

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



Mailing:

733 Starkweather Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44113

T 216. 741. 1310

F 216. 623. 1092

www.sttheodosius.org

- Archpriest John Zdinak,
Dean

dean@sttheodosius.org

Cell: 216. 554. 7282

- Protodeacon Daniel Boerio

- Deacon Jacob Van Sickle

- Subdeacon Theodore
Lentz, Sacristan

- Reader Julius Kovach,
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

- Casandra Vasu,
Office Manager

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

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

* CALENDAR: Event dates must be submitted by the 15th of each month.

APRIL 17, 2016

ST. MARY
OF EGYPT

ST. MARY OF EGYPT



St Zosimas (April 4) was a monk at a certain Palestinian monastery on the outskirts of Caesarea. Having dwelt at the monastery since his childhood, he lived there in asceticism until he reached the age of fifty-three. Then he was disturbed by the thought that he had attained perfection, and needed no one to instruct him. "Is there a monk anywhere who can show me some form of asceticism that I have not attained? Is there anyone who has surpassed me in spiritual sobriety and deeds?"

Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, "Zosimas, you have struggled valiantly, as far as this is in the power of man. However, there is no one who is righteous (Rom 3:10). So that you may know how many other ways lead to salvation, leave your native land, like Abraham from the house of his father (Gen 12:1), and go to the monastery by the Jordan."

Abba Zosimas immediately left the monastery, and following the angel, he went to the Jordan monastery and settled in it.

Here he met Elders who were adept in contemplation, and also in their struggles. Never did anyone utter an idle word. Instead, they sang constantly, and prayed all night long. Abba Zosimas began to imitate the spiritual activity of the holy monks.

Thus much time passed, and the holy Forty Day Fast approached. There was a certain custom at the monastery, which was why God had led St Zosimas there. On the First Sunday of Great Lent the igumen served the Divine Liturgy, everyone received the All-Pure Body and Blood of Christ. Afterwards, they went to the trapeza for a small repast, and then assembled once more in church.

The monks prayed and made prostrations, asking forgiveness one of another. Then they made a prostration before the igumen and asked his blessing for the struggle that lay before them. During the Psalm "The Lord is my Light and my Savior, whom shall I fear? The Lord is defender of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?" (Ps 26/27:1), they opened the monastery gate and went off into the wilderness.

Each took with him as much food as he needed, and went into the desert. When their food ran out, they ate roots and desert plants. The monks crossed the Jordan and scattered in various directions, so that no one might see how another fasted or how they spent their time.

The monks returned to the monastery on Palm Sunday, each having his own conscience as a witness of his ascetic struggles. It was a rule of the monastery that no one asked how anyone else had toiled in the desert.

Abba Zosimas, according to the custom of the monastery, went deep into the desert hoping to find someone living there who could benefit him.

He walked into the wilderness for twenty days and then, when he sang the Psalms of the Sixth Hour and made the usual prayers. Suddenly, to the right of the hill where he stood, he saw a human form. He was afraid, thinking that it might be a demonic apparition. Then he guarded himself with the Sign of the Cross, which removed his fear. He turned to the right and saw a form walking southward. The body was black from the blazing sunlight, and the faded short hair was white like a sheep's fleece. Abba Zosimas rejoiced, since he had not seen any living thing for many days.

The desert-dweller saw Zosimas approaching, and attempted to flee from him. Abba Zosimas, forgetting his age and fatigue, quickened his pace. When he was close enough to be heard, he called out, “Why do you flee from me, a sinful old man? Wait for me, for the love of God.”

The stranger said to him, “Forgive me, Abba Zosimas, but I cannot turn and show my face to you. I am a woman, and as you see, I am naked. If you would grant the request of a sinful woman, throw me your cloak so I might cover my body, and then I can ask for your blessing.”

Then Abba Zosimas was terrified, realizing that she could not have called him by name unless she possessed spiritual insight.

Covered by the cloak, the ascetic turned to Zosimas: “Why do you want to speak with me, a sinful woman? What did you wish to learn from me, you who have not shrunk from such great labors?”

Abba Zosimas fell to the ground and asked for her blessing. She also bowed down before him, and for a long time they remained on the ground each asking the other to bless. Finally, the woman ascetic said: “Abba Zosimas, you must bless and pray, since you are honored with the grace of the priesthood. For many years you have stood before the holy altar, offering the Holy Gifts to the Lord.”

These words frightened St Zosimas even more. With tears he said to her, “O Mother! It is clear that you live with God and are dead to this world. You have called me by name and recognized me as a priest, though you have never seen me before. The grace granted you is apparent, therefore bless me, for the Lord’s sake.”

Yielding finally to his entreaties, she said, “Blessed is God, Who cares for the salvation of men.” Abba Zosimas replied, “Amen.” Then they rose to their feet. The woman ascetic again said to the Elder, “Why have you come, Father, to me who am a sinner, bereft of every virtue? Apparently, the grace of the Holy Spirit has brought you to do me a service. But tell me first, Abba, how do the Christians live, how is the Church guided?”

Abba Zosimas answered her, “By your holy prayers God has granted the Church and us all a lasting peace. But fulfill my unworthy request, Mother, and pray for the whole world and for me a sinner, that my wanderings in the desert may not be useless.”

The holy ascetic replied, “You, Abba Zosimas, as a priest, ought to pray for me and for all, for you are called to do this. However, since we must be obedient, I will do as you ask.

The saint turned toward the East, and raising her eyes to heaven and stretching out her hands, she began to pray in a whisper. She prayed so softly that Abba Zosimas could not hear her words. After a long time, the Elder looked up and saw her standing in the air more than a foot above the ground. Seeing this, Zosimas threw himself down on the ground, weeping and repeating, “Lord, have mercy!”

Then he was tempted by a thought. He wondered if she might not be a spirit, and if her prayer could be insincere. At that moment she turned around, lifted him from the ground and said, “Why do your thoughts confuse you, Abba Zosimas? I am not an apparition. I am a sinful and unworthy woman, though I am guarded by holy Baptism.”

Then she made the Sign of the Cross and said, “May God protect us from the Evil One and his schemes, for fierce is his struggle against us.” Seeing and hearing this, the Elder fell at her feet with tears saying, “I beseech you by Christ our God, do not conceal from me who you are and how you came into this desert. Tell me everything, so that the wondrous works of God may be revealed.”

She replied, “It distresses me, Father, to speak to you about my shameless life. When you hear my story, you might flee from me, as if from a poisonous snake. But I shall tell you everything, Father, concealing nothing. However, I exhort you, cease not to pray for me a sinner, that I may find mercy on the Day of Judgment.

“I was born in Egypt and when I was twelve years old, I left my parents and went to Alexandria. There I lost my chastity and gave myself to unrestrained and insatiable sensuality. For more than seventeen years I lived like that and I did it all for free. Do not think that I refused the money because I was rich. I lived in poverty and worked at spinning flax. To me, life consisted in the satisfaction of my fleshly lust.

“One summer I saw a crowd of people from Libya and Egypt heading toward the sea. They were on their way to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. I also wanted to sail with them. Since I had no food or money, I offered my body in payment for my passage. And so I embarked on the ship.

“Now, Father, believe me, I am very amazed, that the sea tolerated my wantonness and fornication, that the earth did not open up its mouth and take me down alive into hell, because I had ensnared so many souls. I think that God was seeking my repentance. He did not desire the death of a sinner, but awaited my conversion.

“So I arrived in Jerusalem and spent all the days before the Feast living the same sort of life, and maybe even worse.

“When the holy Feast of the Exaltation of the Venerable Cross of the Lord arrived, I went about as before, looking for young men. At daybreak I saw that everyone was heading to the church, so I went along with the rest. When the hour of the Holy Elevation drew nigh, I was trying to enter into the church with all the people. With great effort I came almost to the doors, and attempted to squeeze inside. Although I stepped up to the threshold, it was as though some force held me back, preventing me from entering. I was brushed aside by the crowd, and found myself standing alone on the porch. I thought that perhaps this happened because of my womanly weakness. I worked my way into the crowd, and again I attempted to elbow people aside. However hard I tried, I could not enter. Just as my feet touched the church threshold, I was stopped. Others entered the church without difficulty, while I alone was not allowed in. This happened three or four times. Finally my strength was exhausted. I went off and stood in a corner of the church portico.

“Then I realized that it was my sins that prevented me from seeing the Life-Creating Wood. The grace of the Lord then touched my heart. I wept and lamented, and I began to beat my breast. Sighing from the depths of my heart, I saw above me an icon of the Most Holy Theotokos. Turning to Her, I prayed: “O Lady Virgin, who gave birth in the flesh to God the Word! I know that I am unworthy to look upon your icon. I rightly inspire hatred and disgust before your purity, but I know also that God became Man in order to call sinners to repentance. Help me, O All-Pure One. Let me enter the church. Allow me to behold the Wood upon which the Lord was crucified in the flesh, shedding His Blood for the redemption of sinners, and also for me. Be my witness before Your Son that I will never defile my body again with the impurity of fornication. As soon as I have seen the Cross of your Son, I will renounce the world, and go wherever you lead me.”

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 17

Apr. 17 Heb. 9:11-14
Mark 10:32-45

Apr. 19 Genesis 31:3-16
Proverbs 21:3-21

Apr. 22 Genesis 49:33-50:26
Proverbs 31:8-31

Apr. 18 Genesis 27:1-41
Proverbs 19:16-25

Apr. 20 Genesis 43:26-31;
45:1-16
Proverbs 21:23-22:4

Apr. 23 Heb. 12:28-13:8
John 11:1-45

Apr. 21 Genesis 46:1-7
Proverbs 23:15-24:5



24th Annual **IOCC
GALA
BANQUET**




Thursday May 26, 2016 ~ 6PM

Agostino's Event Center
(formerly Ridge Manor Party Center)
4630 Ridge Rd. Brooklyn, Ohio 44144



**Please contact Frank Tkacz at
216-351-1838 for more info and to
purchase tickets**



PRAYER REQUESTS

Departed:

Victor Hanchuk (Joyce Tabeling's
brother-in-law)
03-12-16

Florence Tereck (Lydia Byndas's
mother)
03-15-16

Michael Buza (Patty Sankovic's
father)
03-28-16

Julia Grabowski
04-05-16

Michael Evans (Kate Zolikoff's
father)
04-08-16

Ill Afflicted & Special Intentions:

Matushka Catherine Jula
Archpriest Theodore Bobosh
Mary Michael
Iris Agin (friend of Paul Pangrace)
Judith Allgire (friend of Sonia Vorell)
Betty Balasz
David C. Baringer (friend of Karen Felon)
Judy Baughman
Tony Boccheccio
Carol Bohurjak
Christopher Byndas
Julie Byndas

Elsie Conrad
John Conrad
Jerry Czajkowski
Metodije Damljanovic (Child)
Horia Dascalescu (Lavinia Morris's
brother)
Cindy Durkalski
Nadine Ellis
Nashwa Fam
Dorothy Fowler
Vladimir Fowler
Roger Haupt (Lisa Theodore's
cousin)
Janet Hennig (friend of Judy
Schwind)
Sandee Holod
Matthew Hunley (Phyllis
Gindlesperger's brother-in-law)
Donna Jacak
Victor Jacak
Kevin Jackam (Sonia Vorell's cousin)
Patrick Jacobson (friend of Paul
Pangrace)
Joy Jahans (friend of Paul Pangrace)
Stephen Jahans (friend of Paul
Pangrace)
Diane Kearsley (Janice Tkacz's
sister)
Maher Khalil
Thomas Khalil
John Kovalski (friend of Paul
Pangrace)
Dorothy Laskovich
Jethro Miles
Paul Mihal

Anna Mysiw (friend and neighbor of
Helen Antonik)
Andy Mytrohovich
Lydia Mytrohovich
Paul Palisan (neighbor of Lydia
Mytrohovich)
Maude Palumbo (Michelle Rajisch's
mother)
Debra Parhamovich (Karen Felon's
sister)
Grace Parhamovich (Karen Felon's
mother)
Cindy Powkowski
Cheryl Regrut (Deb Ellis's
sister-in-law)
Valerie Rolls (Fr. John's cousin)
Dorothy Romig
Julia Sankovic (Child)
Elaine Sudnick (Joy Pfeiffer's
mother)
Janice Tkacz
Elisabeth Wright (friend of Paul
Pangrace)
Erin Zawolowycz
Elizabeth Zimmerman
Theodore Zolikoff (Nick Zolikoff's
father)
Alice Zdinak (Fr. John's Mother)

**Gabriel & Shyanne Tabeling
& Unborn Child**

**Emilee McPhillips & Unborn
Children** (Wayne & Gayle
Vidovich's niece)

Please note that names will remain on the list for
approximately one month and then removed.
If you would like a name to be relisted, please
contact the office at 216-741-1310.

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.

COFFEE HOUR & GREETERS SCHEDULES

Coffee Hour:

4/17/16	Joy & David Pfeiffer
4/24/16	Steve Rusnak & Jim Schwind
5/1/16	No Coffee Hour
5/8/16	Irina Chovelidze
5/15/16	Joyce Tabeling & Judy Schwind
5/22/16	Nick & Kate Zolikoff
5/29/16	Cathy Weber & Mat. Jenn Boerio

Greeters:

Karen Felon & Mat. Jenn Boerio
Tammy & Eva Ponomarenko
Debby Pinta & Michael Tabeling (Midnight)
Nina & Elizabeth Antonik
Linda Smotzer & Sonia Vorell
Paul Pangrace & Igor Gajewsky
Tammy & Eva Ponomarenko



GOD'S GIFTS TO US - OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Weekly expenses:	\$ 6,538.00
Last week's collection	<u>\$ 2,650.00</u>
Over/Under	< \$ 3,888.00 >

FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry ministry continues through Merrick House. They currently use the bags in their Moms First program. We can always use your help by "sponsoring a bag". Envelopes are in the foyer, \$10 fills a bag. Thank you and God bless you for helping those in need. - Dan Morris



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 entire 2016 year:

In loving memory of Olga Fritskey
from John & Ruth Fritskey

HOLY WEEK 2016

Sunday, Apr. 24

PALM SUNDAY

**ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD INTO
JERUSALEM**

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy & Procession

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

Monday, Apr. 25

GREAT & HOLY MONDAY

4:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, Apr. 26

GREAT & HOLY TUESDAY

4:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday, Apr. 27

GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY

4:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

Thursday, Apr. 28

GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY

No Faith Enrichment

4:00 PM Vespereal Liturgy of St. Basil

6:00 PM Matins of Great & Holy Friday

(12 Gospel Readings)

8:00 PM Decorate Tomb

Friday, Apr. 29

GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY

1:00 PM Royal Hours

3:00 PM Great Vespers of Holy
Friday

7:00 PM Matins of Great & Holy
Saturday (Procession with Holy
Shroud)

Saturday, Apr. 30

GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY

1:00 PM Vespereal Liturgy

followed by Blessing of Loaves,
Wine and Dried Fruit

3:00 PM Blessing of Baskets

11:00 PM Nocturns

Sunday, May 1

GREAT & HOLY PASCHA

**RESURRECTION OF OUR
LORD AND SAVIOR**

JESUS CHRIST

12:00 Midnight Paschal Vigil

(Matins & Divine Liturgy)

Followed by Agape Meal

Monday, May 2

BRIGHT MONDAY

9:00 Divine Liturgy



Smoke Detector Month is May

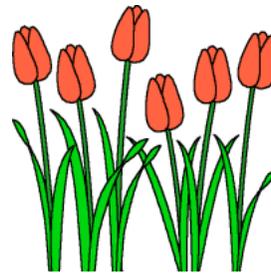
This May the St. Theodosius Parish Assistance is helping install, test, and service smoke detectors with new batteries. If you need a smoke detector installed, or the battery replaced in an existing smoke detector, please inform Steven Chwalyk or Paul Zawolowycz, or send an email with details to sttheoassistance@gmail.com



Thank you to the crew of our “maiden voyage” into serving at St. Herman’s/FOCUS Cleveland on April 10th! Special thanks to Michael Udell & Deacon Jacob Van Sickle for being instrumental in moving this forward. And now we want YOU to be a part of this! We are hoping to do this on a quarterly or monthly basis, either serving the meal, or purchasing, preparing & serving the meal. We don’t need a huge complement, and you need no special talent, but we DO need dedicated people. There will be periodic posts about this, but please consider serving the poor in this way as we plan ahead. If you’re interested or have question, please see Dan Morris. Thank you!

Thank you to all the soup makers and those who bought soup to support the FOCA chapter of charitable outreach.

May God grant you many years and thank you again! - Darrell Felon



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

2016

Sunday, Apr. 17
ST. MARY OF EGYPT
MUROM ICON
HIEROMARTYR SIMEON,
BISHOP IN PERSIA
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Monday, Apr. 18
VEN. JOHN, DISCIPLE OF
VEN. GREGORY
DECAPOLITES

Tuesday, Apr. 19
VEN. JOHN OF THE
ANCIENT CAVES IN
PALESTINE

Wednesday, Apr. 20
VEN. THEODORE TRICHINAS
OF CONSTANTINOPLE
6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy &
Potluck



APRIL
Special Collection
Youth Work



Thursday, Apr. 21
HIEROMARTYR JANUARIUS
HIEROMARTYR THEODORE
11:00 AM Faith Enrichment @
Agostino's

Friday, Apr. 22
ST. THEODORE SYKEOTE,
BP. OF ANASTASIOPOLIS
9:00 AM Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, Apr. 23
LAZARUS SATURDAY
HOLY GREATMARTYR,
VICTORYBEARER AND
WONDERWORKER GEORGE
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
(followed by Palm Assembly)
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, Apr. 24
PALM SUNDAY
ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD
INTO JERUSALEM
MARTYR SABBAS
STRATELATES
AND HIS COMPANIONS
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy & Procession
6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins



St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral
733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

APRIL