

VENERABLE BESSARION, WONDERWORKER OF EGYPT

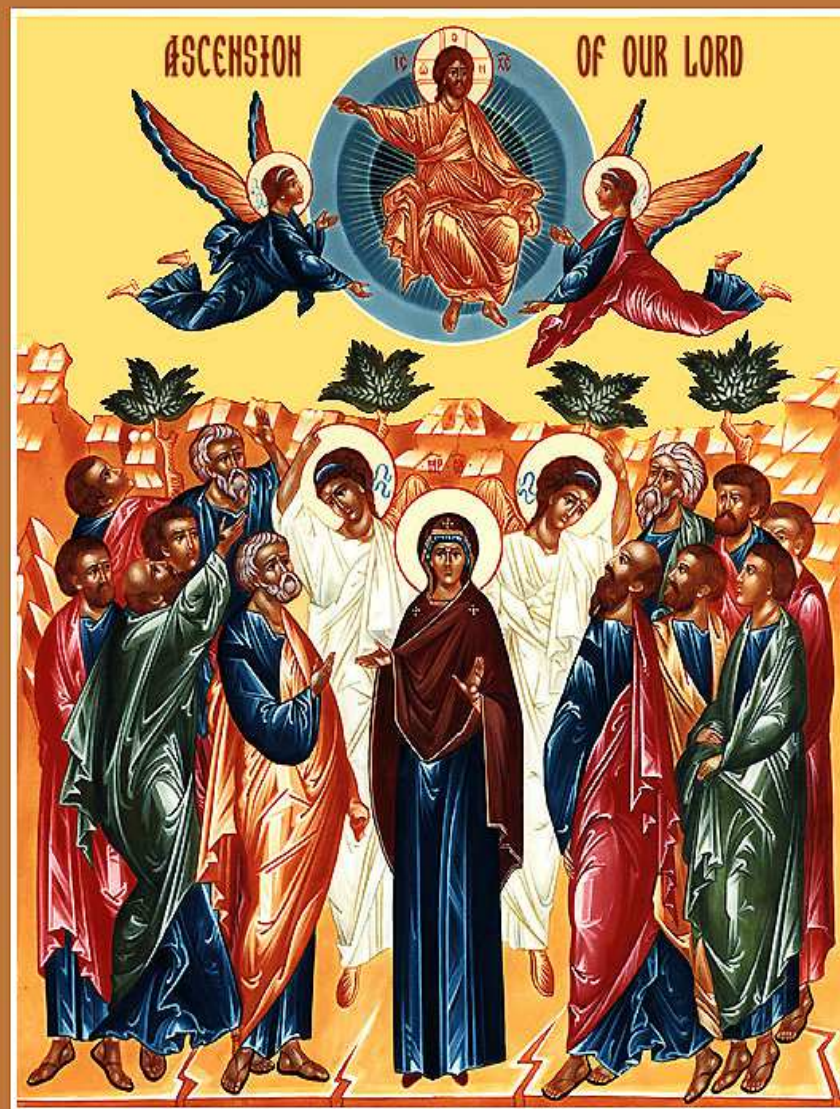
St. Bessarion was baptized while still in his youth, and he led a strict life, striving to preserve the grace given him during Baptism. Seeking to become more closely acquainted with the monastic life, he journeyed to the holy places. He was in Jerusalem, he visited St. Gerasimus in the Jordanian wilderness, he viewed other desert monasteries, and he assimilated all the rules of monastic life.

Upon his return, he received monastic tonsure and became a disciple of St. Isidore of Pelusium. St. Bessarion took a vow of silence and partook of food only once a week. Sometimes he remained without food or drink for forty days. Once, the saint stood motionless for forty days and forty nights without food or sleep, immersed in prayer.

St. Bessarion received from God the gift of wonderworking. When his disciple was very thirsty, he sweetened bitter water. By his prayer the Lord sent rain upon the earth, and he could cross a river as if on dry land. With a single word, he cast out devils, but he did this privately to avoid glory.

His humility was so great that once, when a priest ordered someone from the skete to leave the church for having fallen into sin, Bessarion also went with him saying, "I am a sinner too." St. Bessarion slept only while standing or sitting. A large portion of his life was spent under the open sky in prayerful solitude. He peacefully departed to the Lord in his old age.

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***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 516-761-8772

BULLETIN 32 - VOLUME LVIII

TONE 5

JUNE 6, 2021

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PASCHA

Sunday of the Blind Man

Ven. Bessarion the Wonderworker, of Egypt;

Virgin-Martyrs Archelaïs, Thecla, and Susanna, beheaded at Salerno;

Ven. Hilarion the New, Abbot of the Dalmatian Monastery;

St. Jonah, Bishop of Perm; Ven. Paisii, Abbot of Uglich;

Ven. Jonah, Abbot of Klimetzka; Ven. Vissarion the New;

The "PIMENOVSKAYA" Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos

"The eyes of my inner life, O Lord and Savior, are blind from the darkness of sin. In Your deep and loving kindness, anoint them with humility, and bathe them in the tears of repentance."

Exapostilarion, Tone II

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Thursday, June 10

"You ascended in glory, O Christ, our God, having gladdened Your friends with Your promise of the Holy Spirit. And Your blessing confirmed their belief that You are indeed God's Son, the Redeemer of the world."

Troparion, Tone IV

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, June 9

6:00 p.m. Vigil of the Ascension

Thursday, June 10

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - **The Ascension of our Lord**

Saturday, June 12

Noon Baptism of Amelia Syler

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, June 7

Acts 17:1-15

John 11:47-57

Tuesday, June 8

Acts 17:19-28

John 12:19-36

Wednesday, June 9

Acts 18:22-28

John 12:36-47

Thursday, June 10

Acts 1:1-12

Luke 24:36-53

Friday, June 11

Acts 19:1-8

John 14:1-11

(Sts. Bartholomew and Barnabas)

Acts 11:19-26,29-30

Luke 10:16-21

Saturday, June 12

Acts 20:7-12

John 14:10-21

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 32 - Volume LVIII

June 6, 2021

COMING EVENTS

JUNE:

12, Saturday	10:00 a.m. EOWG meeting / potluck luncheon
14, Monday	Golf Outing to benefit St. Herman's House of Hospitality
20, Sunday	HTOC Pentecost Potluck
27, Sunday	Beginning session at St. Vladimir's Camp

PENTECOST:

Our parish will celebrate Pentecost, our feast day, with a Potluck meal following the church services. Join your HTOC family in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 20. There is a sign-up sheet in the Hall; please note how many people from your family will attend so the appropriate numbers of tables can be arranged.

COFFEE HOUR NEWS!

As we have resumed having Coffee Hour after the Sunday Divine Liturgies, the Parish Council has decided to return to the old format of having parishioners sign up on a weekly basis. The sign-up sheet is on the counter in the Fellowship Hall kitchen. Coffee Hour need not be anything special—donuts and other finger foods are sufficient. As in the past, the parish will provide the coffee, bottled water and paper goods; but you can bring bottled ice tea and juices. A basket for donations should be placed with the foods, and the collected funds should be passed on to Jared Griebel or Fr. Alexander; you can repay yourself or submit the receipt for purchased items and be credited as a donation to the parish.

ST. HERMAN'S HOUSE GOLF OUTING:

June 14 is the annual Golf Classic at Tanglewood Club in Chagrin Falls to benefit St. Herman's House. Details are on the FOCUS Cleveland webpage; see the heading "Golf 2021." If you do not golf but want to help, donations can also be made at the website.

PARISH DIRECTORY:

An updated Parish Directory has been published, and copies are available in the Fellowship Hall. One to a family, please. If there are any errors in the listings, please advise Janene Hatch. Call the church office at 216-524-4859; or email jmhatch8@gmail.com

SUMMER CAMP:

St. Vladimir's Camp will be open this summer! With the blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop Paul, the local Orthodox Camp will re-open this year! Due to COVID, the camp sessions in 2020 were cancelled, but this year there are 3 one-week sessions beginning June 27. Special protocols will be in place. For information call the St. Michael's Church Office: 440-526-5192.

EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD:

The next event for the EOWG will be Saturday, June 12, at 10:00 a.m. The Guild will meet at Monastery Marcha, 5095 Broadview Rd, Richfield; for a Potluck Picnic, followed by a book review of Everywhere Present by Fr. Stephen Freeman.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Marilyn Cobbs in blessed memory of Thaddeus Przybys.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Olga Przybys in blessed memory of Thaddeus Przybys.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, MAY 30	\$3365.00
BUILDING FUND	375.00
CANDLES	182.00
PASCHA	150.00
HOLY SATURDAY	50.00
PASCHA FLOWERS	50.00
FROM EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD	50.00
COFFEE HOUR, 5/23	61.00

THE SPIRITUALITY OF PASCHALTIDE

Because the months of May and June are associated with flowers blossoming and the greening of tree leaves, and memories of cold and damp Spring days recede, we all feel uplifted, light and overcome with joyful exuberance. As if in perfect coincidence, Christians celebrate nature's glorious bursts of new life together with the Feast of Christ's Resurrection. Paschaltide, that is the time between Easter and Pentecost, is an extended period of spiritual Joy that is marked with unique liturgical features.

The most notable feature of this period is the repetition of Paschal hymns. Every liturgical service, every prayer sequence, private and corporate, begins with the Easter tropar, "Christ is Risen." Also repeated at Divine Liturgies until Ascension, is the Paschal hymn to the Theotokos, "Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem." At evening Vesper services, the festive Paschal *stichera* are sung ("Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered..."). The hymns specific to Easter are replaced by those connected to the Feast of the Ascension; which are inserted into the services for the ten days until Pentecost. But one liturgical feature of Paschaltide that remains throughout the fifty days is that we do not kneel. The rubric about not kneeling is not simply a dispensation for our convenience. It is a significant manifestation of Paschal joy that we express in bodily form; as kneeling implies humility and servitude, standing aright is our acknowledgement of being liberated from bondage to sin and death through Christ's Resurrection. When we return to the practice of kneeling, on Pentecost, it is as if we recapitulate our method of spiritual discipline, now with the certitude of its rewards.

The summer solstice, the longest day of the year, falls on June 20. The presence of so much light has an astonishing psychological effect. It is the feeling of "timelessness"! The Resurrection is, after all, the entrance to eternity, the victory of Our Lord over the tyranny of time and death, bestowing life even to those "in the tombs." While all Orthodox worship is a venture into eternity, the liturgical services of Paschaltide are particularly powerful in conveying timelessness. We linger, as it were, in Resurrection light, the ever-present shimmering brilliance of the Summer sun. Forty days after Easter, with lifted souls, we metaphorically ascend to heaven on the Feast of the Ascension. When Pentecost comes, we are made complete on that "last and great day," by the descent of the Holy Spirit. Afterward, the Holy Spirit, "who is everywhere and fills all things," abides with us in continuing sanctification. Surrounded by the "green" life-affirming, fullness of the fragrant tree branches and flowers, the Feast of the Holy Trinity is the consummate celebration of Orthodox theology: The Trinitarian revelation to us of the miracle of spiritual life: redeemed into fullness of love, peace and joy.

Immediately after Pentecost, as divine seeds of the Holy Spirit are planted in the world, the fruits are ripened in the outpouring of God's grace in the assembly of Saints. All of the Saints are honored, including those whose lives shone forth with holiness in our lands. Among the gathering of the saints, three very special ones are commemorated at the end of June: St. John the Baptist (June 24) and the Apostles Peter and Paul (June 29). Their holy days are observed with proper veneration, and we are reminded that, through their witness, we too are called to be "a chosen race, royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people"!

Fr. Alexander Garklaus