Ambo

St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral

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Sacristan

Subdeacon Igor Gajewsky
Sacristan

Reader Julius Kovach
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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

August 30, 2026

13th Sunday after Pentecost
Translation of the Relics of
Rt. Blv. Great Prince
St. Alexander Nevsky

The Holy Prince Alexander Nevsky (in monastic schema Alexis) died on the return journey from the Horde at Gorodtsa on the Volga, on November 14, 1263, and on November 23, 1263 he was buried in the Cathedral Church of the Nativity Monastery in the city of Vladimir.1 Veneration of the Prince began right at his burial, where a remarkable miracle took place. The saint extended his hand for the prayer of absolution (a written document placed in the coffin). Great Prince John (1353-1359), in his spiritual testament written in the year 1356, left to his son Demetrius (1363-1389), the future victor of the Battle of Kulikovo, "an icon of Saint Alexander." The incorrupt relics of the holy Prince were uncovered, because of a vision, before the Battle of Kulikovo in the year 1380, and then they were sent forth for a local celebration.

Russian commanders asked for the intercession of the holy Prince, glorified by his defense of the Fatherland, in the following times: On August 30, 1721 Peter I, after a lengthy and exhausting war with the Swedes, concluded the Nishtad Peace. On this day it was decided to transfer the relics of the holy Prince Alexander Nevsky from Vladimir to the new northern capital, Peterburg, on the banks of the Neva. Removed from Vladimir on August 11, 1723, the holy relics were greeted at Shlisselburg on September 20 of that year and remained there until 1724. On August 30, they were placed in the Trinity Cathedral of the Alexander Nevsky Lavra, where they now rest in Saint Petersburg. By an edict on September 2, 1724 a feastday was established on August 30.2

Archimandrite Gabriel Buzhinsky (later Bishop of Ryazan, + April 27, 1731) compiled a special service in remembrance of the Nishtad Peace, combining with it a service to Saint Alexander Nevsky.

The name of the Defender of the borders of Russia and the Patron of Soldiers is famous far beyond the borders of Russia. The numerous temples dedicated to Saint Alexander Nevsky bear witness to this. The most famous of them: the Patriarchal Cathedral at Sofia, the Cathedral church in Talinin, and a church in Tbilisi.

These churches are a pledge of friendship of the Russian National-Liberator with brother nations.

1 There is now a memorial to the holy prince at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity Monastery. Another memorial is in the city of Pereslavl-Zalessk.

2 In 1727, the feast was discontinued because of secular matters, which involved clique struggles at the imperial court. In 1730, the Feast was again re-established.

Church New Year

The first day of the Church New Year is also called the beginning of the Indiction. The term Indiction comes from a Latin word meaning, "to impose." It was originally applied to the imposition of taxes in Egypt. The first worldwide Indiction was in 312 when the Emperor Constantine (May 21) saw a miraculous vision of the Cross in the sky. Before the introduction of the Julian calendar, Rome began the New Year on September 1.

According to Holy Tradition, Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting Isaiah 61:1-2, the Savior proclaimed, "The spirit of the Lord is upon Me; because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to proclaim release to captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord..." This scene is depicted in a Vatican manuscript (Vatican, Biblioteca. Cod. Gr. 1613, p.1). Tradition says that the Hebrews entered the Promised Land in September.

Coffee Hour Quarter 3 2026

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

July 5
Joyce & Judy
July 12
Matushka Jana
July 19
Christopher & Emiko
July 26
Mary
August 2 *(Dormition Fast)*
Dan & Lavinia
(Sponsored by Una & John)
August 9 *(Dormition Fast)*
Matushka Jana
August 16
Tammy
(Sponsored by Una & John)
August 23
Joyce & Judy
August 30
Sarah & Mike Brennan
September 6
Shawna
(Sponsored by Anonymous)
September 13
Holly Roe
September 20
Heather
September 27
Shawna

Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

Tuesday, 1 September 2026
The Indiction
№. 147

ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE OF THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR

Beloved Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and dearly Beloved Faithful of the Diocese of the Midwest:

Glory to Jesus Christ!

As we approach the beginning of the new Ecclesiastical Year on September 1, the Holy Church once again invites us to enter the sacred rhythm of her liturgical life. Unlike the passing measures of secular time, the Church's year is not merely a succession of days and months. It is an unfolding season of grace, in which the saving works of our Lord Jesus Christ are made present to us through prayer, worship, fasting, feasting, repentance, and thanksgiving.

This annual cycle of fasts and feasts is a precious gift. Through it, the Church gathers our scattered lives and directs them toward the Kingdom of God. We celebrate the Nativity of Christ, His Holy Theophany, His life-giving Passion and Resurrection, His glorious Ascension, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We honor the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, the holy Apostles, Martyrs, Hierarchs, Monastics, and all the Saints. Their commemorations remind us that holiness is not an abstract ideal but the true vocation of every Christian.

The fasts of the Church likewise call us back to what is essential. By abstaining from certain foods and indulgences, we learn to restrain the passions, deepen our prayer, give generously to those in need, seek reconciliation, and hunger more earnestly for God. Fasting is never an end unto itself, nor is it merely a matter of dietary observance. Joined to repentance, mercy, and participation in the sacramental life, it becomes a path toward spiritual freedom and renewed communion with Christ.

The feasts teach us to receive life with gratitude and joy. Yet, Christian joy is not an escape from suffering. It is the fruit of Christ's victory over sin and death. Every feast reveals some aspect of this victory, while every fast prepares the heart to receive it. Together, the fasts and feasts form a school of discipleship, shaping us gradually into the likeness of our Savior.

I therefore urge the clergy, monastics, and faithful of our Diocese to begin this Ecclesiastical Year with renewed dedication. Let us order our homes and daily schedules according to the life of the Church. Let us participate faithfully in the Divine Liturgy and the appointed services, observe the fasts with discernment, receive the Holy Mysteries with proper preparation, read the Holy Scriptures, and establish a consistent rule of daily prayer.

Let our spiritual and churchly practice also bear visible fruit in works of mercy. May every parish and mission community within our God-protected Diocese strengthen its care for the poor, the lonely, the grieving, the displaced, and all who struggle in body or soul. A calendar filled with holy days profits us little if our hearts remain closed to our neighbors. The grace we receive in worship must extend into our families, workplaces, communities, and the whole of creation entrusted to our stewardship.

To my beloved clergy, my brothers and co-laborers in this Vineyard: teach the faithful the meaning of the liturgical cycle with patience and pastoral sensitivity. Invite them not only to know the calendar but to live by it and keep it. Make the divine services accessible, beautiful, and prayerful. Encourage frequent confession and worthy reception of Holy Communion. Above all, lead by your own example of humility, fidelity, hospitality, and love.

To parents and families: make your homes little churches. Mark the feasts with prayer, give places of honor to the holy icons, sing the Church's hymns, share meals, and live your family lives with acts of kindness and generosity. Teach children that the Church's seasons are not burdens imposed upon life but gifts that reveal life's deepest meaning. In this way, the faith will be handed on not merely as information, but as a living inheritance.

Beloved in Christ, each new Ecclesiastical Year is both a gift and a summons. The time given to us is precious, and its fulfillment is found in Christ. Let us not allow this year to pass without bearing spiritual fruit. May every fast soften our hearts, every feast enlarge our joy, every divine service deepen our communion, and every day become an offering of thanksgiving to God.

At the beginning of this new Church year, I ask you to join me in praying:

O Lord, bless the crown of the year with Thy goodness. Grant peace to Thy Church, strength to Thy people, wisdom to our leaders, healing to the afflicted, consolation to the sorrowful, peace to the world, and mercy to us all. Guide us through every season of fasting and feasting, that we may grow in repentance, faith, hope, and love, and at last enter the unending Day of Thy Kingdom.

Through the prayers of the Most Holy Theotokos, especially venerated in her sacred Tikhvin Icon, of our holy fathers and mothers, and of all the saints, may the blessing of the Lord rest upon the clergy, monastics, faithful, parishes, missions, institutions, and families of the Diocese of the Midwest throughout the coming Ecclesiastical Year.

With my Archpastoral blessing and love in Christ,

+Daniel

DANIEL
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

Thursday, 27 August 2026
Venerable Pimen the Great
№. 149

ARCHPASTORAL APPEAL OF THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS 2026

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As we begin our annual Support Our Seminarians appeal, I invite you to join the parishes, church organizations, and individuals throughout the Diocese of the Midwest investing in the future of ministry in the Church.

This year, our Diocese has been blessed with fourteen seminarians. These men, our sons and brothers, are studying at Saint Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary, South Canaan, PA or at Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY. Six are new students just beginning their seminary careers, while eight are returning to continue their theological studies and priestly formation. Each of their photos and biographies are available on our diocesan website: https://domoca.org/diocesan-seminarians.

These seminarians and their families are your fellow parishioners and friends from throughout the Diocese of the Midwest. They have made significant sacrifices in moving to the seminaries where they are now preparing themselves for a life of service to God and His people. Along with their families, they are making sacrifices and embracing the call to prepare for future ministry. Their formation requires not only education and spiritual development, but also significant financial resources.

I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting our seminarians in two important ways: spiritually and financially.

Your prayers are an essential source of strength and encouragement as these men discern and prepare to serve the Church. In addition to this annual "SOS" appeal, I also encourage parishes, parish organizations, families, and individuals to contribute financially toward their formation and educational needs throughout the year, and whenever possible.

Each parish and mission of the Diocese of the Midwest is called upon to either take a special collection, hold a fundraising event, or direct funds from the parish budget in order to contribute to this annual diocesan-wide effort.

Every gift, regardless of size, makes a meaningful difference. Your generosity helps provide the resources that our seminarians need as they continue their journey toward their future ministry. By supporting them today, you are helping to build a stronger future for our Church, and ensuring that they are prepared to serve God and His people with faith, compassion, and dedication.

I sincerely thank you for your prayers, generosity, and continued commitment to the theological education and formation of our seminarians. May God bless you abundantly for your support, and for the significant contribution you make in preparing the next generation of priests.

With gratitude for your generous support, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

DANIEL
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

16th Annual

Fr. Prislopsky Memorial

Dinner Lecture

The Lord is My Shepherd:

An in-depth explanation of the most-beloved and well-known Psalm of King David.

Keynote Speaker: V. Rev. Fr. John Memorich

Thursday, September 24, 2026

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Woodside Event Center
5025 E Mill Road
Broadview Hts., OH

6:00 PM - Registration
6:30 PM - Dinner
Shepherd's Pie
7:00 PM - Lecture
Cost: $15 per person
RSVP Required Through Church Office
by Friday, September 11, 2026
Call - (440) 526-5192 or email at
info@stmichaelscleveland.org

Saints Constantine & Helen Cathedral, Cleveland Heights, Ohio
St. Makrina Bible Study presents

Fall Retreat Light Streams In

Saturday, October 17, 2026 9:00 am- 3:00 pm

"In turbulent times, how are Christians to engage with this modern world? We look to St. Porphyrios who teaches us to let Christ's light stream into the darkness, and challenges us to radiate light".

Elissa Bjeletich Davis
Orthodox Christian author, podcaster, and speaker

Checks to: Sts. Constantine & Helen Cathedral / "Retreat" in memo
3352 Mayfield Rd / Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 *(Attn: Anna Warren)*
More Information Toni Madden 440-840-1276

Name_____

Church_____

Phone:_____ ***Email***_____

_____ ***Tickets include breakfast and lunch $15 ($20 after 10/10)*** _____
Students free (registration required)

Additional Donation _____

Total Enclosed_____

Theotokos of Vladimir

Eastern Orthodox Women's Guild of Greater Cleveland

Unity Through Participation

"BLESSINGS"

FOR THE NEW CHURCH YEAR

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be merciful to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

~Numbers 6:24-26

Saturday, September 26, 2026 @10:00AM

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

6822 Broadview Road
Parma, Ohio 44134

- Fr. Christopher Moore Will Give the Blessing for the "New Church Year"
- Fellowship, Refreshments & Door Prizes
- Bring a Friend to Join Our Christ-Centered Ministry
- Updates on Events Planned for the Year
- Annual Fundraising Dinner Discussion
- Assembly of IOCC Kid's School Kits – Annual Service Project

Before civil war broke out in 2011, nearly every child was enrolled in primary school. By 2013, about 1.8 million Syrian children were out of school. One in four schools have been damaged, destroyed or occupied as shelter by families who lost their homes. Thanks to donors like you, IOCC has been in Syria working to preserve education for children—providing school uniforms and rehabilitating damaged schools. School kits packed with notebooks, pencils and other supplies have also been distributed to more than 40,000 Syrian children.

EASTERN CHURCHES SEMINAR

A COLLABORATION OF ORTHODOX, EASTERN AND ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Yours or Mine?
Why Do We Have Different Dates for Easter?

September 25, 5 pm,
St. Francis Chapel at
John Carroll University

Virtual Community?
Parish in a Technological Age

September 26, 10 am
St. Joseph Byzantine
Catholic Church
Brecksville

Fr. Radu Bordeianu, Ph.D.
Professor at Duquesne University
Priest at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Free and open to all. Registration welcome
at: jcu.edu/easternchurches

St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church

Catholic Diocese of Cleveland

TUOHY CENTER FOR INTERRELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING
JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY

Saturday Sep. 26

Akathist to St. Innocent of Alaska - 10 am
Session w/ Dr. David begins - 11 am
Q&A afterward
Lunch begins - 12:30 pm (Provided)
Session w/ Dr. Mary begins - 2 pm
Q&A afterward, till 3:30
Vespers - 5 pm

Sunday Sep. 27

Dr. David Ford will give a presentation called "St. John Chrysostom: Glimpses into His Life and Wisdom" at 11:30 in the church.

Please RSVP to priestpaisios@gmail.com by Sep. 19 ito ensure enough food for the luncheon

PRAYER REQUESTS

8/30/2026

Special Intentions:

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Leon Felon

Reader Kenneth Kovach

Reader Frank Tkacz

Reader Daniel Morris

Reader Haralambos Steingass

Horia Dascalescu *(Lavinia's brother)*

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec *(friend of Karen Felon)*

Rachel Ohlin *(relative of Tatiana)*

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

Child McKenna Kranek

Betty Balasz

Elisabeth Lavrisiuk

Phyllis Gindlesperger

Jerry Czajkowski

Barbara Sheean

Tamara Ponomarenko

Paige Benjamin *(niece of Una Alexandrovic)*

Sara Wilmot *(friend of Tim Clos)*

Catherine *(niece of Judy Schwind)*

Elena Rich

Quinn *(niece of John Alexandrovic)*

Erin Zawolowycz

Anthony Swit

Nina Mytrohovich

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

BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2026

Sunday, August 30
13th Sunday after Pentecost
Translation of the Relics of Rt. Blv. Great Prince St. Alexander Nevsky (1724)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour
Restoration Update Meeting to follow

Monday, August 31
The restoration of the church of the Theotokos at Neorion

Tuesday, September 1
Church New Year (Indiction)

Wednesday, September 2
Ven. Anthony and Theodosius of the Kiev Caves (10th-11th c.)
6:00 PM Akathist

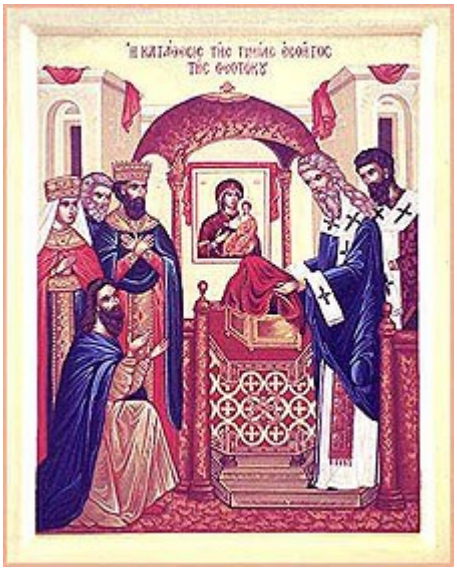
Thursday, September 3
Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those with him: Martyrs Theophilus—Deacon; Dorothesus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes, Gorgonius, Zeno; the Virgin Domna, and Euthymius (302)

Friday, September 4
Hieromartyr Gorazd, Bishop of Bohemia and Moravia-Silesia (Serbian—1942 (1942)

Saturday, September 5
Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of St. John the Baptist
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, September 6
14th Sunday after Pentecost
Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossæ. Martyrs Eudoxius, Zeno, and Macarius (311-312)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Monday, September 7
Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Martyr Sozón of Cilicia (ca. 304)
6:00 PM Great Vespers



The Placing of the Venerable Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos in a church of Constantinople's Chalcoprateia district took place during the reign of the emperor Theodosius the Younger. Before this the holy relic, entrusted to the Apostle Thomas by the Mother of God Herself, was kept by pious Christians at Jerusalem after Her Dormition. During the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise (886-911), his wife Zoe was afflicted with an unclean spirit, and he prayed that God would heal her. The empress had a vision that she would be healed of her infirmity if the Belt of the Mother of God were placed upon her. The emperor then asked the Patriarch to open the coffer. The Patriarch removed the seal and opened the coffer in which the relic was kept, and the Belt of the Mother of God appeared completely whole and undamaged by time. The Patriarch placed the Belt on the sick empress, and immediately she was freed from her infirmity. They sang hymns of thanksgiving to the Most Holy Theotokos, then they placed the venerable Belt back into the coffer and resealed it.

Tuesday, September 8
The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
8:30 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
@Holy Trinity 6822 Broadview Rd. Parma Ohio 44134
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Wednesday, September 9
Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Uncovering of the Relics of St. Theodosius, Archbishop of Chernigov
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Feastday Brunch following Divine Liturgy

Thursday, September 10
Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia (305-311)
6:30 AM Hours and Typica

Friday, September 11
Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Ven. Theodora of Alexandria (474-491)

Saturday, September 12
Leavetaking of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Saturday before Elevation
Hieromartyr Autonomus, Bishop in Italy (313)
10:00 AM Baptism of Ariella Xenia Hochmann
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, September 13
14th Sunday after Pentecost
Forefeast of the Elevation of the Cross
Sunday before Elevation
Commemoration of the Founding of the Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulcher) at Jerusalem (335)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour
1:00 PM Parish Picnic
@St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral 6306 Broadview Rd, Parma, OH 44134