

Ἡ ΚΟΙΜΗΣΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ



THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Saturday, August 15

***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. VLADIMIR BERZONSKY, 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

BULLETIN 41 - VOLUME XLVI

TONE 8

AUGUST 9, 2009

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GLORIFICATION OF VEN. HERMAN OF ALASKA, WONDERWORKER OF ALL AMERICA

Apostle Matthias; Martyr Anthony of Alexandria; Ven. Psoi of Egypt;

Martyrs Julian, Marcian, John, James, Alexius, Demetrius, Photius,

Peter, Leontius, and Mary, of Constantinople

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

Saturday, August 15

“In childbirth, you remained a virgin, and in your dormition, you did not forsake this world, O Theotokos. For you who are the mother of life, have yourself passed into life. And by your prayers, you deliver our souls from everlasting death.”

Troparion, Tone I

TODAY’S EPISTLE: I CORINTHIANS 3:9-17
GALATIANS 5:22- 6:2

NEXT SUNDAY: I CORINTHIANS 4:9-16
COLOSSIANS 1:12-18

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:22-34
LUKE 6:17-23

NEXT SUNDAY: MATTHEW 17:14-23
LUKE 9:51-56; 10:22-24

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Friday, August 14

7:00 p.m. Vigil of the Dormition

Saturday, August 15

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - Dormition of the Theotokos

Blessing of Flowers

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, August 10

I Corinthians 15:12-19

Matthew 21:18-22

Tuesday, August 11

I Corinthians 15:29-38

Matthew 21:23-27

Wednesday, August 12

I Corinthians 16:4-12

Matthew 21:28-32

Thursday, August 13

II Corinthians 1:1-7

Matthew 21:43-46

(St. Tikhon)

Hebrews 7:26-8:2

Matthew 5:14-19

Friday, August 14

II Corinthians 1:12-20

Matthew 22:23-33

Saturday, August 15

Romans 15:30-33

Matthew 17:24-18:4

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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August 9, 2009

COMING EVENTS

AUGUST:

- 9, TODAY 10:45 a.m. Women’s Club meeting
- 13, Thursday Noon - 4:00 p.m. Mohican Canoe Adventure
- 21-22 Deanery Teen Retreat at Archangel Michael Church, Broadview Hts.
- 23, Sunday 10:45 a.m. Corn and Hot Dog Roast
- 28, Friday 7:00 p.m. HTOC night with Lake County Captains
- 31, Monday 7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting

KITCHEN ITEMS:

If you no longer need or use these items, please donate them to our church kitchen: Spritz cookie press and discs; Pizzelle maker; Cookie sheets; Large bowls; Any stainless steel cooking and baking items. See Margarita with any questions.

WOMEN’S CLUB:

The next meeting will be held TODAY, August 9, after the Divine Liturgy. Old and new members are welcome!

LAKE COUNTY CAPTAINS:

All are invited to a night out watching a game of baseball on Friday, August 28, 7:00 p.m., at the Eastlake Stadium. We’ll see a Captains vs. Lakewood Blue Claws game, followed by fireworks. Watch the bulletin board for further details.

ARCHIVES:

A collection trunk is in the Fellowship Hall for HTOC memorabilia; include a “story” of parish history with your item. Items selected by the Archives Committee may become part of a permanent display, so please note if your item is to be returned. For further info, call Alice Reta at 440-526-3613.

WEDDING BANNES:

Kaitlyn Renee Benedict will marry Robert Austin McNerney on Saturday, August 22, at 1:00 p.m.

REQUIEM:

There will be a requiem next Sunday, August 16, at 10:45 a.m. for the parents of Ruth Flewelling.

TEEN RETREAT:

Ages 13-20 are invited to Archangel Michael Church on Friday, Aug. 21, 6:00 p.m. till Sat. Aug. 22, 11:00 a.m. for fun, food, and fellowship. There is no cost. Bring sleeping bag, pillow, clothes, and personal items. Clergy and adult youth advisors are also invited. Register by Aug. 15; see bulletin board for details.

MOHICAN CANOE ADVENTURE:

Plan to join us on Thursday, August 13, for a Mohican Canoe Adventure. Cost is \$12. Or join us just for the picnic and fellowship if you do not wish to canoe. We will depart HTOC at 8:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m. Contact Chris Koch (440-427-0013) or Karen Mravetz (216-661-7449).

BOSE TO HEAR GOD’S WORD:

Please help us meet the cost of installing this solution for the hearing impaired. A gift of any size will be greatly appreciated. The Bose system will be installed the week after Labor Day.

CORN AND HOT DOG ROAST:

Reserve Sunday, Aug. 23, immediately after Liturgy to enjoy food and a sing-along. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall; adults - \$5; children - \$2. The corn is from the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Bakan’s son.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Dave and Judy Howe.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, AUGUST 2	\$ 4111.00
CHILDREN’S COLLECTION	52.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	285.00
BUILDING FUND	290.00
MORTGAGE FUND	658.00
CANDLES	182.00

EVIL MEMORIES

“O Lord our God, who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of man, look upon Your servants and Your inheritance, for to You the awesome Judge who loves all mankind have they bowed their heads not expecting help from men, but hoping in Your mercy and awaiting Your salvation. Protect them at all times, but especially in this present evening and the coming night from every enemy, from every wile of the devil, from vain thoughts and evil memories...”
(Ending prayer of Vespers)

We could call it the psychology of our salvation. The blessed fathers who composed the prayers of the services centuries past understood all the spiritual challenges that confront us. Here especially at evening when the sun sets and darkness envelopes us, our defenses are low and we are prey for the evil forces to attack us at our weakest moments, just as we adjust to the night and lie down to sleep. Watch a dog whirl in a circle before falling asleep, as if to surround itself within a safe area; but we poor creatures are exposed to the invisible enemies. They provoke us with *“vain thoughts and evil memories.”* With our guard down, we are fair game to be used and abused for the sake of sport.

Vain thoughts enticing our minds when we are entering the adventure of sleep are often unreal, foolish or impractical. We create myths about ourselves that evaporate with daylight and would be harmless unless they continue to feed our fantasies and prevent us from taking up the serious business of the day. Many miss the moment of opportunity, daydreaming precious time away with illusions.

Evil memories, however, are even more dangerous to our souls and the spiritual growth that ought to be our constant concern. Captured in the popular phrase *“couldashouldawoulda,”* you didn’t you shouldn’t, and you would not have, given the opportunity to do whatever it was that you felt you had missed doing at the time. What happens when you regurgitate the traumatic moment and conjure up all the negative emotions you felt but repressed at the time? And you repressed them for good reason. It would have been inappropriate behavior that your good sense understood and conveyed to your conscience. What *“could, should, would”* you have done that now comes to your mind with your head on your pillow? It’s an evil memory because Satan is taunting you to live it out again. Feel the inner rage. Taste the blood roiling up in your veins. Get ready to fight. Welcome that “old brain” that physiologists tell us comes from the fight or flight memory of savage times eons past.

As Christians, we are followers of the Prince of Peace, the Son of God who came into our world and taught us the ethics of the Kingdom of heaven. We cannot afford to allow ourselves to be dragged back into the savagery that is part of our ancestry. We are cheek turners, extra mile walkers, lovers of those who hate us, victims rather than combatants. Not by accident nearly half the saints in our calendar are in the category of martyrs. They witnessed in their time and when offered the fight/flight opportunity, did neither. Rather, they stood, holding their crosses or making the cross over themselves, as icons of endurance. How best to change the world’s values other than to make yourself a living poster of the hope that is within you?

Evil doesn’t exist – it occupies the space evacuated by positive spiritual energy. At night especially when our guard is down, it slinks about and hovers around us looking for an entry to our memory. The spiritually advanced warn us to “set a guard” around our thoughts, lest they be penetrated with ideas that at minimum frustrate and annoy us, at worst taunt us with delusions, call us names such a coward, fool, sluggard and others that would drag us down and pull us from the arms of the Lord. The antidote is tried, tested and found workable. It’s to pray with the name of Jesus on your lips: *“Lord, Jesus Christ Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”*

Father Vladimir Berzonsky

THE DORMITION OF THE VIRGIN

The church year culminates with the death and burial, the rising and ascension of the Mother of God. She falls asleep, and the apostles from the ends of the earth converge at her bier to honor the source of the world's salvation, the living temple where God chose to be formed into the God-man, Jesus Christ. Peter and Paul are in the foreground, and behind the other apostles are two bishops, one the Lord's relative and first bishop of Jerusalem, James. In the [blue] mandorla of heaven is Christ who comes to take the soul of His mother and present her to His Father. We think of the plethora of Virgin icons where she, the parent, holds her precious child. Here the roles are reversed. Here is the conclusion of a Christian life, the union with God in the Kingdom that has no ending, truly a fitting climax to the pilgrimage on earth.

*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!*