

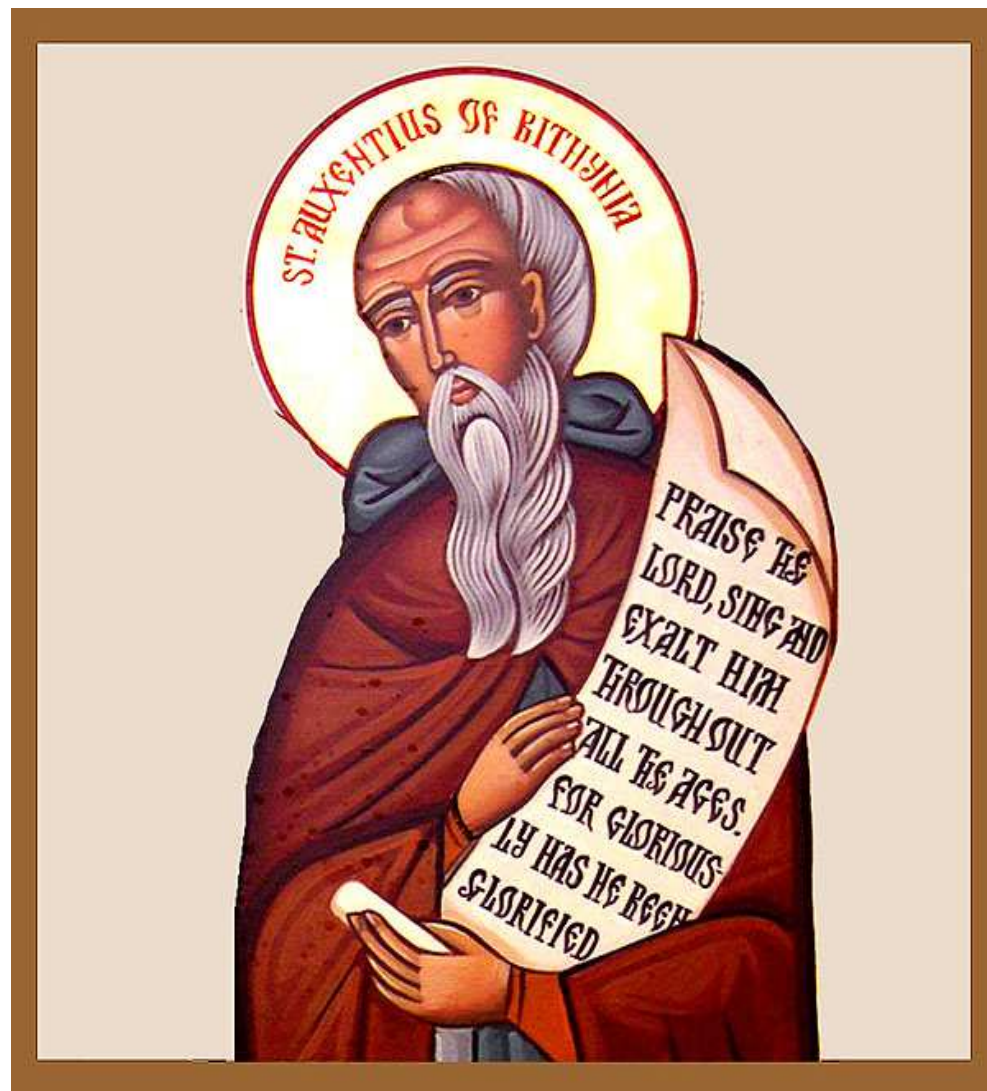
VENERABLE AUXENTIUS OF BITHYNIA

Saint Auxentius, by origin a Syrian, served at the court of the emperor Theodosius the Younger (418-450). He was known as a virtuous, learned and wise man; and he was, moreover, a friend of many of the pious men of his era.

Distressed by worldly vanity, St. Auxentius was ordained to the holy priesthood, and then received monastic tonsure. After this he went to Bithynia and found a solitary place on Mount Oxia, not far from Chalcedon; and there he began the life of a hermit. (This mountain was afterwards called Mt. Auxentius.) The place of the saint's efforts was discovered by shepherds seeking their lost sheep. They told others about him, and people began to come to him for healing. Saint Auxentius healed many of the sick and the infirm in the name of the Lord.

In the year 451 Saint Auxentius was invited to the Fourth Ecumenical Council at Chalcedon, where he denounced the Eutychian and Nestorian heresies. Familiar with Holy Scripture and learned in theology, Saint Auxentius easily bested those opponents who disputed with him. After the end of the Council, Saint Auxentius returned to his solitary cell on the mountain. With his spiritual sight he saw the repose of Saint Simeon the Stylite (459) from a great distance.

Saint Auxentius died about the year 470, leaving behind him disciples and many monasteries in the region of Bithynia. St. Auxentius was buried in the Monastery of Saint Hypatius at Rufiananas, Syria.



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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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

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BULLETIN 16 - VOLUME LVIII

TONE 3

FEBRUARY 14, 2021

THIRTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday of Zaachæus

Ven. Auxentius of Bithynia

Ven. Maron, Hermit, of Syria; St. Abraham, Bishop of Charres in Mesopotamia;

Rest of St. Cyril, Equal-to-the-Apostles and Teacher of the Slavs;

Ven. Isaac, Recluse, of the Kiev Caves;

The Twelve Greeks who built the Dormition Cathedral in the Lavra of the Kiev Caves;

Translation of the Relics of Martyrs Michael and his councilor, Theodore, of Chernigov

“Like an angel in the flesh you lived in the desert, O God-bearing father, Auxentius, 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

“By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile, and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. By the radiance of miracles, you illumined the whole universe! O our holy father Maron, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!”

Troparion, Tone VIII

“Wisdom was your sister from birth; you loved her, O voice of God, as a pure virgin who adorned your soul and mind as a precious jewel, so revealing you, O blessed man, to be another Cyril: Wise in name and understanding!”

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, February 20 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, February 15	I Peter 2:21-3:9	Mark 12:13-17
Tuesday, February 16	I Peter 3:10-22	Mark 12:18-27
Wednesday, February 17	I Peter 4:1-11	Mark 12:28-37
Thursday, February 18	I Peter 4:12-5:5	Mark 12:38-44
Friday, February 19	II Peter 1:1-10	Mark 13:1-8
Saturday, February 20	II Timothy 2:11-19	Luke 18:2-8

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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COMING EVENTS

FEBUARY:
14, TODAY

Second Sunday Food Sale

<p><u>MEMORY ETERNAL:</u> Donald George, brother of Gil George, has fallen asleep in the Lord and was buried this past Tuesday.</p> <p><u>SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE:</u> Today is our Food Sale! Shop for some Valentine’s Day sweets or some food for a special meal. Many thanks to those who baked and cooked for the sale!</p> <p><u>TRINITARIAN COVERS:</u> The covers today are offered by the Stoyka Family. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule for those who would like to offer covers in 2021. Your donation goes</p>	<p><u>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:</u> If you donated to Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in 2020, your statement is now available at the table in the vestibule.</p> <p><u>LIFE COACHES:</u> If you are an Orthodox woman seeking the opportunity to help someone in need, ZOE Women’s Center needs you. ZOE is currently recruiting for a 2021 training class of volunteer life coaches, who will work with women in distress due to an unplanned pregnancy. Nursing or related healthcare experience is a plus but is not required. Please contact Paula Kappos</p>
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Imagery and symbols are a necessity of human nature
in our present spiritually sensual condition;
they explain by our vision things belonging to the spiritual world
which we could not know without images and symbols.
It was for this reason that our Divine Teacher,
Who created all things,
often taught men by means of images or parables.
It is for this reason, also, that in our Orthodox Church,
it is the custom to represent spiritual things in images
for the Christian to gaze upon.

St. John of Kronstadt

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, 2/7/21	\$ 2425.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	190.00
BUILDING FUND	405.00
CANDLES	40.00
ORTHODOX MISSIONS	55.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND	170.00
IN MEMORY OF DAVID HOWE	233.00
SALE OF MISCELLANEOUS KITCHEN ITEMS	30.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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THE SAINTS AMONG US – ST. CYRIL, EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES

Today, February 14, the Orthodox Church remembers the repose of St. Cyril, who is recognized as an “Equal to the Apostles and Teacher of the Slavs.” He forms half of the famous duo, Sts. Cyril and Methodius, and they are commemorated together on May 11. The title that he and his older brother Methodius have, “Equal to the Apostles,” places them in the special group of saints who distinguished themselves by being missionaries and proponents of evangelization, whose work had significant results in bringing many into the fold of Christianity.

They were born in Thessalonica, a city in Northern Greece that was a center of civil administration of the Byzantine Empire and also a seat of learning. Born in 826, he was named Constantine, Cyril being the name he received upon monastic tonsure. He and his brother received an excellent education. Constantine (Cyril) was particularly astute and acquired the nickname of “Philosopher.” His talents led to him teaching at the Imperial University in Constantinople. Both brothers were called to serve God and were ordained to holy orders as celibate clergy.

In 862 they were sent by the Byzantine Emperor to Greater Moravia (part of present-day Czechoslovakia) to evangelize the Slavic peoples. This was the beginning of extraordinary evangelization, which would permanently enshrine the names of Sts. Cyril and Methodius as some of the greatest Christian missionaries. Their unique achievement was the creation of a “Glagolitic” alphabet which corresponded to the Slavic dialects of the local population. The alphabet they devised was based on the Greek alphabet with the inclusion of special letters to denote the sounds which were absent in Greek. The Glagolitic would become the basis of the Cyrillic alphabet, named in honor of St. Cyril. The Cyrillic is the alphabet of Old Slavonic, which is still the liturgical language of the Russian and other Slavic Churches. In time, the Cyrillic alphabet was modernized, and it remains the one used by everyday Russians, Ukrainians, Serbs, Bulgarians and others.

Detailed records are lacking, but there is evidence that during his lifetime St. Cyril translated the New Testament, some Psalms and the Divine Liturgy from Greek. From our vantage, we look back and acknowledge the great legacy of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, as creators of the “Slavic literature.” But their actual missionary work was subject to constant challenges. The 9th century, during which they lived, was marked by strong divisions between “Eastern” and “Western” Christianity. In the centuries to come, these divisions grew in intensity, culminating with the Great Schism in 1054. Germanic missionaries who represented the political ambitions of Western rulers claimed territories where Sts. Cyril and Methodius worked, and sought to impose the Latin language and style of worship. At this time, the Popes of Rome were still Orthodox, and they supported the missionary work in the vernacular language. To plead their case, St. Cyril came to Rome, where he was warmly received. There he died on February 14, 869. St. Cyril is on the South (right) wall of our church, next to his brother, St. Methodius. He is holding a scroll with the letters of the Cyrillic alphabet.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus