

**HIEROMARTYR HARALAMBOS (CHARALAMPUS)
AND MARTYRS PORPHYRIUS, BAPTUS
AND THREE WOMEN**

St. Charalampus, Bishop of Magnesia, spread faith in Christ at the end of the first century, guiding people on the way to salvation. News of his preaching reached the governor Lucian and his military commander Lucius.

The saint was arrested and brought to trial, but he refused to offer sacrifice to idols. Despite his advanced age of 113, he was tortured with iron hooks, scraping all the skin from his body. During this ordeal, the saint turned to his tormentors and said, "I thank you, brethren, that you have restored my spirit, which longs to pass over to a new and everlasting life!" Seeing this, two soldiers—Porphyrius and Baptus—openly confessed Christ; and they were immediately beheaded with a sword. Three women who were watching the saint's sufferings also began to glorify Christ and were quickly martyred.

Enraged, Lucius began to torture the holy martyr himself, but his arms were suddenly cut off as if by a sword. Lucian then spat in the face of the saint, and immediately his head was turned around so that he faced backwards. Lucius entreated the saint for mercy, and both men were healed through the prayers of St. Charalampus. A multitude of witnesses came to believe in Christ; among them was Lucius, who fell at the feet of the bishop, asking to be baptized.

Lucian reported this to the emperor, who ordered the saint to be brought to him in Antioch. Soldiers twisted the saint's beard into a rope, wound it around his neck and used it to drag him along. They also drove an iron nail into his body. The emperor ordered more intense tortures, and they began to burn him with fire, a little at a time. But God protected him, and he remained unharmed.

Many miracles were worked through his prayer: he raised a dead youth and healed a man tormented by devils for 35 years, so that many people began to believe in Christ, even the emperor's daughter Galina.

The emperor and an official mocked the Lord, who sent an earthquake and suspended the men in mid-air until Charalampus prayed to release them. But the emperor sentenced the saint to beheading. During his final prayer, the heavens opened and the Savior and angels appeared. The soul of St. Charalampus followed after the Lord into heaven; by the mercy of God, the saint died before he could be executed. Galina buried his body with great honor.

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

THE TRINITARIAN

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6822 BROADVIEW ROAD, PARMA, OHIO 44134

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 15 - VOLUME LVI

TONE 4

FEBRUARY 10, 2019

THIRTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF ZACCHÆUS

*Hieromartyr Haralambos, Bishop of Magnesia in Thessaly,
and Martyrs Porphyrius, Baptus and three women Martyrs*

Virgin-Martyrs Ennatha, Valentine and Paula, of Palestine;

*Synaxis of the Hierarchs of Novgorod: Joachim, Luke, Theodore, Herman, Arkádii, John,
Gabriel, Martyrii, Anthony, Basil, Moses, Simeon, Evfim, and Aftonii;*

*Rt. Blv. Princess Anna of Novgorod; Ven. Prokhor of the Kiev Caves; Ven. Lóngin of Koryazhémsk;
The "Aerovindus" Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos*

"You became a firm column in the Church of Christ, wise Haralambos; a lamp of everlasting light to the world: well known to the world through your martyrdom, you dispelled the dark night of idolatry. Boldly intercede with Christ God that He may save our souls."

Troparion, Tone IV

"Your holy martyr Porphyrius, O Lord, through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from You, our God. For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. Through his intercessions, save our souls!"

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY'S EPISTLE: I TIMOTHY 4:9-15

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 19:1-10

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, February 16 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, February 11	I Peter 2:21-3:9	Mark 12:13-17
Tuesday, February 12	I Peter 3:10-22	Mark 12:18-27
Wednesday, February 13	I Peter 4:1-11	Mark 12:28-37
Thursday, February 14	I Peter 4:12-5:5	Mark 12:38-44
Friday, February 15	II Peter 1:1-10	Mark 13:1-8
Saturday, February 16	II Timothy 2:11-19	Luke 18:2-8

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY:

- 10, TODAY Second Sunday Food Sale
- 11, Monday 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting
- 16, Saturday 9:30 a.m. Retreat at St. George Antiochian Church
- 22, Friday 6:00 p.m. HTOC Game Night & Potluck
- 25, Monday Cooking for St. Herman’s House
- 27, Wednesday Serving dinner at St. Herman’s House
- 28, Thursday 6:30 p.m. IOCC Benefit — European Wine Tasting

MEMORY ETERNAL:

Anne Krafcik fell asleep in the Lord on January 8 at her home in Washington.

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE:

Please visit our Food Sale tables in the Fellowship Hall today. This is the last sale for a while. Thank you to all who have cooked, baked and purchased foods.

PARISH COUNCIL:

The monthly Parish Council meeting will be tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

“ROBO-CALL:”

If you have not been receiving such calls and would like to, please submit your phone number to Parish Secretary Janene (email: jmhatch8@gmail.com). You may also indicate that you would prefer to receive such notifications as text messages.

EUROPEAN WINE TASTING:

International Orthodox Christian Charities will host a four-course dinner with wine pairings as a benefit to help charities around the world. The event will be Thursday, Feb. 28, at St. Michael’s Woodside; doors open at 6:30, and dinner is at 7:00. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased from Popadja Kathy Babich, Paula Svilar, or Diane Hastings.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Dave and Judy Howe.

Congratulations to Dave and Judy on their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

COFFEE HOUR:

Thank you to Table of Eight for our Coffee Hour refreshments today!

MANY THANKS:

Thank you to Paula Svilar and her crew for the Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner last weekend. We are grateful to all who worked so hard for the success of this event!

GAME NIGHT!

On the pre-Lenten “fast-free” Friday this month, February 22, we will have a Game Night in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a potluck food to share and your favorite game(s); and prepare to have fun! There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:

The Book Circle will meet Monday, March 4, at 12:30 p.m. We are reading pages 113-133 on Prayer in Wounded By Love, the life of Elder Porphyrios.

RETREATS:

The Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy and ZOE for Life invite all to a retreat with V. Rev. Dr. John Behr, Orthodox theologian and author; 9:30 a.m., Sat., Feb. 16, at St. George Antiochian Church. Tickets are free and available from Fr. Alexander. Free will offerings to ZOE for Life are appreciated.

Sts. Constantine & Helen Church is holding a Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 9, 10:00-3:00. The topic is “Encouraging Faith in One Another.” Details are in the Fellowship Hall.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Your 2108 statement of donations to Holy Trinity Church is available in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick up only your statement; do not take a statement for friend or relative to hand deliver.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Mat and Olga Lobas.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, FEBRUARY 3	\$ 2951.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	1240.00
BUILDING FUND	35.00
MORTGAGE FUND	35.00
CANDLES	118.00
COFFEE HOUR 1/27	70.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 15 – Volume LVI

February 10, 2019

THE SAINTS AMONG US - PROPHET ZECHARIAH

While direct facts about the Prophet Zechariah are minimal, we can establish dates for his life, as there are indications in the Book of Zechariah that it was composed between 520 to 518 B.C. His work is full of mystical prophecies, night visions, dialogues with God, and conversations with angels. It was the period after the destruction of the original Temple in Jerusalem and the exile of the Jews to Babylon. A time of alienation and anxiety, questioning if and when it would be possible to return to Israel, the situation was ripe for prophets to emerge and offer various prognostications. Most of the great Old Testament prophets lived either before, during or just after the Babylonian exile. A good deal of the Bible itself is from that period, as are some of the psalms, like the well-known Psalm 137, which begins, “By the waters of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion.” In two weeks our choir will be singing this psalm on the three Sundays before the beginning of Great Lent.

We recently wrote about the Prophet Habakkuk being one of the Twelve Minor Prophets. Zechariah is also a member of that group, as is his colleague the Prophet Haggai. Both of them were staunch proponents of rebuilding the Temple and returning to Jerusalem. Originally built by Solomon, the Temple was the focal point of Jewish worship. At least once a year, all Jews were expected to go to the Jerusalem Temple, as we note in several episodes in the life of Jesus Christ. With the destruction of the Temple and the exile to Babylon, the religious life of the Jews was turned upside down. Understandably, discussions and plans for rebuilding the Temple were of prime importance. Zechariah’s prophecies about the Temple indicate that he had an advanced knowledge about temple worship and pastoral considerations. In addition to highlighting the structure and maintenance of the Temple, he also had strong ethical views. “Thus says the Lord of hosts, Render true judgment, show kindness and mercy to each other, do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner of the poor; and let none of you devise evil against his brother in your heart” (Zechariah 7:10).

A feature of Zechariah’s prophecies is their apocalyptic character, describing future events with symbols and mystical language. It is therefore understandable that the Book of Zechariah was a source of images for the last book of the Bible, The Revelation of St. John the Theologian. The famous Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse appear first in Zechariah’s prophecy. Portions of the prophecies became significant in New Testament theology and were incorporated into the Orthodox Church’s liturgy, as selections from the Book of Zechariah are read on the Feasts of Ascension and Palm Sunday, and also on Good Friday.

In our church you can find him among the other prophets on the north side wall, in the bottom row. Traditionally he is depicted as a beardless young man, so as to distinguish him from another Saint Zachariah, the father of St. John the Baptist. On the scroll that he holds are words from his prophecy about the Lord’s Entrance into Jerusalem, which are read on the eve of Palm Sunday: “Lo, your King comes to you, humble and riding on an ass.” His Feast Day is February 8.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus