

October 4, 2009 – 17th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 8. Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens (1st c.). Uncovering of the Relics of St. Gurias, 1st Archbishop of Kazan, and St. Varsonophy, Bishop of Tver (1595). Synaxis of the Hierarchs of Kazan (1976). Rt. Blv. Prince Vladimir Yaroslavich, Prince of Novgorod (1052). Ven. Helladius and Onesimus of the Kiev Caves (12th – 13th c.). Ven. Ammon, Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (13th c.). Martyrs Gaius, Faustus, Eusebius, and Chaeremon, of Alexandria (3rd c.). Martyr Peter of Capetolis (3rd – 4th c.). Martyrs Domnina and her daughters Berenice and Prosdode of Syria (305-306). Ven. Ammon (ca. 350) and Paul the Simple (4th c.), of Egypt. Martyr Adauctus and his daughter, St. Callisthene, of Ephesus (4th c.). St. Stephen Stilijanovich of Serbia (1515). **Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1. **Gospel:** Luke 6:31-36.

Next Sunday, Oct. 11 – 18th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 1. Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. **Gospel:** Luke 7:11-16.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S (Oct. 4, 2009)

TODAY

11:15 AM Sunday School
11:45 AM Sisterhood Chicken Dinner
6:00 PM Teen Group (at Church)

MONDAY

1:00 PM Sisterhood Luncheon (MacDonald's)

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

[Diocesan Assembly/no services at St. John's]

THURSDAY

6:30 AM Matins

SATURDAY

6:00 PM Great Vespers

SUNDAY (October 11)

11:15 AM Coffee Hour & Sunday School
11:45 AM Fish Dinner Organizational Mtg.

UNITY, HIERARCHY, AND COMMUNION

[from St. Ignatius of Antioch, *To the Ephesians* (ca. 107 AD)]

Therefore it is fitting for you to run your race together with the Bishop's purpose – as you do. For your Presbytery (i.e., college of Priests) – worthy of fame, worthy of God – is attuned to the Bishop like strings to a harp. Therefore by your unity and harmonious love Jesus Christ is sung. Each of you must be part of this chorus so that, being harmonious in unity, receiving God's pitch in unison, you may sing with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father; so that He may both hear you and recognize you, through what you do well, as members of His Son. Therefore it is profitable for you to be in blameless unison, so that you may always participate in God.

For if in a short time I had such communion with your Bishop as was not human but spiritual, how much more blessed do I consider you who are mingled with him as the Church is with Jesus Christ and as Jesus Christ is with the Father, so that all things are harmonious in unison! Let no one deceive himself; unless a person is within the Altar, he lacks the Bread of God (i.e., the Body of Christ). If the prayer of one or two has such power, how much more does that of the Bishop and the whole Church? Therefore he who does not come to the assembly is already proud and has separated himself. For it is written, "God opposes the proud" (Prov. 3:34; 1 Pet. 5:5; James 4:6). Let us, therefore, be eager not to oppose the Bishop, so that we may be subject to God.

And the more anyone sees the Bishop being silent, the more one should fear him. For everyone whom the master of a house sends for his stewardship, we must receive as the one who sent him. It is obvious, then, that one must look upon the Bishop as the Lord Himself.

N.B. St. Ignatius wrote the above letter on his way to martyrdom in Rome; he was a disciple of the Apostle John and expresses the authentic Tradition of the Church. Three things are inseparable in the Life of the Church: obedience to the Bishop (with his Priests), participation in the Liturgy of Holy Communion (in which the Bishop/Priest presides), and the love of God and fellow people. This is the unity we strive to maintain even today by God's grace and our efforts of faith. This is the unity we embody as the Diocesan Church meets for its annual assembly, gathered about Christ and the Bishop in love, receiving the Body and Blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

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
General Office Hours: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (TThF)

Fr. Jonathan H. Cholcher, Rector...330-980-0134 (Cell)
Pastoral Emergencies 10 PM - 7 AM330-469-2907
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

09-27-09: 110 (attendance); **\$2,500.00** (collection).

10-04-09: candle commemorations – **Theotokos**: blessed memory of Ellen Bundas; **Altar**: blessed memory of Metrofan and Anastasia Zylka; **Christ**: blessed memory of Alex Bolock.

Please pray for: the child **Taylor** (Nelson); **Vera** (Campbell, at Fairview Hosp., W Cleveland); **Bette** (Frenchko, at home); **Mary** (Wainwright, aunt of Norman and Karen George); **Mary** (Regnall, at home); **Linda** (Keriotis); **Chariessa** (Stitchik, sister of Mark Malacky); **Lillian** (Motil, cousin of Pauline Struble); **Lucas** (Holko, boy in baseball accident); **Michael** (Stefanick); **Charles, Linn, & Ed** (co-workers of Diane Cholcher); **Helen** (Molnar, home from Trumbull Memorial).

This Month's Charity – October 2009:

[charity envelope or baskets after Liturgy]

The Family of Taylor Nelson

COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

- Oct. 5-7 Diocesan Assembly (Kansas City, KS)**
- Oct. 18 Family Fun Day at Maize Valley Farm (Hartville, OH)**
- Oct. 26 St. Demetrios Day** (services at St. Demetrios Church)

+ A **Volunteer Sign-up sheet** is on the candlestand for those willing to help with **Fish Dinners**.

+ 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.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION:

- 1) **Path to Salvation Class:** Tuesday evenings after Vespers. Topic of study: 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 reading **Siddhartha**, by Hermann Hesse. Come and engage the culture in the light of our Faith!
- 3) **Teen Group** (for all our teens and their friends) **now meeting on Sunday evenings** at 6:00 PM (beginning Oct. 4).

+ **Upcoming Charities of the Month:** 1) **October** – the Taylor Nelson family; 2) **November** – Archpriest Michael and Janet Mihalick. As you may, or may not, know, the Parish Council designates Charities of the Month on a monthly basis according to need.

+ **Festival of Icons News:** we are NOT planning to host the *Festival of Icons* this year due to a need to reorganize and refocus our efforts in this worthy cause. Your input for the future of the event is crucial, so plan on offering it as we prepare for a revitalized *Festival* in 2010.

+ An **Orthodox Forum: The Orthodox Church – Its Worship and the Bible** will be held on Oct. 15 at 7:00 PM at *St. Mark Orthodox Church* (3560 Loganway, Liberty, OH). The presenter will be Fr. Ken Bachofsky. Refreshments will be served after the forum; see the flyer on the bulletin board for more!

+ Each Liturgy we pray for the *catechumens*. A *catechumen* is literally “one who is being instructed” in the Faith prior to admission into the Church by Baptism and/or Chrismation. Thus we pray for those who desire to become Christians as we are.

+ The **48th Assembly of the Diocese of the Midwest** will take place October 5-7 in Overland Park, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City. Fr. Jonathan and Anthony DiGiacobbe, our lay delegate, will be attending. The Assembly meets each year in the Fall to consider the life of the Diocesan Church; our Midwest Diocese covers 11 states from Ohio to North Dakota to Kansas and is overseen by Archbishop Job of Chicago.

+ St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore (SE Akron) is hosting their **Something Russian Festival** on October 6-7 (see the flyer on the bulletin board). To find St. Nicholas Church, take I-76 west to Hwy. 532 south; the Church is on the corner of Hwys. 532 and 224.

- + **Two Upcoming Events at Holy Resurrection Church** (on North Road; see the flyers on the bulletin board):
- a) *Saint Paraschiva Dinner* – Oct. 11 at 12:15 PM; stuffed cabbage, roast chicken, potatoes, salad, etc.;
 - b) *Orthodox Family Fun Night* – Oct. 24 from 7 – 10:00 PM; fellowship, music, dance, and food.

+ **October Charity of the Month – the Taylor Nelson Family**; we've been praying for Taylor, a little girl undergoing treatment for cancer, now in Columbus. Her family struggles to meet day-to-day expenses in their fight for Taylor's well-being. Please give as you are able in the Charity envelopes or basket collections during October for the Nelsons.

+ **Sisterhood Luncheon** – Monday, Oct. 5, at 1 PM at McDonald's on North Road. All ladies are invited.