

VIRGIN MARTYR FEBRONIA OF NISIBIS

The Virgin Martyr Febronia suffered during the reign of Diocletian (284-305). She was raised by her aunt, the abbess Bryaine, head of the women's monastery in Assyria. Concerned of her niece's salvation, Bryaine assigned her a stricter form of life than the other nuns. News of the pious Febronia spread; a young widow, the pagan Hieria, began to visit Febronia and with her influence Hieria accepted Baptism, bringing her parents and kinsfolk to the Christian faith.

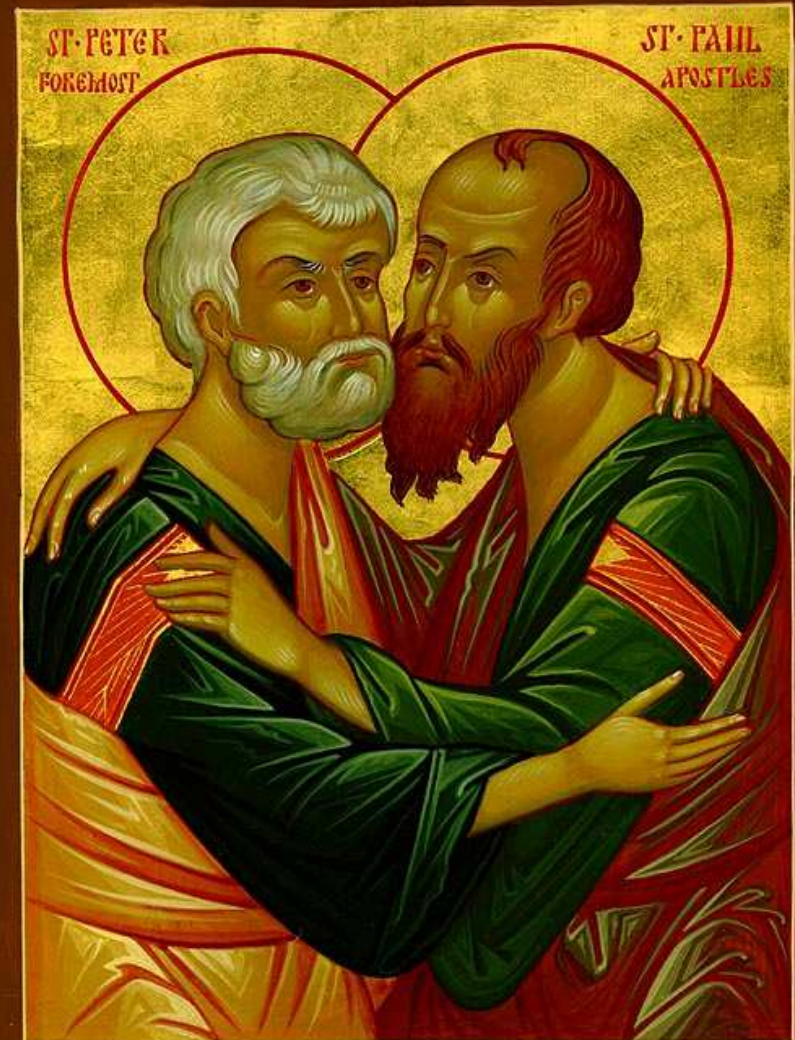
Diocletian sent soldiers to destroy Christians in Assyria. Lysimachus was the son of a Christian and sought to deliver Christians from the other soldiers; Selinus, his uncle, was particularly fierce. Lysimachus discussed this with his kinsman Primus. As the detachment neared the convent, its inhabitants hid; only Bryaine, her helper Thomais, and Febronia, who was seriously ill at the time, remained. Bryaine prayed that the Lord would preserve Febronia from the hands of the torturers, who might defile her. Selinus ordered all nuns to be brought to him. Primus and the soldiers found only the three women and suggested to them that they flee; but they entrusted themselves to the will of the Lord.

Primus told Lysimachus about the beauty of Febronia and advised him to take her for himself. But he would not seduce a virgin dedicated to God, and he asked Primus to hide the nuns from Selinus. Selinus learned of this and had Febronia led to him, bound in chains. He urged her to deny Christ, promising her honors, rewards, and marriage with Lysimachus. The holy virgin firmly answered that she had an Immortal Bridegroom and would not exchange Him for any mortal man. Selinus subjected her to fierce torture. They beat her for a long time, tied her to a tree and set a fire under it. She prayed, "My Savior do not abandon me in this terrible hour!" The tortures were so inhuman that people demanded an end to it, as there was no confession of guilt from the girl. Selinus mocked and jeered, but she was so weak she could not reply. Selinus gave orders to tear out her tongue, smash her teeth and cut off her hands and feet. People left the scene, cursing Diocletian and his gods.

In the crowd was the nun Thomais, who later recorded Febronia's martyrdom in detail, and her student Hieria, who reproached Selinus for his cruelty. Because Hieria was of illustrious standing, Selinus could not arrest her, but he said, "By your speech you have brought on Febronia even greater torment." They beheaded the holy martyr.

Lysimachus wept and withdrew to his quarters. Selinus made ready to eat, but he was suddenly deranged, raving and bellowing until he fell, struck his head and died. Lysimachus said, "Great is the God of the Christians, Who has avenged Febronia's blood, so unrighteously shed." He prepared a coffin, placed Febronia in it, and took it to the convent.

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HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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THE TRINITARIAN

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Divine Liturgy on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Vespers on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

BULLETIN 34 - VOLUME LX

TONE 2

JUNE 25, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Forerunner
Virgin-Martyr Febronia of Nisibis;
Sts. Peter and Fevronia, Wonderworkers of Múrom;
Ven Dionysius the Hagiorite; Ven. Dometius of Dionysiou;
Monk-Martyr Procopius of Iveron; All Saints of the British Isles*

You were adorned with the grace of virginity and the beauty of martyrdom, O Febronia, bride of Christ. You wisely carried your lamp and ran to your Bridegroom, receiving an incorruptible crown. Pray for those who faithfully sing hymns of praise to you!

Kontakion, Tone III

PRAISED LEADERS OF THE APOSTLES, SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

Thursday, June 29

O Lord, You have taken to Yourself the steadfast and divinely-inspired heralds, the leaders of Your Apostles, for the enjoyment of Your good things and for their rest; for You have accepted their labors and their deaths as above all burnt offering, for You alone know the hearts of men.

Kontakion, Tone II

TODAY'S EPISTLE: ROMANS 5:1-10

TODAY'S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 6:22-33

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Monday, June 26	6:00 p.m. Akathist for the Tikhvin Icon
Wednesday, June 28	6:00 p.m. Great Vespers
Thursday, June 29	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - Saints Peter and Paul
Saturday, July 1	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

WELCOME GUESTS!

We are very glad you have come to worship the Holy Trinity with us this morning! Please participate in the services at your comfort level. Our greeters will kindly assist you with whatever questions or needs you may have. The communion of Christ's Body and Blood is reserved for practicing Orthodox Christians. All are invited to come forward at the end of the service to receive the blessed bread. Please stay after the Divine Liturgy for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall so we can get to know you better!

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, June 26	Romans 9:18-33	Matthew 11:2-15
Tuesday, June 27	Romans 10:11-11:2	Matthew 11:16-20
Wednesday, June 28	Romans 11:2-12	Matthew 11:20-26
	Romans 11:13-24	Matthew 11:27-30
Thursday, June 29	II Corinthians 11:21-12:9	Matthew 16:13-19
Friday, June 30	Romans 11:25-36	Matthew 12:1-8
(Twelve Apostles)	I Corinthians 4:9-16	Mark 3:13-19
Saturday, July 1	Romans 6:11-17	Matthew 8:14-23

COMING EVENTS

JUNE:

26, Monday Cooking for St. Herman's House
 10:00 a.m. 10th Annual Golf Classic and Auction, supporting St. Herman's House
 28, Wednesday Serving dinner at St. Herman's House
 30, Friday 6:00 p.m. Church Campout

JULY:

9, Sunday Second Sunday Food Sale
 Parish Council meeting
 13-15 10th Parish Development Forum, at HTOC

ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC & AUCTION:

FOCUS - St. Herman's House will hold their annual golf classic at Tanglewood Golf Club in Chagrin Falls tomorrow. To donate or register visit: www.sainthermans.org/golf
 An online auction to support the day-to-day operations of St. Herman's House will run June 19-June 26. Visit: <https://www.32auctions.com/sthermans2023>

CHURCH CAMPOUT:

Join the HTOC community for a campout on Friday, June 30, 6:00 p.m. Bring your tent and camping gear to spend the night on our church property. Bring yard games to share and snacks if you like; S'mores will be provided. Parishioners are welcome to attend the bonfire without spending the night.

FOOD SALE:

Our July Second Sunday Food Sale is July 9. Please support this fundraiser by cooking and baking a few of your family favorites!

ST. INNOCENT CHURCH:

St. Innocent parish will celebrate their 40th Anniversary this year; they are creating a photo book and request patronage. Donations are needed by June 30, and names will be listed in the book. You can mail a check to the church clearly marked for the booklet; 8526 Usher Rd; Olmsted Fall, OH 44138. Online donations are accepted at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YRN8/campaign/C-13NB3>

PARISH DEVELOPMENT FORUM:

Holy Trinity will host the 10th Parish Development Forum from July 13-15th. The Forum will bring together Orthodox Christians sharing ideas about how to keep our parishes thriving amidst societal, cultural, demographic and technological trends. Sessions will cover clergy-laity dynamics, attracting and integrating converts, and connecting parishes with their neighborhood. This is a great opportunity for all of us to participate! To register <https://tinyurl.com/kknt686s>

SUMMER CAMP:

St. Vladimir's Orthodox Summer Camp in Farmdale, OH, offers several sessions: July 2-8, for ages 8-12; July 9-15, for ages 10-17; and July 16-22 for ages 13-17. Photos and registration information can be found at: www.stvladimirscampohio.com

RUMMAGE SALE:

Please continue to save rummage items (no clothing or large furniture), plastic bags, and newspaper for our sale.

COFFEE HOUR:

Our refreshments today are donated by the Stone Soup Ladies.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Steve and Janene Hatch.

*"In the eyes of a fool, the way he goes is right;
 but the wise man listens to advice."*

Proverbs 12:17

GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

	6/11	6/18
REGULAR COLLECTION	\$ 3818.00	\$ 2615.00
BUILDING FUND	1007.00	945.00
CANDLES	135.00	122.00
ORTHODOX SEMINARIES	305.00	
SPECIAL PROJECTS: STOVE	1162.00	50.00
SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE 6/11		372.00
COFFEE HOUR, 6/4; 6/18	125.00	101.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 34 – Volume LX

June 25, 2023

WORDS FROM ST. PORPHYRIOS OF KAVSOKALYVIA IN
“CHRIST IS FULLNESS OF LIFE”

Brothers and sisters, perhaps you have heard of St. Porphyrios of Kavsokalyvia who passed away in 1991 and was canonized in 2013. When I was in Korea, I was impressed to learn that more than one of the Korean priests looked to St. Porphyrios as a spiritual father and guide during his lifetime. There is a beautiful booklet called “Christ is Fullness of Life” that has a collection of short words which inspire me each time I turn to them. Please enjoy these few sayings below.

Christ is joy, the true light, happiness. Christ is our hope. Our relation to Christ is love, *eros*, passion, enthusiasm, longing for the divine. Christ is everything. He is our love. He is the object of our desire. This passionate longing for Christ is a love that cannot be taken away. This is where joy flows from. Christ himself is joy. He is a joy that transforms you into a different person. It is a spiritual madness, but in Christ. This spiritual wine inebriates you like pure unadulterated wine. (p 32)

Christ is paradise, my children. What is paradise? It is Christ. Paradise begins here and now. It is exactly the same: those who experience Christ here on earth, experience paradise. That’s the way it is, just as I tell you. This is right, it’s true, believe me! Our task is to attempt to find a way to enter into the light of Christ. The point is not to observe all the outward forms. The essence of the matter is for us to be with Christ. For our soul to wake up and love Christ and become holy. To abandon herself to divine *eros*. Thus He too will love us. Then the joy will be inalienable. That is what Christ wants most of all, to fill us with joy, because He is the well-spring of joy. This joy is a gift of Christ. In this joy we will come to know Christ. (p 33-34)

Make the most of beautiful moments. Beautiful moments predispose the soul to prayer; they make it refined, noble and poetic. Wake up in the morning and see the sun rising from out of the sea as a king robed in regal purple. When a beautiful landscape, a picturesque chapel, or something beautiful inspires you, don’t leave things at that, but go beyond this to give glory for all beautiful things so that you experience Him who alone is ‘Comely in beauty.’ (Ps 44:2) All things are holy - the sea, swimming and eating. Take delight in them all. All things enrich us, all lead us to the great Love, all lead us to Christ. (p 119)

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REVEREND CHRISTOPHER MOORE

JULY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					June 30 6:00 p.m. Church Bonfire/ Campout	1 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
2 4th Sunday after Pentecost St. John of San Francisco	3	4	5	6	7	8 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
9 5th Sunday after Pentecost Hieromartyr Pancratius Second Sunday Food Sale Parish Council meeting	10	11	12	13 1:00 p.m. Parish Development Forum begins	14 Parish Development Forum	15 Parish Development Forum 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
16 6th Sunday after Pentecost Holy Fathers of First Six Ecumenical Councils	17	18	19	20	21	22 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
23 7th Sunday after Pentecost Martyrs Trophimus, Theophilus	24 Cooking for St. Herman's House	25	26 Serving dinner at St. Herman's House	27	28	29 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
30 8th Sunday after Pentecost Apostles Silas, Silvanus	31					