Ambo

St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral

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Ambo Editor

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 on website.

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

OCTOBER 26, 2025

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY, GLORIOUS DEMETRIOS THE MYRRH-GUSHER

The Great Martyr Demetrios (Dēmētrios) the Myrrh-gusher of Thessaloniki was the son of a Roman proconsul in Thessaloniki. Three centuries had elapsed and Roman paganism, spiritually shattered and defeated by the multitude of martyrs and confessors of the Savior, intensified its persecutions.
The parents of Saint Demetrios were secret Christians, and he was baptized and raised in the Christian Faith in a secret church in his father's home.
By the time Demetrios had reached maturity and his father had died, Emperor Galerius Maximian had ascended the throne (305). Maximian, confident in Demetrios's education as well as his administrative and military abilities, appointed him to his father's position as proconsul of the Thessaloniki district. The young commander's principal duties were to defend the city from barbarians and to eradicate Christianity. The Emperor's policy regarding Christians was expressed simply: "Put to death anyone who calls on the name of Christ." The Emperor did not suspect that by appointing Demetrios he had provided him with the opportunity to bring many people to Christ.
Accepting the appointment, Demetrios returned to Thessaloniki and confessed and glorified our Lord Jesus Christ. Instead of persecuting and executing Chris-

tians, he began to teach the Christian Faith openly to the inhabitants of the city and to overthrow pagan customs and the worship of idols. The compiler of his Life, Saint Simeon Metaphrastes (November 9), says that because of his teaching zeal he became “a second Apostle Paul” for Thessaloniki, particularly since “the Apostle to the Gentiles” founded the first community of believers in the city (1 Thess. and 2 Thess.).

The Lord also destined Saint Demetrios to follow Saint Paul on the path to martyrdom. When Maximian learned that the newly-appointed proconsul was a Christian, and that he had converted many Roman subjects to Christianity, the Emperor's rage knew no bounds. Returning from a campaign in the area of the Black Sea, the Emperor decided to lead his army through Thessaloniki, determined to massacre the Christians.

Learning of this, Saint Demetrios ordered his faithful servant Lupus to give his wealth to the poor saying, “Distribute my earthly riches among them, for we shall seek heavenly riches for ourselves.” He began to pray and fast, preparing himself for martyrdom.

When the Emperor came into the city, he summoned Demetrios, who boldly confessed himself a Christian and denounced the falsehood and futility of Roman polytheism. Maximian ordered Demetrios to be thrown into prison. An Angel appeared to him, comforting and encouraging him.

Meanwhile the Emperor amused himself by staging games in the circus. His champion was a German by the name of Lyaeos. He challenged Christians to wrestle with him on a platform built over the upturned spears of the victorious soldiers. A brave Christian named Nestor went to the prison to Saint Demetrios, his instructor in the Faith, asking for his blessing to fight the barbarian. With the blessing and prayers of Saint Demetrios, Nestor defeated the fierce German and hurled him from the platform onto the spears of the soldiers, just as the murderous pagan would have done with the Christian. The enraged commander ordered the execution of the holy Martyr Nestor (October 27) and sent a guard to the prison to kill Saint Demetrios. At dawn on October 26, 306 soldiers appeared in the Saint's underground prison and ran him through with lances. His faithful servant, Saint Lupus, gathered up the blood-soaked garment of Saint Demetrios he took the imperial ring from his finger, a symbol of his high status, and dipped it in the blood. With the ring and other holy things sanctified the blood of Saint Demetrios, Saint Lupus began to heal the infirm. The Emperor ordered his soldiers to arrest and kill him.

The body of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios was cast out for wild animals to devour, but the Christians took it and secretly buried it in the earth.

During the reign of Saint Constantine (306-337), a church was built over the grave of Saint Demetrios. A hundred years later, during the construction of a majestic new church on the old spot, the incorrupt relics of the holy martyr were uncovered. Since the seventh century a miraculous flow of fragrant myrrh has been found beneath the crypt of the Great Martyr Demetrios, so he is called “the Myrrh-gusher.”

Several times, those venerating the holy wonderworker tried to bring his holy relics, or a part of them, to Constantinople. Invariably, Saint Demetrios made it clear that he would not permit anyone to remove even a portion of his relics.

It is interesting that among the barbarians threatening the Romans, Slavs occupied an important place, in particular those settling upon the Thessalonian peninsula. Some even believe that the parents of Saint Demetrios were of Slavic descent. While advancing towards the city, pagan Slavs were repeatedly turned away by the apparition of a threatening radiant youth, going around on the walls and inspiring terror in the enemy soldiers. Perhaps this is why the name of Saint Demetrios was particularly venerated among the Slavic nations after they were enlightened by the Gospel. On the other hand, Greeks dismiss the idea that Saint Demetrios was a Slavic saint.

The very first pages of the Russian Primary Chronicle, as foreordained by God, is bound up with the name of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios of Thessaloniki. The Chronicle relates that when Oleg the Wise threatened the Greeks at Constantinople (907), the Greeks became terrified and said, “This is not Oleg, but rather Saint Demetrios sent upon us from God.” Russian soldiers always believed that they were under the special protection of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios. Moreover, in the old Russian barracks the Great Martyr Demetrios was always depicted as Russian. Thus this image entered the soul of the Russian nation.

Church veneration of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios in Russia began shortly after the Baptism of Rus. Toward the beginning of the 1070s the Dimitriev monastery at Kiev, known afterwards as the Mikhailov-Zlatoverkh monastery, was founded, The monastery was built by the son of Yaroslav the Wise, Great Prince Izyaslav, Demetrios in Baptism (+ 1078). The mosaic icon of Saint Demetrios of Thessaloniki from the cathedral of the Dimitriev monastery has been preserved up to the present day, and is in the Tretiakov Gallery.

In the years 1194-1197 the Great Prince of Vladimir, Vsevolod III the Great-Nest (Demetrios in Baptism) “built at his court a beautiful church of the holy martyr Demetrios, and adorned it wondrously with icons and frescoes.” The Dimitriev cathedral also reveals the embellishment of ancient Vladimir. The wonderworking icon of Saint Demetrios of Thessaloniki from the cathedral iconostasis is located even now in Moscow, at the Tretiakov gallery. It was painted on a piece of wood from the grave of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios, brought from Thessaloniki to Vladimir in 1197.

One of the most precious depictions of the saint, a fresco on a column of the Vladimir Dormition cathedral, was painted by the holy Iconographer Andrew Rublev (July 4).

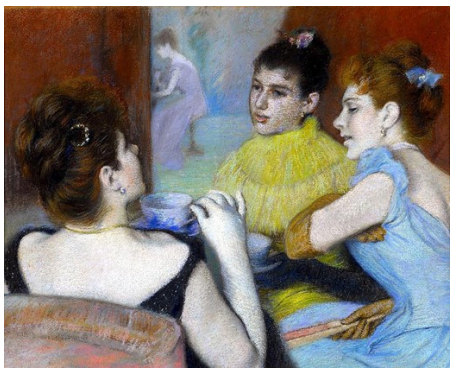
The family of Saint Alexander Nevsky (November 23 also venerated Saint Demetrios. Saint Alexander named his eldest son in honor of the holy Great Martyr. His younger son, Prince Daniel of Moscow (March 4), built a church dedicated to the holy Great Martyr Demetrios in the 1280s. This was the first stone church in the Moscow Kremlin. Later in 1326, under Ivan Kalita, it was taken down and the Dormition cathedral was built in its place.

The memory of Saint Demetrios of Thessaloniki is historically associated in Rus with the military, patriotism and the defense of the country. This is apparent by the saint's depiction on icons as a soldier in plumed armor, with a spear and sword in hand. There is a scroll (in later depictions) on which is written the prayer of Saint Demetrios for the salvation of the people of Thessaloniki, "Lord, do not permit the city or the people to perish. If You save the city and the people, I shall be saved with them. If they perish, I will perish with them."
The Saint Demetrios Memorial Saturday was established for church-wide remembrance of the soldiers who fell in the Battle of Kulikovo. This memorial service was held for the first time at the Trinity-Saint Sergius monastery on October 20, 1380 by Saint Sergius of Radonezh, in the presence of Great Prince Demetrios of the Don. It is an annual remembrance of the heroes of the Battle of Kulikovo, among whom are the Schema-monks Alexander (Peresvet) and Andrew (Oslyab).
Saint Demetrios is regarded as a protector of the young, and is also invoked by those struggling with lustful temptations.

LET'S WINE II DELAYED

Our annual wine tasting *Let's Wine* has been postponed and will likely be scheduled for February 2026.

More details as they develop!



Women's Social Night

Thursday, Nov 13, 2025
Michelangelo's Winery
5515 Broadview Road, Richfield
6:30pm
Please contact Sarah Brennan to let her know you'll be joining!
Txt 330-620-0365 or sarah.e.brennan.1@gmail.com

Boys' Night Out

A pre-Nativity Fast BNO looms! On *Sunday, November 9, 5PM* we will have a Boys' Night Out at ***Heck's Cafe***
2927 Bridge in Ohio City
Please let Dan Morris know if you plan to attend. Thank you!

Coffee Hour Quarter 4 2025

Questions/Concerns/volunteer? call Cathy Weber (412-215-1928)

October 5
Mary
October 12
Sarah & Mike Brennan
October 19
Gabe Tabeling
October 26
Holly Maharidge-Roe
November 2
Joyce & Judy
November 9
Vidovich & Whitlock
November 16 *(Nativity Fast)*
Sarah & Mike Brennan
November 23 *(Nativity Fast)*
Cathy
November 30 *(Nativity Fast)*
Mat. Cindy
December 7 *(Nativity Fast)*
Vidovich & Whitlock
December 14 *(Nativity Fast)*
Dan & Lavinia
December 21 *(Nativity Fast)*
Christopher & Emiko Strah (sponsored by William Lynk)
December 28
Nicholas, McKenna, & Terry
(also sponsored by William Lynk)

Theotokos of Vladimir

Eastern Orthodox Women's Guild of Greater Cleveland

Unity Through Participation

Icons are
"Windows to Heaven"
revealing the Glory of God!
They act as a portal and serve as a "visual" mean to commune with Christ, the Theotokos and all of our Heavenly Saints.

Saturday, November 22, 2025 @10:00AM

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
22909 Center Ridge Road
Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Meet Iconographer Effie Fillis & See Her Work in Progress

Life of St. Philothea of Athens
Patron Saint of St. Demetrios' Chapel

- Working on Completing the Chapel of St. Demetrios
- Meet in the Fellowship Room
- Social and Refreshments

Orthodox religious classes on the Ten Commandments

- October 22:

  1. I am the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me (Ex. 20:2-3).

  2. You shall not make for yourselves a graven image or any likeness

- October 29:

  3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain (20:7).

  4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work; but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work (20:8-10).

- November 5:

  5. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the LORD your God gives you (20:12).

- November 12:

  6. You shall not kill (20:13).

- November 19:

  7. You shall not commit adultery (20:14).

- November 26: No Class///Thanksgiving break

- December 3:

  8. You shall not steal (20:15).

  10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's (20:17).

- December 10:

  9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor (20:16).

PRAYER REQUESTS

10/26/2025

Deceased

Yvonne Sacco

Jeffrey A. Zdinak

Special Intentions:

Fr Peter Giannakopoulos

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Roger Pinta

Subdeacon Leon Felon

Reader Frank Tkacz

Reader Daniel Morris

Horia Dascalescu *(Lavinia's brother)*

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec *(friend of Karen Felon)*

Rachel Ohlin *(relative of Tatiana)*

Erin Zawolowycz

Jeffrey Parhamovich *(brother of Karen Felon)*

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

Jean Woycitzky Thompson *(Frank's cousin)*

Debra Parhamovich *(sister of Karen Felon)*

Robert Martin Prock

Valentina Zawolowycz *(mother of Paul Z)*

Child McKenna Kranek

Betty Balasz

Herman Leslie Levin

Russell Schafer

Sonia Vorell

Ivan Lavrisiuk

Elisabeth Lavrisiuk

Phyllis Gindlesperger

Lenore Miroewski *(Sister-in-law to Barbara Clos)*

Michael Weaver

Mary *(friend of Henry)*

Matushka Ludmila Timko

Debra Ellis

Elena Rich

Jerry Czajkowski

Christopher Magee

James Mitnik

Frank Stoyka Jr

Matthew Hunley

Jill Morinec

Barbara Sheean

Tamara Ponomarenko

Mary Ann Reck

Paige Benjamin *(Niece of Una Alexandrovic)*

Please submit names to the Prayer List by emailing them to Fr. Jan Cizmar
st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com
Or calling at 1 (440) 732-8182
Names remain on the list for 30 days unless requested otherwise.

ST. THEODOSIUS IS 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

Notice:

On Sunday, November 9th, we will have our **Annual Budgetary Meeting** following Divine Liturgy. Pertinent information will be sent out in advance as per usual.

BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2025

Sunday, October 26
20th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy, Glorious Demetrios the Myrrh-gusher of Thessaloniki (ca. 306)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour
FOCA Meeting to follow

Monday, October 27
Righteous Mother Olga of Kwethluk–Tanqilria Arrsamquq–Wonderworker, Matushka of All Alaska

Tuesday, October 28
Repose of Ven. Job the Wonderworker, Abbot of Pochaev (1651)

Wednesday, October 29
Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome
6:00 PM Akathist
6:40 PM Class
(The Ten Commandments)

Thursday, October 30
Hieromartyr Zenobios and his sister Zenobia, of Aegæ in Cilicia (285)

Friday, October 31
Hieromartyr Archpriest John Kochurov (1917)

Saturday, November 1
Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia, and their mother, St. Theodota. Hieromartyrs John the Bishop and Jacob (James) the Presbyter, of Persia (ca. 345)
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, November 2
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasius, Aphthonius, Elpidephorus, Anempodistus, and 7,000 with them, of Persia
(ca. 341-345)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Monday, November 3
Martyrs Akepsimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter, and Aeithalas the Deacon, of Persia (4th c.)

Tuesday, November 4
Hieromartyr Seraphim (Samoilovich), Archbishop of Uglich (1937)

Wednesday, November 5
Martyrs Galaction and his wife, Epistemis, at Emesa (3rd c.)
6:00 PM Akathist to Nektarios
6:40 PM Class
(The Ten Commandments)

Thursday, November 6
St. Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople (350)

Friday, November 7
Holy 33 Martyrs of Melitene (3rd c.)
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Saturday, November 8
Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and the other Bodiless Powers: Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel
(Archangel Michael Orthodox Church invites us to join them for Divine Liturgy at 9:30AM at 5025 E. Mill Road Broadview Heights, OH 44147)
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, November 9
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Martyrs Onesiphorus and Porphyrius of Ephesus (3rd-4th c.)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

The Martyr Lupus lived at the end of the third century and beginning of the fourth century, and was a faithful servant of the holy Great Martyr Demetrius of Thessalonica (October 26). Being present at the death of his master, he soaked his own clothing with his blood and took a ring from his hand. With this clothing, and with the ring and the name of the Great Martyr Demetrius, Saint Lupus worked many miracles at Thessalonica. He destroyed pagan idols, for which he was subjected to persecution by the pagans, but he was preserved unharmed by the power of God.
Saint Lupus voluntarily delivered himself into the hands of the torturers, and by order of the emperor Maximian Galerius, he was beheaded by the sword.