

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 216-524-8989

BULLETIN 16 - VOLUME XLVII

TONE 4

FEBRUARY 21, 2010

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ***SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY***

***Ven. Timothy of Symbola in Bithynia; St. Eustathius, Archbishop of Antioch;
St. George, Bishop of Amastris on the Black Sea;
The "KOZEL'SHCANSKAYA" Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos***

"Leap for joy and clasp your hands in gladness, for the swords of hostile heresy have been broken, and all the tumult and confusion has faded into the past. As we see the temple of the Lord in all its splendor, adorned with precious images, let us entreat the uncreated image of the Father to maintain the Church in unity, and in harmony and concord."

Exapostilarion, Tone II

TODAY'S EPISTLE: HEBREWS 11:24-26,32-12:2
NEXT SUNDAY: HEBREWS 1:10-2:3
HEBREWS 7:26-8:2

TODAY'S GOSPEL: JOHN 1:43-51
NEXT SUNDAY: MARK 2:1-12
JOHN 10:9-16

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Today, February 21	5:00 p.m. Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers
Wednesday, February 24	5:00 p.m. Personal Confessions 6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy
Friday, February 26	6:00 p.m. Akathist - Holy Martyred Nun Elizabeth and New Martyrs of Alapayevsk
Saturday, February 27	8:30 a.m. Personal Confessions 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Personal Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, February 22	Isaiah 4:2-5:7	Genesis 3:21-4:7	Proverbs 3:34-4:22
Tuesday, February 23	Isaiah 5:7-16	Genesis 4:8-15	Proverbs 5:1-15
Wednesday, February 24 (Forerunner)	Isaiah 5:16-25 II Corinthians 4:6-15	Genesis 4:16-26	Proverbs 5:15-6:4 Matthew 11:2-15
Thursday, February 25	Isaiah 6:1-12	Genesis 5:1-24	Proverbs 6:3-20
Friday, February 26 (St. Raphael)	Isaiah 7:1-15 Proverbs 10:31-11:12	Genesis 5:32-6:8	Proverbs 6:20-7:1 Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15
Saturday, February 27	Hebrews 13:17-21		John 10:9-16

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY:

24, Wednesday Women's Club Soup Supper following Presanctified Liturgy
 26, Friday 6:00 p.m. Brown Bag Discussion following Akathist
 27, Saturday 3:00 p.m. Meeting for Heads of Parish Groups
 28, Sunday 10:45 a.m. Women's Club meeting

MARCH:

1, Monday 7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting
 3, Wednesday Women' Club Soup Supper following Presanctified Liturgy
 5, Friday 6:00 p.m. Brown Bag Discussion following Akathist
 10:30 p.m. Men's Club Cosmic Bowling event

SUPER SUPER BOWL SALE RESULTS!

Thank you to all -- the many workers, cooks, bakers, and buyers -- who supported our Super Bowl Sunday Food Sale. Our profit was \$4122.

MENS' CLUB:

The Men's Club will have a Cosmic Bowling Party at Seven Hills, Lanes from 10:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Friday, March 5. Cost is \$13/person for unlimited bowling, shoe rental, and a raffle ticket. If interested, contact Alex Cundik (ajcundik@cox.net) or Ken Kruse (kencaroline@msn.com).

SOUP SUPPERS - HELP NEEDED:

If you are able to cook soup for one of our Lenten suppers, contact Daria Petrykowski at 440-572-1871.

CHURCH GROUPS:

There will be a meeting for those who head our parish groups on Saturday, February 27, at 3:00 in the church conference room.

BAPTISM AND CHRISMATIONS:

Mason, son of Max and Jennifer Macesich , will be baptized on Sunday, February 28, at 11:45 a.m.; and Emma, Eli, and Marcus, children of Max and Jennifer, will be chrismated.

2009 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT:

Collect your statement in the Fellowship Hall.

COME AND HEAR:

The HTOC Women's Club has invited 3 Orthodox role model women to share their life experiences this Lent. Programs will follow the Akathist on Feb. 26, March 5 and March 26. All are invited. See details on the bulletin back cover, or contact Daria Petrykowski for more info (440-572-1871; pjerry675@aol.com).

EASTER CANDY:

Please plan to buy your Easter candy from the Women's Club Candy Sale of fine chocolates and other treats made by Olympia Candy in Strongsville. Order forms are coming soon. Deliveries by Palm Sunday, or sooner if needed.

CHURCH COUNCIL:

The March Church Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 1, at 7:00 p.m.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Roberta Clough.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Marge Molnar in memory of Bob Molnar.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FORMS:

Forms are available in the Fellowship Hall for tax reductions if you are a home owner who is disabled OR aged 65 or over, regardless of income.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, FEBRUARY 14	\$ 3058.00
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION	4.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	737.00
BUILDING FUND	504.00
MORTGAGE FUND	599.00
CANDLES	144.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 16 - Volume XLVII

February 21, 2010

A DESERT OF YOUR OWN

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights He was hungry. The tempter came to Him...” (Matthew 4:1)

The same Spirit will lead you into a desert that you must fashion by separating yourself from whatever prevents you from self-discovery. You need not go anywhere, but you have to put a distance from your routine way of life. WWJD-W? What Would Jesus Do – Without? If your Lenten desert includes batteries and electronics, how serious are you? This is an experiment in spiritual transformation. Either do it right or not at all.

You are imitating our Lord who was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for a forty-day struggle with Satan. You begin with the intention to fast, pray and contemplate the meaning of salvation, “working out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” You are set on following the prescription for the time until Pascha. Then you sense an urge for a more intense challenge. You intend to exceed the norms suggested by the Church. You will not just fast, but lose weight. Not only will you pray, but you set out on a program to read the whole Bible. It’s all too much, so you give it up as hopeless. Or you may be influenced from below. Your body sends signals that you are punishing yourself senselessly. Suddenly you feel a headache coming on, your stomach sends out grumbling noises, and if you did not decide to avoid TV watching, you are influenced by advertisements where food is always being stuffed into open maws. Forget fasting, you decide. Surely there must be another way. Or you feel depressed, and you abandon the ideals you began with just a few days ago.

You may feel that Lent is a proper time to heal an unpleasant wound between an old friend or family member and yourself. You were the injured party, but you decide to make a Christ-like overture and patch it up. You phone or send a message, but the response just revives all the old animosity. You are made to feel that you were the cause from the beginning, and you are sorry that you even raised the issue again.

The sleepless genius of evil goes at you from another side. Like the verse in the song, “*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me,*” you make a gesture of outreach with a few words of kindness to a total stranger; and the attempt at friendship is taken the wrong way. You are made to feel foolish, like somebody with evil intentions in mind. You regret your charitable action and pull into yourself. Or worse, you feel a temptation rising that you thought you had under control a long time ago. Memories are conjured up from years past when you struggled with urges that only with prayer and intense effort you were finally able to sublimate.

The thought comes to mind: What is the purpose of all this effort? How can a person with all good will and intention “*work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,*” as the beloved apostle Paul puts it, and what’s the point of it all? So you give up the struggle and striving and accept yourself as you are. Or not. You may open yourself to the Spirit within you and take ownership of your soul. You will then not just accept the challenge of Lent but welcome it as you would a worthy opponent if you were playing in your favorite athletic contest, or just deciding to run a long stretch of miles, determined not to give in to your body, your mind, your memories, your temptations, and most of all to Satan.

Father Vladimir Berzonsky

**TODAY'S ORTHODOX WOMAN
SERVING GOD**

**BROWN BAG DISCUSSIONS:
THE PROGRAMS BEGIN AFTER THE
AKATHIST EACH WEEK, WHICH
STARTS AT 6:00 P.M.**

**Bring a brown bag meal; coffee, tea, and
water are provided.**

**Friday, February 26:
Akathist - Holy Martyred Nun Elizabeth
and New Martyrs of Alapayevsk
Speaker - Roberta Royhab**

**Friday, March 5:
Akathist - Glory to God for All Things
Speaker - Mother Christophora**

**Friday, March 26:
Akathist - Mother of God, Nurturer of
Children
Speaker - Matushka Valerie Zahirsky**



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