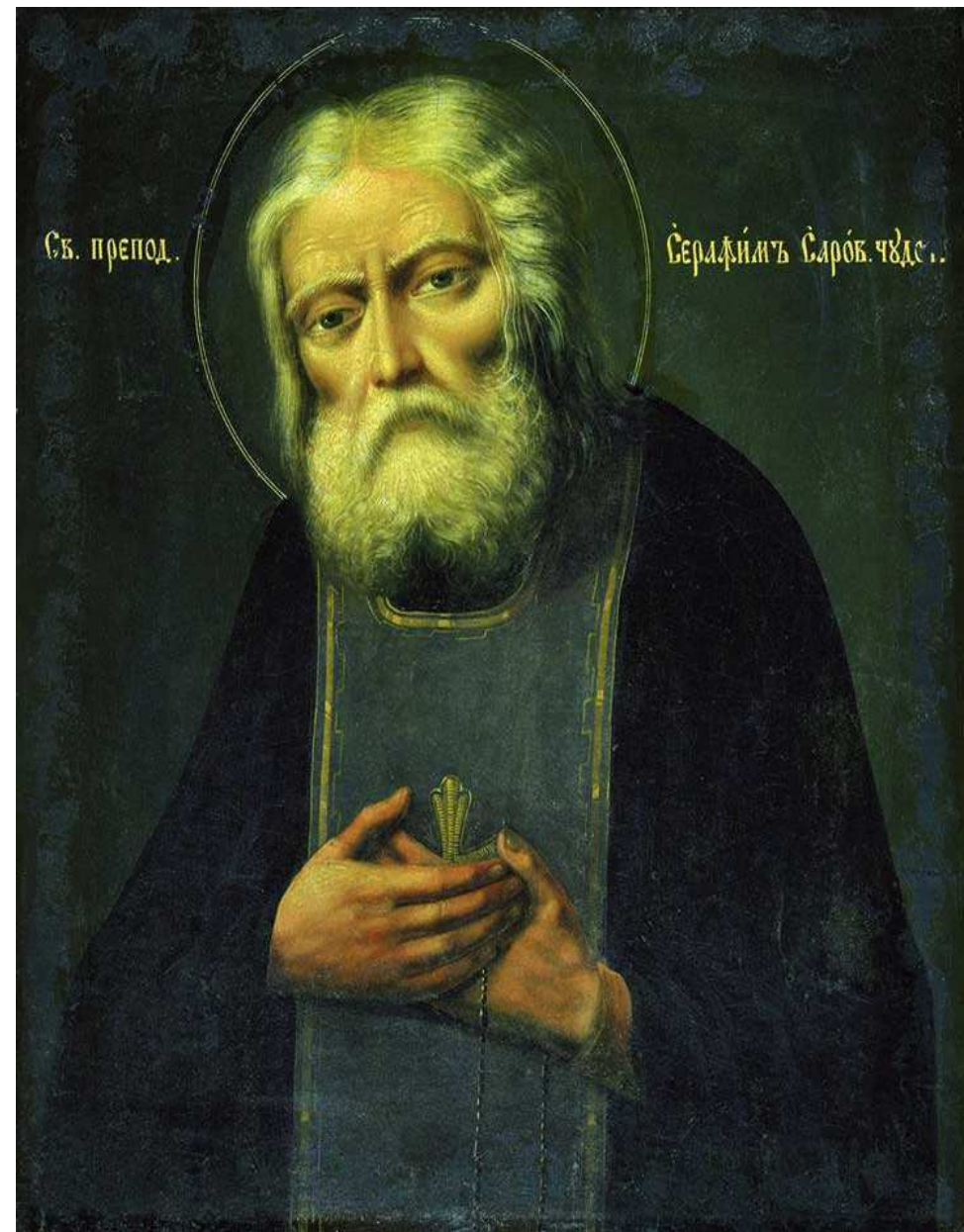


January 2 marks the commemoration of the passing away of St. Seraphim of Sarov (1754-1833). He is one of the most beloved of Russian Saints and has also been recognized as an inspiring man of faith by Christians throughout the world. His life is accessible on the internet and also in books available in our parish library. Below is a spiritual characterization of this wonderful saint by a contemporary Russian priest:

*St. Seraphim's tenderness was his special characteristic: It sprung from the depths of his God-loving heart. And this love of God, gained through suffering, allows us to truly love man precisely in recognition of his true calling. The love and tenderness of St. Seraphim envelops the entire person, contributing not only to his mental and bodily tranquility, but to his salvation in eternity. Today we lack people who comfort and inspire us to the spiritual life without flattering our self-love and egotism. Such was St. Seraphim! His affection, extreme heartfelt warmth, and love extended, as a rule, to those whose souls were softened by repentance or are at least inclined towards it. It is precisely to repentance that true love and spiritual tenderness encourage us to a great extent. But if the saint met an arrogant and proud man, ossified in sins and unwilling to change, we see completely different examples - no small severity and even accusatory harshness. However, this harshness was, in fact, filled with love for his salvation.*

Fr. Dimitri Shishkin



*SAINT SERAPHIM OF SAROV*

**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 9 - VOLUME LIX

TONE 3

JANUARY 2, 2021

## ***TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*** ***SUNDAY BEFORE THE THEOPHANY***

***Forefeast of the Theophany***  
***Hieromartyr Theogenes, Bishop of Parium on the Hellespont;***  
***Repose of Ven. Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov;***  
***St. Sylvester, Pope of Rome; Ven. Sylvester of the Kiev Caves;***  
***Righteous Juliana of Lazarévo***

“Prepare, O Zebulon, and adorn yourself, O Naphtali; river Jordan, cease flowing and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized. Adam, rejoice with our First Mother and do not hide yourself as you did of old in Paradise; for having seen you naked, He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment. Christ has appeared to renew all creation.”

Troparion, Tone IV

“You loved Christ from your youth, O blessed one, and longing to work for Him alone, you struggled in the wilderness in constant prayer and labor. With penitent heart and great love for Christ, you were favored by the Mother of God. Therefore, we cry to you: ‘Save us by your prayers, venerable Seraphim, our father.’”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: II TIMOTHY 4:5-8  
GALATIANS 5:22-6:2

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MARK 1:1-8  
LUKE 6:17-23

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

Wednesday, January 5	6:00 p.m. Vigil - <b>Eve of the Theophany</b>
Thursday, January 6	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - <b>Holy Theophany of our Lord Jesus Christ</b> Blessing of Waters
Saturday, January 8	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

### **Daily Scripture Readings**

Monday, January 3	Hebrews 3:5-11,17-19	Luke 19:37-44
Tuesday, January 4	Hebrews 4:1-13	Luke 19:45-48
Wednesday, January 5	I Corinthians 9:19-27	Luke 3:1-18
Thursday, January 6 (Blessing of Waters)	Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7	Matthew 3:13-17
Friday, January 7 (Forerunner)	I Corinthians 10:1-4	Mark 1:9-11
Saturday, January 8	Hebrews 7:18-25	Luke 20:19-26
	Acts 19:1-8	John 1:29-34
	Ephesians 6:10-17	Matthew 4:1-11
	Ephesians 2:11-13	Luke 12:32-40

**ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

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**COMING EVENTS**

**JANUARY:**

9, Sunday            Second Sunday Food Sale  
16, Sunday           Parish Council meeting

<p><b><u>GOD’S BLESSINGS:</u></b>          Congratulations to the newly baptized Axel Daniel Uziel. May God bless him, his parents and his Godparents for many years!</p> <p><b><u>SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE:</u></b>          Next Sunday will be our monthly Food Sale. Please remember to help out by baking or cooking some goods for our tables, and for stopping by after the Liturgy to shop!</p> <p><b><u>COFFEE HOUR:</u></b>          Many thanks to the Uziel Family for the refreshments last Sunday.          The Coffee Hour today is donated by Matushka Carol Garklavs.</p> <p><b><u>REMINDER:</u></b>          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.</p> <p><b><u>TRINITARIAN COVERS:</u></b>          The covers today are offered by Marge Sabol and Helen Stoyka.</p>	<p><b><u>HALL ROOF REPAIRS:</u></b>          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!</p> <p><b><u>2022 CALENDARS:</u></b>          Church calendars for this new year are now available in the vestibule.</p> <p><b><u>CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:</u></b>          We appreciate your offerings for the flowers that are adorning our church during the Nativity season. There is a special envelope in your box.</p> <p><b><u>EASTERN CHURCHES SEMINAR:</u></b>          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.”  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/NotreDameCollege">YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege</a>.</p> <p><b><u>2022 COVERS:</u></b>          If you would like to make an offering for Trinitarians in 2022, there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.</p>
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Love calms and agreeably expands the heart and vivifies it,  
while hatred painfully contracts and disturbs it.  
Those who hate others torture and tyrannize over themselves;  
therefore, they are most foolish of the foolish ones.

*St. John of Kronstadt*

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

REGULAR COLLECTION, 12/25-26/21	\$ 4314.00
BUILDING FUND	795.00
CANDLES	127.00
FELLOWSHIP HALL ROOF	1515.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	50.00
LOCAL CHARITIES	20.00
COFFEE HOUR, 12/19/21	60.00

## ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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January 2, 2022

### A NEW YEAR'S LETTER TO PARISHIONERS

Dear Parishioners,

Happy New Year! As we look to the future with anticipation of what will come, we also reflect on the past year and where we find ourselves now. While not quite as strange as 2020, for the most part, 2021 has been a year of moderate-to-mild anxieties. The Covid situation bounced us up and down all year, but as December arrived, conditions worsened. Cuyahoga County became a national leader in the number of people going into the hospitals. There are concerns as we enter the third year with Covid in the air. Regarding attendance at church services at this time, there are no changes to the current policies. We continue to follow guidelines of our Diocesan Archbishop Paul. His Eminence has stated that there are no religious reasons to avoid vaccination, and that masks are an acceptable prophylactic means of protection. Since several states comprise our Diocese, His Eminence has directed parishes to follow local mandates as they apply in each case. As no changes have been issued in Ohio or our County, we remain vigilant knowing the dangers that variants pose and do what we can to both avoid getting sick and spreading it to others.

Without question, Covid has produced drastic changes in parish life, and we do not see a return to pre-Covid normalcy any time soon. Thankfully, since opening up after the lockdown, our parish life has been able to continue in relative stability. We give God glory and thanks for His protection of our church, our parishioners, our families, neighbors and friends. Worship services and coffee hours take place on a regular basis, as do weekday services on appropriate occasions. The recent “pot-luck” luncheon was the first “special parish event” that we had in over a year. Covid protocols have somewhat relaxed at events in the hall, but we encourage people to remain mindful of social distance in being careful and cautious.

Covid or not, the parish's physical plant's needs and issues remain. We recently completed a major project on the hall roof. An unresolved problem has to do with the hall boilers. Supply chain problems are responsible for the fact that a new pump that was ordered in August has still not been delivered. The pump and the new hall roof are expensive issues. We have been able to pay for these and also maintain a comfortable balance in meeting the cost of on-going maintenance thanks to the wonderful generosity of you, dear parishioners. Such exemplary spirit of kindness and concern is worthy of praise. That “spirit” is the soul of the parish. Your spirit of good will and love for God has sustained Holy Trinity Church for over fifty years, and with it the parish will endure facing future challenges. Our church is as much “our home” as are the houses in which we live. It is the place of spiritual and emotional assurance, where we are always welcome, always comforted, always at peace in the presence of holy consolation.

Sincerely and with love in Jesus Christ our Lord,

*Fr. Alexander Garklaus*