

TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF THE PROTOMARTYR STEPHEN

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople took place about the year 428.

After Protomartyr Stephen was stoned by the Jews, they left his holy body unburied to be devoured by the beasts and birds. After a day and a night, the renowned Jewish teacher of the Law, Gamaliel, sent people to take up the body of the Protomartyr. Gamaliel buried him on his own property, in his own tomb, not far from Jerusalem.

When the Lord's secret disciple Nikodemus died, Gamaliel also buried him near the grave of St. Stephen. Afterwards, Gamaliel himself, who had been baptized with his son Abibas, was buried near the grave of the two saints.

In the year 415 the relics of the saint were uncovered in a miraculous manner and solemnly transferred to Jerusalem by Bishop John and the bishops Eutonius of Sebaste and Eleutherius of Jericho. From that time, healings took place from the relics.

Afterwards, during the reign of holy Emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), the relics of the holy Protomartyr Stephen were transferred from Jerusalem to Constantinople and placed in the church of the holy deacon Laurence (August 10). When a church dedicated to the Protomartyr Stephen was built, the relics were transferred there on August 2. St. Stephen's right hand is preserved in the Serapionov chamber of the Trinity-Sergius Lavra.

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***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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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 40 - VOLUME LVII

TONE 7

AUGUST 2, 2020

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

***Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople
And the finding of the relics of the Righteous Nicodemus, Gamaliel, and Abibas;
Hieromartyr Stephen, Pope of Rome, and those with him;
Bl. Vasily of Kubénsk; Bl. Vasily of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ***

“Your relics have risen from the depths of the earth, like a treasury for the immortal life of all of creation. The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them, duteously honors you, Protomartyr Stephen. Preserve us from error and heresy by your intercession!”

Troparion, Tone IV

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Thursday, August 6

“On the mountain You were transfigured, O Christ God, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold You crucified, they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that You are truly the Radiance of the Father!”

Kontakion, Tone VII

TODAY’S EPISTLE: I CORINTHIANS 1:10-18

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:14-22

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Today, August 2	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Wednesday, August 5	6:00 p.m. Great Vespers
Thursday, August 6	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - Holy Transfiguration
Saturday, August 8	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, August 3	I Corinthians 11:31-12:6	Matthew 18:1-11
Tuesday, August 4	I Corinthians 12:12-26	Matthew 18:18-22; 19:1-2,13-15
Wednesday, August 5	I Corinthians 13:4-14:5	Matthew 20:1-16
	I Corinthians 14:6-19	Matthew 20:17-28
Thursday, August 6	II Peter 1:10-19	Matthew 17:1-9
Friday, August 7	I Corinthians 14:26-40	Matthew 21:12-14,17-20
Saturday, August 8	Romans 14:6-9	Matthew 15:32-39

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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August 2, 2020

MEMORY ETERNAL:

Nicholas Lesnick fell asleep in the Lord on July 23 and was buried July 28, 2020.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all parishioners for their continuing support during this pandemic. Even though attendance in church has diminished for health-concern reasons, the mailed-in donations have made it possible to pay the necessary bills and keep the parish functioning. In addition, your donations make it possible to do the needed repairs and projects which summer weather permits.

KITCHEN UPDATE:

Progress continues on renovations in the kitchen, which we hope to finish by the end of the summer. Your contributions are greatly appreciated! Please note "kitchen" when designating funds for this purpose in your weekly donation envelope.

LA COUPOLE:

Although we are not able to have Sunday Coffee Hour or other social activities, access to our La Coupole store is possible for those who may want to purchase a good book or religious item. There is also a large selection of gift items. Contact Rita Bellack.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The Trinitarian covers today are offered in memory of Stephen Pinchot.

We appreciate those who are donating toward Trinitarian expenses by offering covers. There are many dates still open for donors; call the church office on Monday or Thursday mornings at 216-524-4859.

CHURCH SCHOOL:

Please remember the ongoing Church School program presented on the OCA website. High School meets Tuesdays at 3:30; Grades 3-5 meet Wednesdays at 3:30; and Grades 6-8 meet Thursdays at 3:30.

SPECIAL APPEAL

For many years the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) has been a vital presence on college campuses throughout the country, providing young Orthodox students with support, fellowship and friendship.

We are proud that some of the young people who great up at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church are now directly involved with the OCF. Andrew Gluntz, who was one of our great young subdeacons, is a standing member of the Student Leadership Board of OCF. His sister, Alexandra, is a Great Lakes rep to the Board.

For many of us, college is something of long-ago memories, but we certainly recall how important those experiences were. We also know that those years are so critical in spiritual development. We may not realize how difficult today's life's challenges are to young Orthodox college students. This is where the OCF can make a real difference. In addition to prayers, we can offer positive support in the form of financial contributions. The OCF is currently seeking donations, which will be matched up to \$25,000 by a generous benefactor. The deadline of it is August 4. Go to the OCF website to make your donation: www.ocf.net

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

	7/19	7/26
REGULAR COLLECTION	\$3,214.00	\$ 1630.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	5.00	
BUILDING FUND	475.00	370.00
CANDLES		69.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND	175.00	160.00
IN MEMORY OF MATHEW LOBAS	116.00	

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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GOD IS LIGHT

The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord is one of the Church's "Feasts of Light," as are Theophany, Pascha and Pentecost. In this excerpt from one of his profound sermons, St. Gregory rhapsodizes about Light as a key quality and attribute of God. It is that Light which shines in and through Jesus Christ on Mt. Tabor, inspiring and illuminating the Apostles Peter, James and John .

Light was the firstborn commandment given to the firstborn man, for the commandment of the Law is a lamp and a light; "Because Your judgments are a light upon the earth." Light shone in proportion to those who were its subjects as the Law, prefiguring the truth and the sacrament of the great Light, for Moses' face was made glorious by it. And to mention more Lights, it was Light that appeared out of Fire to Moses, when it burned the bush indeed, but did not consume it; to show its nature and to declare the power that was in it. And it was Light that was in the pillar of fire that led Israel and tamed the wilderness. It was Light that carried up Elias in the chariot of fire, and yet did not burn him as it carried him. It was Light that shone around the Shepherds when the Eternal Light was mingled with the temporal. It was Light that was the beauty of the Star that went before to Bethlehem to guide the Wise Men's journey, to escort them to the true Light that is above us, when He came to be with us.

Light was the Godhead which was shewn upon Mount Tabor to the disciples, even though too strong for their eyes! Light was the vision blazed out upon Paul, and by wounding his eyes, it healed the darkness of his soul. Light is also the brilliancy of heaven to those who have been purified here, when the righteous shall shine forth as the Sun, and God shall stand in the midst of them, gods and kings, deciding and distinguishing the ranks of the Blessedness of heaven. Light beside these in a special sense is the illumination of Baptism, which is the great and marvelous sacrament of our salvation.

Truly, God is light, the highest, unapproachable, ineffable, neither conceived in the mind nor uttered with the lips. This Light gives life to every reasoning creature. He is in the world of thought, what the sun is in the world of sense; presenting Himself to our minds in proportion as we are cleansed; and loved in proportion as He is presented to our mind; and again, conceived in proportion as we love Him; Himself contemplating and comprehending Himself, and pouring Himself out upon what is external to Him. That Light is contemplated in the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, whose riches is their unity of nature and the oneness of their unified brightness. Angels shine as a second Light, with a kind of outflow of communication of that first Light, drawing illumination from their inclination and obedience to it. A third Light is humanity; a light which is visible to external objects. For they call man light because of the faculty of speech in us. And the name is applied again to those of us who are more like God, and who approach God more nearly than others. This is what took place when Our Lord transfigured Himself on the mount, shining with a Light that completely prevailed over the apostles, overcoming them with divine splendor that was both magnificent and overwhelming.

From the writings of St. Gregory the Theologian