

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

110 EAST MAIN STREET,
Marblehead, OH 43440

Rev. Fr. Peter Tomas, Rector

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

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

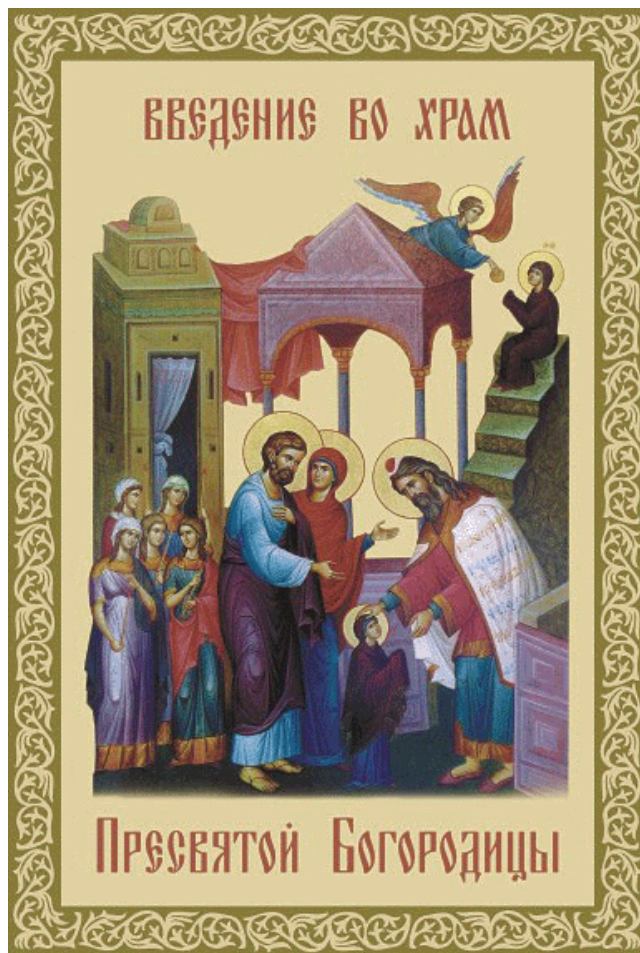
TWENTY FORTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Thanksgiving Prayer

*We thank thee for our daily bread,
For faith by which the soul is fed,
For burdens given us to bear,
For help that lifts the heart's despair.*

*We thank thee, Lord, for eyes to see,
The truth that makes, and keeps us free:
For faults - and for the strength to mend them,
For dreams - and courage to defend them.*

*We have so much to thank thee for,
Dear Lord, we beg but one boon more:
Peace in the hearts of all men living,
Peace in the whole world on this Thanksgiving.*
Joseph Auslander



**Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos
into the Temple**
Feast Day – November 21st

EPISTLE: Ephesians 2:14-22

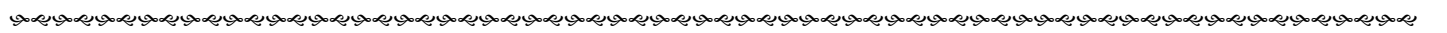
Brethren: It is Christ who is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle

wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:16-21

The Lord spoke this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. ‘And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.” ‘But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

<u>Liturgical Schedule</u>	
MON. NOV 20	Forefeast of the Entry into the Temple of the Most-holy Theotokos. Ven. Gregory the Decapolite. St. Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinople.
6:00 PM	VESPERS
TUE. NOV 21	The Entry of the Most-Holy Theotokos into the Temple
9:10 AM	HOURS
9:30 AM	DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Breakfast at Galley Restaurant
SAT. NOV 25	Leavetaking of the Entry Into the Temple. Saint Clement of Ochrid, Equal of the Apostles, Bishop of Greater Macedonia, and his companions Nahum, Savva, Gorazd and Angelar
4:00 PM	VESPERS
SUN. – NOV 26	24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST <i>Ven. Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis</i>
9:10 AM	HOURS
9:30 AM	DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Coffee Hour



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Tony Monastra, 2119 Willow Cove Marblehead, OH 43440; Patti Owens, 311 Woodbridge Road, Vermilion, OH 44089; Basil Glovinsky, 1007 Glendale Drive, Port Clinton, OH 43452; Subdeacon Roger Pinta, P.O. Box 39, Middle Bass, OH 43446; Diane Tryon, 109



NOVEMBER CANDLE SPONSORS

Altar Candles: Fr. Peter & Mat. Michelle, For Health and God's Blessings upon Barbara Wroblewski, Matushka's mother (**\$50**); **Chandelier:** Fr. Peter & Mat. Michelle, For Health and God's Blessings of Michal Tomáš, Father's father (**\$50**); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** Available (**\$25**); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Madelyn, Amanda, Andrew, and Betty; and in memory of Uncle Alex (**\$20**); **Candles at St. Sophia Icon:** For Safety and Health of Nicholas, Tikhon, Gleice, & Chloe (**\$20**)



NOVEMBER REPOSED

Michael Guzy (1927) No date provided; Mary Lou Hobson (2015) No date provided; **1-**Peter Felenchak (1974); **2-** Donald Sennich (1994); **3-** Marian Glovinsky (2001); **5-** Margaret Pietropolo (2009); **5-** Dan Opritza (2021) **5-** Joseph Guzy (1974); **6-** William Rentz (2018); **6-** Michael Chemorov (2019); **8-** Ann G Stretchberry (2003); **8-** Anne Catherine Glovinsky (2004); **9-** Ann Golob (No year recorded); **9-** Robley Blackford (2021); **18-** Archpriest George Timko (2000) Former Pastor; **19-** Evelyn Biecheler (2002); **19-** Frances (Nancy B. mom)(2019); **19-** Orestes Mihaly No year provided; **21-** Ann S. Ratica (1991); **22-** Joann Carender No year provided; **23-** George Michael Elchisco (2016); **26-** Janet Elchisko (2018); **28-** Anna Grabonsky (1972); **29-**Alexander Mazur (2003)



VIGILS FOR NOVEMBER 5

Laura Kovach 3 Birthday blessings to Madelyn.

For health and/or healing of Beverly S., Patti O., Tony M., Matushka Michelle, Hannah S., Barbara D., Pauline O., George K., Joe H., Margi H., Betty K., Ben F., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Sharon D., John D., and Karen D.

Safe travels for family.

Sandy Martin 1 Special intentions

Darlene & Gabe Mazurik 1 Special intentions

Ron & Bobbie Royhab 1 In loving memory of my mother, Thalia on her birthday 11/12

Natalie Twarek 8 For the health of Ruth, Safe travel for Zach, Health and healing for Barbara, Tony, and Patti, For the health of Matushka Michelle, For the health and recovery of Basil, Diane, Tom Sitzler and Don Kiser, Health and recovery of Rick Krynock, Health of Roger, Ed, Irene, Father David, Marilyn, Pauline, Judy, Mimi, Tina, 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

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Patti Owens / Tony Monastra / 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 / 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

11/11 No Vespers; 11/12 Divine Liturgy, 23 attending (2 Guests)



READERS LIST

Sunday Nov 19 – Jake
Sunday Nov 26 – Tim
Sunday Dec 3 – Ron
Sunday Dec 10 – Natalie



CLEANING SCHEDULE

Nov 20, Laura
Nov 27, Jean
Dec 4, Stephanie
Dec 11, Sandy



CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE 2024

It is time to update the church cleaning schedule for 2024. First, thank you to those who have been on the schedule for many years. We often hear of giving of your TIME, TALENT, or TREASURE. You are the people who have been giving of your TIME and again we thank you.

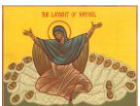
We are always looking for additional volunteers who would be willing to give of their TIME, once a week, to clean God's house. Cleaning can take place at your convenience, Monday - Saturday. The weekly cleaning takes less than an hour and your obligation would be once every 2½ to 3 months, depending on the number of volunteers in the rotation.

Please contact Laura if you have any questions or wish to be added to the rotation.



KITCHEN REPAIR

As we are planning to make some necessary repairs and updates to our kitchen, we are looking for some volunteers who would be willing to serve as “Kitchen Repair Committee.” If you have some good ideas about the repair, please see Fr. Peter or Ron Royhab and volunteer for the position on the committee. Thank you in advance for your consideration!



CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“ZOE for Life” is the charity we donate to for the month of November.



CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

Part of our church property is our cute cemetery, where many of our relatives and friends are buried. To keep our cemetery well maintained and beautiful, we must use our church resources to pay for the maintenance and upkeep. Our Parish has a separate “Cemetery Account” that we use for that purpose, but it came to our attention that very few donations are made throughout the year. Therefore, we would like to ask you to consider to donate for the maintenance of our cemetery for the future. Kindly use your

envelope marked "CEMETERY" to make your donation. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA PLANTS

As we entered the time for preparation for the glorious feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, we would like to offer you an opportunity to sponsor the poinsettia plants which will beautify our church for the Nativity Season. We also kindly ask for your prayerful consideration to sponsor liturgical wine, incense, and charcoal that we use during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The forms for sponsoring are located in the vestibule of the church. Thank you in advance for your generosity and care!

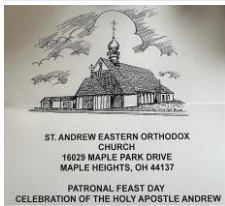


SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, November 12, 2023

Tithe	\$ 850.00
Candles	\$ 20.00
Vigils	\$ 80.00
Donations	\$ 25.00
Zoe for Life (Nov) Charity	\$ 125.00
Cemetery Donation	\$ 50.00
Total:	\$1,150.00

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



YOU ARE INVITED TO PATRONAL FEASTDAY CELEBRATION

Fr. Emilian and the parishioners of **St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church**, 16029 Maple Park Drive, Maple Hights, OH 44137 are inviting us to participate in their **Patronal Feast Day of St. Andrew the First-called on Thursday, November 30, 2023**. The Festal Divine Liturgy will be held at **10:00 a.m.**, followed by an Advent Meal. Please let Fr. Peter know that you are going so he can give the number of the participants for the meal. Also, please see the flyer on the bulletin board!



PAN-ORTHODOX NATIVITY CONCERT

Archangel Michael Orthodox Church, 5025 E. Mill Rd., Broadview Hights, OH is sponsoring a **Pan-Orthodox Nativity Concert**, which will take place on **Sunday, December 10th at 4:00 PM**. Refreshments to follow. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board!



3 ETREAT

We are invited to Pan-Orthodox retreat which will take place on **Saturday, December 9, 2023** at **St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**, 755 S. Cleveland Ave., Mogadore, OH 44260. 3E stands for Encounter, Embody, Engage. The retreat is sponsored by Orthodox Youth and Young Adult Ministries. For more information, please see the flyers on the bulletin board.



POPPYSEED AND NUT ROLLS BAKING – THANK YOU!

We wish to express our sincere thanks to the following parishioners who helped with Poppyseed and Nut Rolls baking for the Thanksgiving: Tina, Natalie, Bobbie, Roddie, Kathy, Fred, Laura, Sandy, Fr. Peter, and Mat. Michelle. May our Lord and God reward you all for your hard work and love for our church with His special blessings!



HOLY SYNOD ISSUES STATEMENT ON THE CONFLICT IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

CHICAGO, IL [OCA]

To the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, beloved children in the Lord, and to people of good will throughout the wide world:

Every human life is incalculably precious; each human person is a soul for whom Christ died. As violence sweeps the world and conflicts in Israel and Palestine claim ever more victims, we mourn for the destruction of human life and well-being, plead with the relevant authorities for an immediate cessation of hostilities, and call for

meaningful dialogue between the contesting parties.

We ask the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to come before the face of the Prince of Peace seeking peace for our lives and for the entire world, and to do so with special diligence and fervor during the coming season of the Nativity Fast.



THANKSGIVING 2024

Please Note: Dispensation from abstinence from meat on Friday, November 24th for all the parishioners of Holy Assumption Parish is granted by Rector - Fr. Peter



NEW DEAN OF THE CLEVELAND DEANERY

At Our last Deanery Meeting which took place on **Tuesday, November 14th** at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Mogadore, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel appointed the new dean of our Deanery, **Very Rev. Archpriest Nicholas Wyslutsky**, rector of St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore. We wish our newly appointed Dean Many God's blessings and strength in his new position!



ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Community Annual Thanksgiving service will be held **today, Sunday, November 19th** at **7:00 PM** at **St. Paul Lutheran Church** followed by a time for refreshment in St. Paul's Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited!



ST. PETER AND PAUL'S ANNUAL COOKIE AND FOOD SALE

St. Peter and Paul Church in Lorain will hold their **Annual Cookie and Food Sale** on **Saturday, December 9th** from **9:00 am to noon**. Deadline for preorders is **December 2nd**. They will have: Russian Czar dinners, stuffed cabbage, cabbage and noodles, nut rolls, poppy seed rolls and cookies. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board!

FILIPOVKA – NATIVITY FAST

Why fast before the Nativity? (O.C.A.)

Question

I was wondering why we fast before Nativity. The Lenten fast seems more obvious. Also, from what foods do we normally fast from during the Nativity fast?

Answer

We fast before the Great Feast of the Nativity in order to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Our Lord’s birth. As in the case of Great Lent, the Nativity Fast is one of preparation, during which we focus on the coming of the Savior by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

By fasting, we “shift our focus” from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about what to eat, when to eat, how much to eat, and so on in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor. We learn through fasting that we can gain control over things which we sometimes allow to control us—and for many people, food is a controlling factor.

[We live in the only society in which an entire TV network is devoted to food!] While fasting from food, however, we are also challenged to fast from sin, from gossip, from jealousy, from anger, and from those other things which, while well within our control, we all too often allow to control us.

Just as we would refrain from eating a lot before going to an expensive restaurant for dinner—if we “ruin our appetite” we will enjoy the restaurant less—so too we fast before the Nativity in order to more fully feast and celebrate on the Nativity itself.

During the Nativity Fast, we are called upon to refrain from meat, dairy, fish, wine, and olive oil. At the same time, we are challenged, within this framework, to fast to the best of our ability, and to do so consistently.

If we must modify the extent to which we fast within this framework, it is of course possible, but in every instance our fasting should be consistent and regular, for Christ does not see fasting as an option, but as a “must.”

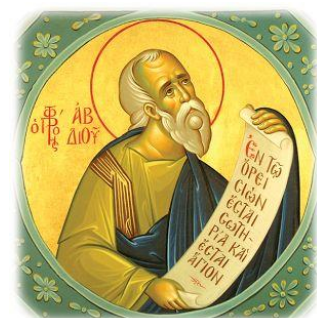
In Matthew Christ says, “WHEN you fast, do not be like the hypocrites,” not “IF you fast” or “IF YOU CHOOSE to fast.”

Finally, it seems quite odd that in our society—a society in which people gladly and freely spend huge sums of money for diets, most of which recommend that one refrain from red meats and dairy products—fasting is not more widely embraced. How odd that a Jenny Craig consultant or diet guru or physician will tell us to refrain from eating meat or cheese or butter and we will gladly embrace—and pay large sums of money for—his or her advice, while when the Church offers the same advice [at “no cost”] we tend to balk, as if we were being asked to do the impossible.

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



- Nov. 21st** Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple (*Tuesday*)
- Nov. 23rd** Thanksgiving – Civil Holiday (*Thursday*)
- Nov. 27th** Parish Council Meeting at 6:00 PM (*Monday*)
- Dec. 6th** St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia (*Wednesday*)
- Dec. 9th** Conception by Righteous Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos (*Saturday*)
- Consider sponsoring a Sunday coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy



Prophet Obadiah (Abdia)

Commemorated on November 19

The holy Prophet Obadiah [or Abdia] is the fourth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, and he lived during the ninth century B.C. He was from the village of Betharam, near Sichem, and he served as steward of the impious Israelite King Ahab. In those days the whole of Israel had turned away from the true

God and had begun to offer sacrifice to Baal, but Obadiah faithfully served the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in secret.

When Ahab's wife, the impious and dissolute Jezebel, hunted down all the prophets of the Lord (because of her quarrel with the Prophet Elias), Obadiah gave them shelter and food (3/1 Kgs 18:3 ff). Ahab's successor King Okhoziah [Ahaziah] sent three detachments of soldiers to arrest the holy Prophet Elias (July 20). One of these detachments was headed by the holy Prophet Obadiah. Through the prayer of the Prophet Elias, two of the detachments were consumed by heavenly fire, but Obadiah and his detachment were spared by the Lord (4/2 Kgs 1).

From that moment Obadiah resigned from military service and became a follower of the Prophet Elias. Afterward, he himself received the gift of prophecy. The God-inspired work of the Prophet Obadiah is the fourth of the Books of the Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible, and contains predictions about the future salvation of the Gentiles (Vs. 15) and that the Savior would come forth from Sion (Vs. 17). The holy Prophet Obadiah, whose name means servant (or worshipper) of the Lord, was buried in Samaria. In iconography, the Prophet Obadiah is depicted as a grey-haired old man with a rounded beard. His scroll reads: "In that day, saith the Lord, I shall destroy the wise men out of Idumea." (Obadiah 8).



Martyr Barlaam of Caesarea, in Cappadocia

Commemorated on November 19

The Holy Martyr Barlaam lived in Antioch of Syria. During Diocletian's persecution against Christians, the aged Saint Barlaam was arrested and brought to trial, where he confessed himself a Christian.

The judge, wanting to compel the saint to renounce Christ, ordered that Saint Barlaam be brought to the pagan altar. His right hand was placed over it, and a red-hot censer burning with incense was put into his hand. The torturer thought that a physically weak old man could not endure the pain and would drop it on the altar. In this way he would involuntarily be offering sacrifice to the idol. However, the saint held on to the censer until his hand fell off. After this, the holy Martyr Barlaam surrendered his soul to the Lord.



THANKSGIVING SALE – THANK YOU!

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Tina, Natalie, Greg, and Roddie for braving the weather and helping with the orders of our Thanksgiving Sale. The gross income from the sale was **\$1,236.61**. May Our Lord reward you all for your time and energy with good health, peace, and happiness for Many Happy and Blessed Years!

We wish to extend our thank you to Greg for baking his famous breads and cinnamon rolls. Our Christmas sale will take place on Saturday, December 16th between 9:00 AM and 11:00AM. We will have perohi, nut and poppyseed rolls, nut horns and a variety of baked breads. All orders must be pre-ordered!

WHAT'S SO ORTHODOX ABOUT THANKSGIVING?

There is no "feast" that seems more "American" than Thanksgiving. Many of us Orthodox also recognize this holiday in some sort of way. Usually, we say that it is a day in which "they" remember that the Pilgrims landed in this country. Of course, the "they" that we use in such a sentence refers to any of the non-Orthodox Americans that we live with.

And yet, this is a real chance for us - it may be one of the few "American" things that we can truly make Orthodox. We will never be able to totally interpret the secular things of America in an Orthodox way. But here, on Thanksgiving Day, is exactly where it should be done. This is so because if you think about and are especially aware of the words and feeling of our Divine Liturgy, there is nothing more Orthodox than giving thanks.

It is, therefore, on Thanksgiving Day that we have a chance to help America look deeper into itself - by looking at this "typical" American holiday of Thanksgiving from an Orthodox point of view. We know that to be Orthodox, if we really know that Orthodoxy, implies that "deeper look." But what is meant by looking deeper?

To begin with, if we as Americans, both Orthodox and non-Orthodox, fail to see the greater lesson of what "Thanksgiving" means, if it is just the remembering of an historical event, it will remain only a memory and not something that we call a Holiday, or better yet, a Holy Day. This is so because just the memory is not enough. Memory may be helpful, but it does not guarantee holiness. Why do we say Holy Day? When we answer this question, we will have taken that deeper look.

Surely those that landed in America understood why the day was holy. They were not only celebrating their historic landing as holy, as we do today in this shallow way; they looked deeper and when they did, they gave thanks together in a real communion with each other and with God for all the bountiful gifts with which they were blessed. Perhaps they understood, even better than we do, what it means when we sing in our Liturgy: "for the abundance of the fruits of the earth and for peaceful times. . ." That's it! That's the deeper look; men standing together before God in thankfulness. Men bound by common problems. Men bound by common goals.

Orthodoxy, therefore, has the great opportunity to be able to dissect the word "Thanksgiving," to show this fullness. In fact, we are constantly showing what it really means at every Liturgy, for it is here that thanksgiving is not only a memory, not only a day; it is a state or a position that we are in. What is that state which is holy? It is a standing together - no, it begins earlier - it begins with the procession of each of us from the bed of our homes to the place where we will stand, to be together, even as those pilgrims were, to give thanks. The height of this thanksgiving is when we offer up the gifts of bread and wine - "Thine own of Thine own, we offer unto Thee, in behalf of all and for all" - while we are offered life in return from God.

Can we take America back to that original meaning, to that deeper look? The pilgrims had it, but we have preserved it! Perhaps now we can say "we" instead of "they" to show that Thanksgiving is not only for non-Orthodox. Certainly, it is at the Divine Liturgy where "we" should begin this Day of Thanksgiving. Is there less that we can do?

What's so Orthodox about Thanksgiving? *Orthodoxy!*

HUMOR

We're Getting a Divorce

An elderly man in Phoenix calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; 45 years of misery is enough."

"Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the old man says.

"We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her." Then he hangs up.

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls Phoenix immediately, and screams at the old man, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?"

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "They're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own fares."

