

TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

St. John Chrysostom died in the city of Comana in 407 on his way to a place of exile. He had been condemned by the intrigues of the empress Eudoxia because of his daring denunciation of the vices ruling over Constantinople. The transfer of his venerable relics was made in the year 438 during the reign of Eudoxia's son Emperor Theodosius II (408-450).

St. John had the warm love and deep respect of the people, and grief over his untimely death lived in the hearts of Christians. His disciple, St. Proclus, Patriarch of Constantinople (434-447), preached a sermon praising St. John. He said, "O John, your life was filled with sorrow, but your death was glorious. Your grave is blessed and reward is great, by the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, O graced one, having conquered the bounds of time and place! Love has conquered space, unforgetting memory has annihilated the limits, and place does not hinder the miracles of the saint." Those present in church, deeply touched by his words, began to entreat the Patriarch to intercede with the emperor so that St. John's relics might be brought back to Constantinople.

The emperor, overwhelmed by St. Proclus, gave his consent and ordered the transfer of St. John's relics. But those he sent were unable to life the holy relics until the emperor realized he had sent men to take the relics from Comana with an edict, not with a prayer. He wrote a letter to St. John, humbly asking him to forgive his audacity and to return to Constantinople. After the message was read at the grave, the relics were easily lifted, carried onto a ship and transported to Constantinople.

The coffin with the relics was placed in the Church of Holy Peace. When Patriarch Proclus opened the coffin, the body of St. John was found to be incorrupt. The emperor approached the coffin with tears, asking forgiveness for his mother, who had banished St. John. All day and night people did not leave the coffin.

In the morning, the coffin was brought to the Church of the Holy Apostles. The people cried out, "Father, take up your throne." Then Patriarch Proclus and the clergy standing by the relics saw St. John open his mouth and say, "Peace be to all." Many of the sick were healed at his tomb.

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SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

**HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44134**

THE TRINITARIAN

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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

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BULLETIN 13 - VOLUME LVI

TONE 2

JANUARY 27, 2019

THIRTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Translation of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople;
Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia*

“Grace shining forth from your lips like a beacon has enlightened the universe; it has shown to the world the riches of poverty; it has revealed to us the heights of humility. Teaching us by your words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.”

Troparion, Tone VIII

THE MEETING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

Saturday, February 2

“On Mount Sinai, Moses saw the back of God, and he heard God’s voice as a storm raged in the darkness around him. This same God took flesh without change, and now Simeon has taken Him into his arms. For the old man, his life is now complete, and so he prepares joyfully to depart this life, saying: Now, You may let Your servant go in peace, Master, as You said You would.”

Jerusalem Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: COLOSSIANS 3:12-16
HEBREWS 7:26-8:2

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:14-30
JOHN 10:9-16

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Friday, February 1	6:00 p.m. Great Vespers
Saturday, February 2	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - The Meeting of our Lord in the Temple
	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, January 28	Hebrews 11:17-23,27-31	Mark 9:42-10:1
Tuesday, January 29	Hebrews 12:25-26;13:22-25	Mark 10:2-12
Wednesday, January 30	Hebrews 13:7-16	Matthew 5:14-19
Thursday, January 31	James 1:19-27	Mark 10:17-27
Friday, February 1	James 2:1-13	Mark 10:23-32
Saturday, February 2	Hebrews 7:7-17	Luke 2:22-40

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY:

28, Monday Cooking for St. Herman’s House of Hospitality
30, Wednesday Serving dinner at St. Herman’s House

FEBRUARY:

3, Sunday Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner
10, Sunday Second Sunday Food Sale
11, Monday 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting
16, Saturday 9:30 a.m. Retreat at St. George Antiochian Church
22, Friday 6:00 p.m. HTOC Game Night & Potluck
28, Thursday 6:30 p.m. IOCC Benefit — European Wine Tasting

MEMORY ETERNAL:

Suzanne Palmer fell asleep in the Lord on January 23, 2019. Funeral arrangements will be announced.

“ROBO-CALL:”

Just this past weekend we used our Telephone Notification System to notify parishioners about cancellations due to weather. We also use this when important notifications need to be made on short notice. If you have not been receiving such calls and would like to, please submit your phone number to Parish Secretary Janene (email: jmhatch8@gmail.com) You may also indicate that you would prefer to receive such notifications as text messages.

EUROPEAN WINE TASTING:

International Orthodox Christian Charities will host a four-course dinner with wine pairings as a benefit to help charities around the world. The event will be Thursday, Feb. 28, at St. Michael’s Woodside; doors open at 6:30, and dinner is at 7:00. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased from Popadja Kathy Babich, Paula Svilar, or Diane Hastings.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Claudia Virosteck in memory of Henry and Jewel Koscianski.

COFFEE HOUR:

Thank you to our donors of today’s refreshments, Neil and Susan Haverly.

PORK AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER:

The Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner originally scheduled for last Sunday has been postponed until Sunday, February 3. All tickets already sold will be honored, and ticket sales will continue through today. See Jewelana Stefanar for tickets.

RETREAT:

The Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy and ZOE for Life invite all to a retreat with V. Rev. Dr. John Behr, world-renowned Orthodox theologian and author. The retreat begins at 9:30 a.m. on Sat., Feb. 16, at St. George Antiochian Church; 2587 West 14th St.; Cleveland; Vespers will follow at 5:00. The topic is “Coming to Know and Sharing Jesus Christ.” Tickets are free and are available from Fr. Alexander; or call 440-893-9990. Free will offerings to ZOE for Life are appreciated.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Don’t forget to visit our website for updates. If you are on Facebook, please like and follow our page to see photos, announcements and motivating messages. If you are not on Facebook, you can still view our page from our website (upper right-hand corner):

www.holy-trin.org

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Claudia Virosteck in memory of Dn. George, and the Virosteck and Koscianski Families.

Our prayer must be deep sincere, wise, and fruitful;
it must change our heart, direct our will to good, withdrawing us from evil.
Superficial prayer is hypocrisy, and a mocking of sacred things — vain prayer.
“This people draweth nigh to Me with their mouth and honoureth Me with their lips;
but their heart is far from Me” (Matthew 15:8).

St. John of Kronstadt

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 13 – Volume LVI

January 27, 2019

THE SAINTS AMONG US - BLESSED XENIA OF ST. PETERSBURG

St. Xenia is one of the unique class of saints that are called “blessed,” also known as “fools for Christ.” The latter terminology is misleading, as anything foolish or anyone being a fool can hardly be considered as something honorable and respectable. But the concept and words come directly from St. Paul: “We are fools for Christ’s sake” (I Corinthians 4:10). The Apostle’s point is that a true Christian is someone whose faith, ethics, ideas and attitudes are in stark contrast to the accepted ways of the world. True in the Roman Empire, it is still the case that many regard Christianity as something foolish. Actually, it is the other way around, as a real Christian sees the ways of the world as foolish!

The term “fools for Christ” as specific for certain saints was not applied to Apostles or early saints. It originated later among monastics and ascetics. These were deeply devout men and women who adopted a style of living that was unusual by the standards of normal society. Their motives for doing so were not always evident but were sometimes due to emotional and psychological reasons. Forms of “blessed foolishness” ranged from feigned madness to acts of extreme asceticism. It should be kept in mind that many of these saints were actually misunderstood and mistreated by Christians themselves, especially church officials.

About St. Xenia we know neither the date of birth or death. She was perhaps in her mid-sixties when she passed away around 1800. Married to a colonel of the Russian Imperial Army, she enjoyed the comforts and pleasures of aristocratic life in the capital city. Tragically, her husband died, leaving her a young widow at twenty-six. Very distraught, she gave away what possessions she had, keeping only her husband’s military jacket which she wore. Thus began her life of wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, finding shelter wherever she could, living only on what she received from kind benefactors. If at times she received more than she needed, she would give it away to other needy people.

Insulted by some, ignored by many, there were enough pious Christians who recognized that her “foolishness” was in fact a blessed state of exceptional holiness. Just being in her presence made people sense comfort and peace. It was as if God’s grace came to others through her. Soon after her death and burial in the Smolensk Cemetery, the faithful of St. Petersburg began to flock to her grave, where they received blessings and answers to their prayers. In time her posthumous fame grew so that a small chapel was built over her grave, becoming a holy site that attracted thousands. She was already recognized as a saint by many when the Russian Church officially canonized her in 1988. Every Orthodox Christian visiting St. Petersburg knows that a visit to “Blessed Xenia” is obligatory. I treasure memories of visiting that holy place several times, both in the quiet of a summer evening with only a couple of other pilgrims and when hundreds lined up to enter the chapel to pray at her grave. In our church you will find her in the middle of the round medallions on the left side. Notice that she is depicted wearing her husband’s military jacket.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD; PARMA, OHIO 44134
VERY REVERENT ALEXANDER GARKLAVS

FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers	2 The Meeting of our Lord in the Temple 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
3 36th Sunday after Pentecost Righteous Simeon and Anna Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner	4	5	6	7	8	9 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
10 37th Sunday after Pentecost Second Sunday Food Sale	11 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting	12	13	14	15	16 9:30 a.m. Retreat at St. George Antiochian Church 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
17 38th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee	18 T H I S	19 I S	20 A	21 F A S T -	22 6:00 p.m. Game Night and Potluck F R E E	23 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions W E E K .
24 39th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday of the Prodigal Son	25 Cooking for St. Herman's House	26	27 Serving dinner at St. Herman's House	28 6:30 p.m. IOCC Wine Tasting Benefit at St. Michaels Woodside		