

HIEROMARTYR IRENAEUS THE BISHOP OF SIRMIUM IN HUNGARY

Hieromartyr Irenaeus suffered during the persecution against Christians under the Roman emperors Diocletian and Maximian (284-305).

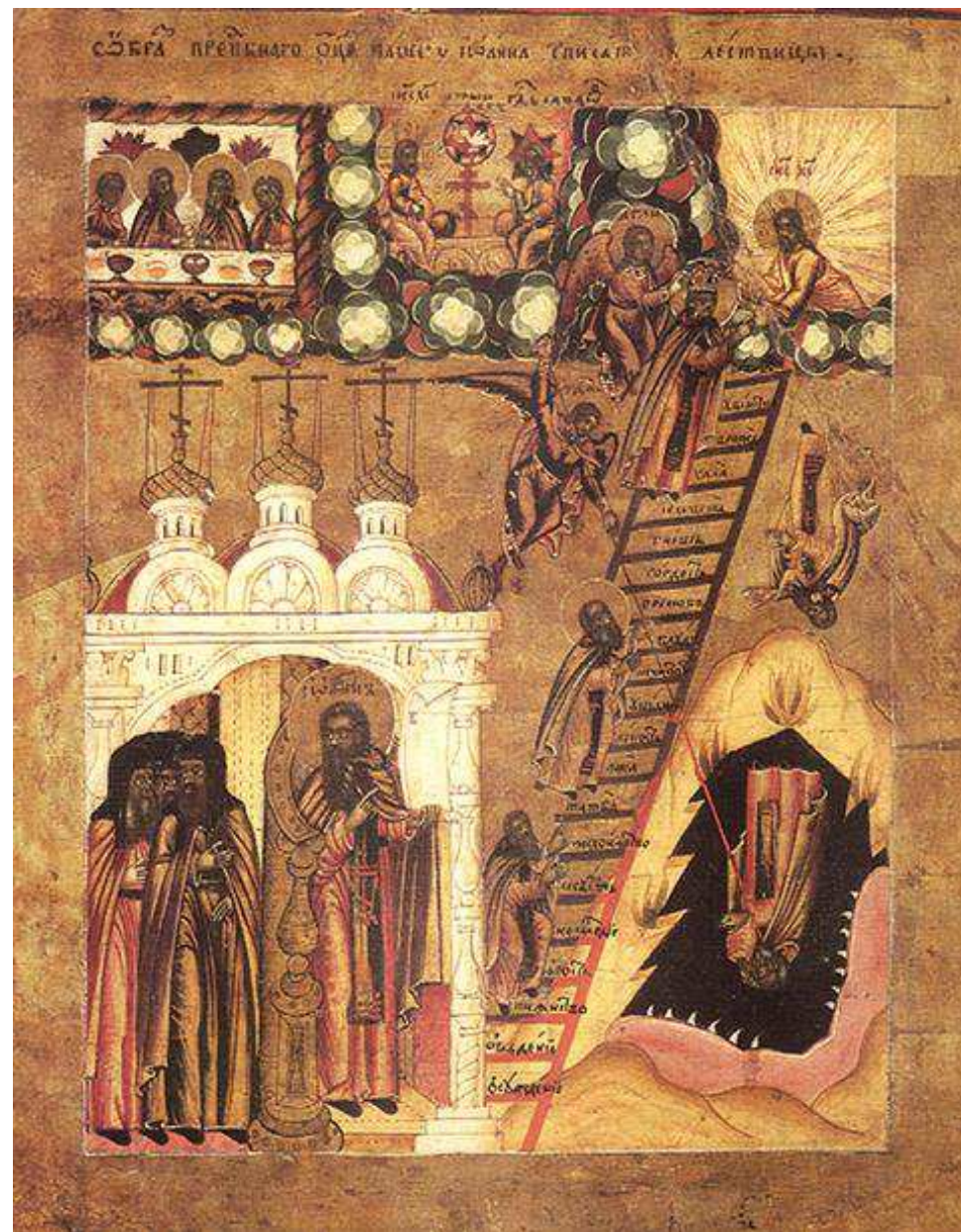
He was a presbyter, and he and his wife raised their children in Christian piety. Saint Irenaeus was greatly respected for his education and strict manner of life.

He was later made Bishop of Sirmium in Pannonia (modern Hungary). Because of his fervent preaching of the Gospel, he was arrested and brought before an official named Probus. Refusing to deny Christ and offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, the saint was handed over for torture. Witnessing his torments were the saint's parents, relatives and friends, who attempted to persuade him to submit, but the martyr remained steadfast.

After cruel tortures, the holy confessor spent a long time in prison. Probus tried to persuade the martyr, urging him to spare his life for the sake of his sons. Saint Irenaeus replied, "My sons believe in God, Who will care for them. As for me, nothing will force me to renounce my Christ."

The governor ordered the saint to be thrown into a river. They led the martyr on the bridge crossing the River Sava, where he knelt and prayed to the Lord for his flock. Then they beheaded the Hieromartyr Irenaeus and threw his body into the river.

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SAINT JOHN CLIMACUS (OF THE LADDER)

**HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44134**

THE TRINITARIAN

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CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.holy-trin.org>
V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, 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 21 - VOLUME LIV

TONE 7

MARCH 26, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

St. John Climacus (of The Ladder)

Leavetaking of the Annunciation

Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

Hieromartyr Irenæus, Bishop of Sirmium in Hungary;

Martyrs Bathusius and Bercus—Presbyters, Arpilus—Monk,

Abibus, Agnus, Reasus Igathrax, Iscoeus, Silas, Signicus, Sonirilus, Suimbalus, Thermus, Phillus—laymen,

And the women: Anna, Alla, Larissa, Monco, Uirko, Animais, Gaatha, and Duklida, in the Crimea;

St. Malchus of Chalcis in Syria; Ven. Basil the New, Anchorite, near Constantinople;

Martyr Montanus, Presbyter, of Singidunum, and his wife, Maxima

“Your servant, John, rejected the cares of this world as a burden, O Christ, preferring to renew his spirit by mastering his body through discipline and self-control. For this, You gave him a share in the glory of heaven. By his prayers, and those of the Theotokos, O Savior, enlighten us and save us.”

Exapostilarion, Tone III

TODAY’S EPISTLE: HEBREWS 6:13-20
HEBREWS 2:11-18

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MARK 9:17-31
LUKE 1:24-38

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, March 29 6:00 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
Friday, March 31 6:00 p.m. Akathist to the Theotokos
Saturday, April 1 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, March 27	Isaiah 37:33-38:6	Genesis 13:12-18	Proverbs 14:27-15:4
Tuesday, March 28	Isaiah 40:18-31	Genesis 15:1-15	Proverbs 15:7-19
Wednesday, March 29	Isaiah 41:4-14	Genesis 17:1-9	Proverbs 15:20-16:9
Thursday, March 30	Isaiah 42:5-16	Genesis 18:20-33	Proverbs 16:17-17:7
Friday, March 31	Isaiah 45:11-17	Genesis 22:1-18	Proverbs 17:17-18:5
(St. Innocent)	Hebrews 7:26-8:2	John 10:9-16	
Saturday, April 1	Hebrews 9:24-28	Mark 8:27-31	
(Theotokos)	Hebrews 9:1-7	Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28	

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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COMING EVENTS

MARCH:

- 27, Monday 9:00 a.m. Cooking for St. Herman’s House of Hospitality
- 28, Tuesday Serving dinner at St. Herman’s House
- 29, Wednesday Soup Supper following the Presanctified Liturgy

APRIL:

- 1, Saturday 9:30 a.m. Orthodox Christian Women’s Retreat at St. George Church in Fairlawn
- 7, Friday 6:00 p.m. Palm preparation
- 21, Friday 6:00 p.m. Bright Friday Dinner Dance

<p><u>LENTEN CONFESSIONS:</u> Father Alexander will offer time for private confessions this coming week on Wednesday, March 29, 4:30-6:00 p.m.; Friday, March 31, 5:00-6:00 p.m., and after the Akathist Service; and Saturday, April 1, 4:00-5:00 p.m. and after Great Vespers. Confessions can also be scheduled by appointment.</p> <p><u>LIBRARY:</u> Now is the perfect time to find a book to read on your journey through Great Lent.</p> <p><u>LA COUPOLE:</u> We have wonderful children’s books available for purchase—perfect for Easter baskets! Also for your gift-giving pleasure or personal enjoyment—unique look-like Faberge eggs with egg pendants inside.</p> <p><u>PASCHAL FLOWERS:</u> Donations for Paschal flowers are appreciated. Please use the envelope designated for this in your box of donation envelopes.</p> <p><u>LENTEN RETREAT:</u> The annual Orthodox Christian Women retreat is Saturday, April 1, 9:30 a.m. at St. George Antiochian Church; 3204 Ridgewood Rd., Fairlawn 44333.</p>	<p><u>OUTREACH PASCHA BASKETS:</u> The Outreach Group will prepare Pascha baskets for shut-ins during Holy Week. We would appreciate assistance with preparing baskets as well as delivering them on Holy Friday. Please see Marie Wallace or Laura Gluntz after church on Sundays; or call Laura (440-331-5233) to offer your help.</p> <p><u>SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:</u> Today and next Sunday we are having a special collection to support the St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Mission. This local Cleveland ministry provides food for the needy throughout the year. Please use a “Special Donation” envelope; place in the basket at the rear of the church.</p> <p><u>ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:</u> The Book Circle will meet May 1 at 12:30 p.m. We are reading <u>The Joy of the Holy (Teachings of St. Seraphim)</u>, pages 1-24 and Appendix A (pages 93-122). All are welcome. Books will be available at La Coupole, from Daria.</p> <p><u>SOUP SUPPERS:</u> There is need for a few more cooks to donate soups for the last 2 Soup Suppers, March 29 and April 5. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall.</p>
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THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, MARCH 19	\$ 4332.00
CHILDREN’S COLLECTION	5.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	740.00
BUILDING FUND	81.00
MORTGAGE FUND	120.00
CANDLES	208.00
ORTHODOX MISSIONS	10.00
DEANERY COLLECTION	15.00
IN MEMORY OF CHRIS KRISINSKI	10.00

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FROM “THE LADDER OF DIVINE ASCENT”

(On the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, we commemorate St. John Climacus, also called St. John of the Ladder. St. John lived on Mt. Sinai, where he wrote “The Ladder of Divine Ascent,” one of the greatest of all spiritual writings.)

Our time is short. Let us not be found barren on the day of death and perish of hunger. Instead let us please the Lord as soldiers please their generals; for at the end of the campaign we must give a good account of ourselves. We should be afraid of God in the way we fear wild beasts. But at the same time, we should love the Lord as we do our friends.

At the beginning of our religious life we cultivate virtues, and we do so with toil and difficulty. Progressing a little we then lose our sense of grief or retain very little of it. But when our mortal intelligence turns to zeal and is mastered by it, then we work with full joy, determination, desire, and a holy flame.

All praise to those who from the beginning keep the commandments of God, and do so gladly and eagerly; and greatly to be pitied are those who after a long time in the ascetic life hardly keep them, if they keep them at all. But let us not judge harshly those who renounce the religious life because of external circumstances; that may be a temporary condition. I have watched seed that accidentally fell into the ground bear much fruit again and again, although the opposite has also happened. I have seen someone go to a doctor for one kind of problem and, because of the doctor’s skill be treated and healed of another illness. So let no one tell me that one is unfit for the spiritual life because of the weight and number of sins and misdeeds, or that because of an addiction to pleasure one must be excused for remaining stuck in sin. The more the putrefaction, the greater the need for treatment.

Let us be careful not to refuse, through laziness or inertia, the call to heavenly life in the service of the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the God of gods. Let us not find ourselves unable to defend ourselves at the great tribunal of judgment. The call to ascetic life is the invitation given to mankind to live with the angels while still being flesh. And this is not only for those who follow the monastic life, because it can also be experienced by those who are not fully clothed with monastic garb.

Some people living in the world put a question to me: “How can we who are married and living amid public cares aspire to heavenly life?” To this I answer: “Do whatever good you may. Speak evil of no one. Rob no one. Tell no lie. Despise no one and carry no hate. Do not separate yourself from the church assemblies, that is, the celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. Show compassion to the needy. Do not be a cause of scandal to anyone. Stay away from the bed of another, and be satisfied with what your own spouse can provide you. If you do all this, you will be not far from the Kingdom of heaven!”

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VERY REVEREND ALEXANDER GARKLAVS

APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
2 5th Sunday of Great Lent St. Mary of Egypt	3	4	5 6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy Soup Supper	6	7 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 p.m. Palm preparation	8 Lazarus Saturday 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m. Palm Sunday Vigil
9 Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem 5:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins	10 Great and Holy Monday 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting	11 Great and Holy Tuesday 6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins	12 Great and Holy Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 Matins with Anointing	13 Great and Holy Thursday 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 6:00 Matins with 12 Passion Gospels	14 Great and Holy Friday 9:00 a.m. Royal Hours 3:00 p.m. Vespers with Entombment 7:00 Matins	15 Great and Holy Saturday Noon Divine Liturgy 11:15 p.m. Nocturnes, Paschal Matins, Liturgy; Blessing of baskets
16 HOLY PASCHA Paschal Vespers at Noon No Church School classes	17 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy T H I S	18 I S A	19 F A S T	20 - F R E E	21 6:00 p.m. HTOC Bright Friday Dinner/Dance W E E K	22 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
23 2nd Sunday of Pascha Antipascha St. Thomas Sunday 12:30 Blessing of Graves	24	25	26	27	28	29 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
30 3rd Sunday of Pascha Holy Myrrhbearing Women						