

HOLY MARTYR NESTOR OF THESSALONICA

The Holy Martyr Nestor suffered in the year 306 in the city of Thessalonica, together with the Great Martyr Demetrius of Thessalonica (October 26).

The emperor Maximian had a policy: “Put to death anyone who calls on the name of Christ.” He imprisoned St. Demetrius when he found that this proconsul of his was a secret Christian and was openly teaching the Christian Faith to the inhabitants of the city of Thessalonica.

Maximian amused himself by staging games in the circus. His champion was a German by the name of Lyaeos. He challenged Christians to wrestle Lyaeos on a platform built over the upturned spears of the victorious soldiers.

Nestor went to the prison to his advisor St. Demetrius and requested a blessing to fight the barbarian. With the blessing and prayers of St. Demetrius, Nestor prevailed over the fierce German and hurled him from the platform onto the spears of the soldiers, just as the murderous pagan would have done with the Christian. The commander was enraged; he ordered the execution of the holy Martyr Nestor and sent a guard to the prison to kill St. Demetrius.

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HOLY MARTYR NESTOR OF THESSALONICA

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

6822 BROADVIEW ROAD

PARMA, OHIO 44134

THE TRINITARIAN

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HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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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 LVI

TONE 2

OCTOBER 27, 2019

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica
Martyrs Capitolina and Erotheis of Cappadocia;
Martyr Mark and those with him, on the Isle of Thasos;
Ven. Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves; St. Dumitru the New, Protector of Bucharest;
Uncovering of the Relics of St. Andrew, Prince of Smolensk

“Armed with the power of the holy cross you received from the great Demetrius, you went forth against the giant, O glorious Nestor. His strength availed him nothing, and you cut him down with your sword. For this, they had you killed, O holy martyr, so that you went straight to Christ Himself, the Master of all great deeds. Pray for us, that He will give us peace and great mercy.”

Troparion, Tone III

TODAY'S EPISTLE: II CORINTHIANS 11:31-12:9

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 8:26-39

“Great is the benefit of book learning, for books point out and teach us the way to repentance, since from the words of books we discover wisdom and temperance. This is the stream, watering the universe, from which springs wisdom. In books is a boundless depth, by them we are comforted in sorrows, and they are a bridle for moderation. If you enter diligently into the books of wisdom, then you shall discover great benefit for your soul. Therefore, the one who reads books converses with God or the saints.”

Ven. Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, November 2 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, October 28	Philippians 2:12-16	Luke 11:29-33
Tuesday, October 29	Philippians 2:16-23	Luke 11:34-41
Wednesday, October 30	Philippians 2:24-30	Luke 11:42-46
Thursday, October 31 (St. John Kochurov)	Philippians 3:1-8 Hebrews 13:7-16	Luke 11:47-12:1 Luke 12:32-40
Friday, November 1	Philippians 3:8-19	Luke 12:2-12
Saturday, November 2	II Corinthians 1:8-11	Luke 9:1-6

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER:

- 27, TODAY 10:45 a.m. HTOC Parish Meeting
- 28, Monday Cooking for St. Herman's House
- 30, Wednesday Serving dinner at St. Herman's House
- 31, Thursday Last day to buy tickets for Meatloaf Luncheon

NOVEMBER:

- 3, Sunday Meatloaf Luncheon
- 10, Sunday Food Sale
- 11, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle
7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting
- 18, Thursday 6:00 p.m. FOCUS Cleveland program to benefit St. Herman's House

PLEASE ATTEND THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING,
TODAY, OCTOBER 27,
FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY.

SPECIAL COLLECTION:
We are again taking up a Special Collection to assist our parishioner Aaron Rutz during his last year at St. Vladimir's Seminary. The monies collected will be matched by the Seminary. Use special collection envelopes in basket at rear of church; mark them "Seminarian." Write checks to "Holy Trinity Orthodox Church." Your annual statement will show donation.

OPEN PROSKOMEDIA:
Father Alexander will be doing an Open Proskomedia next Sunday, Nov. 3, at 8:30 a.m. Conveniently, this date coincides with turning clocks back one hour.

MEATLOAF LUNCHEON:
HTOC will host a Meatloaf Luncheon/Basket Auction at noon on Sunday, November 3, to raise funds for our meal outreach at St. Herman's House. For tickets, see Judy Howe; her phone number is 216-741-1448. The price is \$12, free for children 12 and under. **The deadline to purchase tickets is October 31.**

FLOWERS:
The flowers today are offered by Jewelann Stefanar.

LIVING IN POVERTY:
FOCUS Cleveland will hold a panel discussion to benefit St. Herman's House on Nov. 18, at Breen Center, within St. Ignatius High School. The topic is "Beyond the Numbers: A Closer Look at Living in Poverty." Doors open at 6:00 for appetizers; panel is at 7:00. Tickets are \$30; see Jewelann Stefanar.

ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:
The Book Circle will meet on Monday, Nov. 11, at 12:30. We are reading pages 1-36 of A Short Study, "On the Holy Spirit." All are welcome.

COFFEE HOUR:
Thank you to Matushka Carol Garklavs for preparing the refreshments for us today. We are in need of volunteers on Nov. 10 and 24.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:
The covers today are offered by Helen Stoyka and Marge Sabol in memory of John and Mary Stoyka.

NOVEMBER FOOD SALE:
Our next monthly food sale will be Sunday, Nov. 10. Please cook or bake a favorite food to donate.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

	OCT. 13	OCT. 20
REGULAR COLLECTION	\$ 2929.00	\$ 3504.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	47.00	252.00
BUILDING FUND	175.00	660.00
MORTGAGE FUND	60.00	10.00
CANDLES	130.00	124.00
LOCAL CHARITIES		30.00
IN MEMORY OF MARIE QUICK	928.00	
SUNDAY FOOD SALE 10/13		417.00
10/6 COFFEE HOUR	65.00	
10/13 COFFEE HOUR		82.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 52 – Volume LVI

October 27, 2019

CHURCH MEETINGS

*“The apostles and the elders were gathered together
to consider this matter.” (Acts 15:6)*

This Sunday, October 27, our Parish will gather in the Fellowship Hall after the Divine Liturgy for its Annual Parish Meeting. It is an important event in the life of a parish but in some peoples' minds has become either something unpleasant or unimportant. It is a fact that in the past parish meetings were sometimes occasions of bitter disputes and heated arguments, causing much ill-will and negativity between parishioners. As such, meetings were lengthy and disagreeable; an opposing reaction came about which resulted in parish meetings becoming short and meaningless. It became common for some clergy to compete with each other to have the shortest annual meeting. I remember hearing about one that was “over in twenty minutes”! Both kinds, the rambunctious and heated meetings and the ones which are short and without substance, are distortions of the purpose and meaning of the Annual Parish Meetings. In fact, parish meetings are one among several kinds of Church meetings, which are an aspect of Church life that has a long and complex history.

The need for Christians to meet, that is to gather outside of worship, became necessary at the very beginning of the Church. It is, in fact, documented in the New Testament, in the 15th Chapter of the Book of Acts. The issue at hand then was to decide how to bring in Gentiles into the experience of Christianity. The first followers of Christ, the Apostles and Disciples who we could call the “first” Christians, were all Jews. But already at Pentecost, the Good News about Jesus Christ was being shared with all nationalities. Some of the Apostles felt that becoming a Christian necessitated going through the process of converting to Judaism. Others, and St. Paul in particular, made the case that believing in Jesus Christ transcends being a Jew and does not require fulfillment of Jewish religious rituals. This latter approach prevailed, and so that Jerusalem Council decided that, “it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us” to establish the means by which all nations and nationalities could become Christians.

The decision made at that “first” council made possible the spread of Christianity. But it also provided the Church with the example of gathering together to deliberate, dispute and prayerfully resolve issues. In the early Church every community (that is, every parish) would gather together to discuss and decide on important matters, including on the selection of who was to be their leader. Regional Councils were also called, and after Christianity became the established religion of the Empire, Ecumenical Councils were convened by the Emperors to settle complex theological questions. After the Fall of Constantinople, regional church councils took place within the autocephalous Churches. Unfortunately, over the centuries, the participation of laity in church councils became diminished; and eventually even gatherings of parishioners, parish meetings as we know them, ceased. It wasn't until the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century that Orthodox Churches, through a process of struggles and sacrifices, returned to the practice of including laity in meetings. Today, all meetings of the full Church, such as our Annual Parish Meeting, include laity. Meetings are essential, sacred dimensions of the Church that we need to treasure and honor by our sincere participation in them.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus

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

NOVEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions (Turn clocks back one hour at 1:00 a.m.)
3 20th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 a.m. Proskomedia Noon: Meatloaf Luncheon for St. Herman's House	4	5	6	7	8	9 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
10 21st Sunday after Pentecost Food Sale	11 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting	12	13	14	15 Beginning of the Nativity Fast	16 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
17 22d Sunday after Pentecost St. Gregory the Wonderworker	18 6:00 p.m. FOCUS program at Breen Center "Living in Poverty"	19	20 6:00 p.m. Vigil of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple	21 Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy	22	23 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
24 23d Sunday after Pentecost Afterfeast of the Entrance	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers