

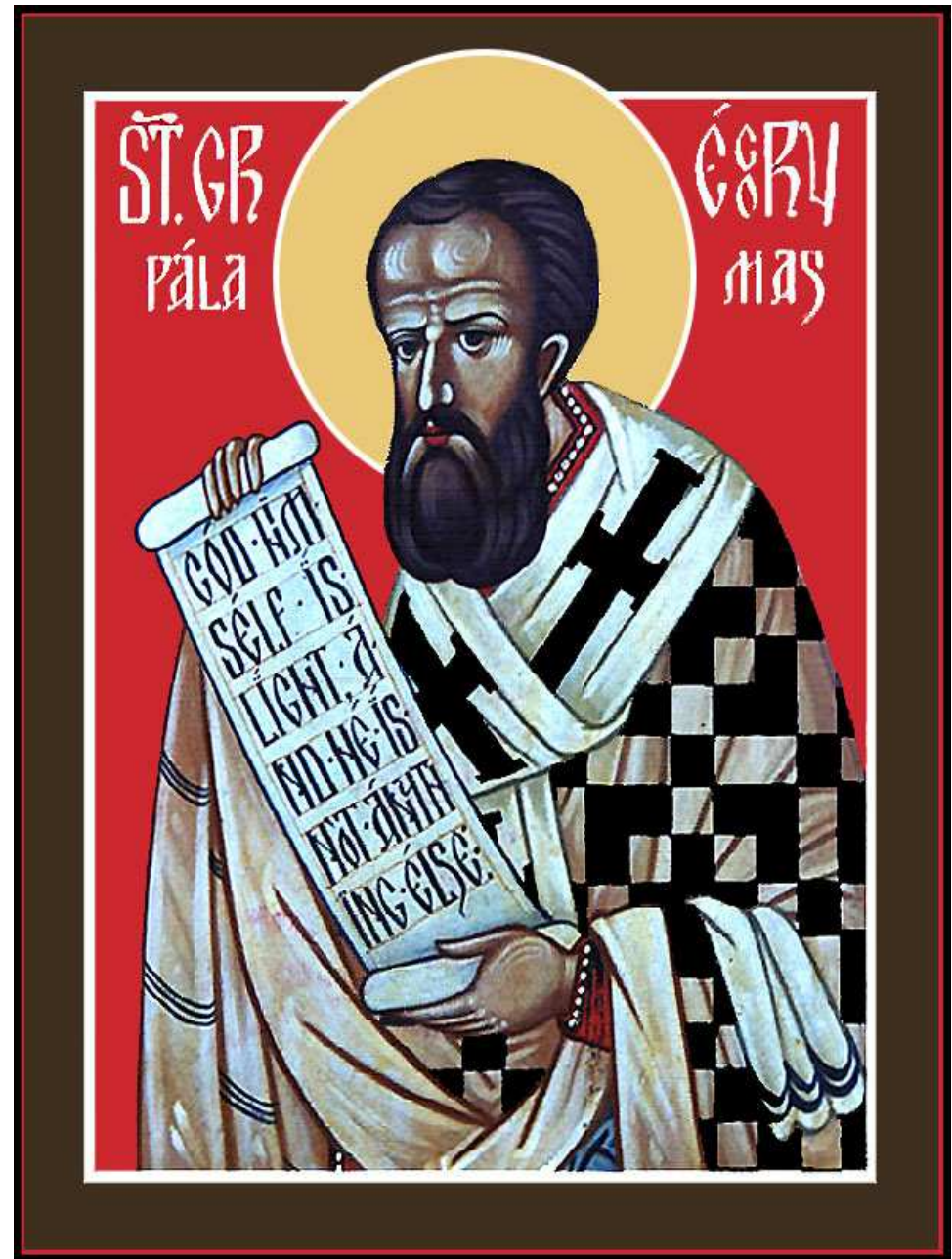
## ***ST. GREGORY PALAMAS***

In the 1330s, events took place in the life of the Eastern Church which brought St. Gregory great renown as a teacher of hesychasm (the experienced use of mental prayer, or prayer of the heart, requiring solitude and quiet).

The learned monk Barlaam arrived in Constantinople from Calabria, in Italy. He was an author of treatises on logic and astronomy, a sharp-witted orator, and he received a university chair. He journeyed to Mt. Athos and became acquainted with the spiritual life of the hesychasts. Saying it was impossible to know the essence of God, he declared mental prayer a heretical error. He disputed with the monks and attempted to demonstrate the created, material nature of the light of Tabor (i.e. at the Transfiguration). He ridiculed the teaching of the monks about methods of prayer and the uncreated light seen by the hesychasts.

St. Gregory, at the request of the monks of St. Athos, replied with verbal admonitions at first. But seeing the futility of such efforts, he put his theological arguments in writing— “Triads in Defense of the Holy Hesychasts” (1338). Towards the year 1340, the Athonite ascetics, with the assistance of the saint, compiled a general response to the attacks of Barlaam, the so-called “Hagiorite Tome.” At the Constantinople Council of 1341, in the church of Hagia Sophia, St. Gregory debated with Barlaam, focusing upon the nature of the light of Mt. Tabor. The Council accepted St. Gregory’s position, that God, unapproachable in His Essence, reveals Himself through His energies, which are directed towards the world and are able to be perceived, like the light of Tabor, but which are neither material nor created. The teachings of Barlaam were condemned as heresy, and he was anathemized and fled to Calabria.

[www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)



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

# THE TRINITARIAN

*Published Weekly by the*

**HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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 20 - VOLUME LVII

TONE 6

MARCH 15, 2020

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

### **St. Gregory Palamas**

*Martyrs Agapius, Publius, Timolaus, Romulus, two named Dionysius,  
and two named Alexander, at Caesarea in Palestine;  
Hieromartyr Alexander of Side, in Pamphylia;  
Martyr Nicander of Egypt*

“Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, together we sing your praises, O God-inspired Gregory. Since you now stand before the Original Mind, guide our minds to Him, O Father, so that we may sing to you: Rejoice, preacher of grace.”

Kontakion, Tone VIII

“Your soul aflame with love for Christ, you gathered a company of illustrious athletes, O glorious Agapius. With them you excelled in righteous contest, and together you were beheaded by the sword. Henceforth always pray for the forgiveness of our sins!”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: HEBREWS 1:10-2:3  
HEBREWS 7:26-8:2

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MARK 2:1-12  
JOHN 10:9-16

### **HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:**

Wednesday, March 18	6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy
Friday, March 20	6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday, March 21	10:00 a.m. EOWG Memorial Service at St. Sava Cathedral
	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

### **Daily Scripture Readings**

Monday, March 16	Isaiah 8:13-9:7	Genesis 6:9-22	Proverbs 8:1-21
Tuesday, March 17	Isaiah 9:9-10:4	Genesis 7:1-5	Proverbs 8:32-9:11
Wednesday, March 18	Isaiah 10:12-20	Genesis 7:6-9	Proverbs 9:12-18
Thursday, March 19	Isaiah 11:10-12:2	Genesis 7:11-8:3	Proverbs 10:1-22
Friday, March 20	Isaiah 13:2-13	Genesis 8:4-21	Proverbs 10:31-11:12
Saturday, March 21 (Departed)	Hebrews 10:32-38 I Thessalonians 4:13-17	Mark 2:14-17 John 5:24-30	

**COMING EVENTS**

**MARCH:**

- 15, TODAY                    11:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting
- 18, Wednesday            Soup Supper following Presanctified Liturgy
- 21, Saturday                10:00 a.m. EOWG Memorial Service at St. Sava Serbian Cathedral
- 22, Sunday                  5:00 p.m. Deanery Mission Service at St. Nicholas Church; Mogadore
- 25, Wednesday            Soup Supper following the Annunciation Divine Liturgy
- 28, Saturday                10:00 a.m. HTOC Spring Cleaning

**LENTEN CONFESSIONS:**

Fr. Alexander will be available for private Confessions this week: Wednesday, 3/18, 4:00-6:00 p.m.; Friday 3/20, 4:00-6:00 p.m.; Saturday 3/21, 4:00-5:00 p.m., and after Vespers.

**SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY:**

Company's coming! Holy Trinity is the site for the Deanery celebration of 50 years of Autocephaly for the OCA on June 12-13. We're preparing with our annual Spring Clean-up on Saturday, March 28; 10:00-3:00. Plan to come for the whole day or an hour or two—whatever time you can give is needed. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

**EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD:**

The EOWG will have a Memorial Service for deceased members on Saturday, March 21, 10:00 a.m.; at St. Sava Cathedral, 6306 Broadview Rd. Following the service, there will be a Lenten Luncheon with a presentation by Josephine Vuich, "Bible Prophecy of the Holy Passion of Christ."

**LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS:**

All are invited to the Soup Suppers following the Presanctified Liturgy each Wednesday during Lent.

**BOOK CIRCLE:**

The St. Elizabeth Book Circle will meet Monday, April 6, at 12:30 p.m. We will discuss pages 105-114 (#33-#66); pages 127-136 in Treasures, New and Old (St. Nikolai Velimirovich). All are welcome.

**DEANERY MISSION SERVICE:**

The Lenten Deanery Mission Service will be next Sunday, March 22, at St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore at 5:00 p.m.

**ZOE HOUSE:**

The Church School will be collecting items for ZOE House as their Lenten project, today through Palm Sunday. A table is in the Fellowship Hall. Please donate: baby wipes, shampoo and wash; diapers sizes 3 & 4; newborn clothing. Large new items such as car seats, pack & plays, strollers, cribs, and baby swings are needed. See Stephanie McNeely with any questions.

**LA COUPOLE:**

Jerry Petrykowski has donated a selection of his late wife Daria's jewelry collection to be sold at La Coupole, a ministry she founded. All amber jewelry will be 20% off during March — so come in and browse.

**LENTEN RETREAT:**

St. Matthew Church, 10383 Albion Rd. in North Royalton, invites all to a retreat, "The Mystery of the Liturgy," on Saturday, March 28; 10:00-3:00. Lunch will be served. All is offered free of charge.

**FLOWERS:**

The flowers today are offered by Jewelann Stefanar in memory of Andrew and Suzanne Stefanar.

**COFFEE HOUR:**

Our refreshments today are offered by Table of Eight.

**THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE**

REGULAR COLLECTION, MARCH 8	\$ 2414.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	640.00
BUILDING FUND	410.00
CANDLES	106.00
KITCHEN STOVE FUND	980.00
COFFEE HOUR 3/1	108.00

**THE GRACE OF DIVINE ILLUMINATION**

*We have been featuring selected passages from the great St. Gregory the Theologian, but today, in honor of his commemoration, we have here the thoughts of another great Gregory, St. Gregory Palamas, who lived almost a thousand years later! Note that the more recent Saint refers to his predecessor with special acknowledgment.*

Before his transgression Adam participated in divine illumination and radiance, and as he was truly clothed in a garment of glory, he was not naked, nor was he indecent because he was naked. But it is not too much to say that he was far more richly adorned than those who now wear crowns ornamented with much gold and shining stones. The great St. Paul calls this divine illumination and grace, and describing our heavenly dwelling place he says, “Here we groan and long to put on our heavenly dwelling, so that by putting it on we may not be found naked” (II Corinthians 5:2-3). On his way from Jerusalem to Damascus, Paul too received from God the pledge of this divine illumination and of our investiture. St. Gregory the Theologian, who was so greatly endowed with divine inspiration, spoke of Paul’s conversion by indicating that the Apostle himself was “groaning and longing” for the divine kingdom “before he was cleansed of his persecuting.” When the Lord finally revealed Himself, Paul “conversed with the one he was persecuting,” and was overcome “with a brief flash of the great Light.”

Now that the Kingdom of God has drawn near to us through the condescension of God the Word, let us not remove ourselves far from it by living an unrepentant life. Rather, let us flee the wretchedness of “those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death” (Luke 1:79). Let us acquire the works of repentance: a humble attitude, compunction and spiritual mourning, a gentle heart full of mercy, loving justice, striving for purity, peaceful, peacemaking, patient, glad to suffer persecutions, losses, disasters, slander and sufferings for the sake of truth and righteousness. For the kingdom of heaven, or rather, the King of heaven – O the unspeakable munificence! – is within us. To Him we ought always to cling by works of repentance and perseverance, loving as much as possible Him who loved us so much.

The absence of passions and the presence of virtues establish love for God and for hatred of evil things. The consequent absence of the passions introduces us to the desire for and the acquisition of good things. How could one who loves and possesses good things not love in a special way the Master Who is goodness itself and Who alone is both provider and preserver of all good? In Him we have our being in a singular manner and He bears us up within Himself through love, according to the One who said, “He who abides in my love abides in God and God in him” (I John 4:16). You should know not only that love for God is based on virtue, but also that the virtues are born of love. And so the Lord says at one point in the Gospel: “He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me” (John 14:21). On another occasion, “He who loves me will keep my commandments” (John 14:15). But the works of virtue are not praiseworthy and profitable for those who practice them without love, nor indeed is love without works. St. Paul at one time makes ample demonstration of this when he writes to the Corinthians, “If I do such and such but have not love, I gain nothing” (I Corinthians 13:1-3). And in turn, at another time, the disciple specially beloved by Christ does likewise when he says, “Let us not love in word or speech, but in deed and truth” (I John 3:18).

*From the writings of St. Gregory Palamas*