

***VIRGINMARTYR ANYSIA  
AT THESSALONICA***

The Holy Virgin Martyr Anysia lived in the city of Thessalonica during the reign of the Emperor Maximian (286-305). Upon the death of her parents, who had raised her in Christian piety, St. Anysia sold everything she owned, distributing her riches to the poor; and she began to lead a strict life of fasting, vigil, and prayer.

During his persecution against the Christians, Maximian issued an edict stating that anyone had the right to kill Christians, with no fear of punishment. Soon there were many bodies to be found in cities, towns, and by the roadside. Once, when St. Anysia was on her way to church, a pagan soldier stopped her and demanded that she come along to the festival of the sun to offer sacrifice. Saint Anysia gently pulled herself away from him. When the soldier boldly grabbed her and attempted to tear the veil from her head, she shoved him, spit in his face and said, "My Lord Jesus Christ forbids you!"

In anger, the soldier ran her through with his sword. Those gathering over her body wept loudly and complained against the cruel emperor for issuing an edict that resulted in the death of many innocent people. Christians buried the martyr near the city gates, and a chapel was built over her grave.

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***SAINT JOSEPH THE BETROTHED***  
***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. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, 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 9 - VOLUME LVI

TONE 6

DECEMBER 30, 2018

## THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Sunday After the Nativity*

*Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, James the Brother of the Lord*

*Sunday Before the Theophany*

*Virgin Martyr Anysia at Thesslonica; Martyr Zoticus, Keeper of Orphans;*

*Apostle of the Seventy, Timon the Deacon;*

*Martyr Philoterus of Nicomedia; Ven. Theodora of Cæsarea in Cappadocia;*

*Ven. Theodora of Constantinople; Monk Martyr Gideon of Karakallou;*

*St. Makáry, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia*

“Today, the divinely favored David is ecstatic with joy, and, indeed, Joseph and James join him in celebrating, for they beam with pride in being relatives of the Lord Jesus. They exult in that ineffable birth that brought Him to earth, crying out with one accord: O generous One, save all those who are truly devoted to You.”

Kondakion, Tone III

TODAY'S EPISTLE: GALATIANS 1:11-19

TODAY'S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:13-23

### HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Tuesday, January 1 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**New Year's Day**  
Friday, January 4 9:00 a.m. Royal Hours  
Saturday, January 5 5:00 p.m. Vigil—**Eve of the Theophany**

### Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, December 31	James 2:14-26	Mark 12:13-17
Tuesday, January 1	II Timothy 4:5-8	Mark 1:1-8
(Circumcision)	Colossians 2:8-12	Luke 2:20-21,40-52
Wednesday, January 2	James 3:11-4:6	Mark 12:28-37
(St. Seraphim)	Galatians 5:22-6:2	Luke 6:17-23
Thursday, January 3	James 4:7-5:9	Mark 12:38-44
Friday, January 4	I Peter 1:1-2,10-12; 2:6-10	Mark 13:1-8
Saturday, January 5	I Timothy 3:14-4:5	Matthew 3:1-11
	I Thessalonians 5:14-23	Luke 18:2-8
(Blessing of Waters)	I Corinthians 10:1-4	Mark 1:9-11

**DECEMBER 31 THROUGH JANUARY 4 IS FAST-FREE. JANUARY 5 IS A STRICT FAST DAY.**

**COMING EVENTS**

**DECEMBER:**

30, TODAY No Church School classes

**JANUARY:**

13, Sunday Second Sunday Food Sale

14, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle

7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting

20, Sunday Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner

**MEMORY ETERNAL:**

Correction: Irene Blischak, mother of Andrea Seditz, fell asleep in the Lord last week.

**2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES:**

Envelope boxes are available in the Fellowship Hall.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

On Sunday, January 20, 2019, we will have our annual Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner.

**2019 HOUSE BLESSINGS:**

There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you would like Father Alexander to bless your home during the season of Theophany.

**ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:**

The Book Circle will meet Monday, January 14, at 12:30 p.m. We are reading Wounded by Love: The Life and the Wisdom of Elder Porphyrios. Please read Part I, pages 1-82. Books are available at La Coupole.

**COFFEE HOUR:**

Coffee Hour is a regular and much-appreciated gathering after our Sunday Divine Liturgies. Our parish's practice is for individuals, families or groups of parishioners to take turns — by purchasing or preparing items to be offered with coffee and other beverages. Coffee Hour organizers can repay themselves for items purchased or make a donation, for which they are credited. Proceeds from Coffee Hour go to the parish's General Fund.

The success of Coffee Hour depends on parishioners' willingness to commit on the Sign-up Sheet, which is in the Hall kitchen. To keep it consistent and seamless, it is important to sign up ahead of time, for which purpose we will be printing the current signees and open dates in "The Trinitarian." As you may want to reserve a Sunday to commemorate an anniversary or special event, please check the future dates on the Sign-up Sheet.

We have openings for January 27, and February 10, and February 24.

**FUND CONSOLIDATION:**

Several years ago the Parish Council created an Ethnic Foods and Icon Fund, which collected monies from food sales and donations, to be used for projects and items that decorated and beautified the church. Some of these monies were used to pay for portions of the iconography. After the completion of the iconography, there was the intention of applying the funds for a new outdoor sign. This summer a beautiful new sign was finally erected and is now functioning.

As the original intentions for this fund have been satisfied while maintenance projects are on ongoing reality, the Parish Council has decided to consolidate the Ethnic and Icon Funds into the existing Building Fund. Monies from the Building Fund are used for various maintenance and repairs that arise, however, Council can likewise use it for repairs to icons or liturgical items if necessary. Consolidation of the Funds will also streamline bookkeeping and reporting of parish financial statements.

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

REGULAR COLLECTION, DECEMBER 23	\$ 3225.00
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION, DECEMBER 25	1658.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	655.00
BUILDING FUND	25.00
MORTGAGE FUND	60.00
CANDLES	125.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	105.00



Orthodox Church in America  
DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

2018 NATIVITY MESSAGE OF HIS GRACE, BISHOP PAUL

*“For today I see equality of honor between heaven and earth, and a way for all those below to things above, matching the condescension of those on high. However great the heaven of heavens may be, or the upper waters which form a roof over the celestial regions, or any heavenly place, state, or order, they are by no more marvelous or honorable than the cave, the manger, the water sprinkled on the Infant and His swaddling clothes. For nothing done by God from the beginning of time was more beneficial to all or more divine than Christ’s nativity, which we celebrate today.... He Who is by nature Lord of all is now ranked with the servants and enrolled with them (Luke 2:1-6), clearly making humble service to others no less honorable than the exercise of lordship, or rather, showing the servants as having greater honor than the earthly ruler at that time.” –St. Gregory Palamas, Sermon on the Nativity*

TO ALL CLERGY, MONASTICS, AND LAITY OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

*CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!*

These words of St. Gregory Palamas portray a wonderful icon of earth and heaven. It also points to the supreme act of condescension where the Uncontainable God, contained in the Virgin’s womb is now born into the world “for us men and for our salvation.” For “nothing was more beneficial to all or more divine than Christ’s nativity.”

This is why we fast, say our prayers, go to Confession, attend services, and give alms during the fasting season; it is to do away with the false dichotomy between the earthly and the spiritual. One is not lesser than the other; the created things of this world are not sinful. We don’t embrace spiritual things as good while hating what is of the earth.

By gazing into the Cave and beholding the Incarnate God, a transformation occurs in uniting ourselves to Him. All we have becomes an offering to Him in gratitude. In Christ we now become Kings of Creation and no longer slaves of Creation. In Christ we become Prophets of Creation and no longer fools of Creation. In Christ, we as Priests become intercessors of Creation and no longer desecrators of Creation. It is only through Christ we can ever realize this reality because He is the King, the Prophet, and the Priest of Creation. He once again reveals the “very good” of Creation in His Nativity.

Passions that are self-oriented now can become offerings to God the Father, through the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are offerings in gratitude for the many gifts He has given, whether they are gifts of food, safety, security, or knowledge. Finally, a man and woman offers their desire to be united to each other, and to have that union blessed by the Church, and thus become an icon of a common witness between a husband and wife towards the Kingdom and of Christ’s love for the Church.

Our participation in the Cave is realized and renewed through our Baptism and Chrismation. It is fulfilled in the Cave of the Eucharistic Assembly where we touch earth and encounter heaven. Let us rejoice this day and be glad; for the glory of our earthly life, what we sense, feel, and touch, now points to the glory of that which is beyond what we see, feel and touch, a glory that has no ending!

*CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!*

With love in Christ, the unworthy

Paul  
Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest

*To be circulated or read in Diocesan parishes.*

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

6822 BROADVIEW ROAD; PARMA, OHIO 44134

VERY REVEREND ALEXANDER GARKLAVS

# JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1 The Circumcision of our Lord</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy <b>No Fast</b>	2  <b>No Fast</b>	3  <b>No Fast</b>	4 9:00 a.m. Royal Hours  <b>No Fast</b>	<b>5 Eve of The Theophany</b>  5:00 p.m. Vigil  <b>Strict Fast</b>
<b>6 32nd Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>HOLY THEOPHANY</b> Blessing of Waters	7	8	9	10	11	12  5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
<b>13 33rd Sunday after Pentecost</b> Afterfeast of the Theophany  Second Sunday Food Sale	14 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle  7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting	15	16	17	18	19  5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
<b>20 34th Sunday after Pentecost</b> Ven. Euthymius  Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner	21	22	23	24	25	26  5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
<b>27 35th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	28 Cooking for St. Herman's House	29	30 Serving dinner at St. Herman's House	31		