

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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Parish Council President

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

Please check weekly schedule
for specific days (last page).

Previous Ambos archived on
our website.

AMBO: Articles for publication
should be submitted to:
ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com

AUGUST 29, 2021

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY
GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER
AND BAPTIST JOHN



Hieromartyr Anthimus , Bishop of Nicomedia and those with him
(September 3)

The Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those with him suffered during the persecution against Christians under the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). The persecution became particularly intense after a fire at the imperial court at Nicomedia. The pagans accused the Christians of setting the fire and reacted against them with terrible ferocity.

In Nicomedia alone, on the day of the Nativity of Christ, as many as twenty thousand Christians were burned inside a church. However, this monstrous inhumanity did not frighten the Christians, who firmly confessed their faith and endured martyrdom for Christ.

Saints Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes and Gorgonius died during this period. One of them was beheaded by the sword, others perished by burning, or being buried alive, or by drowning in the sea. The soldier Zeno boldly denounced the emperor Maximian, for which he was stoned, and then beheaded.

Then the holy Virgin Martyr Domna, a former pagan priestess, perished at the hands of the pagans, and also Saint Euthymius, because of their concern that the bodies of the holy martyrs should be buried. Bishop Anthimus, who headed the Church of Nicomedia, hid himself in a village not far from Nicomedia at the request of his flock. From there he sent letters to the Christians, urging them to cleave firmly to the holy Faith and not to fear tortures.

One of his letters, sent with Deacon Theophilus,

was intercepted and given to the emperor Maximian. Theophilus was interrogated and died under torture, without revealing to his torturers the whereabouts of Bishop Anthimus. After a while Maximian managed to learn where Saint Anthimus was, and sent a detachment of soldiers after him.

The bishop met them along the way, but the soldiers did not recognize the saint. He invited them to join him and provided a meal, after which he revealed that he was the one they sought. The soldiers did not know what to do. They wanted to leave him and tell the emperor that they had not found him. Bishop Anthimus was not one to tolerate a lie, and so he would not consent to this.

The soldiers came to believe in Christ and received holy Baptism. The saint ordered them to carry out the emperor's instructions. When Bishop Anthimus was brought before the emperor, the emperor ordered that the instruments of execution be brought out and placed before him. "Do you think, emperor, to frighten me with these tools of execution?" asked the saint. "No indeed, you cannot frighten one who wishes to die for Christ! Execution is frightening only for the cowardly, for whom the present life is most precious." The emperor then directed that the saint be fiercely tortured and beheaded by the sword.

Bishop Anthimus joyfully glorified God with his last breath, and received the crown of martyrdom. (See December 28 for another account of the Nicomedian martyrs.)

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING: THE SALE OF COPPER STONE

Things are moving quickly with Bethany Assembly of God Church, and we believe the time has come to schedule the vote on the sale of Copper Stone. **On September 19th, 2021, a special parish meeting will be held** after Divine Liturgy and we will vote on this most critical issue. The parish bylaws demand an announcement three weeks prior to the vote, and that all materials be available eight days prior though we are confident they will be ready much sooner. The purchase agreement is being worked on and will be ready soon, so we are scheduling the vote now so people can make arrangements to vote on September 19th. **This is extremely important! Please make every effort to vote!**



A SPECIAL THANK YOU:

A special thanks to Subdeacon Leon Darrell Felon and his wife Karen Felon. They have donated a new set of vestments in memory of deceased members of the Felon, Homik, Parhamovich, and Hubeny families.

The Beheading of the Prophet, Forerunner of the Lord, John the Baptist: The Evangelists Matthew (Mt.14:1-12) and Mark (Mark 6:14-29) provide accounts about the martyric end of John the Baptist in the year 32 after the Birth of Christ.

Following the Baptism of the Lord, Saint John the Baptist was locked up in prison by Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch (ruler of one fourth of the Holy Land) and governor of Galilee. (After the death of king Herod the Great, the Romans divided the territory of Palestine into four parts, and put a governor in charge of each part. Herod Antipas received Galilee from the emperor Augustus).

The prophet of God John openly denounced Herod for having left his lawful wife, the daughter of the Arabian king Aretas, and then instead cohabiting with Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip (Luke 3:19-20). On his birthday, Herod made a feast for dignitaries, the elders and a thousand chief citizens. Salome, the daughter of Herod, danced before the guests and charmed Herod. In gratitude to the girl, he swore to give her whatever she would ask, up to half his kingdom.

The vile girl on the advice of her wicked mother Herodias asked that she be given the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Herod became apprehensive, for he feared the wrath of God for the murder of a prophet, whom earlier he had heeded. He also feared the people, who loved the holy Forerunner. But because of the guests and his careless oath, he gave orders to cut off the head of Saint John and to give it to Salome.

According to Tradition, the mouth of the dead preacher of repentance once more opened and proclaimed: "Herod, you should not have the wife of your brother Philip." Salome took the platter with the head of Saint John and gave it to her mother. The frenzied Herodias repeatedly stabbed the tongue of the prophet with a needle and buried his holy head in an unclean place. But the pious Joanna, wife of Herod's steward Chuza, buried the head of John the Baptist in an earthen vessel on the Mount of Olives, where Herod had a parcel of land. (The Uncovering of the Venerable Head is celebrated February 24). The holy body of John the Baptist was taken that night by his disciples and buried at Sebastia, there where the wicked deed had been done.

After the murder of Saint John the Baptist, Herod continued to govern for a certain time. Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, later sent Jesus Christ to him, Whom he mocked (Luke 23:7-12).

The judgment of God came upon Herod, Herodias and Salome, even during their earthly life. Salome, crossing the River Sikoris in winter, fell through the ice. The ice gave way in such a way that her body was in the water, but her head was trapped above the ice. It was similar to how she once had danced with her feet upon the ground, but now she flailed helplessly in the icy water. Thus she was trapped until that time when the sharp ice cut through her neck.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School to begin on **Saturday, September 25th at 5:00 PM**. We ask parents to enroll their children as opportunities to educate them in the Orthodox Faith are rare and few. To enroll your child, please contact the parish office by phone or at StTheodosiusCathedral@protonmail.com

(note: this is not Faith Enrichment, but the children's Church School)

MOLIEBEN PRAYER SERVICE

We are having a Molieben Prayer Service for the beginning of the school year. We invite all children and students (Pre-K through college) to come for a blessing as they start school. The service will take place on Sunday, August 29th, right after Divine Liturgy.

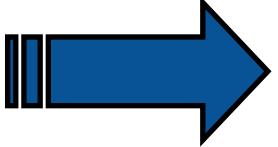
A Celebration of Service

**Please join us in celebrating the many years of service that
Fr. John, Subdeacon Theodore, and Reader and Choirmaster
Ken have graciously given to St. Theodosius!**

When: Sunday, September 12 at noon

Where: St. Theodosius Church Hall

Cost: \$15 per adult (15+) / \$5 per child / \$35 max per house

 Please RVSP to Judy Schwind (440-227-2951, jaschwind29@gmail.com),
Cathy Weber (412-215-1928, weberc528@gmail.com), or the office
(216.574.4886 / StTheodosiusCathedral@protonmail.com) no later than
August 29. We hope to see you there!

Due to the pandemic, and our financial position last year, we suspended the Food Pantry bags for Merrick House (20 bags of groceries for their Moms First program). There are envelopes in the foyer specifically for this, or you can earmark a special offering envelope for the Merrick House Food Pantry. Please consider 'sponsoring a bag' for \$10.

Thank you for your consideration.

- Dan Morris

FR. JAN'S OFFICE HOURS

Fr. Jan is in the office Tuesday through Friday from approximately 9:00AM to 2:00PM. He asks that we call ahead to schedule an appointment rather than just walk in, in case he is out visiting someone, in a meeting, or counseling someone.

THIS SUNDAY IS A FAST

Just a reminder, The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John is a fast day. Only oil and wine are permitted.

The Altar Society next meets on 9/19

The Altar Society will meet on September 19th. In hopes of growing, the Altar Society is seeking new membership.

VISITATIONS

Fr. Cizmar would like to know who requires visitation. He is eager to visit those who might have gone a long time without visitation due to COVID, our absence of a rector, or for any reason at all. A key duty of a priest's ministry is to visit the sick and confined, those unable to attend the holy services for any reason.

He asks that we use the contact number provided should we need anything from him. His phone number and email address are printed on the front of every Ambo, and are repeated here:

Father Jan Cizmar

1(440) 732-8182 st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

11TH ANNUAL FR. VLADIMIR PRISLOPSKY LECTURE

September 23rd, 2021

6:30PM

Woodside Event Center

5025 E. Mill Road • Broadview Heights • 44147

Fr. Andrew Harmon (Pastor at St. Matthew Antiochian Orthodox Church, North Royalton, Ohio) will present
The Orthodox Faith and Church as Portrayed in Russian Literature

To RSVP please call or email the Church Office at

440.526.5192 or info@stmichaelscleveland.org

22nd Annual Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival—9/18

Another year, another Arts & Cultural Festival! Volunteers needed, so please contact Subdeacon Michael Tabeling if you can help.

Some more info here: <https://experiencetremont.com/featured-events/tremont-arts-cultural-festival/>

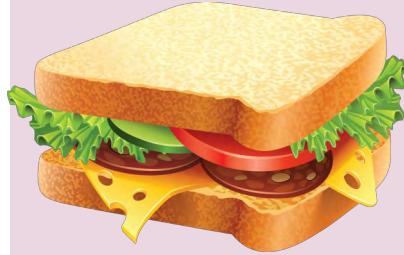
MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

His Eminence Bishop Paul is coming on **September 12th**. Please attend as we will be celebrating the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy and also do extend an invitation to friends and family as well.

Sandwiches for St. Herman House

The 2nd Saturday of each month, a small crew will help serve lunch at St. Herman's. The next day (Sunday), we will make more sandwiches for them during Coffee Hour in our Parish Hall. If you can help, please join us!

If you wish to help defer costs, please see Dan Morris.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Departed:

Hieromonk Nikolai (*Serhii Chebotar*)

Special Intentions:

Deacon Paul Mitchell (*Tom Mitchell's father*)

Protodeacon Dan Boerio

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Reader Paul Pangrace

Jennifer Boerio

Horia Dascalescu (*Lavinia's brother*)

Diane Kearsey (*Janice Tkacz's Sister*)

Chris Magee (*Erin Zawolowycz's brother*)

Debra Parhamovich (*Karen Felon's sister*)

Elena Rich (*Jerry Czajkowski's daughter*)

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Mary Kay Weber

Mickey O'Brien (*friend of Arlene*)

Joe Czajkowski (*son of Jerry*)

Carol Nielsen (*Paul Pangrace's sister*)

Matthew Ponomarenko

Alexander Ponomarenko

Virginia Medvec

Charles Linderman (*friend of Joyce Tabeling*)

Stephen Chwalyk

Merio (*friend of Fr. Adamcio*)

Michael Novail (*friend of Subdeacon Leon*)

Child Benjamin Udell (*son*

of Michael and Lacey)

Juliana and **Child Fable**

Evelyn (*Daughter and
Granddaughter of Paul Finley*)

Arlene Czajkowski

Grace Mary Parhamovich (*mother of Karen
Felon*)

Jeffrey Parhamovich (*brother-in-law of Karen
Felon*)

Maggie Parhamovich (*sister-in-law of Karen
Felon*)

Karen Felon

Chris McCutcheon (*son of Melissa
McCutcheon*)

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF August 29

Aug 22	Sept 1	Sept 2	Sept 5
John 20:19-31	Isa 61:1-9	2 Cor 4:1-6	John 21:15-25
1 Cor 3:9-17	Composite 24—Leviticus	Matt 24:13-28	1 Cor 9:2-12
Matt 14:22-34	26		Matt 18:23-35
	Wis 4:7-15		
Aug 30	1 Tim 2:1-7	Sept 3	
2 Cor 2:4-15	Luke 4:16-22	2 Cor 4:13-18	
Matt 23:13-22	Col 3:12-16	Matt 24:27-33, 42-51	
	Matt 11:27-30		
Aug 31	2 Cor 3:4-11	Sept 4	
2 Cor 2:14-3:3	Matt 23:29-39	1 Cor 1:3-9	
Matt 23:23-28		Matt 19:3-12	

ST. THEODOSIUS IS NOW A SUBSCRIBER TO TITHE.LY

In response to requests to be able to donate electronically, we have set up a Tithe.ly account so people can donate either regularly or for special occasions online. Click here to see: <https://www.sttheodosius.org/donate>

Special thanks to Council Vice President Cathy Weber and our Webmaster Kate Zolikoff for making this happen.



Sunday, Aug 29

10th Sunday After Pentecost

The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Molieben Prayer Service after Liturgy

Coffee Hour to follow

Monday, Aug 30

Translation of the Relics of the Rt. Blv.
Great Prince St. Alexander Nevsky

Tuesday, Aug 31

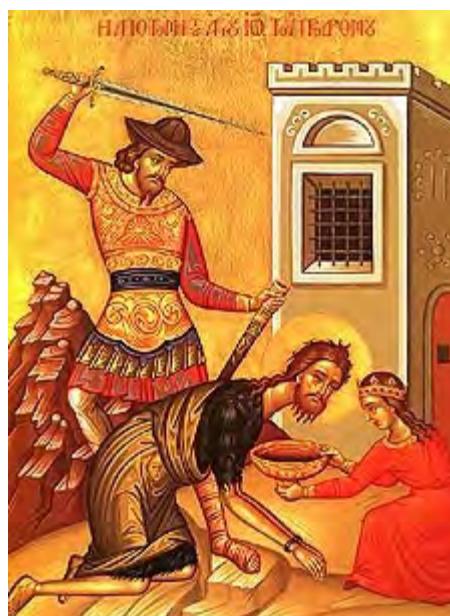
The restoration of the church of the
Theotokos at Neorion

Wednesday, Sept 1

Church New Year

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2021



Thursday, Sept 2

Ven. Anthony and Theodosius of the Kiev Caves

Friday, Sept 3

Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia and those with him

Saturday, Sept 4

Hieromartyr Gorazd, Bishop of Bohemia and Moravia-Silesia
Great Vespers 6:00 PM

Sunday, Sept 5

11th Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Prophet Zechariah and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of St. John the Baptist

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour to follow