

## **HIEROMARTYRS ACEPSIMAS THE BISHOP, JOSEPH THE PRESBYTER, AND AITHALAS THE DEACON, OF PERSIA**

Martyrs Acepsimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter and Aithalas the Deacon were leaders of the Christian Church in the Persian city of Naesson. Acepsimas' flock devotedly loved their hierarch for his ascetic life and tireless pastoral work.

The emperor Sapor ordered his men to seek out and kill Christian clergy. St. Acepsimas was also arrested, even though he was already an eighty-year-old man. They took him to the city of Arbela, where he came before the judge Ardarkh, a pagan priest of the sun god. The holy Elder refused to offer sacrifice to the Persian gods. For this he was fiercely beaten and thrown into prison; on the following day the seventy-year-old priest Joseph and the deacon Aithalas were severely beaten and thrown into jail with him. For three years the saints were confined, suffering from hunger and thirst.

Emperor Sapor came to the temple of the god of fire, located not far from Arbela and wanted to see the 3 holy martyrs. Exhausted and covered with festering wounds, the saints were brought before the emperor. When he asked them to worship the pagan gods, they firmly refused, confessing their faith in Christ instead.

The holy bishop was beheaded, but the presbyter and deacon were taken into the city to be stoned.

The execution of the presbyter Joseph was prolonged for several hours. A guard was placed near the place of execution so that Christian would not take the body of the holy martyr. On the fourth night a strong windstorm raged near the city, lightning killed the guard, the wind tossed stones about, and the body of St. Joseph disappeared.

Deacon Aithalas was taken to the village of Patrias, where he was stoned. Christians secretly buried his body. A tree grew on the saint's grave, and its fruit brought healings.

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**PARMA, OHIO 44134**

# THE TRINITARIAN

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

Vespers on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

BULLETIN 53 - VOLUME LXI

TONE 2

NOVEMBER 3, 2024

## ***NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

*Martyrs Ascepsimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter, and Aithalas the Deacon, of Persia;  
Dedication of the Church of the Greatmartyr George in Lydda;  
Martyrs Atticus, Agapius, Eudoxius, Carterius, Istucarius, Pactobius, and Nictopolion, at Sebaste;  
Ven. Ascepsimas, Hermit, of Cyrrhus in Syria; St. Snadulia of Persia*

You were pillars of the Church, O servants of godliness, and you humbled the proud worshippers of fire. Much afflicted hierarch Ascepsimas, Joseph the presbyter and Aithalas the deacon, pray to Christ our God to grant us His great mercy.

Troparion, Tone III

## ***SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS***

*Friday, November 8*

Commanders of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech you, by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry to you: "Deliver us from all harm, for you are the commanders of the powers on high!"

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY'S EPISTLE: II CORINTHIANS 11:31-12:9

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 8:41-56

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

Friday, November 8                      9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy at **Archangel Michael Church**  
Saturday, November 9                    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](http://www.oca.org/readings).

**COMING EVENTS**

**NOVEMBER:**

- 3, TODAY Noon - Meatloaf Luncheon for St. Herman’s House
- 4, Monday 6:30 p.m. Fall Fundraiser for St. Herman’s House
- 6, Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 9, Saturday Game night following Vespers
- 10, Sunday Second Sunday Food Sale
- 13, Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 14, Thursday 6:00 p.m. Holy Unction Service at St. Innocent Church

<p><b><u>ST. HERMAN’S MEATLOAF LUNCHEON/ BASKET RAFFLE:</u></b> The Luncheon is today at noon. Baskets are now displayed in the Fellowship Hall; tickets are available, and winners need not be present. Ticket prices: one for \$1 ; six for \$ 5; twenty for \$10.</p> <p><b><u>GAME NIGHT:</u></b> Plan to join in the fun at HTOC Game Night on Saturday, November 9, 6:00 p.m., following Vespers.</p> <p><b><u>ST. HERMAN’S HOUSE FALL FUNDRAISER:</u></b> On Monday, Nov. 4, 6:30 p.m. there is a Speaker Event Fundraiser for St. Herman’s House at St. Vladimir Cathedral, 5913 State Rd, Parma. The panel will discuss growing homelessness among young adults and ways the Church can aid. Some of the key volunteers at St. Herman’s House are being given special recognition. Admission for this benefit is \$30; details are posted on our bulletin board.</p> <p><b><u>NATIVITY CONCERT:</u></b> The Greater Cleveland churches will once again perform a Nativity concert. It will be hosted by St. Demetrios Church on Sunday, December 8, at 4:00 p.m. The church is located at 22909 Center Ridge Rd. in Rocky River.</p>	<p><b><u>UNCTION SERVICE:</u></b> The Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy invites all to worship together at a Pan-Orthodox service of Holy Unction. The parish of St. Innocent Church, 8526 Usher Rd, Olmsted Twp., will host the service on Thursday, November 14, at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b><u>ST. MATTHEW FEAST DAY:</u></b> St. Matthew Church in North Royalton invites all to celebrate the feast of Apostle Matthew with services on Friday, Nov. 15—Great Vespers with Litya at 6:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Nov. 16—Orthos followed by Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><b><u>SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE:</u></b> Please remember our Food Sale next Sunday. Support this fundraiser by cooking or baking your favorite foods, and plan to shop the tables in the Fellowship Hall.</p> <p><b><u>BAPTISMS:</u></b> Michael Myers will be baptized on Sunday, Nov. 17, at 8:45 a.m. Tessa Griebel will be baptized on Saturday, Nov. 23, at 11:00 a.m.</p> <p><b><u>TRINITARIAN COVERS:</u></b> The covers today are offered by the Stoyka Family.</p>
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*“What is mercy? Mercy is to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us, to do good to those who hate us, who do us harm, who drive us away, to defend those who are persecuted, and so*

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

	10/20	10/27
REGULAR COLLECTION	\$ 4653.00	\$ 8912.16
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUNDS	1217.00	982.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	150.00	
CANDLES	134.00	173.00
LOCAL CHARITIES	40.00	
ST. THEODOSIUS	500.00	
ST. HERMAN’S HOUSE		40.00
ST. HERMAN’S—HOODIE DONATIONS		555.00
IN MEMORY OF JEWELANN STEFANAR	90.00	565.00
SECOND SUNDAY FOOD SALE	112.00	
RUMMAGE SALE		98.98
CHURCH DIRECTORIES		10.00
COFFEE HOUR		206.00

**THEOLOGY THROUGH POETRY –**  
**ST EPHREM'S REFLECTIONS ON THE WOMAN WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD**

Glory to you, hidden offspring of Being,  
because the hidden suffering of her that was afflicted proclaimed your healing.

Using a woman whom they could see,  
he enabled them to see the divinity that cannot be seen.

The Son's divinity became known through his healing,  
and the afflicted woman's faith was revealed through her being healed.

She caused him to be proclaimed,  
and she was proclaimed with him.

Truth was being proclaimed together with its heralds.

If she was a witness to his divinity,  
he in turn was a witness to her faith.

She poured faith on him by way of reward,  
and he bestowed healing on her as the outcome of her reward.

Since the woman's faith had become public,  
her healing also was proclaimed in public.

The physicians were put to shame about their remedies  
because his power became resplendent and magnified the Son.

It became evident how great faith surpasses the healing art and how hidden power surpasses visible remedies.

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"Who touched me? For a power has gone forth from me."

A detail such as this is not reported about our Physician in any other place.

This is because in no other place did our Physician encounter an affliction such as this.

This affliction was presented to many physicians,  
yet only one Physician encountered this affliction to heal it.

Many physicians encountered and wearied her.

Only one encountered her who was able to give her rest from the toil of many physicians.

The art of healing encountered a shameful affliction but added pain after pain to it.

The more they came, the worse the affliction got.

The fringe of the Lord's cloak touched her and uprooted this suffering from its root.

She perceived within herself that he healed her affliction.

Since the art of healing clothed with all our practical wisdom was reduced to silence,  
the divinity clothed with garments was proclaimed.

He clothed himself in the body and came down to humanity,  
so that humanity might loot him.

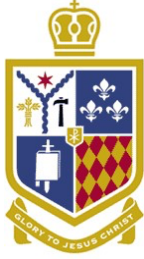
He revealed his divinity through signs,  
so that faith in his humanity alone could not be explained.

He revealed his humanity  
that the higher beings might believe that he was a lower being,

and he revealed his divinity  
so that the lower beings would accept that he was a higher being.

He took on a human body  
so that humanity might be able to attain to divinity,

and he revealed his divinity  
so that his humanity might not be trampled under foot.



*Orthodox Church in America*  
**DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST**

Wednesday, 30 October 2024  
*Hieromartyr Zenobius & Martyr Zenobia*  
№. 166

**ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE**  
**REGARDING DIOCESAN DEPARTMENTS**

Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

*Glory to Jesus Christ!*

The recent Diocesan Assembly held at St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore, Ohio was a very uplifting and encouraging gathering for the clergy and faithful who attended and also for me personally, as I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in our worship, discussions, deliberations, and fellowship.

When we gather each year for the Assembly, we are given an opportunity to pray, reflect, and discern to what good works our Lord Jesus Christ is calling us to in our diocese—both collectively and in each parish, bearing witness to the Holy Gospel.

I am encouraged by the enthusiasm and willingness expressed during our gathering to renew our commitment to accepting the Great Commission as our life's primary responsibility. The work before us is significant and requires a proper order and plan to grow our parishes and the diocese.

One of the highlights of our recent Assembly was the presentation of an organizational plan to strengthen our shared efforts in specific areas of parish life: evangelization, charitable service, education, music, liturgics, and the support of our clergy and clergy families. This plan, adopted by those gathered at the Assembly, will benefit your parish and your parish's local programs in these vital areas of Christian witness.

In the coming month, my office and our Diocesan Chancellor, Archpriest Herman Kincaid, are appointing qualified individuals to lead and staff each department, so that by **Friday, November 15**, I will be able to provide you with our initial plan and short-term goals for working in the Lord's vineyard locally and at the diocesan level.

Prior to November 15, the representatives from your parish who attended the Assembly should be sharing information about the organizational plan to raise awareness and lead discussions to identify the needs of your parish in each area, so we can work together to strengthen our witness to the Holy Orthodox Faith.

As part of the role of the departments, our diocesan website will serve as a central hub for the sharing of ideas and information, so we can work wisely within our resources in collaborative and efficient ways from parishes to deaneries to the diocesan level.

I have stressed to those in my office the need for consistent and clear communication, so that we can work effectively, with realistic goals and objectives to make meaningful contributions for the growth of our diocese and parishes. Your involvement in these efforts is needed and appreciated, so that our diocesan departments facilitate the good order of the work given to us by Our Lord.

As your Archbishop, I offer my prayers to God each day for you, for your parish, and for every community in our diocese. I thank God for your current service in this vineyard and your future efforts to support the well-being and growth of Holy Orthodoxy throughout the Diocese of the Midwest.

May our Lord, Jesus Christ, always bless our common work and fellowship, and may our sacrifices, labors, and worship be acceptable offerings before His Throne of Glory.

With gratitude and love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

DANIEL  
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest