

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

110 EAST MAIN STREET,
Marblehead, OH 43440

V. Rev. Archpriest 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***

MARCH 1, 2026

**FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT LENT
*SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY***

EPISTLE: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

Bretheren: By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of



Sunday of Orthodoxy

fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not

receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

GOSPEL: Jn 1:43-51

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Tina Rindfleisch & Tony Monastra, 524 Woodshire Ln., Apt. E11, Naples, FL 34105; **Greg Twarek**, 117 Lucien Drive, Marblehead, OH 43440 **Patti Owens**, 311 Woodbridge Road Vermilion, OH 44089; **Irene Vangeloff**, 3580 Shaw Ave., Apt. 305, Cincinnati, OH 45208 Tel.: (513) 376-9693

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Greg Twarek / Amber Twarek / Richard Williams / Christine Twarek / Tony Monastra / Alvin Foland / Delaine Ward (Ron Royhab's sister) / Rachel and her newborn baby / Danielle and her unborn baby / Nikki and her unborn baby / Kristen Cassell / Laura DeKemper / Tom Hileman / Cliff & Kathy Ruggles / Sandra / Renee Haynal / Sharon Shaheen (Patti Owen's sister) / Heidi Golob / Ron & Bobbie Royhab / Rodney Clevenger / Jennifer Heffernan / Pam / Jim Twarek / Ed Garrity / Patti Owens / Barbara Wroblewski / Michal Tomáš / Helena Tomášová / Ruth Sheller / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Irene Vangeloff / Sonja Rose / James Bargdill / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Betty Kovach / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Gleice, Sophie & Chloe / Carol / Nora.

Other Requests: Jim Rinaldo / Roy / Greg / Patty Wandover / Russ M. / Suzeann / Laura Engler / Robin (Niece of Kathy Ruggles) / Catechumen Sessely / Catechumen Daniel / Catechumen Adam / Catechumen Joshua / Catechumen Stephanie / Catechumen Max / Catechumen Michael / Catechumen Sharon / Steve Rohweder / Nicole Williams / John Couture / Ann Turinsky / Marcia / Catechumen Blake Shoemaker / Linkoln Paull / Matushka Melania / Sharyn Osborne / Amy / Bill Byrnes / Susanne / Charles Schlett / Kathy Debevits / Anthony / Archpriest Ján Čížmár / Archpriest David Lis / Archpriest Emilian & Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Robert Piznar / William / Rick Rowe / Chris.

Military: Craig Cassell / Jake Ellithorpe / Jordon Fulton / Justin Issler / Tikhon / Nicholas / & All Military

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

MON. Mar 2	Hieromartyr Theodotus; Gen 3:21-4:7, Prov 1:1-20
TUE. Mar 3	Martyrs Eutropius, Cleonicus, and Basiliscus; Gen 4:8-15, Prov 5:1-15
WED. Mar 4	Venerable Gerasimus of the Jordan; Gen 4:16-26, Prov 5:15-6:3
6:00 PM	PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY, Followed by Lenten soup social
THU. Mar 5	Martyr Conon of Isauria; Gen 5:1-24, Prov 6:3-20
FRI. Mar 6	42 Martyrs of Ammoria; Gen 5:32-6:8, Prov 6:20-7:1
6:00 PM	AKATHIST TO THE PASSION OF CHRIST, Followed by Book Club
SAT. Mar 7	Memorial Saturday , 7 Hieromartyrs of Cherson; Heb 3:12-16, Mk. 1:35-44
9:10 AM	HOURS
9:30 AM	DIVINE LITURGY
4:00 PM	VESPERS
SUN. Mar 8	2nd SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT – Tone 6, St. Gregory Palamas
9:10 AM	HOURS
9:30 AM	DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Coffee hour

MARCH REPOSED



Michael Elchisko (1909) No date provided; Helen Millie (1910) No date provided; George Danchisen (1912) No date provided; **1-** George Danchisen (2018); **3-** Anna Stoyka (2018); **4-** Andrew Mazur (2001); **4-** Maria Pitts (2025); **6-** Frank Guzy (2002); **6-** Robert Haynal (2022); **8-** Mat. Sonya Tutko (2021); **11-** Ella Mazur (1918); **13-** Richard Michael Benya (1983); **17-** Frank Holodnak (1961); **23-** Eva Pondillo (2001); **23-** Ella Mazurik (1985); **23-** Francis Mitchell (2008); **23-** Barbara Ann Wasylenko (2017); **29-** Todd Pollack (2019); **29-** Carolyn Woodward (2000); **30-** John Rofkar (2019)

VIGILS FOR FEBRUARY 22



Tim Glovinsky 2 In birthday memory of Dad, 1st birthday blessings for grandniece Reina

Susan Guzy 1 In loving memory of Uncle Wasyl, Vichnaya Pamyat!

Laura Kovach 3 For health and/or healing of Tina R., Greg T., Lindsay & Janet, Jerry Z., Patti O., Deb F., Tony M., Russ M, Burt K., Bobbie & Ron R., Peggy S., Brenda T., Betty K., Margaret M., Mark M., Dana M., Bodi C
Memory eternal to Marilyn Davis, John Kocher, and David Taylor
Safe travels for family

Sandy Martin 2 In loving memory of Marguerite (4th anniversary), Special intentions

Natalie Twarek 9 In loving memory of Aunt Martha on her birthday 2/24, For the health of Mimi and Elaine, For the health of Nikki and unborn baby, Health and recovery of Greg, Amber, Tina and

Dina , For the health of Fr Peter & Matushka Michelle, For the health and recovery of Richard, Patty, Cathy, Patti, Laura, Kathy & Cliff, Irene, Ron & Bobbie, Rodney, Betty, Carol, Kayla, Pam, Jim, Heidi, Wayne, Peggy, Marcia, Health and healing for Father's parents Michal & Helena and Matushka's mom Barbara, and Walter, For the health of Elaine, Christine, Jen, Tony, Father David, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Sonya, Margi & Joe, MaryAnn & Bob, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, Special Intentions



MARCH CANDLE SPONSORS

Altar Candles: Fr. Peter and Mat. Michelle, For Health and God's Blessings for Barbara Wroblewski, and Michal & Helena Tomáš (**\$50**); **Chandelier:** Available (**\$50**); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** Available (**\$25**); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Greg and in memory of Russ (**\$20**); **Candles at St. Tikhon Icon:** Available (**\$20**)



READERS LIST

Sunday Mar 1 – Joe
 Sunday Mar 8 – Tim



ATTENDANCE

02/21 Vespers, **6** attending (1 guest); **02/22** Divine Liturgy, **28** attending (5 guests); **02/23** Canon of St. Andrew, **9** attending; **02/24** Canon of St. Andrew, **12** attending; **02/25** Presanctified Liturgy, **17** attending; **02/26** Canon of St. Andrew, **10** attending; **02/27** Akathist to the Passion of Christ **10** attending



MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

2 – Gunner Davenport (5); **3** – Tony Monastra *; **7** – Tamara Blackford; **8** – Ruthe Sheller; **15** – Blake Shoemaker; **19** - Jose Colon Delgado; **20** – Josh Bundren; **23** – Wrenley Paull (3); **27** – Josh & Danielle Paull Anniversary; **29** – Donna Schoonmaker; **30** – Bobbie Royhab; **30** – Fred Cassell; **31** – Greg Mazur



CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“Danbury Food Pantry” is the charity we donate to for the month of March



SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Tithe	\$1,347.00
Donations	\$ 51.00
Candles	\$ 83.00
Vigils	\$ 75.00
Holy Day Donation	\$ 275.00
St. Vladimir Seminary (Feb)	\$ 50.00
Candles at the Cross	\$ 25.00
Restoration Fund	\$ 400.00
Total:	\$2,306.00

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

UP-COMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Mar 7th** Memorial Saturday (*Saturday*)
- Mar 8th** Daylight Saving Time begins (*Sunday*)
- Mar 14th** Memorial Saturday (*Saturday*)



- Mar 21st** Memorial Saturday (*Saturday*)
- Apr 5th** Palm Sunday (*Sunday*)
- Apr 12th** HOLY PASCHA (*Sunday*)
- Apr 25th** Visit from St. Tikhon Seminary (*Saturday*)



CLEANING SCHEDULE

- Mar 2, Tim
 Mar 9, Sue
 Mar 16, Jean
 Mar 23, Stephanie



COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST

- Mar 8 – Natalia & Ryan
 Feb 15 – Mka. Michelle

Please sign up to host coffee hour. Signup sheet is located in the Social Hall



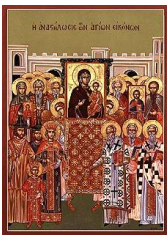
THANK YOU

We would like to express our sincere thank you to Greg for baking small prosphora for all the Presanctified Liturgies this Lent Season. May Our Lord bless and reward him for his time and kindness with His special Blessings!



NEW PARISH COUNCIL

His Eminence, Archbishop Daniel approved the elected members of the new Parish Council and we would like to congratulate the newly elected members **Terri Cassell, Laura Kovach, Stephanie Kowal, Gabe Mazurik, Roddie Mazurik, Joe Schutt, Donna Shoonmaker, Natalia Stamp and Natalie Twarek**. The Installation of the new officers will take place next **Sunday, March 8th** after the Divine Liturgy. May Our Lord bless the newly elected members of the Parish Council and grant them long life, good health peace, and happiness for Many Years!



1st Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy

Commemorated on March 1

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy because it commemorates the restoration of the Holy Icons and the triumph of the Orthodox Faith against the terrible heresy of the Iconoclasts, i.e. those heretics who refused to honor the Holy Icons. For more than a hundred years the Church was disturbed by the evil doctrine of iconoclasm.

The first Emperor to persecute the Church was Leo the Isaurian, and the last was Theophilos, the spouse of Saint Theodora (February 11), who reigned after her husband's death and re-established Orthodoxy in the time of Patriarch Methodios (June 14). Empress Theodora proclaimed publicly that we do not kiss the Icons as a sign of worship, nor do we honor them as "gods," but as images of their prototypes.

In the year 843, on the first Sunday of the Fast, Saint Theodora and her son, Emperor Michael, venerated the Holy Icons together with the clergy and the people. Since that time this event has been commemorated every year, because it was definitively determined that we do not worship the Icons, but we honor and glorify all the Saints who are depicted on them. We worship only the Triune God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and no one else, neither a Saint, nor an Angel.

Originally, the Holy Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage.



The Triumph of Orthodoxy: From History to the Heart *by archpriest Alexander Stepanov*

The first Sunday of Great Lent bears a striking and solemn name: the Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy. It concludes the most intense and austere week of the Fast — days marked by longer services, deeper repentance, and a heightened awareness of our spiritual frailty. That this affirmation of “triumph” stands at the close of such a week is not accidental. In the Church's wisdom, struggle gives way to confession, and severity opens into joy.

The Historical Triumph

Historically, this feast commemorates the restoration of the holy icons in the year 843, after more than a century of turmoil known as the iconoclastic controversy. The Church's veneration of icons had been fiercely contested, and at times violently suppressed.

The theological foundation for their restoration had already been laid in 787 by the Seventh Ecumenical Council, which affirmed that the veneration of icons belongs inseparably to the Church's confession of the Incarnation. If the Son of God truly became man — if He assumed visible, tangible human flesh — then He may be depicted. To deny the icon is not merely to reject a devotional custom; it is to endanger the proclamation that God has entered history and taken on our humanity.

Thus, the restoration of icons was not an aesthetic victory, nor the triumph of one party over another. It was the vindication of a truth at the very heart of the Gospel: that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Because the first solemn celebration of this restoration took place on the first Sunday of Lent in 843, the Church fixed the annual commemoration on that day. From that time forward, the Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy has stood at the threshold of the Fast as a proclamation that the faith of the Apostles has endured.

What “Triumph” Means

Yet the word “triumph” can easily be misunderstood. It does not signify political dominance, nor does it express hostility toward those who erred. Rather, it speaks of the endurance of truth through trial. The Church remembers that fidelity to Christ has required discernment, courage, and sometimes suffering.

In the liturgical rite appointed for this day, the Church proclaims the faith handed down through the Ecumenical Councils and gives thanks that the confession of Christ was preserved intact. The remembrance of ancient heresies is not a summons to triumphalism, but a sober acknowledgment that error can arise even within the community of believers — and that clarity of faith is a gift entrusted to us at great cost.

The Triumph of Orthodoxy is therefore, first of all, a celebration of divine faithfulness. Through weakness and human conflict, the truth of Christ was not lost.

From History to the Present

But the feast is not merely a recollection of distant theological battles. If the Church once defended the truth of the Incarnation against distortion, each believer is now called to defend that same truth within his own life.

The beginning of Great Lent often awakens a particular zeal. We pray more attentively. We attend the services of the first week. We listen to the penitential Canon of St Andrew of Crete. We examine our conscience more honestly and attempt, however imperfectly, to restrain habitual sins.

In these efforts, faith ceases to be a mere declaration of identity and begins to take on flesh in daily life. The truth confessed in the Creed seeks expression in prayer, in patience, in reconciliation, in self-restraint.

The Personal Triumph of Orthodoxy

In this sense, the first week of Lent may become a small but real “triumph of Orthodoxy” within the human heart. When a believer strives to align his life with the commandments of Christ — choosing repentance over self-justification, forgiveness over resentment, humility over pride — the truth upheld by councils and hymns ceases to be abstract. It begins to take flesh in lived experience.

This personal dimension does not replace the dogmatic meaning of the feast; it flows directly from it. The Incarnation is not only a theological affirmation but a living reality. The Son of God took flesh that human life might be healed and restored. Whenever we turn toward Him in repentance and obedience, that restoration is set in motion within us.

Yet the zeal of the first week is only a beginning. What appears as a spark must become a steady flame. When our weakness is revealed — as it inevitably is — the answer is not retreat but endurance. The Fast calls us to patient perseverance, that we may continue the struggle to its end and not lose heart along the way.

The Pattern of Lent and the Joy Set Before Us

It is therefore no accident that the Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy concludes the most rigorous week of the Fast. The Church places this proclamation of truth at the outset of a longer journey. The Christian life as a whole follows the same pattern: confession of faith, ascetic labor, purification of heart, and finally joy.

The Sundays of Lent are not isolated commemorations but stages in a single, coherent ascent. From repentance we are led to the affirmation of faith; from purification to contemplation of the Cross; and from the Cross to the radiant joy of the Resurrection. The Triumph of Orthodoxy stands at the threshold of this ascent as a declaration that the truth of Christ stands firm — and that our path forward rests upon that unshakable foundation.

If we persevere — praying more deeply, restraining harsh words, seeking reconciliation, struggling faithfully in small and hidden ways — the fruit is not self-satisfaction but peace and quiet joy in the Holy Spirit. It is the first glimmer of Paschal light shining within the discipline of the Fast, a foretaste of the Resurrection toward which the entire journey is directed.

Christ, the True Triumph

In the end, the true and final Triumph is not an idea, nor even a moral improvement in ourselves. It is Christ Himself — the incarnate, crucified, and risen Lord. The Ecumenical Councils defended the truth of who He is. The holy icons proclaim that truth visibly. Our repentance during Lent prepares us to meet Him.

Thus the historical victory of the Church and the personal struggle of the believer converge in a single end: communion with the Risen Christ. The Triumph of Orthodoxy is not a celebration of the past alone, nor a mere affirmation of doctrine, but a call to live the truth that God has come among us — and to allow that truth to take flesh in our own lives.

Holy Assumption Market Days

PRE-ORDER ONLY FORM

Pickup 11:30-1:00pm

Saturday March 28th

Thank you for your order!

CUSTOMER NAME:

CUSTOMER PHONE #:

ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY SATURDAY MARCH 14

BY EMAIL info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org

OR BY TEXT OR VOICE MESSAGE AT 419-702-7087

110 E. Main St. Marblehead

ORDERS SHOULD BE PICKED UP BETWEEN 11:00am AND 12:30pm

SATURDAY March 28TH



Paska Bread (Easter Bread) Sale

All items will be sold frozen

Thaw at your convenience for your Pascal (Easter) Celebration

#		Price
	Paska Bread Standard 2# \$12	
	Paska Bread 2# with golden raisins \$14	
	Nut Roll-- whole roll \$14	
	Poppyseed Roll-- whole roll \$14	
	Nut Horns 1/2 # \$7	
	Limited quantity perohi available	
	Perohi 1/2 dozen for \$8 (potato/cheese with butter & onion) FROZEN	
	Perohi 1/2 dozen for \$8 (sauerkraut with butter & onion) FROZEN	
		TOTAL

For future events follow us on
Facebook at Halupki Festival or
www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org