

GREATMARTYR PARASKEVA OF ICONIUM

The Greatmartyr Paraskeva lived during the third century in a rich and pious family. Her parents especially revered Friday, the day of the Passion of the Lord, and therefore they called their daughter Paraskeva, which also means Friday.

Young Paraskeva with all her heart loved purity and the loftiness of the virginal life, and she took a vow of celibacy. She wanted to devote all her life to God and to enlighten pagans with the light of Christ.

Because of her confession of the Orthodox Faith, the pagans seized her and brought her to the city prefect. They demanded that she offer unholy sacrifice to the pagan idols, but she refused. For this she underwent great torments: after stripping her, they tied her to a tree and beat her with rods. Then they raked her body with iron claws. She was thrown into prison, exhausted by the torture and lacerated to the bone. But God did not forsake her and miraculously healed her wounds. Not heeding this divine miracle, the executioners continued with their torture of St. Paraskeva, and finally, they cut off her head.

St. Paraskeva has always enjoyed a special love and veneration among the Orthodox people. Many pious customs and observances are associated with her. Churches and small wayside chapels dedicated to St. Paraskeva in Russia were given the name “Piatnitsa,” (in Russian: Friday). Icons of the saint were especially venerated and embellished by the faithful. Russian iconographers usually depicted the martyr as an austere ascetic, tall of stature, with a radiant crown upon her head. Icons of the saint guard pious and happy households. By Church belief, St. Paraskeva is protectress of fields and cattle. Therefore, on her Feastday it was the custom to bring fruit to church to be blessed. These blessed objects were kept until the following year. Moreover, St. Paraskeva is invoked for protection of cattle from disease. She is also a healer of people from grievous illness of both body and soul.

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GREATMARTYR PARASKEVA OF ICONIUM

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 52 - VOLUME LV

TONE 5

OCTOBER 28, 2018

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Martyrs Terence and Neonila, and children: Sarbelus, Photus, Theodulus, Hierax, Nitus, Bele, and Eunice; Ven. Stephen of St. Sabbas' Monastery, Hymnographer; Repose of St. Arsenius, Archbishop of Serbia; Greatmartyr Paraskeva of Iconium; Repose of Ven. Job, Abbot and Wonderworker of Pochaev; St. Dimitry, Metropolitan of Rostov; Ven. Nestor, of the Kiev Caves; Martyrs Africanus, Terence, Maximus, Pompeius, and 36 others, of Carthage; Hieromartyr Cyriacus, Patriarch of Jerusalem; Ven. John the Chozebite; St. Neophytus, Bishop of Urbinsk in Georgia; Ven. Athanasius the Younger, Patriarch of Constantinople

“Bound together by natural bonds and clothed with the might of faith, you walked the path of martyrdom with your seven children. O Holy Martyrs Terence and Neonila, pray that those who honor your contest may receive forgiveness of their sins.”

Troparion, Tone III

“Taking hold of daring courage, the wise and holy Paraskeva put aside all fear and hesitation. Bravely embracing martyrdom, she was torn limb from limb, and then she was burned in a blazing fire. But, for all this, it was she who defeated her tormentors and won the victory over the evil one, leaving this world to join her Divine Spouse. By her prayers, Christ, our God, save us.”

Troparion, Tone III

TODAY'S EPISTLE: GALATIANS 6:11-18

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 8:26-39

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, November 3 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, October 29	I Thessalonians 1:1-5	Luke 11:29-33
Tuesday, October 30	I Thessalonians 1:6-10	Luke 11:34-41
Wednesday, October 31 (St. John Kochurov)	I Thessalonians 2:1-8 Hebrews 13:7-16	Luke 11:42-46 Luke 12:32-40
Thursday, Nov. 1	I Thessalonians 2:9-14	Luke 11:47-12:1
Friday, November 2	I Thessalonians 2:14-19	Luke 12:2-12
Saturday, November 3	II Corinthians 8:1-5	Luke 9:1-6

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER:

28, TODAY HTOC Parish Meeting

NOVEMBER:

4, Sunday Meatloaf Luncheon and Basket Auction
 5, Monday 7:00 p.m. FOCUS Cleveland Speaker Series
 11, Sunday Recognition of our 90+ HTOC Family members
 12, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle
 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting
 15, Thursday Beginning of the Nativity Fast
 18, Sunday "Third" Sunday Food Sale

PARISH MEETING:

Immediately following the Divine Liturgy today, we will convene in the Fellowship Hall for our Annual Parish Meeting.

FOCUS CLEVELAND:

The 6th Annual Speaker Series to benefit St. Herman's House is Monday, November 5, 7:00, at Annunciation Church; 2187 W. 14th St. The topic is the Impact of Addiction in our Communities. Doors open at 6:30; appetizers will be served 6:30-7:00; the presentation and panel discussion will be from 7:00-8:30. Details are on the bulletin board. See Jewelann Stefanar for tickets.

PLEDGE CARDS:

Please remember to return your Pledge Card for the upcoming calendar year. Our fiscal year has already begun and pledges are needed for financial planning.

TRINITARIANS COVERS AND FLOWERS:

The covers and flowers today are offered by Jewelann Stefanar.

ST. JOHN CHURCH ANNUAL DINNER:

See info in Fellowship Hall for dinner and \$1000 raffle at St. John's Church in Campbell on Nov. 11.

REMINDER:

Daylight Savings Time ends in the early morning hours of next Sunday, Nov. 4. Please turn your clocks BACK one hour before you go to bed on Saturday!

ST. HERMAN'S FUNDRAISER:

We are having our annual Meatloaf Luncheon in our Fellowship Hall next Sunday, November 4, to raise funds for the monthly meals we serve at St. Herman's House. See Jewelann for tickets. The Basket Auction will also take place, and baskets are on display in the Fellowship Hall.

ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:

The Book Circle will meet on Monday, November 12, at 12:30. Please read through page 84 in our new book, Crazy John. Copies are available from Tara Reidy. All are welcome.

COFFEE HOUR:

Many thanks to those who have hosted refreshments for us recently: Babich/Billows Family, MaryAnn Bobulsky, Choir, Cundik Family, Matushka Carol, Griebel Family, Diane Hastings, Hunter & Danny's Families, Jerry Petrykowski, Tammy Ray, Becky Romanchik, Schwartz Family, Karen Sherwood, Stoyka Family, Svilar Family, Table of 8, Table One.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, OCTOBER 21	\$ 1800.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	65.00
BUILDING FUND	130.00
MORTGAGE FUND	25.00
CANDLES	87.00
SEMINARIAN	125.00
LOCAL CHARITIES	2.00
SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE	546.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 52 – Volume LV

October 28, 2018

WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY?

Addendum to the Annual Meeting's Reports

There is a bumper sticker with the letters “WWJD,” which stands for “What Would Jesus Do?” I think it would be equally fascinating to ask, “What Would Jesus Say?” What would He say about the world today, about our country, about Christianity in general?

It occurred to me that the Reports prepared for the Annual Meeting, which aim to give an assessment of the parish life, do not sufficiently express our community's spiritual condition. By this I mean that the true measure of the health of a Christian church cannot be summarized by compilations of metrical data, bank statements, committee reports, council elections and budget approvals. A Christian church, like our Holy Trinity Parish, is life as followers of Jesus Christ. An evaluation of that should be measured by Christ's standards. What would He say about us? What if Jesus were to come around to compile a report about us? What should we think about if He came to Parma to do that?

For starters, we would need to look at what Christ preached and taught during His ministry. A good place to begin is Matthew's Gospel in the section we call The Sermon on the Mount (Chapters 5-7). This includes the Beatitudes, which is a regular feature of our Divine Liturgies. What are the qualities that the Beatitudes would have us strive for? The list would certainly include humility, meekness, purity of heart, being a peacemaker, forgiveness, patience, compassion. There is much more that Jesus says elsewhere, and we also have the writings of St. Paul and the other Apostles where guidelines for Christian living are outlined and described.

So the questions we should ask are: How humble are we? How meek, how pure in heart, how patient, how compassionate, how much have we done to be peacemakers? It turns out that answering these questions is not easy! It is easier to pose other questions to ourselves: Isn't what Jesus says optional? Didn't He preach only to a select group of loyal followers and His teachings don't apply to everyone? And also, isn't it true that what He said applied to people living 2,000 years ago but not for us in the 21st century? We can, and do, come up with countless ways to justify to ourselves and to explain to others why we only partially, if at all, follow Christ's teachings even as we claim to be real Christians.

That, unfortunately, doesn't paint a very positive picture. The Good News is that although our spiritual lives are very far from perfect, Jesus doesn't reject us. As we fall, He continues to lift us up, to provide us with a way. Instead of cluttering us with a list of rules, He makes it easy by giving only one commandment, and one word! Here is the essence of Christianity, and therefore, of what it means to be a Christian: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another” (John 13:34). The degree to which we follow that commandment is the level by which our spiritual condition is measured. This is also the basis by which we assess our communal life as members of Holy Trinity Church. The Annual Meeting's financial statements and progress reports are meaningful, but the most important “X” factor in measuring the health of our parish is the quality of the love we have for God and for each other.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY
 6822 BROADVIEW ROAD; PARMA, OHIO 44134
 VERY REVEREND ALEXANDER GARKLAVS

NOVEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
4 23rd Sunday after Pentecost Meatloaf Luncheon and Basket Auction	5 6:30 p.m. FOCUS Speaker Series benefit for St. Herman's House	6	7	8	9	10 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
11 24th Sunday after Pentecost 90+ Recognition Day	12 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting	13	14	15 Beginning of Nativity Fast	16	17 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
18 25th Sunday after Pentecost "Third" Sunday Food Sale	19	20 6:00 p.m. Vigil of the Entry of the Theotokos	21 Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy	22 Thanksgiving Day 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Service	23	24 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
25 26th Sunday after Pentecost No Church School classes	26	27	28	29	30	