

HOLY FATHERS SLAIN AT SINAI AND RAITHU

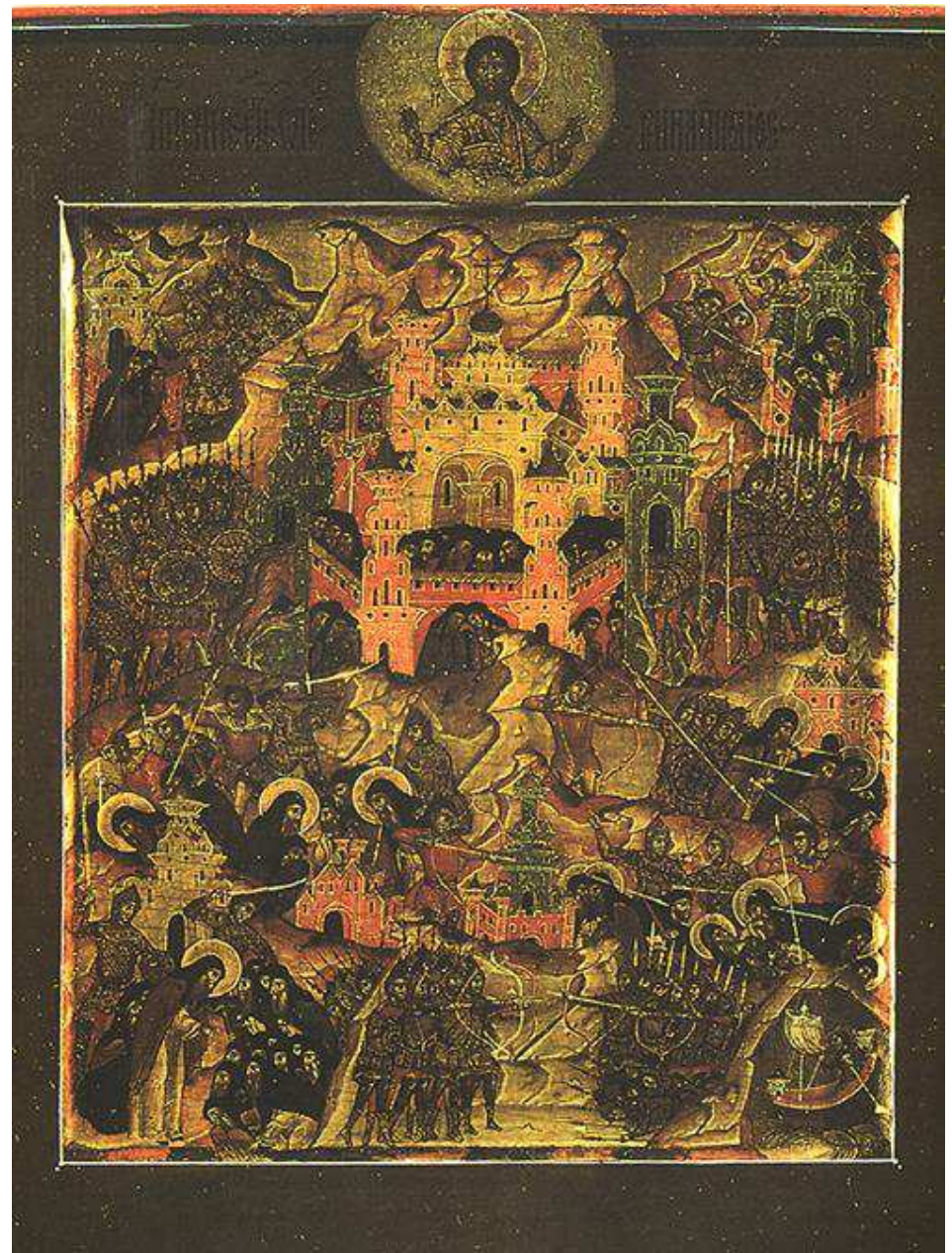
There were two occasions when the monks and hermits were murdered by the barbarians. The first took place in the fourth century when forty Fathers were killed at Mt. Sinai, and thirty-nine were slain at Raithu on the same day:

Mt. Sinai, where the Ten Commandments had been given to Moses, was also the site of another miracle. Ammonios, an Egyptian monk, witnessed the murder of the forty holy Fathers at Sinai. He tells of the Saracens attacking the monastery and would have killed them all, if God had not intervened. A fire appeared on the summit of the peak, and the whole mountain smoked. The barbarians were terrified and fled, while the surviving monks thanked God for sparing them.

That same day, the Blemmyes (an Arab tribe) killed thirty-nine Fathers at Raithu (on the shores of the Red Sea). Igumen Paul of Raithu exhorted his monks to endure their suffering with courage and a pure heart.

The second massacres occurred nearly a hundred years later and were also recorded by an eyewitness who miraculously escaped: St. Nilus the Faster. The Arabs permitted some of the monks to run for their lives. They crossed the valley and climbed up a mountain. From this vantage point, they saw the Bedouin kill the monks and ransack their cells.

The Sinai and Raithu ascetics lived a particularly strict life: they spent the whole week at prayer in their cells. On Saturday they gathered for the all-night Vigil, and on Sunday they received the Holy Mysteries. Their only food was dates and water. Many of the ascetics of the desert were glorified by the gift of wonderworking.



THE HOLY FATHERS SLAIN AT SINAI AND RAITHU

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

THE TRINITARIAN

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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 11 - VOLUME LV

TONE 7

JANUARY 14, 2018

THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Leavetaking of the Theophany

The Holy Fathers slain at Sinai and Raithu: Isaiah, Sabbas, Moses and his disciple Moses, Jeremiah, Paul, Adam, Sergius, Domnus, Proclus, Hypatius, Isaac, Macarius, Mark, Benjamin, Eusebius, Elias, and others;

St. Nina, Equal to the Apostles and Enlightener of the Georgians;

S. Joseph Analytinus of Raithu; Ven. Theodulus, son of Ven. Nilus of Sinai;

Ven. Stephen, Abbot of Chenolaklos Monastery near Chalcedon

“When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. For the voice of the Father bore witness to You, and called You His beloved Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ, our God, You have revealed Yourself, and have enlightened the world, glory to You!”

Troparion for the Feast, Tone I

“Your holy martyrs, O Lord, through their sufferings have received an incorruptible crown from You, our God. For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. Through their intercessions, save our souls!”

Troparion for the Holy Fathers at Sinai and Raithu, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: I TIMOTHY 1:15-17

TODAY’S GOSPEL: LUKE 18:35-43

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

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

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, January 15	James 2:14-26	Mark 10:46-52
Tuesday, January 16	James 3:1-10	Mark 11:11-23
	James 3:11-4:6	Mark 11:22-26
Wednesday, January 17	Hebrews 13:17-21	Luke 6:17-23
Thursday, January 18	James 4:7-5:9	Matthew 11:27-33
Friday, January 19	I Peter 1:1-2,10-12, 2:6-10	Mark 12:1-12
	I Thessalonians 5:14-23	Luke 17:3-10
Saturday, January 20	Hebrews 13:17-21	Luke 6:17-23

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY:

- 14, TODAY Second Sunday Food Sale
- 20, Saturday 1:00 p.m. Retreat at ZOE House
- 21, Sunday 6:00 p.m. Service of Supplication at St. Innocent Church
- 26-27 Program at St. Paul Church: "Taming the Passions: Timeless Wisdom in Being Orthodox"
- 28, Sunday Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner

FEBRUARY:

- 1, Thursday 6:30 p.m. IOCC European Wine Tasting

PRAY FOR THE UNBORN:

There are two events planned with speaker Papa Dimitri Carellas next weekend. A retreat at ZOE House on Saturday, 1/20, 1:00, discusses right to life for the unborn. There is a Service of Supplication for the unborn on Sunday, January 21, 6:00 p.m., at St. Innocent Church followed by a presentation and light refreshments. See details in the Fellowship Hall.

EUROPEAN WINE TASTING:

IOCC Cleveland is hosting a Wine Tasting on Thursday, February 1 at the Copperstone Event Center. Doors open at 6:30; dinner is served at 7:00. There will be live music. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased from Diane Hastings or Paula Svilar.

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

There will be a 40th Day Memorial Service for Fr. John Klembara on Sunday, January 28, after the Divine Liturgy.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Sandy Shea-Workman in memory of her parents Nick and Sue Yellis, and her brother Nick Yellis.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by the Bellack Family in memory of Richard Roark.

PARISH COUNCIL:

Parish Council officers and members for 2018 are: MaryAnn Bobulsky—President; Robert Kapitan—Vice President; Pdn. Anthony Kall—Secretary; Jared Griebel—Treasurer; Theodore Bellack; Nicholas Bugosh; Marjorie Evanoff; Barry Gluntz; Jerome Petrykowski; Rebecca Spak; Frank Stoyka; Nicholas Wislocki, Jr.

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING:

Following up on the resolution at the October 29, 2017 Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council has worked out an agreement with Fr. Alexander to sell to him the Parish Rectory. To finalize this, the Parish Council is calling for a Special Parish Meeting to take place on Sunday, Feb. 4, 2018, after the Divine Liturgy. Other relevant issues concerning the Parish can also be placed on the Agenda; and if you would like to do so, please contact Fr. Alexander or one of the Council members.

"TAMING THE PASSIONS":

St. Paul Church invites all to a program Jan. 26, 7:00-8:00; Jan. 27, 10:00-2:00. See details in the Hall.

ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:

Next meeting is Feb. 12 at 12:30. The Liturgy of Death is now available in La Coupole.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

This summer the Orthodox Church in America will gather in St. Louis for the 19th All American Council. As our Diocese of the Midwest is hosting this Council, our Bishop Paul has asked that Diocesan parishes take up special collections to help our Orthodox brothers and sisters who live in Alaska and Mexico. Economic conditions and the high cost of travel from these distant locations make their coming to the Council extremely difficult; the combined collections from all of the Diocesan parishes will enable some of the clergy and laity from faraway to travel to St. Louis and participate in this important gathering.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, JANUARY 7	\$ 2758.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	2304.00
BUILDING FUND	65.00
MORTGAGE FUND	45.00
CANDLES	154.00
LOCAL CHARITIES	15.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	10.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 11 – Volume LV

January 14, 2018

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JAMES

In the Orthodox Church, the order of Scripture readings during the course of the year are sequenced and done in accordance with the liturgical lectionary. That is why in January, in the period between Christmas and the beginning of the Lenten Triodion, we have readings from the Epistle of St. James. As it is read on weekdays and not on weekends, fewer people are familiar with it. Although we do not hear this Epistle at Sunday Liturgies, we should make every effort to read it on our own. Unlike any of St. Paul's epistles or the epistles of St. John or St. Peter, it contains a number of specific verses that are often quoted. One of the verses has been included in the Divine Liturgy and is said by the priest just before the end of the service in the "Prayer before the Ambo": "For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from You, the Father of lights" (James 1:11).

The Epistle of James has traditionally been ascribed to St. James the Brother of the Lord, who was not one of the twelve Apostles but son of St. Joseph from a previous marriage. St. James was one of the leaders of the first Christian community and is acknowledged as the First Bishop of Jerusalem. While the authorship may be in doubt by some, the Epistle is clearly an ancient Christian document; and its content has been incorporated into Christian theology and ethics. In particular, it is cited as Scriptural basis to emphasize that Christianity is the religion of *active* spirituality. The Epistle stresses that simply "having faith" in God and saying that one believes is never sufficient. This is demonstrated in this startling verse: "Even demons believe and shudder" (James 2:19). Faith in Christ is not passive nor only an intellectual affirmation that "God exists." Faith is what we believe *and* what we do. "For as the body apart from the soul is dead, so faith apart from works is dead" (James 2:26).

Faith is demonstrated in how we act and how we speak. A noteworthy portion of the Epistle is the insightful description and warning about how we speak and what we say, as it is connected to our spiritual life. The "tongue is a fire," and it can be both the organ of how we praise God and how we condemn and judge each other. "The tongue is an unrighteous world among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the cycle of nature and is set on fire by hell" (James 3:6). The Epistle is a direct and stark warning to Christians that our actions, our words and feelings, cannot be separated from our faith in Our Lord, Jesus Christ. "For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity" (James 3:16).

A section from the Epistle that is well known is the reading that is done at the services of Holy Unction: "Is any among you sick? Let them call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over them anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14). But prayer is the common task of all, not only "elders," as the Epistle points out: "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed" (James 5:16).

Fr. Alexander Garklaus

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 Broadview Road

PORK & SAUERKRAUT
DINNER

Sunday - January 28, 2018
NOON

Dinner

Dessert

Glass of Wine or Beer

Ticket Prices

Adults - \$15

Ages 11-15 - \$7.50

Ages 10 and under - No Charge

See Jewelann Stefanar for tickets or call her at 216.741.0985
before January 24, 2018