabeling, Joyce Tabeling or Tammy Ponomarenko.

**In the interim, if you have questions, please call us
at 216-521-9418.**





**Faith Enrichment
begins Thursday,
September 17th
at 11:00 AM at
Ridge Manor.**

The next Church School session will be as follows:

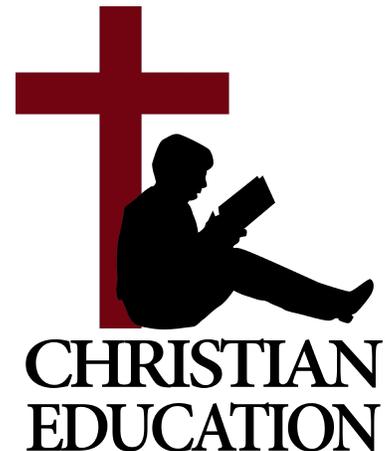
**We will distribute teaching resources to parents
after Liturgy on Sunday, September 13th. Formal
classes will be held on the first Saturday of each
month as follows:**

October 3rd @ 4:45 PM

November 7th @ 4:45 PM

**December 5th @ 6:00 PM at Vespers for The
Feast of St. Nicholas (with Fr. John teaching
during or after Vespers).**

**Please mark your calendars now and see Paul
Pangrace or Joyce & Michael Tabeling for details.**



Thank you VERY much to all who donated or contributed to St. Herman's/FOCUS Cleveland in their time of need.

They were greatly aided by the emergency appeal. Online contributions can always be made at: <http://www.sainthermans.com/> by designating your gift for them through FOCUS. God bless you for your help!



The Altar Society will be selling baked goods at the Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival and are asking for donations to cover our expenses. We will be passing a basket after Liturgy today. Thank you for all your help!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Departed:

Ill Afflicted & Special Intentions:

Protopresbyter Vasilije Sokolovic
Protopresbyter Rastko Trbuhovic
Archpriest Theodore Bobosh
Mother Anna
Mary
Michael
Betty Balasz
Judy Baughman
Carol Bohurjak
Frank Byndas
Navada Coneley
Metodije Damljanovic (Child)
**Horia Dascalescu (Lavinia Morris's
brother)**
Cindy Durkalski
Nashwa Fam
Dorothy Fowler
Vladimir Fowler
Julia Grabowski
**Roger Haupt (Lisa Theodore's
cousin)**

Sandee Holod
**Matthew Hunley (Phyllis
Gindlesperger's brother-in-law)**
Donna Jacak
Victor Jacak
**Patrick Jacobson (friend of Paul
Pangrace)**
Joy Jahans (friend of Paul Pangrace)
**Stephen Jahans (friend of Paul
Pangrace)**
**Diane Kearsley (Janice Tkacz's
sister)**
Maher Khalil
Thomas Khalil
**John Kovalski (friend of Paul
Pangrace)**
Dorothy Laskovich
Paul Laskovich
Paul Mihal
**Anna Mysiw (friend and neighbor of
Helen Antonik)**
**Maude Palumbo (Michelle Rajisch's
mother)**
**Debra Parhamovich (Karen Felon's
sister)**

**Grace Parhamovich (Karen Felon's
mother)**
Daria Petrokowski
Debby Pinta
Cindy Powkowski
Valerie Rolls (Fr. John's cousin)
Dorothy Romig
Julia Sankovic (Child)
**Elaine Sudnick (Joy Pfeiffer's
mother)**
Janice Tkacz
**Elisabeth Wright (friend of Paul
Pangrace)**
Erin Zawolowycz
Alice Zdinak (Fr. John's Mother)

**Douglas & Kaitlyn Evans
& Unborn Child**

Congratulations:

**Jason & Rachel Wojnicz
& Newborn Autumn Noelle**

**Please note that names will remain on the list for
approximately one month and then removed.
If you would like a name to be relisted, please
contact the office at 216-741-1310.**

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:



9/13/15	Nick & Kate Zolikoff
9/20/15	Lauren Miklos & Chandra Czaruk
9/27/15	Cathy Weber & Mat. Jenn Boerio
10/4/15	TBA
10/11/15	TBA
10/18/15	TBA
10/25/15	TBA

Greeters:

Nina & Elizabeth Antonik
Michael Tabeling & Linda Smotzer
Karen Felon & Paul Pangrace
Mat. Jenn Boerio & Tammy Ponomarenko
Sonia Vorell & Karen Felon
Linda Smotzer & Virginia Medvec
Nina & Elizabeth Antonik

GOD'S GIFTS TO US - OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Weekly expenses:	\$ 6,538.00
Last week's collection	<u>\$ 4,014.00</u>
Over/Under	< \$ 2,524.00 >

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 2015 year:

In loving memory of Olga Fritskey
from John & Ruth Fritskey

6th Annual

Fr. Prislopsky Memorial Dinner Lecture

**An Orthodox Christian
Perspective on
The Religion of Islam**



Keynote Speaker:

Rev. Thomas Soroka, rector of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Mckees Rocks, PA and noted contributor to Ancient Faith Radios, The Path.

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Woodside Party Center

Meatloaf & Mashed Potatoes Dinner at 6:30 pm

Presentation to Follow

Donation: \$10 per person

RSVP Required Through Church Office:

(440) 526-5192

Orthodox Women in the Healing Ministries

Holy Dormition Monastery, Rives Junction, Michigan

*23rd Annual Retreat
October 2, 3, & 4, 2015*



The Mothers of Modern Medicine
Sts. Hermione, Philonella & Zenaida

“Tending on God: A Spiritual Perspective on Healing.”

Speaker: Fr. Silviu Nicolae Bunta, Ph.D.

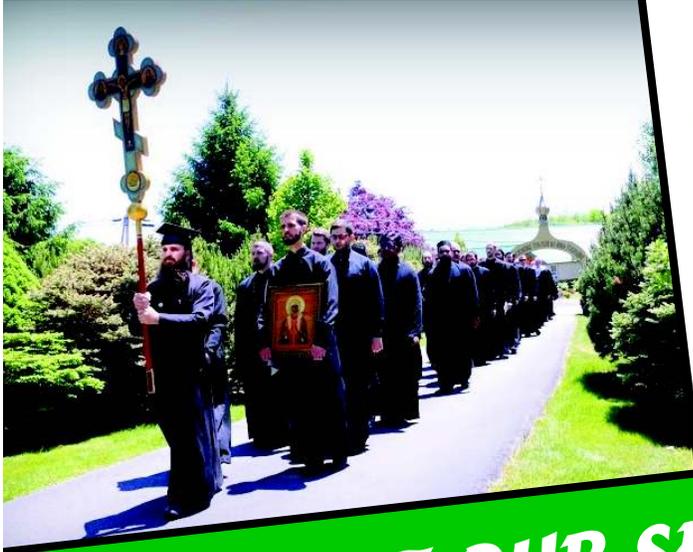
Associate Professor, University of Dayton in Ohio
Teaching Bible, ancient Judaism, Hebrew, Greek, OCF advisor

Fr. Silviu Bunta grew up in Romania under the Communists. During his childhood he attended clandestine church services with his grandparents, and began his life in the Eastern Orthodox Church. Since that time Father has earned his B.A. degree in theology from the University of Sibiu, and a Master's degree in biblical studies from the University of Oradea, both in Romania. His PhD in Hebrew Bible is from Marquette University in Marquette, WI. While at University of Dayton Father Silviu has taught classes on more than 15 different topics, including Hebrew, Greek, Judaism and of course Orthodoxy. The classes that Father teaches are known for their friendly, relaxed atmosphere and he has a reputation for being an outgoing, passionate, and inspiring teacher.

REGISTRATION: OWHM.ORG

Please register by using one of the two methods listed below:

1. Use the [Pay Pal](#) link on our web site [owhm.org](#).
2. [Mail](#) the registration form found on the web site with a check or a money order made out to OWHM (U. S. dollars only please) to: OWHM - Monica Dellas, 2744 Carric Court, Jackson, MI 49201 (517-414-3829)

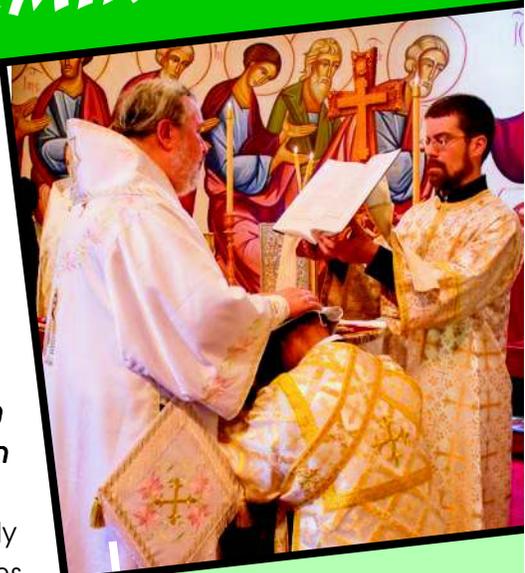


Before His Ascension,
Our Lord commissioned
His disciples to “teach all
nations, baptizing them in
the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit.”

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS!

■ While all of God’s People are called to **proclaim the Good News**, our clergy have been given the **special task** of “equipping the saints for ministry” by planting the seeds of faith and nurturing spiritual growth. ■ For three quarters of a century, our seminaries have devoted themselves to imparting **information** about our faith and to pursuing the **formation** of those called to the ordained ministry. ■ Our **diocesan seminarians** have chosen a truly **difficult and selfless path**, especially in terms of **funding their studies** and **related living expenses**. ■ **September 2015** has been designated “**Support Our Seminarians Month**” in the Diocese of the Midwest, culminating in “**SOS Sunday**” on **September 27**. Please be generous as we join together to help lighten our seminarians’ financial burdens.

■ **All funds will be given directly to our seminarians!**



**SEPTEMBER 27
IS SOS SUNDAY!**

Please send your
donations to the
Diocese of the Midwest
927 North LaSalle Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60610

MEET YOUR SEMINARIANS / Diocese of the Midwest



Mark Chenoweth, Holy Assumption, Canton, OH—Mark was born into a Protestant family, and first encountered Orthodoxy through a college professor. Upon graduating, and during an internship in Washington DC, his Catholic roommate showed him the riches of the Church Fathers. After navigating through the differences between Orthodoxy and Catholicism, he began attending an Orthodox parish in Virginia. He returned to school to study theology after immersing himself in Orthodoxy for a few years, finally being Chrismated in 2012. Mark hopes, by God's grace, to bring everything he encounters at St Vladimir's back into parish life and into academic life and to strengthen the church in any way he can.

Basil Ferguson, Holy Transfiguration, Livonia, MI—Basil attended an evangelical liberal arts college where he met his wife, Marina, a foreign student from St. Petersburg, Russia. They were married, and Basil began attending an evangelical seminary in Chicago. Basil briefly served as an associate pastor at an evangelical church. Questions about evangelicalism and the historical Church that emerged in college, however, had expanded and intensified. Eventually, Basil resigned from the evangelical church so that he and Marina could become catechumens; they were eventually received into the Church. Spurred by a seminarian's visit to their parish, Basil and Marina received a blessing to attend seminary.



Megan Haak, Christ the Savior Church, Chicago, IL—Megan attended Wheaton College, a non-denominational Protestant liberal arts college, where she majored in Christian Formation and Ministry. There she encountered Orthodoxy through a friend, and was increasingly drawn to the Church. After graduating, Megan moved to Chicago and found Christ the Savior Orthodox Church, where she was Chrismated. Megan's desire has always been to devote all of her time to ministry. With the guidance of her priest, she finally decided to pursue that call by applying to St. Tikhon's Seminary. She hopes to become more fully grounded in Orthodoxy, better equipped to facilitate the growth of the Church, and more strongly fortified to reach those outside the Church with Christ's love.

John Kennerk, Christ the Savior Church, Chicago, IL—John attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he met his wife Michelle. He continued his studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He worked in the auction industry as a fine art specialist, and Michelle worked for a textile design company. During the Baptism of their daughter, Inez, John and Michelle were received into the church. They are overjoyed to be at St. Tikhon's, where their son Anthony George was baptized in 2014.



William Rettig, Holy Trinity Church, Saint Paul, MN—William studied theology and philosophy at Bethel University, where he became aware of Orthodoxy through the study of church history, reading of the church fathers, and a trip to Turkey and Greece. William began attending Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in St. Paul along with Jillian, whom he met in a college tutoring program, ultimately being received into the church, and marrying. William worked as a retail buyer before realizing the need to do something different with his life. After discussions with trusted mentors, including his priest, Fr. Jonathan Proctor, he pursued a blessing to attend St. Vladimir's Seminary.

Jonathan Lincoln, Holy Assumption Church, Canton, OH—Jonathan graduated from Malone University, where he began to reexamine his faith more closely. He embarked on a spiritual journey which led him to study in Israel and England. After a friend's invitation to visit an Orthodox church, he quickly fell in love with the rich theology, deep reverence in the services, and liturgical singing. Jonathan was Chrismated, worked for three years, continued to read about Orthodoxy, and visited St. Gregory Palamas Monastery whenever possible. He desired a future of helping others along their spiritual paths. Jonathan looks forward to possibly becoming a teacher or chaplain.



Christopher Stoops, Holy Apostles Church, Normal, IL—Chris graduated with a BA in Journalism from Eastern Illinois University, and began attending Orthodox services in 2002 at Holy Apostles Parish in Normal, IL. Two years later, he was received into the Orthodox Church. After moving with his wife to Champaign, IL, they began attending services at the Three Hierarchs Church, where Chris served in the altar. In 2014, they went to St. Vladimir's, being drawn to its pan-orthodox nature, as well as field education opportunities leading to institutional chaplaincy. This summer Chris will complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at NYU Langone Medical Center in Manhattan.

The Greatest Conqueror is Conquered

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>.



September 14th is the Feast of the Exaltation (or Elevation) of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross.

There are two events in history to which this feast takes us, as Eugen J. Pentiuic writes in his book "The Old Testament in Eastern Orthodox Tradition" (Oxford University Press 2014). The first took place in the year 335, when the church built by Constantine over the traditional site of Christ's tomb was consecrated in Jerusalem. It was named the Church of the Resurrection; it is now known as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

The second event occurred in 629, fifteen years after the Persians had sacked and looted the church, taking as part of their spoils a relic of the True Cross. In 629 the Byzantine emperor Heraclius was able to recover the relic, and to bring it to Constantinople. There he carried it into the great church of Hagia Sophia, and elevated it as a sign of victory.

Father Pentiuic notes that one of the readings for the Great Vespers of the feast is Exodus 15: 22-16: 1. This is the account of Moses leading the people of Israel on from the Red Sea, after the exodus from Egypt, into the wilderness of Shur. They come, thirsty and tired, to the waters of Marah, only to find that the water is too bitter to drink. As so often, the people complain and "murmur against" poor Moses.

He, in turn, cries out to God. The Lord shows him a tree, which he flings into the water. At once the water becomes sweet enough to drink. Soon the people come to Elim where they encamp under seventy palm trees, surrounded by twelve springs and buoyed by God's promise that if they will keep His statutes, He will spare them the diseases He has used to chastise the arrogant, heedless Egyptians.

Reading this passage reminds us that the Old Testament often prepares us for what happened to Jesus Christ. The tree at Marah is like the wood of the Cross, which sweetens everything bitter because it gives us eternal life. The crucified Christ rises from the dead, "upon those in the tomb bestowing life."

One of the stikhera for the festal Great Vespers speaks about another tree: "Come, all you nations, let us worship the blessed Tree through which was wrought the everlasting righteousness. For he who by a tree beguiled our forefather Adam is himself ensnared by the Cross." Here the blessed Tree is the cross, but the tree with which Satan beguiled Adam is the tree in the Garden.

Saint John Chrysostom also makes reference to Satan, as the one who conquered Adam by tempting him to eat of the forbidden tree in Paradise. But the conqueror is conquered by the Resurrection, which robs Satan of his fatal power over humankind.

Kontakion - Tone 4

As You were voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake,
Grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God;
Make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power,
Granting them victories over their adversaries,
By bestowing on them the Invincible trophy, Your weapon of Peace.

The tree in the Garden, the tree at Marah, and in fact the whole Old Testament, lead us to the Tree by which Jesus Christ will conquer death once and for all.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2015

Sunday, Sept. 13
FOUNDING OF CHURCH
OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
(Distribution of Church School
materials following Liturgy)
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Monday, Sept. 14
EXALTATION (ELEVATION)
OF THE PRECIOUS AND
LIFE-GIVING CROSS
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, Sept. 15
GREATMARTYR
NICETAS (NIKITA)
THE GOTH

Wednesday, Sept. 16
GREATMARTYR EUPHEMIA
THE ALL-PRAISED
MARTYR LUDMILLA

REMINDER:



Please be sure
that cell phones
are turned off
before entering
the temple.

SEPTEMBER
Special Collection
YOUTH WORK



Thursday, Sept. 17
MARTYR SOPHIA
AND HER DAUGHTERS,
FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY
(VERA, NADEZHDA, LIUBOV)
11:00 AM Faith Enrichment @ Ridge
Manor

Friday, Sept. 18
ST. EUMENES,
BISHOP OF GORTYNA

Saturday, Sept. 19
MARTYRS TROPHIMUS,
SABBATIUS & DORYMEDON
11:00 AM Tremont Arts & Cultural
Festival
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, Sept. 20
GREATMARTYR
EUSTATHIUS PLACIDAS
AND HIS WIFE
MARTYR THEOPISTES
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
12:00 PM Tremont Arts & Cultural
Festival



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

SEPTEMBER