

VENERABLE ISIDORE, THE FOOL-FOR-CHRIST AND WONDERWORKER OF ROSTOV

Saint Isidore Tverdislov (“Constant of Word”) was born in Germany of rich parents. From his youth, he led “an unsullied life and had a compassionate understanding.” Leaving his parental home and “desiring the Kingdom of God,” Saint Isidore distributed his wealth to the poor. Taking up the staff of a wanderer, he visited many lands and cities.

It is not known where he accepted the holy Orthodox Faith, but he was raised in Catholicism. Finally, he arrived in Russia and decided to live in Rostov. Here St. Isidore, “in filth and snow and rain and cold” and “enduring every outrage,” settled in a rickety wooden hut that he himself had made. He chose a foolish manner of life for the sake of Christ, which St. Paul describes in his Epistle (I Corinthians 4:10-13).

St. Isidore spent all his time at unceasing prayer, not allowing himself much sleep or rest. “He stood at all night vigil and praise” to dedicate his body “everlastingly to God.”

By day the saint made the rounds of the city, acting like a fool. “Like Job of old in his patience,” Blessed Isidore, while still alive, was “an earthly angel and a heavenly man,” “a compassionate soul, and pure of thought, and vigilant heart and faith unassailed, and true love without pretense.” During his life he received the grace to work miracles.

St. Isidore reposed in the year 1474. They learned of his death only when passing by his hut they noticed a special fragrance. At the place of his burial in the city of Rostov, the Church of the Ascension of the Lord was built, in which his relics rest in a crypt as a source of miracles to the present day.

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[Supplemental account of him from Bulgakov’s
NASTOLNAYA KNIGA (1900)]



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD
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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. 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 28 - VOLUME LIV

TONE 4

MAY 14, 2017

FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

***Martyr Isidore of Chios; Ven. Isidore, Fool-for-Christ, Wonderworker of Rostov;
St. Nikita, Bishop of Novgorod and Recluse, of the Kiev Caves;
Martyr Maximus; Ven. Serapion of Egypt;
St. Leontius, Patriarch of Jerusalem;
First Opening of the Relics of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk***

“At Jacob’s well, O almighty Savior, You engaged the Samaritan woman in conversation. And although of old it was You who make water gush forth from solid rock for the Hebrews, You now asked this woman for water. And You brought her to believe in You, O Christ, so that now she enjoys the eternal kingdom on high.”

Exapostilarion, Tone I

“Enlisted by the King of the Ages, you spurned the earthly king and his army to boldly preach Christ our God. Therefore, you have completed your contest and shine forth as His glorious martyr. Entreat Him to save our souls, for we honor you, blest Idisore.”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: ACTS 11:19-26,29-30

TODAY’S GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-42

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, May 20 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, May 15	Acts 12:12-17	John 8:42-51
Tuesday, May 16	Acts 12:25-13:12	John 8:51-59
Wednesday, May 17	Acts 13:13-24	John 6:5-14
Thursday, May 18	Acts 14:20-27	John 9:39-10:9
Friday, May 19	Acts 15:5-34	John 10:17-28
Saturday, May 20	Acts 15:35-41	John 10:27-38

***MAY GOD BLESS OUR MOTHERS, GRANDMOTHERS AND GODMOTHERS
TODAY AND ALWAYS!***

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

COMING EVENTS

MAY:

- 29, Monday 8:30 a.m. Memorial Day Grave Blessings at St. Theodosius Cemetery
- 30, Tuesday Cooking for St. Herman’s House
- 31, Wednesday Serving dinner at St. Herman’s House

JUNE:

- 4, Sunday HTOC Pentecost Celebration
- 5, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle
- 9, Friday 6:00 p.m. IOCC 25th Anniversary Banquet

<p><u>GOD’S BLESSINGS:</u> To the child of God Gavin Jack Sellers, newly baptized on Sunday, May 7, 2017.</p> <p><u>PENTECOST CELEBRATION:</u> On Pentecost, June 4, being the Patronal Feast of our Parish, we will have a special Coffee Hour following the services. Matushka Carol and Barbara Filipow are coordinating; please speak to them if you can help. There is also a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Your participation is appreciated!</p> <p><u>BOOK CIRCLE:</u> The St. Elizabeth Book Circle will meet Monday, June 5, at 12:30 p.m. Read pages 28-55. We will also continue to discuss the conversation with Motovilov, Appendix A.</p> <p><u>ST. HERMANS BENEFIT GOLF OUTING:</u> FOCUS of Cleveland is asking support for the June 23 Golf Outing at Hinckley Hills to benefit St. Herman’s House; golfers or sponsorship or program ads are needed. Please read the flyer in the Fellowship Hall for details. Last year FOCUS provided over 80,000 hot meals, sheltered 70 homeless men, and provided groceries and clothing to over 700 men and over 400 families.</p> <p><u>TRINITARIAN COVERS AND FLOWERS:</u> The covers and flowers today are offered by Harvey and Pat Schwartz.</p>	<p><u>IOCC 25TH ANNIVERSARY:</u> The International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) is celebrating their 25th Anniversary this year. The Cleveland Committee of the IOCC is marking that occasion with a special 25th Anniversary Banquet on Friday, June 9, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Independence. Our parish and parishioners have been loyal supporters of the great work that IOCC has done in the past, and we look forward to our participation in the historical anniversary celebration. Information is posted in the Fellowship Hall, and tickets are available and can be purchased from Paula Svilar or Diane Hastings.</p> <p><u>SPECIAL COLLECTION:</u> In conjunction with the IOCC’s 25th Anniversary, we will be holding a special collection to benefit the organization. A collection basket will be placed at the back of the church for the next few weeks; please mark your donation for IOCC; if donating by check, write checks to Holy Trinity Orthodox Church.</p> <p><u>ZOE FOR LIFE!</u> ZOE is creating a Women’s Center Medical Committee. They plan to add services such as classes in parenting, abortion healing, child raising, and offer pre-natal counseling. Volunteers are being sought, especially: nurse, monographer, fund raiser, client advocate, receptionist, medical assistant, physicians’ assistant. For more information and to offer services, contact Despina (Despina@mavrakisfamily.com).</p>
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THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, MAY 7	\$ 3665.50
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	20.00
BUILDING FUND	86.25
MORTGAGE FUND	71.25
CANDLES	82.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 28 – Volume LIV

May 14, 2017

MID-PENTECOST

“Holding the middle and end of all things, and, as You have no beginning, You have their beginning also in Your grasp; O Lord, You stood in the midst of all proclaiming: Come, you of good will and delight in the gifts of God.”

(Mid-Pentecost Matins)

Great things can happen on quiet days, even between distractions.
While most of the world is consumed, angry and ambitious, smile
Although no one sees and remember someone you knew years ago,
And the conversation which is now the sign that you are waiting for.

Since we cannot control time, why not embrace to avoid it?
Everything in life's time is immediate and immeasurable,
Birth and death, joy and sorrow, love and despair, are moments
Disarranged, sequences patterning the Cross and Resurrection.

Of course every day is a good day if it falls in between silence and
Survival, on the love side of trust as opposed to absolute restraint.
On such days sanity, fragile when sanitized, becomes sanctified and
Strong, modern but at peace with ancient flexibility of canon law.

In the middle is the Savior, Lord of all feasts, out of time and in,
Always entering, forever returning, everywhere, anytime,
With charitable clarity, with wisdom that ennobles tragedy and
The peace deep in the ocean of our search for understanding.

We forget in the rainy season that water is more than life,
It flows as revelation, salvation, inspiration, prescience,
Poetry and visions, music and reassuring apostolic words,
As when they said, “We also are men, of like nature with you.”

They could have added, “Be truthful through anxiety, refrain from
Disputes about entitlements, seek purity of heart, hide your emotions,
Debate dispassionately, question your motives, relinquish with dignity,
And though it is elusive, work for peace, between peoples and yourself.”

Jesus said, “Love your neighbor as yourself!” One of my neighbors asked,
“What is it, your Church? What do you do there?” I had to think for a bit;
I smiled, remembered an old friend and said, “Church is where I find
The answer to the question, ‘How can I love my neighbor as myself?’”

Fr. Alexander Garklaus