

VENERABLE MACARIUS THE GREAT OF EGYPT

St. Macarius spent sixty years in the wilderness, being dead to the world. He spent most of his time in conversation with God, often in a state of spiritual rapture. But he never ceased to weep, to repent and to work. The saint's profound theological writings are based on his own personal experience. Fifty Spiritual Homilies and seven Ascetic Treatises survive as the precious legacy of his spiritual wisdom. Several prayers composed by St. Macarius are still used by the Church in the Prayers Before Sleep and also in the Morning Prayers.

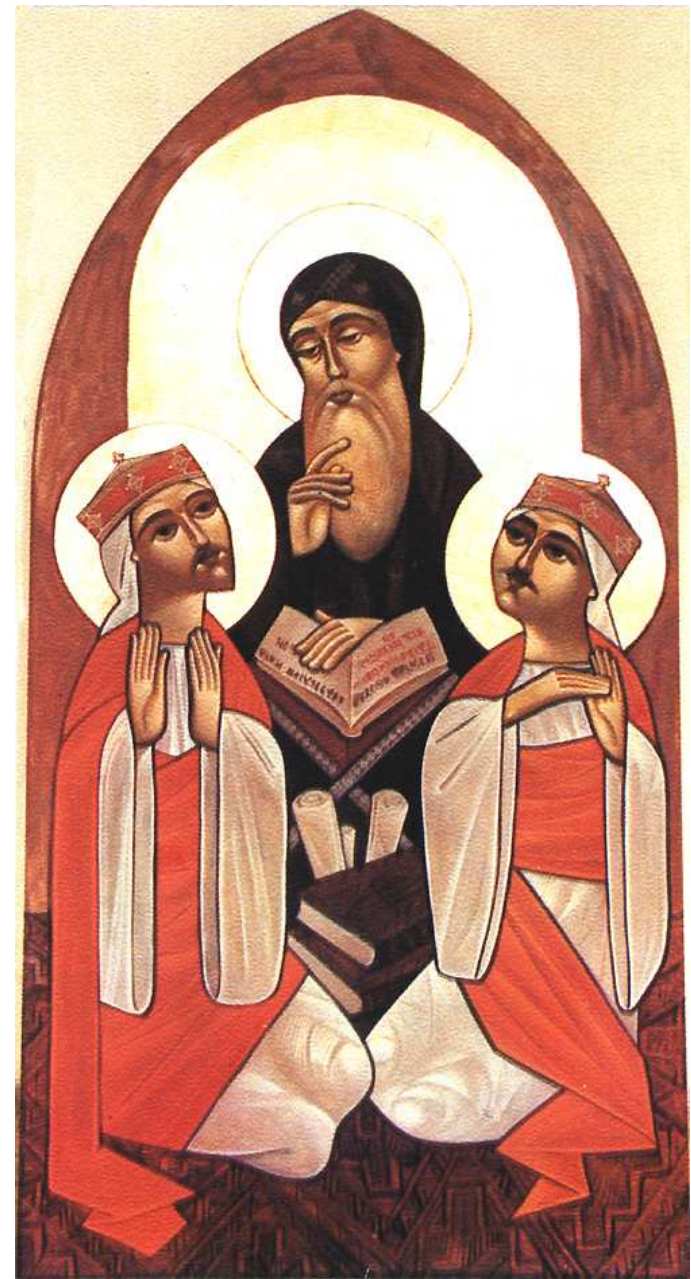
Man's highest goal and purpose, the union of the soul with God, is a primary principle in the works of St. Macarius. Describing the methods for attaining mystical communion, the saint relies upon the experience of the great teachers of Egyptian monasticism and on his own experience. The way to God and the experience of the holy ascetics of union with God is revealed to each believer's heart.

Earthly life, according to St. Macarius, has only a relative significance: to prepare the soul, to make it capable of perceiving the heavenly Kingdom, and to establish in the soul an affinity with the heavenly homeland.

“For those truly believing in Christ, it is necessary to change and transform the soul from its present degraded nature into another, divine nature, and to be fashioned anew by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

The monk lived until the age of ninety. Shortly before his death, Saints Anthony and Pachomius appeared to him, bringing the joyful message of his departure to eternal life in nine days. After instructing his disciples to preserve the monastic Rule and the traditions of the Fathers, he blessed them and began to prepare for death. St. Macarius departed to the Lord saying, “Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.”

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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 12 - VOLUME LVII

TONE 6

JANUARY 19, 2020

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ven. Macarius the Great of Egypt;
Virgin-Martyr Euphrasia of Nicomedia; Ven. Macarius of Alexandria;
St. Makáry the Stylite, of Martkopsk; St. Arsenius, Archbishop of Kerkyra;
Ven. Makáry the Faster, of the Kiev Caves; Righteous Theodore of Novgorod, Fool-for-Christ;
Ven. Makáry the Deacon, of the Kiev Caves; St. Mark, Archbishop of Ephesus;
Ven. Macarius the Roman of Novgorod; Opening of the Relics of Ven. Savva of Storozhévska and Zvenígorod

“Like an angel in the flesh, you lived in the desert, O God-bearing father, Macarius, and there you performed great wonders. Through fasting, watchfulness, and prayer, you obtained heavenly gifts, and with these you heal the souls of the needy who approach you in faith. Glory to Him who gave you this power. Glory to Him who crowned you. Glory to Him who heals us all through you.”

Troparion, Tone I

“O Arsenius, holy hierarch, your flock has recognized you by the brilliance of your works. You are a model of kindness and rule of faith, a teacher of self-control. Your lowliness has raised you to the heights of fame, and your poverty has filled your hands with riches. Beg Christ, our God, to save our souls.”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: I TIMOTHY 1:15-17

TODAY’S GOSPEL: LUKE 18:35-43

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Today, January 19	11:40 a.m. Memorial Prayers for Tom Bohurjak
	6:00 p.m. Supplication Service for the Unborn at St. Matthew Church
Saturday, January 25	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, January 20	Hebrews 13:17-21	Luke 6:17-23
Tuesday, January 21	James 2:14-26	Mark 9:42-10:1
	James 3:1-10	Mark 10:2-12
Wednesday, January 22	James 3:11-4:6	Mark 10:11-16
Thursday, January 23	James 4:7-5:9	Mark 10:17-27
Friday, January 24	I Peter 1:1-2,10-12, 2:6-10	Mark 10:23-32
Saturday, January 25	I Thessalonians 5:14-23	Luke 16:10-15
(St. Gregory the Theologian)	I Corinthians 12:7-11	John 10:9-16

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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COMING EVENTS

JANUARY:

- 19, TODAY 6:00 p.m. Supplication Service for the Unborn at St. Matthew Church
- 23-24 ZOE-sponsored trip to Washington DC to "March for Life"
- 30, Thursday 6:30 p.m. IOCC Dinner at Woodside

FEBRUARY:

- 2, Sunday HTOC Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner
- 8, Saturday Pre-Lenten Retreat at St. Demetrios Church; Rocky River

PRAY FOR THE UNBORN:

Please join Zoe for Life in prayer at a Supplication Service this evening, 6:00 p.m., at St. Matthew Church, 10383 Albion Rd., in North Royalton. Unfortunately, the scheduled guest speaker, Bishop Anthony Michaels of the Antiochian Archdiocese, will not be able to attend due to the death of one of his priests. Fr. Andrew Harmon will be offering the homily.

IOCC DINNER:

The International Orthodox Christian Charities will hold a Wine Tasting / Dinner on Thursday, January 30; 6:30 p.m., at St. Michael's Woodside. Enjoy a four-course dinner with wine pairings and live music, and learn how your gifts help families in need around the world. Tickets are available from Diane Hastings or Paula Svilar. If you cannot attend but would like to donate to IOCC, mail checks to Julie Hall; P.O. Box 560185; Macedonia, Ohio 44056.

PRE-LENTEN RETREAT:

"The Beauty of Repentance and The Mystery of Confession" is the topic of a retreat on Saturday, February 8, at St. Demetrios Church; 22909 Center Ridge Rd, Rocky River. The guest speaker is Fr. Joseph, Abbot of St. Gregory Palamas Monastery. The day will begin with a Divine and Liturgy, and lunch is included. See details in the Fellowship Hall.

MARCH FOR LIFE:

ZOE for Life is traveling to Washington DC to join the March for Life. A van will depart from Zoe House, 5454 State Rd.; Parma; on Thursday, Jan. 23, 10:00 a.m., and return about 11:00 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24. To reserve a seat or for more information, call Kathy Kovalak at 440-842-6639.

PORK AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER:

Save the date of Sunday, February 2, for the HTOC Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner. Dinner begins at 11:30 and includes dessert and a glass of wine or beer. Adult tickets are \$15; children ages 11-15 are \$7.50; and there is no charge for children 10 and under. Please see Judy Howe for tickets, and purchase them by January 29.

LA COUPOLE:

Stop by La Coupole and enjoy 50% savings on Christmas cards and ornaments; and 25% off all matryoshka dolls.

COFFEE HOUR:

Thank you to the Bohurjak and Stoyka Families for hosting the Coffee Hour today.

MEMORIAL PRAYERS:

There will be a 40-Day Memorial Service for Harvey Schwartz next Sunday, January 26, at 11:40 a.m.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, JANUARY 12	\$ 1891.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	735.00
BUILDING FUND	216.00
CANDLES	154.00
IN MEMORY OF HARVEY SCHWARTZ	400.00
KITCHEN STOVE FUND	40.00
COFFEE HOUR 1/5/20	57.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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METROPOLITAN TIKHON'S ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE
ON THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

From ancient times, all who have believed in the One God have believed that He takes special care in the formation of each human being. “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and I consecrated you” (Jeremiah 1:5). In the moment of conception in the womb, a human being comes into existence. Yet even before being conceived, this human being is known by God, who exists outside of time, and already knows and loves each one of us personally, knowing what we will do and who we will become. God wants us to be alive, and this is why we speak against abortion and its legalization: it is in opposition to God’s loving plan to bring a human being into the world to live. Because of this, we must give every human being the opportunity to live their life and work toward sanctification, just as we have been given that opportunity.

What does this work of sanctification look like? Keeping in mind that David instructs us to “turn away from evil, and do good” (Psalm 33:15), we must begin to sanctify ourselves and the world by preaching the truth about evil, just as Jeremiah did. Above all, we reject Cain’s first sin of murder, in all of its loathsome forms: murder against the unborn, murder through violence, murder by starvation or deprivation, and murder of the ill and elderly. We also reject greed, lust, and selfishness, and we reject harming others, being dismissive of others, and hating others. We then “do good” by being imitators of God in caring for one another, by speaking the truth in love, and by emptying ourselves for the sake of others. Remembering that “this is the will of my Father, that every one who sees the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life” (John 6:40), we couple our efforts of care for humanity with a call to the world to believe in the Son of God, Jesus, because His Father “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (I Timothy 2:4).

Yet we know that despite our efforts to do good, each of us falls at times and does evil. But with incredible compassion, our God still loves and respects us. He still loves each and every human being, despite our faults and mistakes. Thus, if we recognize that our purpose in this life is to become images of God, we must also forgive, help, pray for, and love all those who have committed wrong. Thus, this year, as we mark the sorrowful 47th anniversary of the legalization of abortion, we remember to hate the sin of abortion and to make every effort we can to stop it from happening, while loving the misguided and confused ones who have been involved in abortions, knowing that God is willing to forgive all transgressions. In this way, we fulfill the purpose that God has given us in this life to become His images and presence in the world, while helping others – unborn and born alike – to have that same opportunity to come to “the knowledge of the truth” and fulfill their own lives’ God-intended purposes. For this “truth,” as we all should be reminded again and again, is that:

God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. *For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.* John 3:16-17.

With love in Christ, +TIKHON
Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America & Canada
January 19, 2020