

## ***SAINT THOMAS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE***

Saint Thomas, Patriarch of Constantinople, was at first a deacon, and later under the holy Patriarch John IV the Faster (582-595), he was made sacristan in the Great Church (Hagia Sophia). After the death of holy Patriarch Cyriacus (595-606), St. Thomas was elevated to the Patriarchal throne in 607. The saint concerned himself in every possible way about the spiritual needs of his flock.

During his patriarchate, an ominous portent appeared in the land of Galatia (Asia Minor). The heavy crosses which were carried during church processions began to shake and to strike against each other. A clairvoyant elder, St. Theodore Sykeotes, explained this meant discords and disasters awaited the Church, and the state was in danger of barbarian invasion. Hearing this, St. Thomas became terrified and asked St. Theodore to pray that God would take his soul before these predictions were fulfilled.

After the death of the holy Patriarch Thomas in 610, disorders did indeed start in the Church. St. Thomas's successor, Patriarch Sergius (610-638) fell into the Monothelite heresy. Through God's dispensation, war broke out with Persia, which proved grievous for Byzantium. The Greek regions of Asia Minor were completely devastated, Jerusalem fell, and the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord was captured and taken to Persia. Thus, all the misfortunes portended by the miracle during the church procession came to pass.

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

# THE TRINITARIAN

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**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 516-761-8772

BULLETIN 21 - VOLUME LVIII

TONE 8

MARCH 21, 2021

## ***FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT***

### ***Sunday of Orthodoxy***

***St. James the Confessor, Bishop of Catania;***

***St. Cyril, Bishop of Catania;***

***St. Thomas, Patriarch of Constantinople***

“Leap for joy and clap 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

“O guide of Orthodoxy and teacher of piety and holiness, brilliant light of the universe and glory of all who lead the priestly and monastic life. As a divinely inspired lyre of the Holy Spirit, you enlightened everyone with your teaching. O wise and holy father, James, entreat Christ, our God, to save our souls.”

Troparion, Tone VIII

### **HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:**

Wednesday, March 24	9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday, March 25	5:00 p.m. Vesperal Divine Liturgy - <b>Annunciation of the Theotokos</b>
Saturday, March 27	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

### **Daily Scripture Readings**

Monday, March 22	Isaiah 4:2-5:7	Genesis 3:21-4:7	Proverbs 3:34-4:22
Tuesday, March 23	Isaiah 5:7-16	Genesis 4:8-15	Proverbs 5:1-15
Wednesday, March 24 (Theotokos)	Isaiah 5:16-25	Genesis 4:16-26	Proverbs 5:15-6:3
Thursday, March 25 (Theotokos)	Genesis 28:10-17	Ezekiel 43:27-44:4	Proverbs 9:1-11
Friday, March 26	Isaiah 6:1-12	Genesis 5:1-24	Proverbs 6:3-20
Saturday, March 27 (Departed)	Hebrews 2:11-18	Luke 1:24-38	
	Isaiah 7:1-15	Genesis 5:32-6:8	Proverbs 6:20-7:1
	Hebrews 3:12-16	Mark 1:35-44	
	I Thessalonians 4:13-17	John 5:24-30	

**ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

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**COMING EVENTS**

**APRIL:**

11, Sunday 4:00 p.m. ZOOM Youth Retreat, grades K-12

**REGARDING CONFESSIONS DURING GREAT LENT:**

Last year the COVID crisis came upon us just as Great Lent was beginning. Everything stopped, including attendance at church services; and with that no confessions were heard. As things have improved and many parishioners are now coming to church, we will return to the practice of going to confession, one of the most sacred and meaningful Christian traditions. However, as the COVID virus still poses some threat, certain changes are necessary. Fr. Alexander will be hearing private confessions in church at set times, which will be posted in the Trinitarian every week. Those coming are asked to wear masks. We will try to maintain some distance between priest and confessee. Because that distance will make confession somewhat less intimate, we ask that people who are waiting to go to confession remain at the back of the church until their time to come forward. Parishioners who plan to go to confession are encouraged to do so at the designated times; but with questions and special requests, you can phone or email Fr. Alexander (516-761-8772; garklavs@cox.net).

Another option for confession, blessed by Archbishop Paul, is to do so by phone. To do so, you can call the church office phone number at certain hours in the week, which will be posted weekly in The Trinitarian.

**For this Second Week of Lent**, confessions will be heard in church Wednesday, March 24, 8:15-9:00 a.m.; Thursday, March 25, 3:00-4:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 27, 4:00-5:00 p.m., and after Vespers

On Thursday, March 25, parishioners can call the church office (216-524-4859) from 10:00 a.m. until noon, for confession over the phone.

<p><b><u>PLEASE NOTE!</u></b> A service was omitted from the monthly calendar in error - There will be a Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday, March 31, at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b><u>LA COUPOLE:</u></b> La Coupole is open! Stop by after the Divine Liturgy to browse. <b>ALL</b> books will be 20% off March 21-April 4! Select a prayer book, a book to read during Great Lent, or a child’s book to give as a gift at Easter. There are also books available to sign out of the Holy Trinity Library, managed by Tamara Lesnick and located across from La Coupole.</p>	<p><b><u>VIRTUAL NATIONAL YOUTH RETREAT:</u></b> “Rediscovering Pascha - After a Year of Pandemic” is the theme for a gathering via ZOOM of Orthodox youth, grades K-12, on Sunday, April 11, 4:00-7:00 p.m. Fr. Timothy Hojnicky and Fr. Benjamin Tucci will lead the retreat about our pathway to the Feast of Feasts. Registration is required: please visit the website <a href="http://www.orthodoxfellowship.org">www.orthodoxfellowship.org</a> and go to the registration page.</p> <p><b><u>TRINITARIAN COVERS:</u></b> The covers today are offered in memory of Deacon George Virosteck by Matushka Claudia.</p>
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*To serve Mary and be her attendant is the greatest honor one can possibly have,  
for to serve the Queen of Heaven is to reign there,  
and to live under her commands is already to govern.”*

*St. John of Damascus*

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

REGULAR COLLECTION, 2/29-3/14/21	\$ 6619.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	1540.00
BUILDING FUND	1025.00
CANDLES	170.00
ORTHODOX MISSIONS	70.00
DEANERY	35.00

**ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

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**THE ANGEL'S VOICE**

*Things below are joined to things above. Adam is renewed  
and Eve set free from her ancient sorrow; and the Tabernacle of the  
human nature which the Lord took upon Himself is consecrated as  
a Temple of God. O Mystery!*

*(From the Annunciation service)*

What happened in the Garden can be summarized succinctly:  
Adam and Eve discovered that there is more to life than utility,  
Finding out that some urges are not satisfied by consumption  
They were shocked beyond regret and discovered a vocation,  
The search for understanding of at least a modest explanation.

So, the story goes, not theirs, mine; When I was eighteen  
I should have been studying, but instead climbed a mountain,  
Watching the sun set was a fleeting sublimity caught by my mind,  
Not as universal truth, but as antidote to senseless speculation.  
Preserved as shred of memory, a tonic for a holy celebration.

Humanity's condition is flexible and fragile, not a consoling thought,  
Desiring wisdom, settling for knowledge, comfortable with ignorance,  
We are disconnected; between God and us, you and me, so what?  
Yet the inability to describe meaningless existence is meaning,  
As is the mystery of forgiveness of Adam's fall and my beginning.

Adam, who saw the sun rise and set many times, left a legacy for us,  
He and Eve had the benefit of having known angels as friends,  
From them they learned there is a way to staying young:  
Work hard in moderation, be kind to others, eat at home,  
Adapt, do what needs to be done, and do not postpone.

Humanity recognizes limitations by seeking things beyond,  
Life's questions and frustrations lead to patient expectation,  
Waiting for the light to dawn begins every gladsome eve,  
Never lost was the desire, nurturing the need to make a choice,  
As once made by a maiden, who responded to the angel's voice.

*Fr. Alexander Garklaus*