

**September 13, 2009 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5.** Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross. Founding of the Church of the Resurrection at Jerusalem (335). Hieromartyr Cornelius the Centurion (1<sup>st</sup> c.). Martyrs Chronides, Leontius, and Serapion, of Alexandria (237). Martyrs Seleucus in Scythia, and Stratonicus (3<sup>rd</sup> c.). Martyrs Macrobius and Gordian at Tomi in Romania (4<sup>th</sup> c.). Hieromartyr Julian of Galatia (4<sup>th</sup> c.). Martyrs Elias, Zoticus, Lucian, and Valerian (4<sup>th</sup> c.). St. Peter of Atroe (9<sup>th</sup> c.). Greatmartyr Ketevan, Queen of Georgia (1624). Ven. Hierotheus the Younger of Iveron (Mt. Athos, 1745). **Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4. **Gospel:** Matthew 22:1-14.

**Next Sunday, Sept. 20 – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross – Tone 6.**  
**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 4:6-15. **Gospel:** Matthew 22:35-46.

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S (Sept. 13, 2009)**

**TODAY**

**11:15 AM Coffee Hour & Sunday School**  
**6:00 PM Vigil of the Elevation of the Cross**

**MONDAY**

**9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: Elevation of the Cross**  
**1:00 PM Sisterhood Luncheon (at Panera)**

**TUESDAY**

**6:00 PM Vespers**  
**6:30 PM Path to Salvation Class**

**WEDNESDAY**

**11:00 AM Reading Group (at Borders Café)**

**THURSDAY**

**6:30 AM Matins**

**SATURDAY**

**9:00 AM Men's Bible Breakfast**  
**6:00 PM Great Vespers**

**THE ELEVATION OF THE LIFE-GIVING CROSS**

(September 14)

*Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify. Thus we sing for the Feast making prostrations, offering our lives in humble service to God for the sacrificial Crucifixion and Resurrection of His only-begotten Son in the flesh, Jesus Christ. As we sing in the Troparion of the Cross, the Cross is the invincible trophy, the weapon of peace. It is the instrument of our salvation for the forgiveness of sins and restoration with God's grace.*

The Roman Emperor Hadrian (117-138) gave orders to cover over Golgotha and the Grave of Christ and to build a temple to pagan Venus and a statue of pagan Jupiter there. Pagan sacrifices were offered there for 200 years until the reign of the Emperor Constantine (306-337), who legalized Christianity after being taught in a vision of the Cross: "By this sign you shall conquer."

St. Constantine sent his mother Helena to Jerusalem to find the Cross on which our Savior Jesus was crucified, providing her with an imperial letter to St. Macarius, Patriarch of Jerusalem. She gave orders to destroy the pagan temple and statues. Yet only after inquiring of a certain elderly Hebrew named Jude was it revealed that the Cross was buried beneath the place where the temple to Venus stood. [Jude later became a Christian and was eventually elevated as Bishop Cyriacus of Jerusalem.]

Soon the ground was excavated. The Tomb of Christ was discovered first, and not far from it, three crosses were found along with the board with the inscription (Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews) and four nails which had pierced our Lord's Body. Patriarch Macarius touched the three crosses to a corpse. When the Lord's Cross touched the corpse, it came to life, and Patriarch Macarius raised the True Cross as the people prostrated themselves, saying, "Lord, have mercy" This occurred in the year 326.

St. Helena took part of the Life-giving Cross and nails with her to Constantinople. Constantine gave orders to build a Church of the Resurrection in which to keep and venerate the Cross. St. Helena fell asleep in the Lord in 327. The following year the church was consecrated on September 13, 328; the following day, September 14, the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross was established.

*The Friend of the Bridegroom*

*"He Must Increase and I Must Decrease" (John 3:29-30)*

**St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church  
Orthodox Church in America**

2220 Reeves Road NE Warren, Ohio 44483  
Church Phone: 330-372-3895 [www.stjohnswarren.com](http://www.stjohnswarren.com)  
General Office Hours: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (TThF)

**Fr. Jonathan H. Cholcher, Rector...**330-980-0134 (Cell)  
Pastoral Emergencies 10 PM - 7 AM ... ..330-469-2907  
**Judy Reed, Sisterhood/Repasts.....**330-793-5145  
**John Tutoki, Hall Coordinator.....**330-372-3178

Saturday: Vespers at 6:00 PM Sunday: Liturgy at 9:30 AM  
Feast Day Liturgy – 9:30 AM Sunday School (after Liturgy)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**09-06-09: 110** (attendance); **\$2,300.00** (collection).

**09-13-09: candle commemorations – Theotokos:** birthday of Helen Skovran; **Altar:** blessed memory of Charles and Mildred Kozup; **Christ:** blessed memory of Nick Lazarevich.

**Please pray for:** the child **Taylor** (Nelson); **Vera** (Campbell, at Mahoning Valley Hosp.); **Bette** (Frenchko, at home); **Mary** (Wainright, aunt of Norman and Karen George); **Mary** (Regnall, at Shepherd of the Valley, Niles); **Linda** (Keriotis); **Chariessa** (Stitchik, sister of Mark Malacky); **Lillian** (Motil, cousin of Pauline Struble); **Met. Nicholas & Archpriest Conrad** (of the Carpatho-Rus Archdiocese); **Lucas** (little boy in accident at Scrappers Game); **Geraldine** (Nicholson; at Northside Hosp.; mother of Michelle Thomas).

This Month's Charity – September 2009:

*[charity envelope or baskets after Liturgy]*

Holy Trinity Orthodox Christian Academy & Preschool

*During August, a total of \$507 was given for St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center in Farmdale/Greene, OH.*

## COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

- Sept. 14**      **Feast of the Elevation of the Cross;**  
**Sisterhood Luncheon** (1:00 PM at Panera Bread on Elm Rd., Warren)
- Sept. 19**      **Men's Bible Breakfast**
- Sept. 25**      **Holy Trinity Academy Quiz Night** (here at St. John's)
- Sept. 26**      **Pilgrimage at St. John's Monastery** (in Hiram, OH)
- Oct. 4**        **Sisterhood Dinner**



## SPIRITUAL FORMATION:

- 1) **Path to Salvation Class** resumes with a new study this Tuesday evening, September 15, at 6:30 PM following Vespers. Our new topic will be: the **Feasts and Life of the Virgin Mary, Theotokos**, using a collection of sermons by St. Gregory Palamas as our guide.
- 2) **Classic Literature Reading Group** meets every Wednesday morning at 11:00 AM at Borders Café (near the Eastwood Mall). We are beginning a new book, **Siddhartha**, by Herman Hesse, on Sept. 16. Come and engage the culture in the light of our Faith!
- 3) **Teen Group** (for all our teens and their friends) meets this Wednesday evening, September 16, at 6:00 PM.



### *WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE AT ST. JOHN'S*

**Saturday** ..... *Great Vespers at 6:00 PM*

**Sunday** ..... *Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM*

**Tuesday** ..... *Daily Vespers at 6:00 PM*

**Wednesday** ... *Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM*

**Thursday** ..... *Daily Matins at 6:30 AM*

*[If a Feast occurs on a weekday other than Wednesday, then*

*Liturgy will be served on the Feast instead of the usual Wednesday, with Vespers or Vigil the evening before.]*

+ **St. John's Sisterhood** will meet for lunch and discussion **this Monday afternoon, Sept. 14, at 1:00 PM at Panera Bread on Elm Road** (in Warren). All ladies are invited to attend for fellowship and ongoing plans for activities in the Parish.

+ To purchase/provide candles in Church, see the list at the counter in the Narthex of the Church. You may provide beeswax tapers or 6-day vigil candles in commemoration of someone.

+ **Fish Dinner Organizational Mtg. – Sunday, Oct. 4, after Liturgy.** All persons interested in plans and/or helping in a particular way, please come. *Denise Higgins, Paula Kapp, and Carol Nicholl* form our committee for Fish Dinner operations.

+ St. John's Sisterhood will prepare a lunch for all, following Liturgy on Sunday, October 4.

+ The following members of our Parish reside in nursing home, or assisted care, facilities:

**Aaron Meterko, Lydia Leovnas, and Helen Mindek** (*Community Skilled Care, on Mahoning Ave.*); **Mary Slavik & Edith Maserick** (*Clearview Lantern Suites, Champion*); **Ranelle Hancharenko** (*Windsor House, Chmpn.*); **Irene Shura & Stephan Beskid** (*Autumn Hills, Niles*); and **Ann Dayner** (*Briarfield Manor, Austintown*)

+ A copy of Fr. Jonathan's annual Parish report for the Diocesan Assembly is posted for reading on the bulletin board in the Hall.

+ Our Parish was awarded \$1800 from the Diocese for a grant request to operate a Kiosk (stand) at the Mall. We hope to do the project in February 2010. Tammi Krafft is coordinating our kiosk effort.

+ Two area parishes are hosting dinners on Sunday, September 20 – Holy Resurrection (on North Rd., Warren) and St. Mark's (in Liberty). See the flyers on the bulletin board for more information.

+ **Men**, let Fr. Jonathan know by Thursday, Sept. 17, if you plan to attend the **Bible Breakfast** this coming Saturday (9/19). This will help with food preparation.