

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church
Celebrating 125 years witnessing to the Apostolic Faith

110 EAST MAIN STREET,
Marblehead, OH 43440

Rev. Fr. Peter Tomas, Rector

Rectory: (419) 798-4591

Father Peter's cell: (607) 206-5523

E-mail: info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org

Father Peter's email: frpeteromas@yahoo.com

website: www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org



***Holy Assumption Orthodox Church is a parish of the Orthodox Church in America,
Diocese of the Midwest***

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Liturgical Schedule

FRIDAY – SEPTEMBER 22

Great Martyr Euphemia the All-praised

VESPERS, 6:00 PM Followed by Lenten meal

SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 23

*Conception of the Honorable Glorious Prophet,
Forerunner, and Baptist John*

9:30 AM HOURS, 10:00 AM

HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY

Followed by Festive Banquet

NO VESPERS

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 24

16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Holy New Martyrs of Alaska, Hieromonk
Juvenaly and Peter the Aleut*

9:10 AM HOURS, 9:30 AM

DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Coffee Hour



***St. Sophia and her three Daughters, Faith, Hope and Love
Feast Day – September 17th***

EPISTLE: Galatians 2:16-20

Brethren: Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by

Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

EPISTLE: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

Brethren: For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

GOSPEL: Mark 8:34-9:1

The Lord said, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:35-46

At that time, a certain lawyer came up to Jesus and asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Basil Glovinsky, 1007 Glendale Drive, Port Clinton, OH 43452; Subdeacon Roger Pinta, P.O. Box 39, Middle Bass, OH 43446; Diane Tryon, 109 Joslyn Street, Arcadia, OH 44804; Ed & Irene Vangeloff, 454 Strouse Lane, Sandusky, OH 44870



SEPTEMBER CANDLE SPONSORS

Altar Candles: In memory of Violet Bargdill & LaVerne Schutt (\$50); **Chandelier:** In memory of Rose Haburt (September 13) (\$50); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** In memory of Gordon Schutt (\$25); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Fin and Jack (\$15); **Candles at St. Tikhon's Icon:** For Safety and Health of Nicholas, Tikhon, Gleice, & Chloe (\$15)



VIGILS FOR SEPTEMBER 10

Tim Glovinsky 1 In birthday memory of Mom

Susan Guzy 3 Special intentions

Laura Kovach 3 Anniversary blessings to Joe & Margi. For health and/or healing of Nick S., Barbara D., Pauline O., George K., Joe H., Margi H., Basil G., Kathie J., Diane T., Robin C., Betty K., Ben F., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Sharon D., John D., and Karen D.

Sandy Martin 1 Special intentions

Natalie Twarek 8 In loving memory of Ashley Mooney Below, For the health and recovery of Barbara, Health and recovery of Diane, Health of Basil, Health and recovery of Don Kiser, Health of Roger, Tony, Irene, Father David, Diane, Marilyn, Pauline, Judy, Mimi, Tina, Ed, Ron, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Kurt, Leslie, Amber, Zach, Jeanne, Dottie, Jamie, Ezra, David, Helen Lis and Tina's dad, Earl, Tom, Loren, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Betty, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Chuck, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, Karen, special intentions, special intentions

Dennis Lapsos & Family - In eternal memory & blessed repose of Annette Ressetar Lapsos



SEPTEMBER REPOSED

William Rose (1980) No date provided; **2-** David Douglas (2015); **4-** John Mataleska (1986); **4-** Archpriest John Grandziuk (1947) Former Pastor; **5-** Archpriest Michael Dziama (1944) Former Pastor; **7-** Lisa Monak (2020); **13-** Rose Haburt; **14-** Archpriest George Breyan (2009) Former Pastor; **14-** Mary Kamiotis (2017); **15-** Infant Sloane Swanton (2021); **15-** Eileen Libb (2022); **16-** John George Mazurik (1997); **18-** Bernie Labouda (2018); **19-** Peter Rindfleisch (2006); **20-** Nora Bird (2017); **21-** Joseph Mazur (2002); **26-** Pastor Kevin Brown (2020); **27-** Michael Ittescu (1968); **27-** Alison Pickney (2017); **27-** Karen Milano (2017); **28-** William Felenchak (1977)

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Don Kiser / Ruth / Basil Glovinsky / Dale / Sophie / Jeanne Smith / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Chris Hannon / Subdeacon Roger Pinta / Ed Vangeloff / Irene Vangeloff / Diane Tryon / Sonja Rose / Ron Royhab / James Bargdill / John Beadle / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Joseph Habegger / Elaine Hileman / Betty Kovach / Helen Lis / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Earl Rindfleisch / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Stephanie Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Gleice & Chloe / Gabrielle and her newborn Josey / Carol / Debbie & Marco / Nora. **Other Requests:**

Charles Schlett / Tom Haynal / Kathy Debevits / Maxwell Chaney / Barbara Wroblewski / Sidharth Bijilani – friend of Subdeacon Roger and Debbie Pinta / Anthony / Archpriest David Lis / Bishop Matthias / Archpriest Emilian & Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Marge Dziama / Kurt Franck / Ben Franklin / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Marsha / Mark Masica / Robert Piznar / Valerie Ritzenthaler / William / Rick Rowe / Chuck Wiedenhoft / Chris. **Military:** Craig Cassell / Jake Ellithorpe / Jordon Fulton / Justin Issler / Tikhon / Nicholas / & All Military



ATTENDANCE

9/10 Divine Liturgy, 22 attending (3 guests); 9/13 Vespers, 14 (2 guests) attending; 9/14 Divine Liturgy, 14 attending



READERS LIST

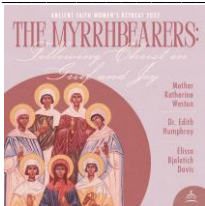
Sunday Sept 17 – Jake
Saturday Sept 23 – Subdeacon Roger
Sunday Sept 24 – Joseph
Sunday Oct 1 – Tim



HOLY ASSUMPTION BOOKSTORE - STOP BY TO SHOP!

Fr. Peter and Matushka Michelle have donated many great religious items to Holy Assumption Bookstore! Mostly from Ukraine and Russia, they include: icons; neck and wall crosses; large and small religious pouches; key rings; rope prayer bracelets from a monastery; men's leather bracelets; "egg" pendants; needlepoint crosses for refrigerator; a standing cross.

We also have purchased new icons. The bookstore/gift shop is a means of outreach of Holy Assumption Church. We sell items at cost and the church does not profit from sales.



2023 ANCIENT FAITH WOMEN'S RETREAT

The 2023 Ancient Faith Women's Retreat will be held **Thursday Nov. 9 through Sunday, Nov. 12** at **Antiochian Village Conference Center**, 140 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA. The retreat "seeks to create a peaceful, loving, and reflective gathering of women who have come to learn, worship, make friends, and rest at the entrance into the holy Nativity season." For more information see 3-page posting on bulletin board in church hall.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

September **19** – Cooper Kowal; September **24** – Mike & Diane Tryon Anniversary; September **25** – Subdeacon Roger Pinta; September **26** – Greg Twarek



SOCIAL HALL CLEANING – THANK YOU!

Our sincere thanks are extended to Bobbie, Sandy, Jean, and Mat. Michelle for coming last Tuesday and cleaning our hall in preparation for our Anniversary. May our Lord and God reward you all for your hard work and love for our church with His Special Blessings!



BANQUET HALL SETING UP – THANK YOU!

Our sincere thanks to Ryan & Natalia, Tina, Bobbie, Jean & Tom, and Jim & Laura for setting up the Banquet Hall for our banquet at St. Mary's on Friday. May Our Lord and God reward them abundantly for their love and time spent with His Special Blessings!



ANIVERSARY AFTER VESPERS REFRESHMENTS - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Thank you to all who have offered to make a dish for the meal after Vespers on Friday, September 22nd. You may drop off your dishes anytime on Friday. Just contact Matushka Michelle at (607) 206-6150.



PASTRIES FOR BANQUET – THANK YOU!

We cannot forget to express our gratitude to Greg for baking all the pastries for our Banquet last week. There will be a large assortment to be enjoyed by all. May the Lord bless him for all the hard work and especially for his love of our church with Many Special Blessings!



MARKET DAY

Our next Market Day will take place on **Saturday, September 30th** starting with set up at **8:00 AM**. We will have perohi, kielbasa and kraut, spanakopita, and a large variety of baked goods. Your help is greatly appreciated!



CLEANING SCHEDULE

Sept 18, Roddie
Sept 25, Laura
Oct 2, Tina
Oct 9, Laura



SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, September 10, 2023

Tithe	\$1,057.00
Candles	\$ 43.00
Vigils	\$ 90.00
Donations	\$ 117.00
Holy Day Donation	\$ 185.00
Support our Seminarians	\$ 10.00
Total:	\$1,502.00

May the Lord reward you for your financial and spiritual support!

MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSES

Month of **MAY 2023**

Church Donations income was	\$6,738.17
Church Operating Expenses totaled	<u>\$8,736.19</u>
net loss for the month	-\$1,998.02

Month of **JUNE 2023**

Church Donation income was	\$ 5,219.00
Church Operating Expenses totaled	<u>\$19,658.65</u>
net loss for the month	-\$14,439.65

Month of **JULY 2023**

Church Donations income was	\$7,569.25
Church Operating Expenses totaled	<u>\$8,977.10</u>
net loss for the month	-\$1,407.85

Month of **AUGUST 2023**

Church Donation income was	\$5,617.72
Church Operating Expenses totaled	<u>\$7,301.05</u>
net loss for the month	-\$1,683.33

CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“Support our Seminarians” is the charity we donate to for the month of September.



HOLY ASSUMPTION CHURCH - 125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our 125th Anniversary Celebration will begin next **Friday** evening with the **Vespers** service at **6:00 PM** followed by refreshment in our Social Hall. **Saturday**, morning the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at **10:00 am** by **His Eminence, The Most Reverend Daniel**, Archbishop of Chicago, and the Midwest and the attending clergy. **The Hours** will begin at **9:30 AM**. Our Festive Banquet is planned to start with **Hors d'oeuvre** at 1:00 PM.

UP-COMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



- Sept. 18th** Choir practice at 6:00 PM (*Monday*)
- Sept. 19th** Choir practice at 6:00 PM (*Tuesday*)
- Sept. 20th** Make Halupki at 8:00 AM (*Wednesday*)
- Sept. 21st** Get key to St. Mary's Hall. Place table linens, chargers, napkins, silverware, etc., on tables, Haul wine and dessert trays to the kitchen in the hall at 12:00 PM (*Thursday*)
- Sept. 22nd** Final setup of our church hall for meal after Vespers. At St. Mary's Hall, cut pastry and place in zip lock bags, ready to be trayed Saturday morning by Natalie's sisters-in-law.
6:00 PM – Vespers, followed by Lenten meal (*Friday*)
- Sept. 23th** 125th Anniversary Celebration (*Saturday*)
- Sept. 30th** Market Day at 8 AM (*Saturday*)
- Oct. 1st** Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (*Sunday*)
- Oct. 14th** Last Market Day of the season at 8 AM (*Saturday*)
- Nov. 15th** Nativity Fast begins (*Wednesday*)
- Nov. 21st** Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple (*Tuesday*)
- Consider sponsoring a Sunday coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy

HOW TO PROPERLY GREET THE ARCHBISHOP DANIEL



Please Remember: When greeting and approaching Archbishop, one should always place the palm of their right hand over the palm of their left hand and say “**Master Bless**”! The Archbishop will give the blessing and we kiss the blessing hand. Same way as we ask the blessing from the priest. When addressing the Archbishop we always address him as “**Your Eminence**”!



Martyr Sophia and her three daughters at Rome

Commemorated on September 17

The Holy Martyrs Saint Sophia and her Daughters Faith, Hope and Love were born in Italy. Their mother was a pious Christian widow who named her daughters for the three Christian virtues. Faith was twelve, Hope was ten, and Love was nine. Saint Sophia raised them in the love of the Lord Jesus Christ. Saint Sophia and her daughters did not hide their faith in Christ, but openly confessed it before everyone.

An official named Antiochus denounced them to the emperor Hadrian (117-138), who ordered that they be brought to Rome. Realizing that they would be taken before the emperor, the holy virgins prayed fervently to the Lord Jesus Christ, asking that He give them the strength not to fear torture and death. When the holy virgins and their mother came before the emperor, everyone present was amazed at their composure. They looked as though they had been brought to some happy festival, rather than to torture. Summoning each of the sisters in turn, Hadrian urged them to offer sacrifice to the goddess Artemis. The young girls remained unyielding.

Then the emperor ordered them to be tortured. They burned the holy virgins over an iron grating, then threw them into a red-hot oven, and finally into a cauldron with boiling tar, but the Lord preserved them.

The youngest child, Love, was tied to a wheel and they beat her with rods until her body was covered all over with bloody welts. After undergoing unspeakable torments, the holy virgins glorified their Heavenly Bridegroom and remained steadfast in the Faith.

They subjected Saint Sophia to another grievous torture: the mother was forced to watch the suffering of her daughters. She displayed adamant courage, and urged her daughters to endure their torments for the sake of the Heavenly Bridegroom. All three maidens were beheaded, and joyfully bent their necks beneath the sword.

In order to intensify Saint Sophia's inner suffering, the emperor permitted her to take the bodies of her daughters. She placed their remains in coffins and loaded them on a wagon. She drove beyond the city limits and reverently buried them on a high hill. Saint Sophia sat there by the graves of her daughters for three days, and finally she gave up her soul to the Lord. Even though she did not suffer for Christ in the flesh, she was not deprived of a martyr's crown. Instead, she suffered in her heart. Believers buried her body there beside her daughters.

The relics of the holy martyrs have rested at El'zasa, in the church of Esho since the year 777.



The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Commemorated on September 14

The pagan Roman Emperors tried to obliterate the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and rose from the dead, so that they would be forgotten. Emperor Hadrian (117-138) ordered that Golgotha and the Lord's Sepulchre be buried, and that a temple in honor of the pagan "goddess" Venus and a statue of Jupiter be placed there.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the Christian holy places, the Sepulchre of the Lord, and the Life-giving Cross, were discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory over Maxentius (in 312), who ruled the Western part of the Roman Empire, and over Licinius, the ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 Saint Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, by which Christianity was legalized and persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the Empire were stopped. Although Licinius had signed the Edict of Milan in order to oblige Constantine, he continued his cruel persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the Edict of Milan extend also to the Eastern part of the Empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, triumphing over his enemies in three wars, with God's assistance, had seen the Sign of the Cross in the heavens. Written beneath were the words: "By this you shall conquer."

Ardently desiring to find the Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, Saint Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to Saint Makarios, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Saint Helen journeyed to the holy places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings, and where the Mother of God was buried after her Dormition.

Although the holy Empress Helen was no longer young, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. In her search for the Life-giving Cross, she questioned both Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful. Finally, she was directed to a certain elderly Jew named Jude who stated that the Cross was buried beneath the temple of Venus. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Lord's Tomb was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, and a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discover on which of the three crosses the Savior had been crucified, Patriarch Makarios alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead man, he was restored to life. After witnessing the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-giving Cross had been found.

Christians came in a huge crowd to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching Saint Makarios to lift the Cross, so that those far off could see it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders lifted the Holy Cross, and the people prostrated themselves before the Honorable Wood, saying "Lord have mercy." This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-giving Cross another miracle took place: a woman who was close to death was healed by the shadow of the Holy Cross. The elderly Jude (October 28) and other Jews believed in Christ and were baptized. Jude was given the name Kyriakos, and later he was consecrated as the Bishop of Jerusalem. He suffered a martyr's death for Christ during the reign of Emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363).

Saint Helen took part of the Life-giving Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. Saint Constantine ordered a majestic and spacious church to build at Jerusalem in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The church was built in ten years. Saint Helen did not survive until the dedication of the church; she reposed in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Honorable and Life-giving Cross was established.

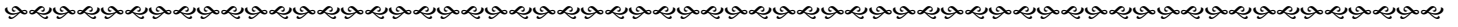
Another event connected to the Cross of the Lord is remembered also on this day: its return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen-year captivity. During the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Phokas (602-610) the Persian king Khosrōēs II attacked Constantinople defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem, capturing both the Life-giving Cross of the Lord and the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633).

The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years, and only under Emperor Herakleios (610-641), who defeated Khosrōēs and concluded peace with his successor and son Syroes, was the Lord's Cross returned to the Christians.

With great solemnity the Life-giving Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Herakleios, wearing a crown and his royal purple garments carried the Cross of Christ. The Emperor was accompanied by Patriarch Zachariah. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the Emperor stopped suddenly and was unable to proceed. The holy Patriarch explained to the Emperor that an Angel of the Lord was blocking his way. Herakleios was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then

Herakleios donned plain clothes, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church.

In a sermon on the Exaltation of the Cross, Saint Andrew of Crete (July 4) says: "The Cross is exalted, and everything true is gathered together, the Cross is exalted, and the city makes solemn, and the people celebrate the feast."



The wondrous Cross:

All kings when they die have their power extinguished with their life: but Christ crucified is worshipped by the whole world. We proclaim The Crucified, and the devils tremble.... — Cyril of Jerusalem

Well done, O Cross, that has cast off the ruler, brought home the robber, and called the apostle to repentance, and has not thought it beneath thy dignity to accept us. - Acts of Andrew

The sun was darkened, because of the Sun of Righteousness. Rocks were rent, because of the spiritual Rock. Tombs were opened, and the dead arose, because of Him who was free among the dead.
—Cyril of Jerusalem

The sign of the cross was used early in the Church to repel the powers of evil. "Along with these words, make the sign of the cross upon your forehead; for, not only no human adversary but not even the devil himself, will be able in any way to hurt you, seeing you appearing everywhere protected by these arms"
- St. John Chrysostom

"The Cross, is wood which lifts us up and makes us great ... The Cross uprooted us from the depths of evil and elevated us to the summit of virtue". - St John Chrysostom