

MARTYR AND ARCHDEACON EUPLUS OF CATANIA

The Martyr Archdeacon Euplus suffered in the year 304 under the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). He served in the Sicilian city of Catania. Always carrying the Gospel with him, Saint Euplus preached constantly to the pagans about Christ.

Once, while he read and explained the Gospel to the gathered crowd, they arrested him and took him to the governor of the city, Calvisianus. St. Euplus confessed himself a Christian and denounced the impiety of idol-worship. For this they sentenced him to torture.

They threw the injured saint into prison, where he remained in prayer for seven days. The Lord made a spring of water flow into the prison for the martyr to quench his thirst. Brought to trial a second time, strengthened and rejoicing, he again confessed his faith in Christ and denounced the torturer for spilling the blood of innocent Christians.

The judge commanded that the saint's ears be torn off and that he be beheaded. When they led the saint to execution, they hung the Gospel around his neck. Having asked time for prayer, the archdeacon began to read and explain the Gospel to the people, and many of the pagans believed in Christ. The soldiers beheaded the saint with a sword.

His holy relics are in the village of Vico della Batonia, near Naples.

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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 41 - VOLUME LXI

TONE 6

AUGUST 11, 2024

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration

Holy Martyr and Archdeacon Euplus of Catania;

Martyrs Vasily and Theodore of the Kiev Caves;

*St. Theodosius of the Kiev Caves; Virgin Martyr Susanna and those with her;
Martyr Nikon of Constantinople; St. Niphon, Patriarch of Constantinople*

As a holy deacon and righteous minister of the Church of Christ, you contend superbly. You sailed over the sea of many torments and afflictions, O all-blessed Euplus. Guide us into the haven of heaven.

Troparion, Tone IV

THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

Thursday, August 15

Neither the tomb, nor death could hold the Theotokos, who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb.

Kontakion, Tone II

TODAY'S EPISTLE: ROMANS 15:1-7

TODAY'S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9:27-35

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, August 14 6:00 p.m. Vigil of the Dormition

Thursday, August 15 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy; Blessing of Flowers—**Dormition of the Theotokos**

Saturday, August 17 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. During each Sunday service we offer Holy Communion. If you are a practicing Orthodox Christian and have come prepared to receive Christ's Body and Blood through fasting and prayer, please come forward to partake. All guests are invited to come forward at the end of the service to greet Fr. Christopher and 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!

Families with children: we encourage children of all ages to be present and participate as they are able during worship. We know sometimes kids need a break, so please take good advantage of our Rest and Refocus Room located on the south side of the lobby/narthex when coming in the main entrance. If you have pre-school and school age children, we invite you to send them to Church School directly after the Divine Liturgy throughout the academic year. May God bless you!

Daily Scripture Readings can be found in the St. Tikhon's Wall Calendar or at www.oca.org/readings.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 41 - Volume LXI

August 11, 2024

COMING EVENTS

AUGUST:

- 11, TODAY Food Sale
11:00 a.m. HTOC Parish Council meeting
1:00-5:00 p.m. Sandy Adamczek "Celebration of Life"
- 14, Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Vigil of the Dormition
- 15, Thursday 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy; Blessing of Flowers
- 25, Sunday 11:00 a.m. Parish Picnic
2:00-4:00 p.m. Betty Scherry 100th BD Open House
- 26, Monday Cooking for St. Herman's House
- 28, Wednesday Serving dinner at St. Herman's House

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE:

Please support our monthly Food Sale today in the Fellowship Hall.

PARISH PICNIC:

Save the date of August 25 for our annual Picnic! Hot dogs, burgers and pulled pork on buns will be provided following the Divine Liturgy. Lots of sides, desserts and fixins' are needed, as are people to help set up and clean up. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Food will be served at 11:30. Please contact Katie or Jared Griebel with any questions.

K.s.griebel4@gmail.com 216-409-2420
jgriebbs@gmail.com 575-642-2304

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES:

We are preparing our new list to send out care packages to our college students in early September. Please send Valerie Spoerl your children or grandchildren's new college addresses. valspoerl@gmail.com

VETERANS MONUMENT:

A memorial plaque will be placed in the parish hall to honor members of Holy Trinity by name who have served in the armed forces. Please submit names (Holy Trinity members only) to Frank Stoyka: 216-401-8938. Parish Council is also considering how our church can fund a granite monument with a general dedication to be placed in the prayer garden where the previous monument was. This type of monument will cost several thousand dollars, and we are seeking individual donations to help fund its installation. To contribute, please write checks to Holy Trinity and designate your donation as "Veterans Monument."

CHURCH SCHOOL:

The new academic year will be here before we know it—if you're interested in being part of the Sunday School team, let us know now! The team is in need of teachers and an event coordinator. Please contact Fr. Chris so we can get you plugged in to the program!

PRAYER LIST:

Please contact *Meagan Brill* (brillmeagan@gmail.com) to add or remove items from the prayer list. You can also contact her regarding the weekly updates email list.

IN LOVING MEMORY:

The family of Sandy Adamczek invites HTOC members to a "Celebration of Life" in memory of Sandy on Sunday, August 11, 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the home of Meredith Adamczek Ball. 5551 Hamilton Rd.; Valley City, OH 44280.

100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION:

The family of Betty Scherry extends an invitation to the congregation of Holy Trinity to help us celebrate Betty's 100th birthday. Her family will be hosting an open house in Holy Trinity's Hall on Sunday, August 25, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. All are welcome to stop by to share birthday greetings with Betty, and cake too!

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Claudia Virosteck in honor of all those named Mary.

COFFEE HOUR:

Our refreshments today are donated by the Sherwood and Spoerl Families.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, 8/4/2024	\$ 3194.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS	866.00
CANDLES	141.00
VETERANS' MEMORIAL	650.00

HOLY MYSTERIES, OFFICES, AND PRAYERS FOR DIVERSE NEEDS:
HOLY MATRIMONY

Weddings are beautiful celebrations and the blessed beginning of the participation in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony in the Orthodox Church. As you plan for weddings for yourself or for a loved one in our parish, I would like to share the following things to keep in mind.

- Deciding on the wedding date. It's so very exciting to start making wedding plans after the proposal and engagement. Before you set any dates or book any banquet halls for the wedding reception, make sure to talk with your priest for a blessing and to make sure the church is available. There are important considerations when scheduling the big day:
 - There are certain days—like during fasting periods/days, great feasts, and other dates—on which weddings cannot be offered.
 - Our parish may already have an event scheduled on a proposed date.
 - *Saturday or Sunday?* Because of the great emphasis on the couple partaking of Holy Communion in the Divine Liturgy in close connection to the wedding service, there is a strong preference in our tradition and in the OCA to offer weddings on Sundays, some time after the Divine Liturgy. And therefore any request for a Saturday wedding must be approved and blessed by the bishop.
- Living separately before marriage. It has become more and more common in our modern society for those who love each other to move in together before marriage, or to move in and never marry. This practice of moving in first and marrying later is not the proper order. Couples living together will be asked to live separately for a time before the wedding.
- Finding sponsors. Similar to the baptism service, the Orthodox wedding service also has sponsors who will have a special role both in the service and for supporting the couple in the faith and their life together. Sponsors must both be Orthodox and we often call them best man and maid of honor. Other wedding party members do not have to be Orthodox.
- Counseling sessions. At our parish, premarital counseling sessions are a required step for getting married. It's a great time to get to know one another more deeply, have time to solidify your pledge of commitment to one another, prepare for life together, and to get a vision of who we are called to as an Orthodox Christian married couple.
- Shared faith. It is of great importance for couples to seek to be aligned in matters of faith and spiritual practice, both for peace and concord among themselves and for the children that God blesses unto them. Shared faith and traditions strengthen the bonds between couples and their children, as well as their extended families. A couple that chooses to get married in the Orthodox Church shows that they are making this commitment before God and that living an Orthodox Christian life is something they wish to be central. The Mystery of Holy Matrimony in the Orthodox Church is a sacrament offered for two Orthodox Christians, and single Orthodox Christians who are remaining open to a married future should pray for God to provide an Orthodox Christian spouse. Under certain circumstances our church will bless marriages between Orthodox Christians and non-Orthodox Christians and the priest should be consulted regarding this possibility. Orthodox weddings cannot be offered for couples where one is an Orthodox Christian and the other is non-Christian. If an Orthodox Christian marries outside the Orthodox Church they are choosing to fall out of good standing with their Church.
- Wedding planning. A new resource for Orthodox wedding planning & preparation has recently been published, called *Crowned: An Orthodox Christian Wedding Guide*, written by St Tikhon's seminarian wives Mat. Krista Fedorchak and Delaney Clodfelter with a forward by Drs. David and Mary Ford. It could be a welcome resource to those who are getting ready for their special day.

Fr. Chris