Ambo

St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral

733 Starkweather Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
Mailing:
733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 4411

T 216 741.1310
F 216 623 1092
www.sttheodosius.org

- Archpriest John Zdinak
  Dean
- Priest Svetislav
  Mirolovich
- Dn. Daniel Boerio
- Subdeacon Theodore
  Lentz
- Reader Julius Kovach
  Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

Divine Services

Eve Sundays & Feast Days
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sundays and Feast Days
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Fr. John Office Hours
Tuesday & Wednesday
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*Articles for publication in the AMBO should be submitted to: AMBO@sttheodosius.org or sttheocemetery@yahoo.com by Wednesday of each week before noon.

JANUARY 31, 2010
34th Sunday After Pentecost

PRODIGAL SON

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

St Photius the Patriarch of Constantinople

Saint Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople, "the Church's far-gleaming beacon," lived during the ninth century, and came from a family of zealous Christians. His father Sergius died as a martyr in defense of holy icons. St Photius received an excellent education and, since his family was related to the imperial house, he occupied the position of first state secretary in the Senate. His contemporaries said of him: "He so distinguished himself with knowledge in almost all the secular sciences, that it rightfully might be possible to take into account the glory of his age and compare it with the ancients."

Michael, the young successor to the throne, and St Cyril, the future Enlightener of the Slavs, were taught by him. His deep Christian piety protected St Photius from being seduced by the charms of court life. With all his soul, he yearned for monasticism.

In 857 Bardas, who ruled with Emperor Michael, deposed Patriarch Ignatius (October 23) from the See of Constantinople. The bishops, knowing the piety and extensive knowledge of Photius, informed the emperor that he was a man worthy to occupy the archpastoral throne. St Photius accepted the proposal with humility. He passed through all the clerical ranks in six days. On the day of the Nativity of Christ, he was consecrated bishop and elevated to the patriarchal throne.

Soon, however, discord arose within the Church, stirred up by the removal of Patriarch Ignatius from office. The Synod of 861 was called to end the unrest, at which the deposition of Ignatius and the installation of Photius as patriarch were confirmed.

Pope Nicholas I, whose envoys were present at this council, hoped that by recognizing Photius as patriarch he could subordinate him to his power. When the new patriarch proved unsubmissive, Nicholas anathematized Photius at a Roman council.

Until the end of his life St Photius was a firm opponent of papal intrigues and designs upon the Orthodox Church of the East. In 864, Bulgaria voluntarily converted to Christianity. The Bulgarian prince Boris was baptized by Patriarch Photius himself. Later, St Photius sent an archbishop and priests to baptize the Bulgarian people. In 865, Sts Cyril and Methodius were sent to preach Christ in the Slavonic language. However, the partisans of the Pope incited the Bulgarians against the Orthodox missionaries.

The calamitous situation in Bulgaria developed because an invasion by the Germans forced them to seek help in the West, and the Bulgarian prince requested the Pope to send his bishops. When they arrived in Bulgaria, the papal legates began to substitute Latin teachings and customs in place of Orthodox belief and practice. St Photius, as a firm defender of truth and denouncer of falsehood, wrote an encyclical informing the Eastern bishops of the Pope's actions, indicating that the departure of the Roman Church from Orthodoxy was not only in ritual, but also in its confession of faith. A council was convened, censuring the arrogance of the West.

In 867, Basil the Macedonian seized the imperial throne, after murdering the emperor Michael. St Photius denounced the murderer and would not permit him to partake of the Holy Mysteries of Christ. Therefore, he was removed from the patriarchal throne and locked in a monastery under guard, and Patriarch Ignatius was restored to his position.

The Synod of 869 met to investigate the conduct of St Photius. This council took place with the participation of papal legates, who demanded that the participants sign a document (Libellus) condemning Photius and recognizing the primacy of the Pope. The Eastern bishops would not agree to this, and argued with the legates. Summoned to

the council, St Photius met all the accusations of the legates with a dignified silence. Only when the judges asked him whether he wished to repent did he reply, "Why do you consider yourselves judges?" After long disputes, the opponents of Photius were victorious. Although their judgment was baseless, they anathematized Patriarch Photius and the bishops defending him. The saint was sent to prison for seven years, and by his own testimony, he thanked the Lord for patiently enduring His judges.

During this time the Latin clergy were expelled from Bulgaria, and Patriarch Ignatius sent his bishops there. In 879, two years after the death of Patriarch Ignatius, another council was summoned (many consider it the Eighth Ecumenical Council), and again St Photius was acknowledged as the lawful archpastor of the Church of Constantinople. Pope John VIII, who knew Photius personally, declared through his envoys that the former papal decisions about Photius were annulled. The council acknowledged the unalterable character of the Nicean-Constantinople Creed, rejecting the Latin distortion ("filioque"), and acknowledging the independence and equality of both thrones and both churches (Western and Eastern). The council decided to abolish Latin usages and rituals in the Bulgarian church introduced by the Roman clergy, who ended their activities there.

Under Emperor Basil's successor, Leo, St Photius again endured false denunciations, and was accused of speaking against the emperor. Again deposed from his See in 886, the saint completed the course of his life in 891. He was buried at the monastery of Eremia.

The Orthodox Church venerates St Photius as a "pillar and foundation of the Church," an "inspired guide of the Orthodox," and a wise theologian. He left behind several works, exposing the errors of the Latins, refuting soul-destroying heresies, explicating Holy Scripture, and exploring many aspects of the Faith.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 31

Jan. 31 1 Cor. 6:12-20
Luke 15:11-32

Feb. 1 1 John 2:18-3:10
Mark 11:1-11

Feb. 2 Hebrew 7:7-17
Luke 2:22-40

Feb. 3 1 John 3:21-4:6
Mark 14:43-15:1

Feb. 4 1 John 4:20-5:21
Mark 15:1-15

Feb. 5 2 John 1:1-13
Mark 15:22-25,33-41

Feb, 6 1 Cor. 10:23-28
Luke 21:8-9, 25-27,
Luke 21:33-36

GREETERS' MINISTRY
Follow-up Meeting TODAY

All are welcome! We will have a follow-up meeting (to the January 10 meeting) for all Greeters and any others who want to join-in! **We will meet TODAY following the 40-Day Memorial Service for Archbishop Job (in the Cathedral).** We will be reviewing the Greeters' Ministry outline provided by Fr. John.

Michael Tabeling

PRAYER REQUESTS

DEPARTED:

His Eminence
Archbishop Job + 12/18/09

Norma Wilson **+ 12/23/09**

Ill Afflicted & Special Intentions

Fr. Anthony Dimitri
Fr. Stephen Jula

Helen Antonik
Alice Artino
Helen Baldner
John Baranich
Carol Bohurjak
John Conrad
Eugene Erhardt
Tony Eschuk
Gloria Gindlesperger *(Sister-In-Law)*
Julia Grabowski
Maria Hanzel
Jennifer Humphrey
Donna Jacak
Paul Kappanadze *(son of Fr. Jason Kappanadze)*
Chloe Kasubienski
Vivian Kasubienski
Sarah Kersey
Dorothy Laskovich
Paul Laskovich
Shane, Sierra and Taylor McNeilly
Brian Nemec *(Frank Tkacz's Godson)*
Alex and Jerilyn Oppenheim
Walter & Grace Parhamovich *(Karen Felon's parents)*
George Ponomarenko
Natalie Ponomarenko
David Roman *(Nephew of Margaret Rusynyk)*
Vera Sakal
Alexandra (Hopko) Sedor
Mary Ann Silberhorn
Elsie Sudnick
Barbara Thompson *(Phyllis Gindlesperger's Sister-In-Law)*
Donald Tipka
Frank Tkacz
Hannah Ward *(God Child of Fr. Andrew Stevens)*
Harrison Ward *(God Child of Fr. Andrew Stevens)*
Helen Zawisza *(Joseph Rusynyk's sister)*
Alice Zdinak *(Fr. John's mother)*
Julia Zimmerman
Denise Zweifel *(Sister of Marshall Prock)*

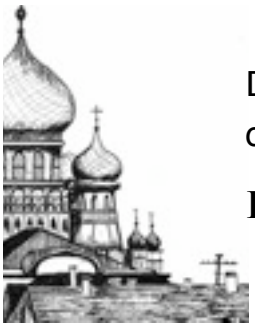
Erik & Gwen Hasselquist & Newborn Fisk Rune

Vivian & Dustin Kashubienski & Newborn Lexus Ann

Grant & Stephanie Dever & Unborn Child *(Fr. John's Niece)*

Anthony & Nikol Gammalo (Nikol Zdinak) & Unborn Child

Nathan & Chelsea Pozderac & Unborn Child *(Cindy Zdinak's Nephew)*



Dome Lighters

Donations to offset the cost of lighting the domes can be made for the health of or in memory of your loved ones. Contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

For the month of January:

In memory of the **Deceased Members of the St. Theodosius Seniors 55 Plus Club.**

CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School will run through Saturday, **February 27** at 4:30PM.

E.O.W.G.

CALENDAR UPDATES

Monday, Feb. 1 Interfaith Fellowship Day Luncheon CANCELLED

Thursday, Feb. 11 Executive Board Meeting at Saint Sava @11:00AM

Welcome Visitors

Our parish welcomes you and thanks you for joining us at today's Divine Liturgy. While only Orthodox Christians may approach the chalice for Holy Communion, everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after Liturgy. You are also invited to join us for fellowship in the Parish Hall following Liturgy.

COFEE HOUR & GREETERS SCHEDULES

Coffee Hour Hosts:		Greeters:
01/31/10	Chanda Czaruk & Lauren Miklos	Debby Pinta & Mat. Jennifer Boerio
02/07/10	Joyce Tabeling	Albert Casey & Maria Broslawik
02/14/10	Natalia Pricinovskis	Karen Felon & Debby Ponomarenko
02/21/10	Mat. Jeanne Homik & Judy Schwind	Linda Smotzer & Virginia Medvec
02/28/10	Mary Swit & Tammy Ponomarenko	Albert Casey & Michael Tabeling

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Ridge Manor Banquet Center now offers Carry-Out Food Service. Additional information/menu options can be found at www.ridgemanorpartycenter.com or contact Sharon Glagola at 216-749-5509.

GOD'S GIFTS TO US - OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Weekly expenses:	$ 6,538.00
Last week's collection	$ 4,061.00
Over/Under	$ 2,477.00

ATTENDANCE

Members 110 Visitors 11
Total 121

ANNOUNCEMENT - CHANGE

PRE-LENTEN

BOY'S NIGHT OUT!!

is scheduled for Sunday, February 7, 2:00 P.M. at Heck's Cafe in Ohio City. Please contact Dan Morris if you would like to attend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
4:30 PM@Ridge Manor

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

...forms are due NO LATER than Sunday, February 14 - to the Church Office or to Paul Pangrace.

SAVE THIS DATE

Altar Society

Meeting following Liturgy in Parish Hall on **Sunday, February 14.**

FOOD PANTRY

We are restarting our FOOD PANTRY in conjunction with Tremont Pointe (formerly Valley View). Some residents are returning, some residents are new, but some are in need of help. We are asking folks who wish to help with this specific project to "sponsor" a bag of groceries for $10.

Checks can be made out to St. Theodosius, marked for Food Pantry. The need is smaller now than several years ago, but it is stilL there. God bless you for considering those less fortunate. Questions to Dan Morris.

Help Our Parish Become Souper Bowl Champions!

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

On Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010, team up with our parish's youth to help the needy in our community and around the world. Help our team in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" by bringing one dollar and a canned good with you to Liturgy. Please support this effort and help our parish become Souper Bowl Champions!

IOCC • P.O. Box 630225 • Baltimore, MD 21263-0225
(877) 803-4622 • Fax: (410) 243-9824 • Internet: www.iocc.org

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

A donation box will be provided for non-perishable foods, items, etc., located by the I.O.C.C information poster in the Parish Hall. Please see Darrell or Karen Felon to make donations.

ANNOUNCEMENT

All Committee and Organization Annual Reports are due **NO LATER** than **Sunday, February 14, 2010.**

Reports must be submitted by this date or they **will not** be included in the 2009 Annual Report publication.

Reports can be emailed to:
DEAN@STTHEODOSIUS.ORG

Reports requested:

- President - Paul Pangrace
- Altar Society - Susan Lentz
- Audit - Barbara Sheean
- Cemetery - Leon Sheean
- Choir - Ken Kovach
- Christian Ed - Paul Pangrace
- Finance - Marie Maty
- FOCA - Darrell Felon
- Ridge Manor - Virginia Medvec

☛ PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on TUESDAY,
March 16, 6:00 PM
@ Ridge Manor

Saint Brigid of Ireland

Department of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at http://dce.oca.org.

On February 1st we celebrate one of the Orthodox Church's great ancient saints, Brigid of Ireland. Born in about 451, she was the daughter of an Irish chieftain and one of the female slaves in his court. Even as a child, Brigid apparently noticed and cared about poverty and destitution, responding by giving away her own and her family's considerable possessions to people in need.

This generosity did not meet with the wholehearted approval of her father, who complained to a friend that his daughter was bankrupting his household. The friend answered, "Let her be. She has more virtue before God than either you or I."

Brigid grew into a cultivated, energetic young woman with a sunny spirit. She had plenty of chances to marry, but turned them down and followed her desire to be a nun. With several other young women she established a monastic community, located under a large oak tree. It became known as the "Church of the Oak" (in Gaelic Cill-Dara), and she is sometimes called "Brigid of Kildare"--an English rendering of Cill-Dara.

The community grew in numbers, reputation and achievement. Brigid was the abbess, and continued her care for the poor, selling whatever she had to give them what they needed. People who lived in the area flocked to the monastery to receive medical help and food, and to pray with the nuns. They would often see the abbess out in the fields, tending to the community's cattle. Brigid and the sisters cared for the local children as well, establishing schools and training for them. Others heard of these efforts, and before long the abbess was traveling all over Ireland to start schools, oversee the building of hospitals, and encourage people in their faith by her own steadfast, cheerful example.

Under Brigid's direction, the monastery itself became the site of an art school, where metal work and manuscript illumination (decoration of manuscript pages with colored figures and designs) were taught. The products of this school included a Gospel book, famously beautiful for its harmony of colors and intricate designs. To some it almost seemed that this "Book of Kildare" must have been the work of angels, with human beings merely copying the figures shown to them by celestial beings. Unfortunately, the book was later lost.

Kontakion for Saint Brigid (Tone 4)

The holy virgin Brigid, full of divine wisdom,
went with joy along the way of evangelical
childhood, and with the grace of God attained
in this way the summit of virtue. She now bestows
blessings upon those who come to her with faith.
O holy virgin, intercede with Christ our God
that he may have mercy on our souls.

Brigid was a contemporary of Saint Patrick, Enlightener of Ireland, and a partner in spreading and strengthening the Christian faith throughout the country. There are many stories of their common work, and one involves a time when Brigid, perhaps exhausted by her labors and travels, fell asleep during one of Patrick's sermons. Rather than being miffed or reproachful, he simply asked his friend, "What did you dream about?" Brigid replied that she had had a most curious dream. She saw white-clothed sowers, peacefully sowing seed in a field. They were followed by another group of sowers, hunched over and wearing dirty clothes, who with hurried, jerky movements sowed weeds in the same field. Patrick told her the meaning of her dream. It was a stark prediction: After all the work the two saints had done to "sow" the true faith in Ireland, false teachers would come along and do their best to destroy it.

Perhaps many of us, if we could know beforehand that others would work vigorously to destroy our life's work, would ask, "What's the use?" and give up. Or would we find the faith and fortitude to continue working anyway, leaving the results in God's hands? Would we find it even in dark times, when others failed us? And Saint Brigid did continue to work. She is one of the most beloved and appealing saints in the Church calendar. She is the patron of milkmaids, fugitives, printing press operators, chicken farmers, poets, and children whose parents are not married. Among her many titles is "Patroness of the Green Isle."

Lenten Retreat with

Father Thomas Hopko

Friday evening, March 12
Saturday 9:30 – 3:00, March 13
St. Matthew's Church
10383 Albion Road North Royalton, OH 44133

"Why a Suffering Messiah?"

Please join us as we welcome one of the premier speakers, authors, and scholars in Orthodoxy today

Friday, March 12	Akathist service	6:30 pm
	First Session	7:30 – 8:45 pm
Saturday, March 13	Continental Breakfast	9:30 am
	Second Session begins	10:00 am
	Lunch (provided)	12:00 – 1:15 pm
	Third Session	1:15 – 3:00 pm

Cost $20

Please call St. Matthew's Orthodox Church for details (440) 582-5673

St. Matthew's presents
A Lenten Retreat with **Father Thomas Hopko**
"Why a Suffering Messiah?"

Name(s) _____

_____

Address _____

_____

Phone # _____

Attending _____

Amount enclosed _____ ($20 per person)

Please return to: St Matthew Orthodox Church, 10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH 44133
Or Call: (440) 582-5673 A Lenten Retreat with **Father Thomas Hopko** "Why a Suffering Messiah?"

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, January 31
PRODIGAL SON
NEW MARTYRS AND CONFESSORS OF RUSSIA
UNMERCENARY SS. CYRUS AND JOHN, MARTYR ATHANASIA
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
40-DAY Memorial Service For ARCHBISHOP JOB
Greeter's Ministry Meeting following in Cathedral

Monday, February 1
Forefeast of the Meeting
Martyr Tryphon
Ven. Bridget of Ireland
6:00 PM Vespers

Tuesday, February 2
MEETING OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, February 3
Righteous Godbearer Simeon and Anna The Prophetess
6:30 AM Divine Liturgy @Cemetery Chapel

FEBRUARY SPECIAL COLLECTION
WINDOWS

Thursday, February 4
Ven. Isidore, Pelusium
Ven. Cyril, Novoezersk
11:00 Faith Enrichment @Ridge Manor

Friday, February 5
Martyr Agatha
REPOSE ST. THEODOSIUS ABP. OF CHERNIGOV
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 6
Memorial Saturday
St. Bucolus, BP. Smyrna
St. Photius, Patriarch Of Constantinople
4:30 PM Church School
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, February 7
Meatfare Sunday
Sunday of Last Judgment
New Hieromartyrs Metr. Vladimir And ABP. Peter
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
2:00 PM Boys' Night Out@Hecks
IOCC Souper Bowl of Caring

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