

THE TRINITARIAN

Published Weekly by the
HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD, PARMA, OHIO 44134
CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 216-524-4859
CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.holy-trin.org>
V. REV. VLADIMIR BERZONSKY, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

RECTORY: 963 John Glenn Drive, Seven Hills, Ohio 44131 Phone 216-524-8989

BULLETIN 3 - VOLUME XLVII

TONE 7

NOVEMBER 22, 2009

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Apostles of the Seventy Philemon and Archippus, Martyr Apphia, wife of Philemon
and Equal-to-the-Apostles, and Onesimus, disciple of St. Paul;
Martyrdom of St. Michael, Prince of Tver'; Rt. Blv. Yaropolk, Prince of Vladimir in Volyn';
Martyrs Cecilia, Valerian, Tiburtius, and Maximus, at Rome;
Martyr Procopius the Reader, at Caesarea in Palestine; Martyr Menignus at Parium;
St. Agabbas of Syria; Righteous Michael the Soldier, of Bulgaria; Ven. Callistus Xanthopoulos*

“Today, let us faithfully acclaim the memory of the virgin martyr Cecelia, who adorned her heart with virtue to become the bride of Christ, the Savior. Though she put the arrogant Almachius to shame, she remained a sparkling diamond for all the others who sought her hand. But for us who remain here in this world, she is a fortress of strength for our faith.”

Kondakion, Tone IV

TODAY'S EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 2:14-22
NEXT SUNDAY: EPHESIANS 4:1-6

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 12:16-21
NEXT SUNDAY: LUKE 13:10-17

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Thursday, November 26 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - Thanksgiving Day
Saturday, November 28 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, November 23 (St. Alexander)	II Thessalonians 1:1-10 Galatians 5:22-6:2	Luke 17:20-25 Matthew 11:27-30
Tuesday, November 24	II Thessalonians 1:10-2:2	Luke 17:26-37
Wednesday, November 25 (Theotokos)	II Thessalonians 2:1-12 Hebrews 9:1-7	Luke 18:15-17,26-30 Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28
Thursday, November 26	II Thessalonians 2:13-3:5	Luke 18:31-34
Friday, November 27	II Thessalonians 3:6-18	Luke 19:12-28
Saturday, November 28	Galatians 1:3-10	Luke 10:19-21

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER:

- 8, Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Women’s Club St. Nicholas Dinner at Carrie Cerino’s
- 13, Sunday 10:45 a.m. Women’ Club meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Inter-Orthodox Nativity Concert at St. Paul’s, 4548 Wallings Rd.
- 20, Sunday 10:30 - 12:30 Ethnic Foods Sale
- 30, Wednesday 2:00-5:00 p.m. Youth Group Laser Tag outing

MEMORY ETERNAL:

Jack Moga fell asleep in the Lord on November 12 and was buried Wednesday, November 18.

ETHNIC FOODS SALE:

On Sunday, December 20, the Ethnic Foods Group will have a sale, including Christmas goodies, between the hours of 10:30 and 12:30.

ALTAR SERVER VESTMENTS:

We plan to outfit our altar servers with new blue vestments Fabric has been chosen, and donations are being received. Please consider a donation to this worthy cause.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS:

Entertainment Books for 2010 are now for sale in the Fellowship Hall; the cost is \$30.

ST. NICHOLAS DINNER:

Everyone is invited to join the Women’s Club for a St. Nicholas dinner at Carrie Cerino’s, 8922 Ridge Rd. in North Royalton, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m. Menu selections are Eggplant Parmigiana, Saute Scampi a la Cerino, or Veal La Tosca. Contact Jewelann Stefanar for reservations at 216-741-0985.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Mary Unger.

ETHNIC FOODS GROUP OUTREACH:

Once again this year, the Ethnic Foods Group is collecting items to donate to our Orthodox monks at St. John’s Monastery in Hiram. The collection will run between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Paper products are requested. A full list of needed items will be forthcoming, and a collection area will be designated. Please be generous.

CLEVELAND PLAYHOUSE OUTING:

Join us for “Ain’t Misbehavin,” a Tony Award-winning musical tribute to jazz musician Thomas “Fats” Waller, at the Cleveland Playhouse on Sunday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$35. Contact Maggie Burgan at 234-380-1259.

GREETINGS:

Anyone wishing to send notes or cards to Jacob Hatch on the occasion of his ordination to the diaconate can write to him at 10134 Arrowhead Dr.; Jacksonville, FL 32257.

BULLETIN BOARD:

As the holiday season nears, there are many events sponsored by area churches. Please check the bulletin board each week for information.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Richard Holl.

“For God seeks nothing else from us, save a good purpose. Say not, How are my sins blotted out? I tell you, By willing, by believing. What can be shorter than this? But if, while your lips declare willingness yet your heart is silent, He knows the heart, Who judges you. Cease from this day from every evil deed. Let not your tongue speak un-seemly words, let your eye abstain from sin, and from roving after things unprofitable.”

Holy Father Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, NOVEMBER 15	\$ 4241.00
CHILDREN’S COLLECTION	7.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	795.00
BUILDING FUND	161.00
MORTGAGE FUND	705.00
CANDLES	136.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 3 - Volume XLVII

November 22, 2009

A WOMAN IN THE CROWD

“As Jesus was saying these things a woman in the crowd called out, ‘Blessed is the mother who gave You birth and nursed You.’ He replied, ‘Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it.’” (Luke 11:27)

The gospels feature our Lord, God and Savior Jesus the Messiah and focus on His message and actions. It took a while for the Church to appreciate what the woman in the crowd grasped in a moment of divine inspiration - what a mother He had to produce such a Son. We know there was much more to it, which the Church took just as long to recognize, identify and agree upon, then ratify as official doctrine. And yet this unknown woman's blessing is lifted up in the gospels read on the feast days that honor the holy Theotokos: Blessed be her womb and breasts for birthing and suckling the Son of God.

Did she realize the profound mystery she was celebrating? Probably not. Most likely she was a mother herself. She would appreciate a child that fulfilled all a mother's expectations from the moment she was aware of her pregnancy through the gestation period while a living creature was being developed within her, a blend of her husband's genes together with her own. A precious three parts of a year when dreams and fantasies abound: What will the child look like? Be like? Take after? Will the child be happy or morose, intelligent or slow, aggressive or passive? Then watching Jesus captivating a crowd of listeners, perhaps having healed one or a few, giving hope to their people that it might just be He was the long-awaited Messiah, come to turn things around and restore the fortunes to Israel, much like the golden age of King David. Maybe she was old and hard of hearing, barely able to make out what He was saying. But it didn't matter; she knew that He was special. As such, He had been raised properly by a loving and wise mother.

We also bless, praise and honor the Mother of God for the same reasons, but we from our advantage place in time, equipped with the theology of the Orthodox Church along with our own meditations on those precious events in her life: Her early childhood raised in the temple, the Annunciation by the Archangel Gabriel, the incidents in Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt, return to Galilee and life in Nazareth, then the subsequent events following the preaching above where the unknown woman was present - Palm Sunday, the crucifixion, resurrection and her life with the beloved apostle John.

The response of our Lord Jesus to the outburst from the woman, also in the form of a blessing, *“Blessed rather are they who hear the word of God and keep it,”* has been misunderstood by those who are not prone to honoring the Mother of God. They think it to be a put-down rather than the honor Jesus is bestowing on His mother. Yes, of course she is blessed for having given Him birth and nurturing Him; but the blessing from the heavenly Father was prepared from the beginning of the universe. Surely the Holy Trinity was aware even before the world came to be that human nature being what it is and freedom being integral to the free choice to be united with divinity, Mary's role was paramount in mankind's salvation. She heard the word of God from the voice of the Archangel, through the events listed above, and she kept it even to the time of her falling asleep. Indeed, she served as the Church's historian - how else would we know about those events before, during and after Christ's nativity?

Father Vladimir Berzonsky

OUR COLLEGE KIDS

An ongoing segment highlighting our
HTOC children....

ALICIA PALIVODA, daughter of Lisa and Jack Palivoda, graduated from Padua Franciscan High School last June, and is now a student at Ohio Northern University. Alicia is pursuing a Nursing degree. She is doing very well academically and until recently was active as a soccer player for the ONU Polar Bears. However, in a recent game, she tore her ACL, and surgery has been necessary to repair her knee.

JESSICA KOSTURA, daughter of Tamara and Barry Kostura, is a junior at Ashland University. She is majoring in Middle Grades Education in Math and Science. Jessica plays bass drum in the AU Marching Band and flute in Concert Band. She is the treasurer of Kappa Kappa Psi, an honorary band fraternity. She is the president of the Collegiate Middle Level Association, which is a club for prospective middle school teachers; and Jessica is also a member of the education honorary, Kappa Delta Pi. Jessica plans to graduate in the spring of 2011 and begin her teaching career.



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