

***HOLY WONDERWORKERS AND UNMERCENARY
PHYSICIANS COSMAS AND DAMIAN
OF MESOPOTAMIA***

Holy Wonderworkers Cosmas and Damian and their mother St. Theodota were natives of Asia Minor. Their pagan father died while they were small children, and their mother raised them in Christian piety. Through her example and by reading holy books to them, St. Theodota preserved her children in purity of life according to the command of the Lord.

Trained and skilled as physicians, they received from the Holy Spirit the gift of healing people's illnesses by the power of prayer. They even treated animals. With fervent love for both God and neighbor, they never took payment for their services, observing the Lord's command, "Freely have you received, freely give." (Matthew 10:8) Their fame spread throughout the region, and people called them unmercenary physicians.

They were summoned to a grievously ill woman named Palladia, whom others deemed hopeless. Through faith and fervent prayer of the brothers, the Lord healed her of a deadly disease, and Palladia arose from her bed perfectly healthy, praising God. In gratitude, Palladia went quietly to Damian, presented him with 3 eggs and said, "Take this small gift in the Name of the Holy Life-Creating Trinity, the Father Son, and Holy Spirit." Hearing the Name of the Holy Trinity, Damian did not dare refuse.

When St. Cosmas learned of this, he became very sad, believing his brother had broken their strict vow. On his deathbed, he instructed that his brother should not be buried beside him. St. Damian died shortly afterward, and the people did not know where to bury him. But through the will of God, a miracle occurred. A camel, which the saints had treated, spoke with a human voice saying that there should be no doubts placing the brothers together because Damian did not accept the eggs as payment but out of respect for the Name of God. The venerable brothers were buried together at Mesopotamia, and many miracles were worked after their death as well.

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HOLY WONDERWORKERS COSMAS AND DAMIAN

***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 1 - VOLUME LVIII

TONE 4

NOVEMBER 1, 2020

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

***Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia;
and their mother, St. Theodota;***

Hieromartyrs John the Bishop and Jacob the Presbyter, of Persia;

Martyrs Cyrenia and Juliana in Cilicia;

Martyr Hermenegild the Goth of Spain;

Martyrs Cæsarius, Dacius, Sabbas, Sabinian, Agrippa, Adrian, and Thomas, at Damascus;

Monk-Martyrs Jacob, Jacob the Deacon, and Dionysius, of Prodrumou

“Holy unmercenaries and wonderworkers, Cosmas and Damian, heal our infirmities. Freely have you received; freely you give to us.”

Troparion, Tone VIII

“Having received the grace of healing, you grant healing to those in need. Glorious wonderworkers and healers, Cosmas and Damian, visit us and put down the insolence of our enemies, and bring healing to the world through your miracles.”

Kontakion, Tone II

TODAY’S EPISTLE: GALATIANS 2:16-20

TODAY’S GOSPEL: LUKE 8:26-39

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, November 7 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, November 2	Colossians 2:13-20	Luke 11:29-33
Tuesday, November 3	Colossians 2:20-3:3	Luke 11:34-41
Wednesday, November 4	Colossians 3:17-4:1	Luke 11:42-46
Thursday, November 5	Colossians 4:2-9	Luke 11:47-12:1
Friday, November 6	Colossians 4:10-18	Luke 12:2-12
Saturday, November 7	II Corinthians 5:1-10	Luke 9:1-6

***Cast your care upon the Lord, and He shall support you;
He will never allow the righteous to be moved.***

Psalm 54:22

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER:

- 9, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle
- 14, Saturday 10:00 a.m. EOWG meeting at Buna Vestire Church
- 15, Sunday Parish Council meeting
"Stewards of the Orthodox Church in America" Sunday
- 16, Monday Beginning of Nativity Fast
St. Herman House Fundraising Week begins

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

A Special Presentation by Fr. Alexander, "The Eucharist in Art and Life," is currently airing on YouTube, as the 36th Annual Eastern Churches Seminar: [YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege](https://www.youtube.com/NotreDameCollege)
Or: [NotreDameCollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar](https://www.NotreDameCollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar)

ST. HERMAN'S HOUSE:

An online fundraiser will be held the week of Nov. 15 -22 for St. Herman's House. This will be in lieu of the annual November speaker's event and December spaghetti dinner. There will be videos and other info posted on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to highlight the issue of hunger and homelessness, and to raise funds for St. Herman's.

STEWARDS OF THE OCA SUNDAY:

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has designated November 15 as "Stewards of the Orthodox Church in America Sunday." Support the work of the OCA by becoming a Steward, which will aid the work of ministries and departments that serve the entire Church by providing resources such as liturgical texts, music, educational material and educational events, as well as projects currently being developed. To learn more, visit oca.org/stewards which also has a schedule of online events that highlight the OCA work and plans.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by the Stoyka Family in celebration of Joanne's birthday and in loving memory of Anna.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR ST. HERMAN'S HOUSE:

For the next couple of weeks we are collecting donations for St. Herman's House of Hospitality. Our parish has supported this great outreach ministry for years in different ways. The Covid outbreak has brought about changes, making it impossible to continue our parish's tradition of preparing and serving monthly meals for St. Herman's. But St. Herman's continues to provide the meals and services, which are needed now more than ever. There will be special programs during the week of Nov. 15 (see item in previous column), and in conjunction with that, we will be offering our support through collected funds. Use the designated basket, and mark the envelopes, "St. Herman's House." If writing a check, please make it payable to "Holy Trinity Orthodox Church."

EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD:

The Guild will have their meeting at Buna Vestire Church on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 10:00 a.m. The church address is 7140 Fitch Road in Olmsted Falls. The program is a pre-Advent mini retreat.

If you are interested in joining the EOWG, please see Joanne Stoyka or Dianna Kall.

WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE:

Are you an Orthodox woman age 18-55 willing to share your opinions about women's healthcare needs in America? Please see further details in the Fellowship Hall; or contact Kimberly at 440-708-8434; email Kimberly.babichspeck@otterbein.edu

*Do not confuse man—the image of God—
with the wickedness that is in him,
for the wickedness is only accidental,
his misfortune, a sickness, an illusion of the devil;
But his being—the image of God—
still remains.*

Father John of Kronstadt

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THE PANDEMIC AMONG US!

Last Sunday our Parish Council met after the Divine Liturgy, at which a significant part of the discussion was about the Covid-related problems that affect us. For the past couple of weeks we have been following a reasonable course of practice, following the precautions that have become routine. But with the possibility of increased numbers of sickness due to the virus, we decided that it was a good time to reassess our participation in parish life.

Like parishes throughout our entire Church, we are dealing with a situation that none of us have ever dealt with. Many people have gone through hard and difficult times, but living through a pandemic on such a world-wide scale that affects every human being everywhere is a heretofore unknown condition. There are scientists and scholars who, thank God, are working rapidly and diligently on finding out just how the virus affects us, how it is spread, its lasting consequences, what medicines can mitigate or cure it, and what vaccines will enable us to live a “normal” life without fear. However, everything is in the realm of the unknown! Like all of us, scientists are dealing with something that is frustratingly bewildering.

It should not surprise us that what we must do in our daily lives, as well as in our participation in church life, is to be resolute in being as sensible and cautious as possible. It is clear from the overwhelming consensus of doctors and scientists that there are two basic and very easy to be followed measures which all of us need to do as often as is necessary: wear masks and observe social distance. There are good reasons to believe that if everyone were to follow those practices, the numbers of sick people would decrease. But alas, the numbers of infected sick people are going up everywhere, and Ohio seems to be one of the more critical states. For now, neither Archbishop Paul nor official State directives indicate a change in the guidelines. Nevertheless, we are entering what may be a more precarious season; and with that in mind, this is a good time to re-affirm the conditions for worship and social events at church.

- Masks should be worn at all times, in the church and hall, except when eating or drinking in the hall. Masks should cover both nose and mouth. For those receiving Communion, masks should be removed at reception of the Holy Gifts and bread, then replaced. Extra masks are available in the vestibule together with hand sanitizer.
- Keep a distance of at least 6’ between people (couples or small families count as one). This is to be observed throughout the church proper and in the Communion line. Please be aware that regular parishioners may need to move from “their” seats; if someone unintentionally sits too close in front or behind you, quietly move to a socially distant position (thankfully, we have room to spare in our church). In the hall, follow the guidelines posted on each table. Unnecessary movements should be avoided, especially in the church.

The ability to come together to worship as brothers and sisters in Christ provides us with an opportunity to share our faith, love and hope at a very difficult time; let’s make every effort to make it possible to continue doing so.

Father Alexander Garklaus