

# 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 46 - VOLUME XLVI

TONE 5

SEPTEMBER 13, 2009

## **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

### **FOREFEAST OF THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS**

*Commemoration of the founding of the Church of the Resurrection at Jerusalem;  
Hieromartyr Cornelius the Centurion; Martyrs Chronides, Leontius and Serapion, of Alexandria;  
Martyrs Seleucus in Scythia, and Stratonicus;  
Martyrs Macrobius and Goridan at Tomi in Romania; Hieromartyr Julian of Galatia;  
Martyrs Elias, Zoticus, Lucian, and Valerian; St. Peter of Atroe;  
Greatmartyr Ketevan, Queen of Georgia; Ven. Hierotheus the Younger of Iveron*

## **THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFEGIVING CROSS**

**Monday, September 14**

“In paradise, the tree stripped us bare: For, by giving us its fruit, the enemy showed us death. But, today, the sight of the cross gives joy to all the earth: For the tree that robes us all in light is raised on high. As we fall before it, O Lord, we cry out to You: This is the glory of Your house.”

Jerusalem Troparion, Tone VIII

TODAY'S EPISTLE: GALATIANS 6:11-18  
II CORINTHIANS 1:21-2:4

TODAY'S GOSPEL: JOHN 3:13-17  
MATTHEW 22:1-14

NEXT SUNDAY: GALATIANS 2:16-20  
II CORINTHIANS 4:6-15

NEXT SUNDAY: MARK 8:34-9:1  
MATTHEW 22:35-46

### **HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:**

Today, September 13	7:00 p.m. Vigil of the Elevation of the Cross
Monday, September 14	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - The Elevation of the Cross
Saturday, September 19	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

### **Daily Scripture Readings**

Monday, September 14	I Corinthians 1:18-24	John 19:6-11,13-20,25-28,30-35
Tuesday, September 15	Galatians 2:11-16	Mark 5:24-34
	Galatians 2:21-3:7	Mark 6:1-7
Wednesday, September 16	Galatians 3:15-22	Mark 6:7-13
Thursday, September 17	Galatians 3:23-4:5	Mark 6:30-45
Friday, September 18	Galatians 4:8-21	Mark 6:45-53
Saturday, September 19	I Corinthians 1:26-29	John 8:21-30
	I Corinthians 4:17-5:5	Matthew 24:1-13

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**COMING EVENTS**

**SEPTEMBER:**

20, Sunday Church School begins  
All-Parish meeting  
Women's Club meeting  
Macy's Shop for a Cause

**OCTOBER:**

4, Sunday 10:45 a.m. Women's Club meeting  
5, Monday 7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting  
9, Friday 7:00 p.m. Opening lecture of 25th Eastern Churches Seminar at HTOC  
10, Saturday 8:30 a.m. Eastern Churches Seminar at Notre Dame College

**ALL PARISH MEETING:**

Sunday, September 20, during Coffee Hour, Council will update the parish on the results of Joe Kormos' visit. We will present the conclusions we drew, the initiatives we have begun, and our path forward.

**MACY'S SHOP FOR A CAUSE:**

Once again this year we are participating in a fundraiser sponsored by Macy's. Shop on September 20, and we will receive a portion of the proceeds. Stop at the table in the Fellowship Hall for information.

**CHURCH SCHOOL:**

Classes begin on September 20 and are offered for ages 3 and up. Please contact Karen Mravetz (216-661-7449) to register children new to the program.

**PROJECT MEXICO 2010:**

Dates available for 2010 are 5/28, 6/9, 6/22, 7/6, 7/20, 7/29. Contact Jack Palivoda (216-235-2990; jackpal@microsoft.com) if interested. Dates must be selected by 9/24/09. A sign-up sheet is available.

**WOMEN'S CLUB:**

Meetings are scheduled for Sept. 20 and Oct. 4.  
The Style Show / Silent Auction will be Oct. 25.

**FLOWERS:**

The flowers today are offered by the Whitney and Hastings Family in memory of Claudia Whitney.

**GOD'S BLESSINGS:**

To Tony Eschuk for always providing us with cases of cabbage for our food sale.

**ETHNIC FOODS:**

The profit from the Stuffed Cabbage Sale on Sept. 10-11 will be placed into our treasury to help refund our large donation to the BOSE project.

**EASTERN CHURCHES SEMINAR:**

Brochures are available for the 25th Seminar, with the topic, "Holy Communion: You and I in Christ." HTOC will host the opening lecture on Oct. 9 at 7:00. Oct. 10 events are at Notre Dame College, S. Euclid.

**GREETERS FOR SUNDAY LITURGY:**

Anyone interested in joining our fine team of greeters is welcome to sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Mike Burgan at 440-382-9877.

**COFFEE HOUR:**

As our Church School year begins, please remember that donations are always welcome for the ongoing refreshment program. Various levels of support are needed; the money raised supports our Church School program. Contact Arlene at 440-888-2052.

**TRINITARIAN COVERS:**

The covers today are offered by Beth Rudo in memory of the departed members of the Rudo Family.

**THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE**

REGULAR COLLECTION, SEPTEMBER 6	\$ 3719.00
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION	2.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	260.00
BUILDING FUND	446.00
MORTGAGE FUND	560.00
CANDLES	167.00
HTOC ANNIVERSARY	40.00

**QUEEN HELENA'S JOY**

*“May they know the joy that Helen had when she found the precious cross....” (Wedding blessing)*

The wedding sacrament is all but concluded – not quite, however. The crowns have been removed from their heads after appropriate blessings. Indeed, blessings in abundance have poured forth upon the couple from Christ and the Holy Spirit. Adam and Eve were recalled as the symbol of unity for two become one. The great patriarchs with their wives along with their descendants had been lifted up as examples of salvation through marriage and child rearing. Apostles, martyrs, and saints through the ages of sacred history were invoked as role models. After such a plethora of blessings, what could be left to add to those invocations?

What is it that connects every Orthodox wedding with this great feast which the Church celebrates each September fourteenth? The cross itself, of course. Every man and woman must know that they are to bear their crosses as husband and wife, father and mother, and not abandon the suffering that accompanies that sacred vocation. Along with the cross-bearing responsibility is St. Helen's finding of the cross and the joy of her discovery.

At that special moment, as her servants were raising the Lord's own cross at Calvary, what thoughts of joy were racing through Queen Helena's mind? Was it the time when she had first accepted Christ and been baptized? Or upon reading the sacred gospels and grasping the importance of the holy city of Jerusalem to all believers? Could it have been when she realized what the cross means to all who receive Jesus Christ as their Lord God and Savior? Could it be of the time when her son Constantine won the battle of Milvian Bridge [312 A.D.], defeating his enemies and claiming the throne of the Roman Empire? Perhaps it was while she was explaining to her son what it was that came to him the evening before that decisive encounter - the meaning of the cross through which he saw the words: *“In this conquer”*? Maybe as she was gathering the Bible scholars, historians and geographical experts in preparation for the expedition to Palestine, called in that time Aelia Capitolina? It was an achievement of a plan so creative and audacious - to set out in search of the actual instrument of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ the Son of God and the Savior of all humanity, and to do so hundreds of years after the sublime event in a land void of Jews and Christians.

Or was it the joy of realizing that her plans had been rewarded, giving the comeuppance to all those cynics who argued that it was a foolish errand - that something that had happened three centuries ago could not possibly be reconstructed - and that she proved them all wrong? That her self-conceived pilgrimage trusting in the Lord Jesus to guide her to accomplish her objective had been achieved?

What does it mean to the couple who may be so inebriated with the radiance of the moment and of one another that they are hardly listening? That their ambitions, whatever they may be, and which are for their salvation will be accomplished as well, provided they do not forsake Christ of the cross.

The euphoria of the holy woman might have included the emotions of a parent who consummated her life's ambition in fulfilling her heart's desire made possible by a child who rose to the ultimate potential of any position on earth at the time – the stature of Caesar, the monarch of the Roman Empire.

It is a blessing bestowed on every newlywed couple in the Orthodox Christian Church, that the same power of the Holy Spirit which came upon Saint Helena at the greatest event of her joy be the same Spirit-filled experience they should realize in their new state of life together.

*Father Vladimir Berzonsky*

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