

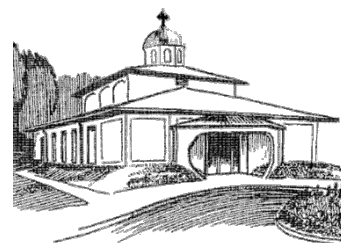


St Nicholas Orthodox Church

*A Parish of the Diocese of the Midwest
of the Orthodox Church in America*

9650 Johnnycake Ridge Road, Mentor, OH 44060

<https://saintnicholas-oca.org/>



Parish Rector: Fr Mark Therrien + (216) 678-8181 + fr.mark.therrien@gmail.com



Services & Events Beginning Sunday, November 17, 2024

- Sunday, Nov. 17 *21st Sunday after Pentecost*
9a Church School || 9:35a Hours, Prayers at the Making of a Catechumen, Div. Liturgy
- Wednesday, Nov. 20 4p Confession || 6p Festal Vespers with Lity & Artoklasia
- Thursday, Nov. 21 *The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple*
9a Divine Liturgy || 10:45a Confession
- Friday, Nov. 22 6p Book Group & Small Compline
- Saturday, Nov. 23 10a Baptism (*Confession available afterwards*) || 3:30p Confession || 5:30p Great Vespers
- Sunday, Nov. 24 *22nd Sunday after Pentecost, the Holy Great-Martyr Catherine of Alexandria*
9a Church School || 9:05a Hours || 9:30a Baptism & Divine Liturgy



ATTENDANCE & STEWARDSHIP FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2024

Attendance: 128 (98 adults + 30 children); Operating: \$2,836; Capital Maintenance: \$162; Diocesan Dues: \$28; B/W/B: \$25; Candles: \$94; Uganda: \$65; Parish Charities: \$152

“Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple . . .”
(from the final petition of the Augmented Litany)



WEEKLY CATECHETICAL NOTES

On Fasting: Instructive Remarks from St Basil

By the grace of God, we have now begun the time of the Nativity Fast. In thinking about why we fast so much in the Church (especially when this practice has fallen out of common practice in so many other ways), I thought that the following remarks from St Basil might be helpful to consider:

[Where does this practice originate? Having noted many examples from the Old Testament, St Basil then says this:]
Fasting is as old as humanity: it was legislated in

paradise. It was the first command that Adam received: *You shall not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. You shall not eat* legislates fasting and self-control. If Eve had fasted from the tree, we would not need this fasting now. *For those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.* We have been injured by sin; let us be healed by repentance. But repentance is futile without fasting. *Cursed is the ground; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth to you.* You have been ordered to be sorrowful, not to indulge yourself. Make satisfaction to God through fasting. Now the manner of life in paradise is an image of fasting, not only insofar as man, sharing the life of the angels, achieved likeness to them by being content with little, but also because those who lived in paradise had still not dreamt up what humans later discovered through their inventiveness: there was still no drinking of wine, still no animal sacrifices, not to mention whatever else beclouds the human mind.

It is because we did not fast that we were banished from paradise. **So let us fast that we may return to it.**

(From St Basil’s “First Homily on Fasting,” translated by Susan R. Holman and Mark DelCogliano)



UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

This Sunday: Collection for City Mission

As announced by Nick Covelli last week, this Sunday, November 17, we will have a special collection to benefit City Mission as it prepares for Thanksgiving. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



This Sunday: Last Day for WomenSafe Donations

As a reminder: This Sunday, November 17, is the last day to donate items for WomenSafe. Thank you to all who have already donated.



Next Saturday and Sunday: Baptisms

God willing, there will be two baptisms this upcoming week: On Saturday, November 23, Charlotte Xenia will be received into the Church by holy baptism. The service will start at 10a. And then the next day, Sunday, November 24, our catechumen Alex will be received into the Church. The service of holy baptism will start at 9:30a. Divine Liturgy will commence right after the baptism. Please pray for them especially intensely this week as prepare to enter into the saving waters.



November 30: Mel Tintor Blood Drive

The 9th annual Mel Tintor memorial blood drive will be held on **Saturday, November 30**, from 9a to 2p. We need support staff to assist with check-ins, donations of baked goods, and donors to donate. No prior experience is required for any of these jobs.

To sign up, go to RedCrossBlood.org and search for a blood drive by our zip code (44060). Scroll down (they are organized by date!) to the date of the drive (Saturday, November 30th, 2024) and click on the "SEE TIMES" button next to our church. Remember to ensure your account information is current, to prevent frustrations.

If you wish to sign up and need assistance, or any questions arise, please contact Mike Abernathy via (preferably) text message or phone call at 805-796-7623. If we have not texted before, please include who you are.



MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

St Martin's Celebration: Thank You

Thank you so much to everyone who came to St Martin's celebration on Monday night: Those who lent their hearts and voices in praise of St Martin, those who contributed to the potluck, and those who shared in the dinner and fellowship. It was a very joyful occasion. Special thanks to Jessica and Meredith for contributing so much of their time and effort to preparing the children for this celebration, and to Lisa for her work in beautifying the lanterns.



Deanery Meeting: Thank You

Thank you to those who helped facilitate our deanery meeting this past week, especially to those who provided a lovely meal to conclude it, and who helped to set up for the meeting: Nick & Debbie Covelli, and Dale & Denise Fross. A number of priests who came remarked about the hospitality that they were given, and many others commented on how glad they were to visit. As an FYI: I put one of my brother priests on the spot to help us: I have asked **Fr Brian Crivella** to return to St Nicholas during the Great Fast to give a day retreat for us. I look forward to welcoming him back.



ZOE for Life Donations during the Nativity Fast

As I noted in my rector's report for 2024, Abrea Monda has been in touch with ZOE House to think about how we might help them with their ministry. One of the needs that she was told about is **diapers**. And so, during the Nativity Fast we are going to have a pack-and-play set up in the church hall for the purpose of collecting diaper donations. Our goal is to fill the entire pack and play. Please note: ZOE currently has an overflow of size two diapers. So, please refrain from buying that size. But of course, if you have some that your child has outgrown, you can donate them. Thank you in advance for your help.



Yes, We Have a Facebook Page

A number of people recently asked me about our parish having a Facebook page. So, as an FYI/Public Service Announcement: Yes, our parish has a Facebook page. The creation of this new page was announced a number

of months ago. The link to this page can be found on our website (click on the Facebook logo on the top right-hand corner). Thanks to Abrea for managing it.



Door Unlocking and Re-Locking: Request for Help

We are currently in need of someone to be responsible for unlocking the main doors of the temple (i.e., not the foyer doors, but the doors that lead directly to the outside) and re-locking them after Liturgy. If you would be willing to do this, please get in touch with me.



Bulletin Ministry: Request for Help

As some of you know, dating to the time of COVID there has been a ministry in the parish of sending out bulletins to those who are home-bound (and of distributing hard copies in church to those who need them). Help is needed for this ministry. If you would like to offer your time, please get in touch with me.



PARISH PRAYER LIST

If you know of someone who is in special need of prayer at the moment, please email me so that I might add the person to the prayer list. Please also email me to make changes to this list (e.g., to remove a name).

Perry Capitan, Julian, Sarah Crivella, Joella (LuAnn Dzura's daughter), Emily Finazzo, (friend of the Rendas), David Campbell (Debbie Clements' brother), Patrick Leahy (Dave K.'s brother-in-law), Joseph Chuppa, Mary Ann Sheranko, Kevin, Declan, and Teagon (husband and children of the reposed, Kristen), Andrew Dzura, Rich Cook (Cindy Renda's brother), Daniel Conger (friend of Jim Renda); the residents of St Herman's House, as well as those who serve them; our seminarian, Cole (Paul) Schlafer, and his family members: Sarah, Simon, Michael, & Nikolai; the members of the Bagley family, especially Joseph, Rosemary, Isaac, Lucia, & Julian; Jim Barkas; Delphine (mother of Sean Kiernan); Jennifer, Janice (Laurie Alexander's mother); Maria (friend of Anna Kozikov, wife of newly-repose Boris); Michael (cousin of Anna Kozikov); Katarina (relative of Natalie Antonoff); Aleksey Byltsov (son of Natalie Antonoff); Willie Gomer (in baptism: Alexander); Nancy (Leah Woodruff's mother); Archpriest Jan, Matushka Jana, and the parishioners of St Theodosius Cathedral; Theodore Tollefson; James Horabik; Dolores Kessler (friend of Suzanne Gubser); Carol

Lehman (Darlene Horabik's sister, wife of newly-reposed George); Joe Dzura (brother of Andy Dzura); Viktor and Dominik Povozahev; Vincent (Thomas Alexander's father); Renee Kirouac (goddaughter of Ruth Bede) & Tristan Scott (newly crowned); Hank & Diane (Jim Horabik's brother-in-law and sister); Gail (friend of Maureen Medakovich); Julia & Dan (newly crowned); Alexander (friend of Anna Kozikov) & his wife Olena; Dana Wagner; the suffering Christians of Ukraine, the Middle East, and Armenia; all those affected by the recent hurricanes

Birthdays this week: 11/17: Eric Clouse; 11/19: Denise Fross, Kenneth Walker; 11/20: Gloria Hocevar; 11/21: Elizabeth Lemaster, Kate Schlotzer; 11/23: Alexander Kisha, Joshua Smith

Expecting Parents: Theodore & Jessica; Elizabeth & Patrick

Catechumens: Dalton Moses, Alex Wittie, Scott Salzgeber

Infants Awaiting Holy Illumination: Gianna Denise (daughter of Jake & Allison); Charlotte Xenia (daughter of Subdeacon David & Michelle); Michael Roman (son of Brian & Katya)

Newly illumined: Kennedy Anne; Margaret Lee

Serving in the military: Kenneth Hockenberry; Patrick Miller; James Chongris; Edward (Matushka Olena's father)

Departed: Joseph Demanski, Cathy Ubancic (friend of the Rendas), Patricia (Michael Abernathy's grandmother), Nun Elizabeth (of Holy Transfiguration Monastery), Kristen (Michelle Hoover's cousin), Jane Hunt (great grandmother of Sofia Kiernan), Patricia Wilcoxson (Rosemary Bagley's mother); Joseph Naymik; Pauline Demanski; Theodore Kisha (father of Ted Kisha); Daniel (infant son of Fr Peter and Matushka Sophie Ries); John (father of Sean Kiernan), Ronald (in baptism, Thomas) (Collin Moore's father); Priest James Bernstein; Carol Wright; Paul Webb (friend of Abby Goodell); George (Bim) Lehman (Darlene Horabik's brother-in-law); Anna Mae Sokol (Darlene Horabik's cousin); Janet Evans (friend of Ruth Bede); Olga (Nicholas Covelli's mother); Helen (Jan Ursiny's mother); Rick Wagner (Merrick and Mia's grandfather); Boris (friend of Anna Kozikov)

