



The Weekly Forerunner



St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

301 Struthers Liberty Rd

Campbell, OH 44405

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

September Bulletin Sponsor
OPEN

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, October 5

9:15-9:45 AM: Confessions by appointment

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social by O Club / Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 8

6:00 PM: Fire Training

Saturday, October 11

4:00 PM: Great Vespers (Note time)

Sunday, October 12

8:35 AM: Hours (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Panachida for AP Vladimir Demshuk

3:00 PM: Thomson ~ Willision Wedding

Annual Church Musician Sunday today Sunday, October 5

Since 2022, the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America has designated the first Sunday of October as Church Musician Sunday. The yearly recognition of church musicians is thus connected with the memory of Saints Saint Romanus the Melodist and John Koukouzelis, commemorated together on October 1. This celebration, marked this year on October 5, highlights the essential role of liturgical music in Orthodox Christian worship and the important role of church musicians in the life of the Church.

God Bless all & may God grant you many years!:

choir directors
singers, chanters, & readers
composers & arrangers of church music
bell-ringers
hymnographers
hymnologists
translators

The Protection of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary Commemorated on October 1

This miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-tenth century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the fifth century.

On Sunday, October 1, during the All Night Vigil, when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ Saint Andrew (October 2), at the fourth hour, lifted up his eyes towards the heavens and beheld our most Holy Lady Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. Saint John the Baptist and the holy Apostle John the Theologian accompanied the Queen of Heaven. On bended knees the Most Holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming near the Bishop's Throne, she continued her prayer.

After completing her prayer she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. The Most Holy Lady Theotokos was resplendent with heavenly glory, and the protecting veil in her hands gleamed "more than

the rays of the sun." Saint Andrew gazed trembling at the miraculous vision and he asked his disciple, the blessed Epiphanius standing beside him, "Do you see, brother, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?" Epiphanius answered, "I do see, holy Father, and I am in awe."

The Ever-Blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His Most Holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession, "O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to You and call on my name for help. Do not let them go away from my icon unheard."

Saints Andrew and Epiphanius were worthy to see the Mother of God at prayer, and "for a long time observed the Protecting Veil spread over the people and shining with flashes of glory. As long as the Most Holy Theotokos was there, the Protecting Veil was also visible, but with her departure it also became invisible. After taking it with her, she left behind the grace of her visitation."

At the Blachernae church, the memory **Con't Next Pg**

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

<https://www.stjohnthebaptist-campbell.org/>

padrebartek@gmail.com

PLEASE KEEP OUR ELDERS OF THE CHURCH & SHUT-INS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Send a "Thinking of You" card or remember their Birthday with a card. If anyone needs to be added, please contact Fr. Andrew.

Mrs. Mary Fredericks
648 Dumont Ave
Campbell, OH 44405

Matushka Helen Psinka
c/o Concordia Villa St. Joseph
1030 W State Street / Room 1B49
Baden, Pa, 15005

Mrs. Dorothy Shirilla
8362 Van Dr.
Poland, OH 44514

Joan Cross
97 Butler Street / Apt 1-rear
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Mrs. Audrey Chengelis
c/o Assumption Village
9802 Market Street / Room 132
North Lima, OH 44452

Emilia Yannitto
8017 Salinas Tr.
Boardman, OH 44512-5402

Mrs. Pauline Fesz
488 Harmony Lane
Campbell, OH 44405

George Horodnic, Sr.
c/o The Inn at Walker Mill
8060 South Ave, Rm 216
Boardman, OH 44512

Mrs. Julia Simko– Updated
c/o Briarfield Place
8400 Market Street
Boardman, OH 44512

Carol Ruff
2207 Birch Trail Blvd
Youngstown, OH 44515-4910

Sue Kennedy
593 Hyatt Ave
Campbell, OH 44405-1479

Ann Cvercko– Updated
1875 Mallard Land
North Lima, OH 44452

Protection con't from previous pg

of the miraculous appearance of the Mother of God was remembered. In the fourteenth century, the Russian pilgrim and clerk Alexander, saw in the church an icon of the Most Holy Theotokos praying for the world, depicting Saint Andrew in contemplation of her.

The Primary Chronicle of Saint Nestor reflects that the protective intercession of the Mother of God was needed because an attack of a large pagan Russian fleet under the leadership of Askole and Dir. The feast celebrates the divine destruction of the fleet which threatened Constantinople itself, sometime in the years 864-867 or according to the Russian historian Vasiliev, on June 18, 860. Ironically, this Feast is considered more important by the Slavs than by the Greeks.

The Primary Chronicle of Saint Nestor also notes the miraculous deliverance followed an all-night Vigil and the dipping of the garment of the Mother of God into the waters of the sea at the Blachernae church, but does not mention Saints Andrew and Epiphanius and their vision of the Mother of God at prayer. These latter elements, and the begin-

PRAYER LIST

PARISHIONERS: Achilles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / Joan Cross / Ann Cvercko / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / George Horodnic / Gianna Hryb / Sue Kennedy / Matushka Helen Psinka / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko

CLERGY: AP James Gleason (Fr.) / AP Michael Rustic / AP Emil Hutyan / Fr. Peter / For Fr. Matthew Nyumu & his family and his faithful at the parish of St Makarios in the Metropolis of Nairobi, Kenya / Fr. Michael Dayang & his family & his parishioners at 3 Hierarchs parish in Cameroon / Fr. Raphael Stephano & his family and parishioners of his 2 mission communities in the Diocese of Western Tanzania

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Diane Caban (Sirilla) / George Caban (Sirilla) / Donna Chiarelli / Karen Debiec / Basil Glovinsky (Fr.) / Paula Kennedy / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Ginny McCay (Fredericks) / Pauline Meath (Fr.) / Matushka Raisa (Nicoloff) / Chris Quotap (Fr.) / Bob Smrek (Sirilla) / Matt Turner (Sirilla) / Emilia Yanitto / Catherine Zile (Fr.) / David (Willison) / Drew (Willison) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Richard (Tusinac) / Genna Koval & her unborn baby

MILITARY FAMILY & FRIENDS: Cory Deaton (Fr.) / Alena Grabavoy (Fr.) / Liam Garrity (Zelinsky)

MISCELLANEOUS: Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Diocese of Aleppo) & Archbishop John (Archdiocese of Aleppo) still being held captive & Metropolitan Arseny imprisoned / The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.

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OCTOBER Candle & Bulletin Sponsors

NOTE: If anything is missing from the Sponsorships please contact Fr. Andrew ASAP

Bulletin: OPEN

Wine: For the health of Karen Debiec on the occasion of her birthday– Given by Gene & Paula Kennedy

Incense: OPEN

Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light: In memory of George & Mary Vasile & George Robert Vasile– Given by Jim & Elaine Johnston

Altar Candles: In honor of the 65th Wedding Anniversary Of Gary & Patty Thompson– Given by Gary & Patty Thompson

Tetrapod Candles: Sponsored by Linda Lovosky

St. Herman Candles: Commemorating all who participate in the maintenance of the church, the teachers, singers and those who participate in social events. Praying for everyone to love one another.

St. Panteleimon Icon Candles: In honor of my daughter, Karen Debiec the occasion of her birthday on Oct. 5th – Given by Sue Kennedy

Protection Icon Candles: OPEN

St. John the Baptist Candles: OPEN

Monthly Flowers: In honor of Connor & Hannah on their wedding– Given by the Willison & Steffaro Family

<u>\$50 per month</u>	<u>\$30 per month</u>	<u>\$25 per month</u>
*Wine	*St. Herman candles	Incense
*Bulletin	*St. Panteleimon Icon candles	
*Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light	*Protection Icon candles	Flowers - \$50 for 2 weeks at a time– <i>Updated</i>
*Altar Candles	*St. John the Baptist candles	
*Tetrapod Candles		

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church CRATES & BASKETS RAFFLE & SLAVIC FOOD FESTIVAL

Sunday, November 9, 2025 1 - 4 PM

Drawings begin at 3 PM. Winners need not be present.

Admission Tickets \$3.00 - At the Door \$5.00

Slavic Foods will be available for dine-in or take-out.



And more.....

For tickets: Church (leave a message) 330-755-2223

Cindy 330-531-1119

OCTOBER Celebrations

Birthday

- 1 Trudy Ellmore
- 2 Tina Litzie / Nathaniel Willison
- 3 Ethan Chendorain
- 5 Maya Kubancsek / Karen Kennedy
- 6 Michelle Horodnic
- 7 Gabriella Hryb / Sophia Jesko
- 8 Monica Vansuch
- 9 Kelly Ann Ferrick / Zoe Kalantzis
- 10 Krissy Nicoloff Young
- 11 Zachary Rusnak / Danielle Taylor
- 13 Colin Henry Felker / Shelia Jesko
- 14 Fr. Andrew Groom / Ann (Polewan)
- 16 Fr George Lardas / Mary Ruth Mico
- 17 Tim Glovinsky
- 18 Nicole Batura
- 22 David Livosky / Zuza Livosky / Ellen Harvischak
- 25 Sam Dardovsky
- 31 Fr. Peter Zarynow

Anniversary

- 1-2009 AB Irene of Ottawa & Archdiocese Canada / Gary & Patty Thompson / George & Tracy Rusnak
- 2 Fr. Matthew & Pani Eleni Stagon
- 3 Fr. Matt Stagon Priestly ordination
- 7 Fr. Eli & Mat. Larissa Bremer
- 9 David & Terrie Konik
- 14 Michael & Lynn Polewan
- 19 Archpriest John & Mat. Cynthia Zidinak
- 27 Dc. James Hryb Diaconate ordination
- 29 William & Nadine Sabo
- 31 Paul & Layne Demkosky

Names Day

- 9 The Most Blessed Tikhon
- 14 Gary Thompson
- 23 Elliot Vansuch

OCTOBER SOCIAL

- October 5– O Club
- October 12– OPEN
- October 19– Sisterhood Lunch
- October 26– OPEN

OCTOBER Reader Schedule

- October 5– Natalia Simko
- October 12– Sub-Deacon Dr. Donald Tamulonis
- October 19- Reader Matthew VanSuch
- October 26– Reader Nick VanSuch

October Charity

Second Harvest Food Bank of Mahoning Valley

ATTENDANCE: A Comparison - September	2024	2025
1st Week		
Vespers	No Vespers	7
Liturgy	57 / 47	57 / 42
Vespers– Nativity right after Sun. Lit.	No Record	41
Liturgy– Nativity	No Record	11 / 6
2nd Week		
Vespers	9	7
Liturgy	53 / 37	44 / 27 Cross Sunday
3rd Week		
Vespers	No Vespers	7
Liturgy	68 / 42	48 / 34
4th Week		
Vespers	No Vespers	No Vespers
Liturgy	43 / 32	45 / 27
5th Week		
Vespers For Protection	No record	6
Liturgy For Protection		12 / 7

FINAL SEPTEMBER FINANCIALS

Expenses	\$17,960.51
Income	\$16,202.08
TOTAL	-\$1,758.43
Weekly Tithe	\$9,809.70
Weekly Candles	\$627.00
Altar Candles	\$50.00
Decorative candles	\$50.00
Parish Rental	\$100.00
Landscaping	\$300.00
Weekly / Monthly Flowers	\$100.00
Tetrapod Candles	\$50.00
Cross Flowers	\$125.00
Donations for Food	\$100.00
Basket Donations	\$75.00
Tickets sold for Fundraiser in Nov.	\$156.00
Donation	\$1,013.00
Reverse Raffle Closed Account	\$2,562.38
Coffee Hour	\$304.00
Garlic Sales	\$130.00
Other Income (Sale of chairs & tables)	\$630.00
Monthly Charity: SOS	\$617.00

OCTOBER Reposed List

- Michael Kropenoh (1987) ©
2- His Grace Bishop Antoun (2017) / Mary Evanoff (1970) © / George Graban (2004) ©
Anna Kristian (1932) ©
3- Mary Libertin (1986) © / George Kalas (1994) © / Mary Novak (1994) © / Anthony Shepelevich (2004) © / George Robert Vasile (2019) ©
4- Louis Boldish (1960) © / Michael Tevonyoh (1987) © / John Hanuscin (1920) ©
6- Helen Korechko (2021) © / Kaliope Ellinos (1941) ©
8- Still Born Rosko (1923) © / Still Born Rosko (1923) © Twins / Matthew Shirilla (1939) ©
9- Barbara Matzye (1971) © / Walter Wilfong (2012) © / AP Vladimir Demshuk (2024)
10- Mary Vasile (1995) ©
11- Helen Zelina (1982) © / Paul Zeleniuk (1924) © / Olga Roman (1926) ©
12- Eli Tsvetanoff (1953) ©
13- Mary Basala (2006) / John Kristian (1994) © / Mary Vodilko (1998) © / N. Musolin (1923) ©
14- John Livosky (1985) © / Larry Sozur (1998) © / Joseph Jackubek (2022) © / Mary Papac (1928) © / Veronica Kristian (1936) © / Anna Ivancho (1939) © / Anna Midlik (1943) © / Dan Vansuch (1965) © / Margaret Zappia (2006) © / Ramiro Albarran (2023)
15- Helen Feltovich (1919) © / Dorothy Kirtos (1994) © / Peter Nickoloff (1970) © / Anna Simko (1929) © / George Petro (1959) ©
16- Frank Flaherty (1999) / Ronald Tucci (2013) © / Nicholas Hamamzis (1959) ©
17- Mary Kalas (1939) © / Nicholas Ellinos (1953) © / Mary Milner (1967) © / Sophie Sobey (2002) ©
18- Joseph Sirilla (2012) © / Helen Macala (1958) ©
19- Christopher John White (1973) © / Rochelle McIntire (1993) © / Archpriest Sergei Garklavs (2015) / Gori Pietropolo (2017) / His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius (2020) / Mary Holovatiuk (1933) ©
20- Helen Lebo (1988) © / Mary Ann Volk Dunchak (2018) © / Magdalene Carantonis (1940) ©
21- Regina Lomme (2021) / Helen Bura (2006) © / Andy Cvercko (1960) ©
22- Thelma Jean Cialella (2021) © / Helen Gerakios (1924) © / John Patzakes (1945) ©
24- Arnold Bickley (1977) © / Infant Lyras (1950) © / Martha Voytilla (1960) © / John Matzye (1964) © / Mike Despatorich (1965) ©
25- Serge Mihaly Jr (2019) / John Rosko (1920) © / Victor Zelina (1963) ©
26- Emil Gozur (2006) © / Irene Gozur (2006) ©
27- Eva Zurau (1982) © / Richard Guerrieri (2005) ©
28- Kathryn Puharich (2005) © / Christallou Demetrios (1942) © / Steve Koties (1953) ©
30- Joseph Malchisky (1993) / Harold Zastany (2017) ©
31- Margaret Basala (2002) / Still born Zlatkoff (1937) ©

Archbishop Completes Pilgrimage to St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest recently completed a pilgrimage to Bari, Italy, to pray before the relics of the holy hierarch, St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra and Lycia. The pilgrimage took place September 15 through September 24.

On September 15, His Eminence landed in Rome and spent several days visiting the holy sites of the city. His Eminence venerate the Chief Apostles, St. Peter and St. Paul, as well as the Martyr Sabastian, St. Clement, and other saints of the Church.

On the 19th, the Archbishop traveled to the town of Bari, where the relics of St. Nicholas has been since 1084. On Saturday, September 20th the Archbishop served the Divine Liturgy on the tomb of St. Nicholas with local clergy. At the conclusion of the service, the Archbishop offered a few words and then went under the altar where the relics are kept to offer prayers for the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of the Midwest.

Following the service, the Archbishop was taken to visit local towns and venerated the relics of St. Cosmas and St. Damian, and St. Stephen the First Martyr.

On Sunday morning, His Eminence presided over the Divine Liturgy at the Russian Orthodox Church podvorie, St. Nicholas Church, Bari. In reflecting on his pilgrimage, the Archbishop stated that it was such a blessing and even a dream come true to be able to celebrate the liturgy on the relics of St. Nicholas. He noted that the diocese has a number of communities dedicated to the saint, and so it was meaningful to remember them, and everyone within the diocese.

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Over 50 Singers join Midwest Choir Workshop in Dayton, OH

On Friday and Saturday, September 18-19, over 50 Orthodox faithful from six states gathered at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Dayton, Ohio, for a weekend of liturgical music, prayer, and fellowship.

The workshop, organized by the Diocese of the Midwest's St. Andrew of Crete Music Ministry, commenced on Friday evening with a moleben and a thought-provoking opening talk titled Poetry in Worship: Understanding Liturgical Texts by Fr. Gregory Ealy. One of the highlights of the weekend was the music reading session during Friday's reception, where participants had the opportunity to sing both classic and contemporary pieces from composers like Dmitry Bortniansky and Nazo Zakkak.

Saturday's workshop continued with a full day of conducting training, music instruction, rehearsals, and fellowship, all leading up to Great Vespers. Matushka Vickie led an in-depth session in the morning, exploring chant and its connection to liturgical text, while singing through examples with the participants. After a delicious lunch prepared by local parishioners, conductors Protinica Michelle and Jonathan led two choirs in rehearsals to sing antiphonally during Great Vespers. Meanwhile, Ms. Amedee worked with the children's choir to prepare a beautiful Valaam Chant arrangement of "Blessed is the Man."

The talented group of music instructors and conductors included Protinica Michelle Jannakos (St. Luke's, Palos Hills), Mtk. Vickie Kopistiansky (Holy Trinity, Detroit), Fr. Gregory Ealy (St. Paul's, Dayton), Ms. Amedee Royer (St. Paul's, Dayton), and Mr. Jonathan Wey (St. Stephen's, Lima). Kudos to the local organizing committee. The entire event would not have happened without their dedication.

Participants left the workshop not only with a deeper understanding of the role of music in liturgy but with a renewed sense of gratitude. One attendee from Chicago reflected, "Besides the musical tips I picked up, my greatest joy was singing with all these wonderful voices." Looking ahead, St. Andrew of Crete Music Ministry is already planning its sixth annual workshop at St. Paul's in Dayton for Fall 2026.

For more information about next year's event or if you missed this year's workshop, please contact Fr. Gregory Ealy at frgregory@stpdayton.org.

New Article Warns Parishes of Copyright Challenges

The Orthodox Church in America is drawing attention to a growing problem for parishes and nonprofit institutions: so-called "copyright trolls." Specialized law firms scour the internet for unauthorized uses of copyrighted images and issue costly settlement demands. A simple mistake in using an image found online can become an expensive problem for a parish, monastery, or other institution.

To address this issue, the Orthodox Church in America is sharing a new article by Dn. Kenneth Liu, Executive Director of the Orthodox Christian Attorney Network and an experienced intellectual property attorney.

In his article, Churches: Beware of Copyright Trolls, Dn. Kenneth explains the risks of unlicensed image use, outlines the basics of copyright law, and offers practical guidance for churches and institutions. He also addresses questions related to icons and copyright.

Parish leadership, clergy, and those responsible for websites, bulletins, and other publications are strongly encouraged to read the article and share it with their Parish Councils in order to avoid legal claims.

The Orthodox Church in America thanks Dn. Kenneth for this helpful resource and for his continuing work on behalf of the Church.

You can read the article on the National OCA website.

Protection Con't from pg 2

A further historical complication might be noted under (October 2) dating Saint Andrew's death to the year 936.

The year of death might not be quite reliable, or the assertion that he survived to a ripe old age after the vision of his youth, or that his vision involved some later pagan Russian raid which met with the same fate. The suggestion that Saint Andrew was a Slav (or a Scythian according to other sources, such as S. V. Bulgakov) is interesting, but not necessarily accurate. The extent of Slavic expansion and repopulation into Greece is the topic of scholarly disputes.

In the Prologue, a Russian book of the twelfth century, a description of the establishment of the special Feast marking this event states, "For when we heard, we realized how wondrous and merciful was the vision... and it transpired that Your holy Protection should not remain without festal celebration, O Ever-Blessed One!"

Therefore, in the festal celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, the Russian Church sings, "With the choirs of the Angels, O Sovereign Lady, with the venerable and glorious prophets, with the First-Ranked Apostles and with the Hieromartyrs and Hierarchs, pray for us sinners, glorifying the Feast of your Protection in the Russian Land." Moreover, it would seem that Saint Andrew, contemplating the miraculous vision was a Slav, *Con't Pg 8*

ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE OF HIS EMINENCE THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST ON THE FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Beloved Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and Faithful of the God-protected Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest: I greet you all with joy as we celebrate the feast of the Protection of the Mother of God. Today we gather in prayer and worship, singing the praises of the Most Holy Theotokos, our Mother and Protectress. This feast commemorates a special vision experienced by Saint Andrew, Fool for Christ, during the tenth century. According to tradition, he and others, including his disciple Saint Epiphanius, were gathered in prayer in the Church of Saint Mary Blachernae in the city of Constantinople, on Sunday, October 1. While in prayer, Saint Andrew witnessed the roof of the church suddenly opening. The Mother of God descended into the church, moving in the air above him. She was surrounded by a bright light and accompanied by angels, holy martyrs, and other saints. Having descended into the church, she knelt and prayed with tears for all faithful Christians in the world. In her prayer, she asked her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to receive the pleas and prayers of all the people entreating Him for His mercy and asking for her protection. After she had finished praying, she spread her omophorion (veil) over all the people in the church as a sign of her extending protection over them. Saint Andrew turned to Saint Epiphanius, who was standing near him, and asked, "Do you see, my son, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?" Epiphanius answered, "Yes, Holy Father, I do see it and am amazed!" While the origins of today's feast are found in Saint Andrew's transcendent experience, its meaning for us today is to be found in our own experience as Orthodox Christians, as disciples of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and as the children of the one Mother, whom Christ Himself gave to us as He hung upon the Cross. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. (John 19:25-27)

From that moment, the special relationship between Mary and the Church came into existence. All faithful Christians, represented at the Holy Cross by Saint John, the faithful disciple, have been entrusted to Mary as her own children. She became, and remains, our mother given to us by the Lord Himself. And, like John, we receive her as our mother, welcoming her into our homes, our lives, our hearts.

From that moment, the special relationship between Mary and the Church came into existence. All faithful Christians, represented at the Holy Cross by Saint John, the faithful disciple, have been entrusted to Mary as her own children. She became, and remains, our mother given to us by the Lord Himself. And, like John, we receive her as our mother, welcoming her into our homes, our lives, our hearts. As our loving Mother, the Mother of God intercedes for us before her Divine Son and, as she did in the vision of Saint Andrew, she extends her veil of love and concern over us all. On this festival day, we run to her, seeking her intercession for all her children throughout the world: Christians who are persecuted and suffering, the innocent victims of war and violence, the sick and those who suffer in loneliness, the poor and marginalized, and all her children who are searching for the fullness of the Truth that is Jesus Christ and those who, without knowing it, are looking for the salvation that comes from Him alone. We ask her to protect the Holy Church from division, strife, and confusion. And we entrust to her care our own selves and all our dear ones. Recalling today the amazing vision of Saint Andrew, the Blessed Fool for Christ, we are presented with the opportunity to renew our relationship with Mary, the ever-virgin Mother of Christ our God. Let us draw near to Mary, as individuals and as families and communities. As we sing today: Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy, illumined by thy coming, O Mother of God. Beholding thy pure image, we fervently cry to thee: "Encompass us beneath the precious veil of thy protection; deliver us from every form of evil by entreating Christ, thy Son and our God, that He may save our souls." May the Mother of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ receive all of us under her protecting veil. I entrust all our parish and mission communities, our clergy, monastics, and all the faithful, their friends and loved ones to her intercession and maternal protection. Having just concluded our annual Support our Seminarians (SOS) Appeal, I also entrust to her motherly guidance and care our diocesan seminarians, as well as all those throughout the Diocese of the Midwest who are discerning the call to ministry. Wishing all of you a joyous and blessed feast, and assuring you of my continued prayer for each and every one,

I remain With love in Christ, DANIEL Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

Luke 6:31-36 (Gospel)

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Protection con't from pg 6

was taken captive, and became the slave of the local inhabitant of Constantinople named Theognostus.

Churches in honor of the Protection of the Mother of God began to appear in Russia in the twelfth century. Widely known for its architectural merit is the temple of the Protection at Nerl, which was built in the year 1165 by holy Prince Andrew Bogoliubsky. The efforts of this holy prince also established in the Russian Church the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God, about the year 1164.

At Novgorod in the twelfth century there was a monastery of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (the so-called Zverin monastery) In Moscow also under Tsar Ivan the Terrible the cathedral of the Protection of the Mother of God was built at the church of the Holy Trinity (known as the church of Saint Basil the Blessed).

On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, "Remember us in your prayers, O Lady Virgin Mother of God, that we not perish by the increase of our sins. Protect us from every evil and from grievous woes, for in you do we hope, and venerating the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you."

Martyr Charitina of Amisos Commemorated on October 5

Saint Charitina (Charitīnē) was from Amisos (Amisós) in Pontus and lived during the reign of Emperor Diocletian (284-305). Orphaned at a young age, she became the servant of a noble Roman Christian named Claudianus, or Claudius, who brought her up as his own daughter. The young girl was very pretty, sensible, and kind. She imparted her love for Christ to others, and brought many to the path of salvation. Saint Charitina was meek, humble, obedient and silent. Although she was not yet baptized, she was a Christian at heart. She studied the Law of God day and night, and vowed to preserve her virginity as a true bride of Christ.

Because Saint Charitina brought many others to the Christian Faith, Dometius, one of Emperor Diocletian's governors, came to hear of her and sent a letter to Claudius, ordering him to send Charitina to him so that he might question her. Claudius had no doubts about the result of this interrogation. Grieved at the prospect of losing her, he put on sackcloth and wept bitter tears. Charitina comforted him, saying: "Do not grieve, my Master, but rejoice, for I am to become an acceptable sacrifice to God, for my sins and for yours."

Claudius replied: "O Servant of God, remember me when you stand before the heavenly King in the ranks of the Holy Martyrs."

The Saint was brought before a judge at the tribunal. He asked her: "Is it true that you are a Christian, and that you delude others by bringing them to your impious faith?"

Charitina replied: "It is true that I am a Christian, but it is a lie that I delude others. On the contrary, I lead them from deception to the path of truth, bringing them to my Christ."

Then the judge ordered her hair to be cut off, but by the power of God, her hair grew back even longer than before. Then burning coals were placed on her head, and vinegar was poured over her scorched flesh, increasing her pain. They drove flaming sticks through her breasts, and burnt her sides with candles. Finally, they tied a stone around her neck and threw her into the sea. She cried out: "This is my Baptism." Suddenly, the stone was loosened and sank, and God delivered her from the sea unharmed.

When the judge saw her on the shore, he ordered his men to seize her and strip her naked, and then tie her to a wheel which turned over burning coals, but an Angel of God stopped the wheel and once again Saint Charitina remained unharmed. The judge became furious and ordered that the nails of her hands and her feet be torn out, and that all her teeth be broken.

Then the wicked judge sent many dissolute men to rape her. Fearing this dishonor, Saint Charitina prayed that God would receive her soul before these vile men could defile her virginal body; and so, as she prayed, she surrendered her pure soul to God.

When the judge saw that she was dead, he had her body placed in a sack weighted with stones, and tossed it into the sea. By Divine Providence, her body was brought to the shore three days later. Her master Claudius found her body and buried her with appropriate honor and reverence.

Fragments of Saint Charitina's Holy Relics are found in the Monasteries of Kykkos, Cyprus, and Jerusalem of Boeotia.

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (Epistle)

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy Tusinac, President

(Sub-committee Chairman for all social events)
Phone- 724-456-7366

Cindy Ferrick, Treasurer

(Sub-committee Chairman of the Sunshine Club)
Phone 330-531-1119

Joann Sirilla, Financial Secretary

(Sub-committee Chairman on all fundraisers)
Phone 330-881-6775

Sub-deacon Dr. Donald Tamulouis, V. President

(Sub-committee Chairman on all Maintenance issues).
He will be working with Michael Simko
Phone 330-774-8860

Sherrie Fredericks, Secretary

(Sub-committee Chairman on sending articles & pictures of events to the Diocese)
Phone: 330-881-5087

Natalia Simko, Council Member

(Sub-committee Chairman on all Cemetery issues)
Phone- 330-980-3033

David Konik, Council Member

(Sub-committee Chairman on Welcoming Cmte)
Phone: 330-717-6714

David Dionisio, Council Member

(Sub-committee Chairman on all organizational issues in the church (including safety issues)
Phone: 425-241-7825

NEW COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEES

You will note, each Council member is in charge of keeping order in their respective areas. If there are any issues in a particular area, please contact the responsible Council member.

They are responsible to find a solution to the reported issue. That may include seeking your or another person's help. This will allow more organized response and avoid one person being burdened with everything.

Sunshine Club – This new club is responsible for sending out birthday, anniversary and get well cards.

Maintenance Issues:

Sub-Deacon Donald, VP
Michael Simko - 330-565-0084
Michael Centofanti - 330-544-3518

Support the Orthodox Christian Deaf Association During Deaf Awareness Month

During Deaf Awareness Month, the Orthodox Christian Deaf Association (OCDA) mission is to minister specifically to and with the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

Founded in 2020 with the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Alexander of Dallas, the OCDA is the only Orthodox organization in the United States that ministers specifically to this community and has grown to over 440 members.

Over the past year, OCDA has:

Held its first national conference in Dallas, Texas, hosted by St. Seraphim Orthodox Cathedral, bringing together over 50 participants from across the country.

Launched a Lexicon Team, in cooperation with the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, to translate the Divine Services into American Sign Language (ASL).

Produced educational videos and hosted online Bible studies and fellowship events to serve the Deaf and hard-of-hearing Orthodox faithful.

The OCDA's ministry is entirely volunteer-driven. Every dollar raised goes directly to:

Translating and captioning Divine Services in ASL

Creating accessible Orthodox education materials for children, teens, and adults

Offering a national online platform for prayer, learning, and fellowship

Hosting an annual gathering for Deaf Orthodox Christians, clergy, interpreters, and parish leaders

Donations can be made at www.OrthodoxDeaf.org.

For more information please contact: orthodoxdeaf@gmail.com.



Holy, Glorious Apostle Thomas Commemorated on October 6

The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas was born in the Galilean city of Pansada and was a fisherman. Hearing the good tidings of Jesus Christ, he left all and followed after Him. The Apostle Thomas is included in the number of the holy Twelve Apostles of the Savior.

According to Holy Scripture, the holy Apostle Thomas did not believe the reports of the other disciples about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ: “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe” (John 20:25).

On the eighth day after the Resurrection, the Lord appeared to the Apostle Thomas and showed him His wounds. “My Lord and my God,” the Apostle cried out (John 20:28). “Thomas, being once weaker in faith than the other apostles,” says Saint John Chrysostom, “toiled through the grace of God more bravely, more zealously and tirelessly than them all, so that he went preaching over nearly all the earth, not fearing to proclaim the Word of God to savage nations.”

Some icons depicting this event are inscribed “The Doubting Thomas.” This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, “The Touching of Thomas.” In Slavonic, it says, “The Belief of Thomas.” When Saint Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.

According to Church Tradition, the holy Apostle Thomas founded Christian churches in Palestine, Mesopotamia, Parthia, Ethiopia and India. Preaching the Gospel earned him a martyr’s death. For having converted the wife and son of the prefect of the Indian city of Meliapur [Melipur], the holy apostle was locked up in prison, suffered torture, and finally, pierced with five spears, he departed to the Lord. Part of the relics of the holy Apostle Thomas are in India, in Hungary and on Mt. Athos. The name of the Apostle Thomas is associated with the Arabian (or Arapet) Icon of the Mother of God (September 6).



Righteous Forefather Abraham Commemorated on October 9

The Righteous Forefather Abraham lived around 2000 B.C. His story is found in the Book of Genesis, Chapters 12-25.

God told Abraham that all the nations of the earth would be blessed in his seed (Genesis 22:18), and ordered him to leave his home and his relatives and go to Canaan, the country between the Mediterranean and Jordan. Because God gave this land to Abraham and his posterity (Genesis 12:7), it became known as “the Promised Land.”

Abraham and Lot are also commemorated with Christ’s ancestors according to the flesh on the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (between December 11 and 17).



Apostle James, son of Alphaeus Commemorated on October 9

Holy Apostle James the son of Alphaeus one of the Twelve Apostles, was the brother of the holy Evangelist Matthew. He heard the Lord’s words and witnessed His miracles. After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle James Alphaeus and the Apostle Andrew the First-Called (November 30), made missionary journeys preaching in Judea, Edessa, Gaza, Eleutheropolis, proclaiming the Gospel, healing all sorts of sickness and disease, and converting many to the path of salvation. Saint James finished his apostolic work in the Egyptian city of Ostrachina, where he was crucified by the pagans.

