

***HOLY MARTYRS
MENAS, HERMOGENES AND EUGRAPHUS
December 10***

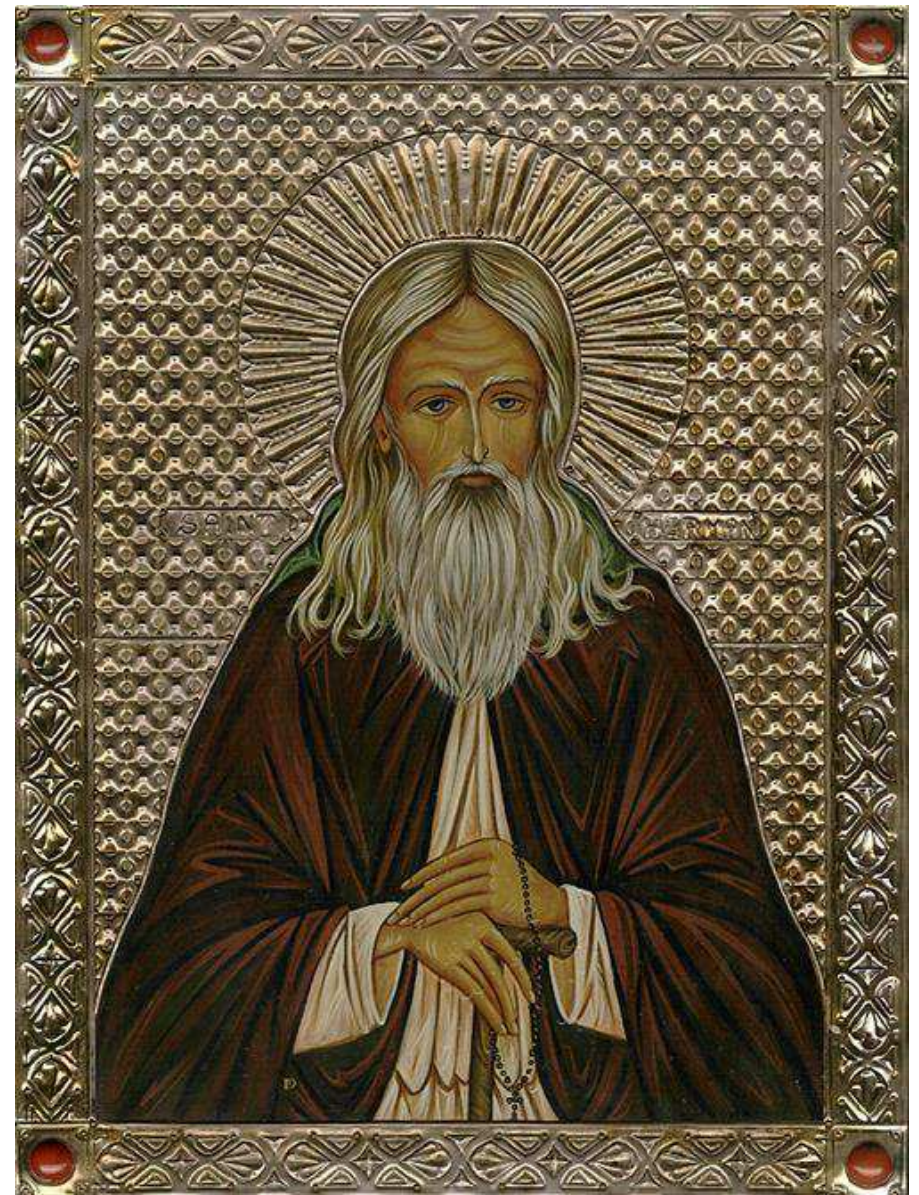
The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes and Eustrachius suffered for their faith in Christ under the emperor Maximian (305-313).

St. Menas was sent by the emperor from Athens to Alexandria to suppress the riots that had arisen between the Christians and the pagans. Distinguished for his gift of eloquence, Menas instead openly began to preach the Christian Faith, and he converted many pagans to Christ. Learning of this, Maximian sent Hermogenes to Alexandria to place the saints on trial. Moreover, he gave orders to purge the city of Christians.

Hermogenes, although he was a pagan, was distinguished by his reverent bearing. And struck by the endurance of St. Menas under torture and by his miraculous healing after the cruel torments, he also came to believe in Christ. Maximian himself then arrived in Alexandria. Neither the astonishing stoic endurance of Saints Menas and Hermogenes under torture, nor even the miracles manifested by God in this city, mollified the emperor. Instead, they vexed him all the more. The emperor personally stabbed St. Eustrachius, the secretary of St. Menas, and then gave orders to behead the holy Martyrs Menas and Hermogenes.

The relics of the holy martyrs, cast into the sea in an iron chest, were afterwards found and transferred to Constantinople in the ninth century. The emperor Justinian built a church in the name of the holy Martyr Menas of Alexandria. St. Joseph the Hymnographer composed a Canon in honor of these holy martyrs.

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***SAINT HERMAN OF ALASKA
December 13***

***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 6 - VOLUME LV

tone 2

DECEMBER 10, 2017

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eucraphus, of Alexandria;
St. Joasaph, Bishop of Bélgorod; Martyr Gemellus of Paphlagonia;
Ven. Thomas of Bithynia;
Bl. Jovan, King of Serbia and his parents, Stephen and Angelina Brancovich*

“By the power of heroic discipline and self-control, these martyrs of Christ overcame their disordered passions. In life they received the grace of healing, and after death they enjoy the power of working miracles. What a marvel indeed, that wondrous things should take place through mere bones. Glory to You alone, O Creator, O one and only God.”

Troparion for Menas, Hermogenes and Eucraphus, Tone VIII

*Rest of Ven. Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America
Wednesday, December 13*

“O joyful north star of the church of Christ, guiding us to the kingdom of heaven. O apostle and teacher of the true faith, faithful advocate and defender of all the oppressed: Now that you rejoice in the presence of the Lord, do not forget this land of ours here below. Beg Christ, our God, to save our souls.”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 6:10-17

TODAY’S GOSPEL: LUKE 17:12-19

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, December 16 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, December 11	II Timothy 2:20-26	Mark 8:11-21
Tuesday, December 12	II Timothy 3:16-4:4	Mark 8:22-26
Wednesday, December 13	Galatians 5:22-6:2	Luke 6:17-23
Thursday, December 14	II Timothy 4:9-22	Mark 8:30-34
	Titus 1:5-2:1	Mark 9:10-16
Friday, December 15	Titus 1:15-2:10	Mark 9:33-41
Saturday, December 16	Ephesians 1:16-23	Luke 14:1-11

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER:

- 10, TODAY Second Sunday Food Sale
4:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Nativity Concert, at HTOC
- 11, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle
- 15, Friday 6:00 p.m. Myrrh-Streaming Kardiotissa Icon of Theotokos at St. George Church, Canton
- 17, Sunday HTOC Christmas (lenten) Potluck

MEMORY ETERNAL:

John Holodnak fell asleep in the Lord and was buried on December 5, 2017.

POTLUCK:

HTOC will hold a Potluck Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 17, after the Divine Liturgy. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall and indicate the number of people attending from your family and well as the (meatless) food item you will bring.

NATIVITY CONCERT:

The annual Pan-Orthodox Nativity Concert will be today, Dec. 10, at 4:00 p.m., here at HTOC. Refreshments will follow the concert, and a free-will donation will be taken to support the charitable work of the Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy.

“MYRRH-STREAMING” ICON:

The miraculous “Myrrh-Streaming” Kardiotissa Icon of the Theotokos will visit St. George Romanian Orthodox Church in Canton on Friday, Dec. 15. A Paraklesis Service to the Mother of God will be at 6:00, followed by miraculous stories of the icon and an anointing with myrrh. The church is located at 144 30th St. N.W. in Canton, 44709.

GREETERS NEEDED:

We are looking for new people to become greeters. If you are interested, contact Alex Cundik at 440-877-1980 or email ajcundik@cox.net

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

Please remember to use the offering envelope designated for Christmas Flowers. As always, your donation is appreciated.

LA COUPOLE:

Christmas shopping? Please visit La Coupole to view a new selection of Christmas cards, ornaments and children’s books.

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE:

Please remember the Food Sale we are having today in the Fellowship Hall. Shop for some wholesome food as well as holiday treats!

BOOK CIRCLE:

The St. Elizabeth Book Circle will meet Monday, December 11, at 12:30 p.m. We are reading The Winter Pascha by Fr. Thomas Hopko. Please read pages 66-126. All are welcome.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Marsha Uziel in memory of Doris and Al Solanics. If you would like to offer Trinitarian covers in 2018, sign up in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$8; \$20 for Pascha, Christmas, or special-order covers.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Pauline Smolarchuk in memory of John Smolarchuk.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, DECEMBER 3	\$ 5056.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	75.00
BUILDING FUND	85.00
MORTGAGE FUND	65.00
CANDLES	152.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	25.00
LOCAL CHARITIES	78.00
IN MEMORY OF HELEN PREBIHILO	100.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 6 – Volume LV

December 10, 2017

LETTERS FROM SOLOVKI

January 14, 1934

Dear Irene,

At this holy and glorious time of the year, I greet you with the joyous proclamation, “Christ is born! Glorify Him!” Our everyday circumstances are hardly festive, but we were able to make of the day something different than the ordinary. To begin with, we have been blessed with rather mild weather, that is, mild by the standards of Northern Russian winters. There has been some snow and frost, but not yet that deep penetrating freezing that is common here. In general, weather here is moderated by the currents coming from the oceans so that the relative warmth of the waters keeps our island less frigid than the interior. Darkness, however, is ever-present, we have but a few daylight hours. I heard that becoming accustomed to the darkness is more difficult than getting used to the snow, and I understand now how that can be.

The Nativity of the Lord was always a favorite and much anticipated holiday in the home of my parents. My mother in particular made the experience of Christmas Eve unforgettable. Having grown up with that, I also treasure the memory of the Feast in our home, especially when you were younger. How eager you were to open those gifts! But changes in society made it difficult to truly observe the Nativity Fast and to enter into the deep spiritual meaning of the observance during the past several years. Nevertheless, the content, richness and beauty of the Feast are never diminished. It is after all the triumphant union of heaven and creation, the incarnation of divinity in the flesh and at the same time the validation of angelic life on earth. Christmas is perhaps the most “earth-bound” of all the holy days in the sense that it celebrates precisely humanity’s destiny on earth, to be exalted to heaven and eternity. It necessarily must take place here and now, and be rendered effective here and now for all. There are heavenly revelations certainly, but the interactions that take place are earth-bound, from the shepherds and then the wise men. In particular, the shepherds I believe bring to us the clear image of lowly humanness becoming glorified by virtue of what is taking place!

This year during the church services I was especially moved by the feeling of being part of all of humanity. We were able to do the services rather completely, with the Royal Hours, Vespers and Liturgy. The Great Compline and Matins were perhaps one of the very best of such services that I can remember, as we did them completely. But it was not a matter of liturgical heroism, that is of being able to say that we were in church for five hours, rather that the worship experience transported us into the uplifted state of divine celebration. When we sang “God is with us,” it was as if we, with all angels and all mankind, were acknowledging that with the utmost joy! Everyone, from Australia to the Arctic, across Asia, Europe and the Americas, everyone yearns for the same eternal things: holy comfort, peaceful hearts, being part of the human family with whom “God is with!”

Your father, Fr. N.J.