

VENERABLE EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

In many of St. Ephraim's works we catch glimpses of the life of the Syrian ascetics, which was centered on prayer and working in various obediences for the common good of the brethren. The outlook of all the Syrian ascetics was the same. The monks believed that the goal of their efforts was communion with God and the acquisition of divine grace. For them, the present life was a time of tears, fasting and toil.

"If the Son of God is within you, then His Kingdom is also within you. Thus, the Kingdom of God is within you, a sinner. Enter into yourself, search diligently and without toil you shall find it. Outside of you is death, and the door to it is sin. Enter into yourself, dwell within your heart, for God is there."

Constant spiritual sobriety, the developing of good within man's soul gives him the possibility to take upon himself a task like blessedness, and a self-constraint like sanctity. The requital is presupposed in the earthly life of man, it is an undertaking of spiritual perfection by degrees. Whoever grows himself wings upon the earth, says St. Ephraim, is one who soars up into the heights; whoever purifies his mind here below, there glimpses the Glory of God. In whatever measure each one loves God, he is, by God's love, satiated to fullness according to that measure. Man, cleansing himself and attaining the grace of the Holy Spirit while still here on earth, has a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven. To attain to life eternal, in the teachings of St. Ephraim, does not mean to pass over from one realm of being into another, but rather to discover "the heavenly," spiritual condition of being. Eternal life is not bestowed on man through God's one-sided efforts, but rather, it constantly grows like a seed within him by his efforts, toils and struggles.

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HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD
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THE TRINITARIAN

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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 13 - VOLUME LV

TONE 1

JANUARY 28, 2018

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

*Ven. Ephraim the Syrian; Ven Theodosius, Abbot, of Tot'ma;
Ven. Efrem, Abbot and Wonderworker of Novotórzhs;
St. Efrem, Bishop of Pereyaslavl'; Ven. Palladius the Hermit, of Antioch;
St. Isaac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh; New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia*

“Open the gates of repentance for me, O Giver of life, for at early morning my spirit seeks Your holy temple though the temple of my body remains defiled. In Your compassion, cleanse it with Your loving kindness and Your mercy.”

Troparion, Tone VIII

THE MEETING OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, IN THE TEMPLE

Friday, February 2

“Rejoice, O full of grace, O Theotokos and maiden pure: For from you there rose the Sun of justice, Christ, our God, who enlightens those in darkness. You, too, exult and be glad, just and aged Simeon, for you bore in your arms the Savior and Redeemer of our souls, and from Him have we all received the grace of resurrection.”

Troparion, Tone I

TODAY'S EPISTLE: II TIMOTHY 3:10-15

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 18:10-14

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Today, January 28	10:45 a.m. Forty Days Memorial Prayer Service for Father John Klembara
Thursday, February 1	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers—Forefeast of the Meeting
Friday, February 2	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy— The Meeting of our Lord in the Temple
Saturday, February 3	3:00 p.m. Baptism of Kensington, daughter of Meredith and John Ball
	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, January 29	II Peter 1:20-2:9	Mark 13:9-13
	II Peter 2:9-22	Mark 13:14-23
Tuesday, January 30	Hebrews 13:7-16	Matthew 5:14-19
Wednesday, January 31	II Peter 3:1-18	Mark 13:24-31
Thursday, February 1	I John 1:8-2:6	Mark 13:31-14:2
	I John 2:7-17	Mark 14:3-9
Friday, February 2	Hebrews 7:7-17	Luke 2:22-40
Saturday, February 3	II Timothy 3:1-9	Luke 20:46-21:4

THIS IS A FAST-FREE WEEK.

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY:

- 28, TODAY Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner
- 29, Monday Cooking for St. Herman’s House
- 31, Wednesday Serving dinner at St. Herman’s House

FEBRUARY:

- 1, Thursday 6:30 p.m. IOCC European Wine Tasting
- 4, Sunday 10:45 a.m. HTOC Parish Meeting
- 10, Saturday 9:00 a.m. Training at ZOE House
- 11, Sunday 10:45 a.m. Second Sunday Food Sale
- 12, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING:

A Special Parish Meeting will take place next Sunday after the Divine Liturgy. The agenda is available today.

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.

ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:

The Book Circle will meet on Feb. 12 at 12:30 p.m. Pick up The Liturgy of Death by Fr. Schmemmann and read Talks 1 and 2 (pages 19-100). Fr. Garklavs will lead the discussion. Books available in La Coupole.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Year-end statements of contributions are now available in the Fellowship Hall.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Jewelann Stefanar.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Karen Sherwood.

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE:

Please remember our Food Sale on February 11, and plan to cook/bake a family favorite to donate.

PARISH COUNCIL:

Parish Council for 2018: 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.

ZOE FOR LIFE!

On Saturday, Feb. 10, ZOE for Life! is hosting a Volunteer Training. We are bringing in a specialist from Heartbeat International, who will give us the tools we need to be of more assistance to those who reach out to us for help, both at ZOE House and at the forthcoming ZOE Women’s Center. We would love to have you share this amazing opportunity—to be better servants as well as to share His love with more of His children. Training will take place 9:00-4:00, and we will provide lunch. Please call Cindy George at 330-309-9491 to reserve your spot.

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 21	\$ 2942.00
CHILDREN’S COLLECTION	1.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	1739.00
BUILDING FUND	124.00
MORTGAGE FUND	83.00
CANDLES	90.00
SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE, 1/14	124.00
FOR ST. MATTHEW’S CHURCH	25.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 13 – Volume LV

January 28, 2018

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SELECTIONS FROM ST. MAXIMUS THE CONFESSOR

(Last week we wrote about St. Maximus the Confessor and indicated that his legacy remains in collections of famous spiritual writings. We will be sharing selections from those writings here, noting that they are especially appropriate as we prepare for, and during, the Great Lenten season.)

1. Love is a good disposition of the soul which one prefers to everything as it brings to the knowledge of God. It is impossible to reach the habit of this love if one has any attachment to earthly things.

3. The one who believes the Lord fears punishment; the one who fears punishment becomes master of his passions; the one who becomes master of his passions patiently endures tribulations; the one who patiently endures tribulations will have hope in God; hope in God separates from every earthly attachment; and when the mind is separated from this it will have love for God.

4. The one who loves God prefers knowledge of Him to all things made by Him and is constantly devoted to it by desire.

7. If the soul is better than the body and God incomparably better than the world which He created, the one who prefers the body to the soul and the world to the God who created it is no different from idolaters.

9. If the life of the mind is the illumination of knowledge and this is born of love for God, then it is well said that there is nothing greater than love.

11. All the virtues assist the mind in the pursuit of divine love, but pure prayer above all. By it the mind is given wings to God and becomes alive to all things.

13. The one who loves God cannot help but love also every person as himself even though he is displeased by the passions of those who are not yet purified. Thus when he sees their conversion and amendment, he rejoices with an unbounded and unspeakable joy.

14. The passionate soul is impure, filled with thoughts of lust and hatred.

15. The one who recognizes a trace of hatred in his own heart through any fault at all toward any person whoever he or she may be, becomes completely foreign to the love of God, because love for God in no way admits of hatred towards others.

16. “The one who love Me,” says the Lord, “will keep My commandments” and “this is My commandment, that you love one another.” Therefore the one who does not love his or her neighbor is not keeping the commandment, and the one who does not keep the commandment is not able to love the Lord.

17. Blessed is the man who has learnt to love all men equally.

From The First Century on Love by St. Maximus the Confessor

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VERY REVEREND ALEXANDER GARKLAVS

FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers 6:30 p.m. IOCC Wine Tasting and Dinner at Copperstone	2 MEETING OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy	3 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
4 Sunday of the Prodigal Son 10:45 a.m. HTOC Parish Meeting	5	6	7	8	9 6:00 p.m. Memorial Vespers	10 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy; Memorial Service 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
11 Sunday of Meatfare Sunday of the Last Judgment Second Sunday Food Sale	12 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting	13 10:30 a.m. GCCOC meeting	14	15	16	17 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
18 Sunday of Cheesefare Expulsion of Adam from Paradise Forgiveness Sunday 5:00 Vespers	19 Beginning of Great Lent 9:00 a.m. Lenten Hours 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	20 9:00 a.m. Lenten Hours 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	21 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	22 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	23 6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy	24 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
25 1st Sunday of Great Lent Sunday of Orthodoxy 5:00 p.m. Pan- Orthodox Vespers at St. Constantine and Helen Cathedral	26 Cooking for St. Herman's House	27 Serving dinner at St. Herman's House	28 6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy Soup Supper			