

VENERABLE SABBAS THE SANCTIFIED

Saint Sabbas the Sanctified was born in the fifth century at Cappadocia of pious Christian parents, John and Sophia. His father was a military commander. Journeying to Alexandria on military matters, John and Sophia left their 5-year-old son Sabbas in the care of an uncle. When the boy reached 8 years of age, he entered the monastery of St. Flavian, located nearby. The gifted child quickly learned to read and became an expert on the Holy Scriptures. In vain did his parents urge St. Sabbas to return to the world and enter into marriage.

When he was 17, Sabbas received monastic tonsure and attained such perfection in fasting and prayer that he was given the gift of wonderworking. After 10 years at that monastery, he went to Jerusalem and from there to the monastery of St. Euthymius the Great. St. Euthymius sent him to Abba Theoctistus, head of a nearby monastery with strict cenobitic rule, where St. Sabbas lived in obedience until the age of 30.

After the death of Elder Theoctistus, his successor blessed St. Sabbas to seclude himself in a cave, which he left only on Saturdays to participate in divine services and eat with his brethren. After a time, he did not leave at all and struggled in the cave for 5 years. St. Euthymius directed the life of the young monk, and seeing his spiritual maturity, he began to take him to the Rouba wilderness with him, encouraging him to grow in the monastic virtues.

When St. Euthymius fell asleep in the Lord, St. Sabbas withdrew and moved to a cave. Disciples began to gather around him, seeking the monastic life. As the number of monks grew, a lavra sprang up. When a pillar of fire appeared before St. Sabbas as he walked, he found a spacious cave in the form of a church. St. Sabbas founded several more monasteries. Many miracles took place through his prayers: at the Lavra a spring of water welled up; during a time of drought there was abundant rain; there were healings of sick and demoniacs. St. Sabbas composed the first monastic Rule of church services accepted by all the Palestine monasteries. The saint fell asleep in the Lord in 532.

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***ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER,
ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA
Monday, December 6***

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

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 516-761-8772

BULLETIN 5 - VOLUME LIX

TONE 7

DECEMBER 5, 2021

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ven. Sabbas the Sanctified;
Martyr Athanasius; Ven. Kaion and his son, Ven. Zachariah, of Egypt;
Ven. Philotheus of Karyes; Ven. Nectarius of Mt. Athos;
St. Gurias, Archbishop of Kazan'; Monk-Martyrs of Karyes

“From your youth you offered yourself to God as a spotless oblation, O blessed Sabbas, tilling the garden of piety by the practice of virtue. Your outstanding life in the wilderness of the desert made you an inspiration and model for all who profess the monastic life. For this, O holy father, we hail you as a man of exceedingly great wealth.”

Kontakion, Tone VIII

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

Monday, December 6

“In Myra, O holy father, you proved yourself a true priest of God and servant of the divine mysteries, for you fulfilled the gospel of Christ by giving your life for your flock and saving the innocent from death. In this way, you achieved true holiness as a great mystic of divine grace.”

Kontakion, Tone III

TODAY'S EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 2:14-22
GALATIANS 5:22-6:2

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 17:12-19
MATTHEW 11:27-30

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Monday, December 6 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - **St. Nicholas the Wonderworker**
Saturday, December 11 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, December 6	Hebrews 13:17-21	Luke 6:17-23
Tuesday, December 7	II Thessalonians 1:1-10	Luke 20:27-44
	II Thessalonians 1:10-2:2	Luke 21:12-19
Wednesday, December 8	II Thessalonians 2:1-12	Luke 21:5-7,10-11,20-24
Thursday, December 9	II Thessalonians 2:13-3:5	Luke 21:28-33
(St. Anna)	Galatians 4:22-31	Luke 8:16-21
Friday, December 10	II Thessalonians 3:6-18	Luke 21:37-22:8
Saturday, December 11	Galatians 1:3-10	Luke 13:18-29

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER:

5, TODAY	Food Sale
12, Sunday	7:00 p.m. Zoom Virtual Tour of Bethlehem
19, Sunday	Pre-Christmas Potluck Lunch

POTLUCK:

On Sunday, December 19, we will have a Pre-Christmas Potluck Lunch in the Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy. No meat dishes, please. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

SUNDAY FOOD SALE:

Today is our monthly Food Sale. Please support us by purchasing foods in the Fellowship Hall.

DONATION ENVELOPES:

Your 2022 Offering Envelopes are available in the church vestibule. They are organized alphabetically. If you do not see a box with your name on it, or if your address needs correction, please contact Fr. Alexander.

EASTERN CHURCHES SEMINAR:

The 37th Eastern Churches Seminar, sponsored by Notre Dame College is now available for viewing. It features Bishop John Michael Botean of the Romanian Byzantine Diocese, speaking on "After the Deluge, What it means to be Church in Post-Pandemic Times." YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege.

STEWARDS OF THE OCA:

Please support the work of the Orthodox Church in America's various ministries and departments by becoming a Steward. Make a donation online at: oca.org/donate ; or checks made out to "The Orthodox Church in America" can be mailed to: P.O. Box 675; Syosset, NY 11791-0675.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by MaryAnn Bobulsky in blessed memory of Jerry and Daria Petrykowski. If you would like to make an offering for Trinitarians in 2022, there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

ST. ANDREW CELEBRATION:

On November 30, the Akathist to the Apostle Andrew was celebrated online with the blessing of and participation of Archbishop Paul, together with assisting clergy. The choir of St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore sang the responses. Following the service, Archbishop Paul gave an inspired sermon about St. Andrew, which was also a meditation in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord. Viewing of this service and sermon is easily accessible on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUW6f-E-Fgw>

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

We appreciate your offerings for the flowers that will adorn our church during the Nativity season. There is a special envelope in your box.

HALL ROOF REPAIRS:

Work on the roof of the Fellowship Hall continues. Parishioners are reminded that this is an expensive project, and your support is needed and appreciated. To those who have already donated, much thanks!

VIRTUAL TOUR OF BETHLEHEM:

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America is sponsoring a "tour" of Bethlehem charitable event via Zoom. Reserve your spot by making a donation on the F.O.C.A. at Eventbrite. The tour will be Sunday, Dec. 12, at 7:00 p.m. There is a flier in the Fellowship Hall with further details.

Visit the link: www.eventbrite.com/x/virtual-tour-of-the-city-of-bethlehem-tickets-189343931797

ZOE FOR LIFE!

ZOE is interested having new members on their Board of Directors. See Fr. Alexander for further information.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION	\$ 126.00
BUILDING FUND	50.00
CANDLES	107.00
IOCC	300.00
FELLOWSHIP HALL ROOF	5,000.00
BOILER REPAIRS	5,000.00
FROM EOWG FOR HALL USE	100.00
COFFEE HOUR, 11/14/21	190.00

THE SAINTS AMONG US -
ST. BARBARA THE GREATMARTYR

Among the notable women saints that are depicted in the bottom row on the South (left) wall of our church is the Greatmartyr Barbara. According to Church tradition, she lived at the end of the 3rd Century in Syria. Daughter of a rich pagan, she was a beautiful young woman and could have become a respected wife in a well-to-do family, as her father desired. But through contemplation of divine truths, she found faith in Jesus and became a God-loving Christian. When she refused the plans for a rich marriage, her father became infuriated and was so filled with rage that he was about to cut her head off. Barbara escaped but was eventually found and committed by her father to the local governor, who imprisoned her. While there, she was tortured in hopes of turning her away from Christ. Her endurance was of such strength that another young woman named Juliana also became a Christian. Their fortitude proved unbending but also provoked the anger of the governor and Barbara's father. Her father received permission to kill his own daughter, and Juliana was beheaded at the same time by the executioner.

St. Barbara's relics were first brought to Constantinople. Later, in the 12th Century, they were taken to the Ukrainian city of Kiev. To this day, they remain objects of pious devotion in one of the cathedrals in Kiev. Portions of her relics can be found in Christian churches throughout the world, including some in North America. Several centuries after her death, her memory acquired wide-spread popularity and her legacy survives in fascinating ways: she is the patron of miners, artillerymen and military engineers; also a protectress of children, and young women. She is invoked in prayers during thunder storms and for protection from sudden death. In Slavic Christian folk traditions, her feast is regarded as the beginning of winter, as it is around that time that real frosts occur. Like the Feast of St. Nicholas two days later, St. Barbara is celebrated with special festivity in anticipation of the Nativity of Jesus Christ.

Her feast day, December 4, also marks the commemoration of two other saints: St. John of Damascus and the Newmartyr St. Alexander Hotovitsky. As his name implies, St. John of Damascus lived in the Middle East during the 8th Century. A son of a local government official, he was well educated and a gifted writer. He became a monk at the Monastery of St. Sabbas, which is near Jerusalem. (Interestingly, St. Sabbas is commemorated on December 5!) St. John is perhaps the most famous of the early Church hymnographers; his liturgical texts are numerous, and many are used in Orthodox worships. He composed the hymns of the Paschal services, as well as those for many Feast Days, and the hymns of the Eight Tones (Octoechos) which are heard every Saturday evening. His hymns are also sung at an Orthodox Funeral Service. St. John was also the author of important theological books.

We unfortunately do not have an icon of St. John, but St. Alexander Hotovitsky can be found among the group of North American Saints on the back wall. St. Alexander was born in 1872 and came to the United States in 1895 to be a missionary in the North American Diocese of the Russian Church. Most of his American ministry and life was based in New York City, but he travelled all over the East Coast, overseeing the creation of parishes, many of which are still functioning today. St. Alexander was a multi-faceted and energetic administrative assistant to St. Tikhon when he was Bishop of North America (1898-1907). After returning to Russia, he was the chief priest at the famous Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow. Arrested several times by the Communists, he was eventually sent to a prison where he was executed in 1937.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus