

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

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Marblehead, OH 43440

V. Rev. Archpriest Peter Tomas, Rector

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

**DECEMBER 15, 2024**

**TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**EPISTLE: Colossians 3:4-11**

Brethren: When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore, put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

**GOSPEL: Lk 14:16-24**

The Lord said this parable: "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with



**Holy Forefathers of Christ**

one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. 'For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.'

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

<b>MON. Dec 16</b>	Prophet Haggai; 1 Tim 1:1-7, Mk 9:42-10:1
<b>TUE. Dec 17</b>	Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias and Misael; 1 Tim 1:8-14, Mk 10:2-12
<b>WED. Dec 18</b>	Martyr Sebastian at Rome, and his companions; 1 Tim 1:18-20, 2:8:15 Mk 10:11-16
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Choir practice in the Rectory</b>
<b>THU. Dec 19</b>	Martyr Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia, and Righteous Aglaïa of Rome: 1 Tim 3:1-13, Mk 10:17-27
<b>FRI. Dec 20</b>	Hieromartyr Ignatius; 1 Tim 4:4-8,16, Mk 10:23-32
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>AKATHIST in Preparation of the Nativity</b>
<b>SAT. Dec 21</b>	Virgin Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia; Gal 3:8-12, Lk 16:10-15
<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>VESPERS</b>
<b>SUN. Dec 22</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, <i>Sunday before the Nativity, Tone 1</i></b>
<b>9:10 AM</b>	<b>HOURS</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Coffee Social</b>

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS



**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; **Ed & Irene Vangeloff**, 454 Strouse Lane, Sandusky, OH 44870

### DECEMBER REPOSED

Peter Onyock (1952) No date provided; Anna Mazurik (1968) No date provided; **1-** Helen Elchisco (1990); **3-** Mary Hubicki (2013); **8-** Mary (Marika) Lefas (2019); **12-** Anna Bretz (2002); **13-** Joseph Mazurik (1986); **13-** Archimandrite Seraphim Oblivantseff (1954) Former Pastor; **15-** Michael W. Belenky (1971); **20-** Julia Brosojah Millie (1953); **20-** John Mazurik (2017); **20-** William Pipenur (2003); **21-** Mary Sennich (1985); **22-** Antonima Vecsey (1972); **23-** Steven Danchisen (1982); **24-** Alexandra Turkul (1980); **24-** John Bird No year Provided; **25-** Joe Rose (2022); **29-** Alexandra Dotsenko (1980); **30-** Rita Felenchak (1996); **31-** Jevgeny Cernonok (1980); **31-** Janice Timko (2021)



## DECEMBER CANDLE SPONSORS

**Altar Candles:** Jen Fela and the Havrilla Family, In Loving Memory of Bernadine Havrilla (\$50); **Chandelier:** Sonya Rose, In Loving Memory of Joe Rose (\$50); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** Angela Bricker, For the Health and God's Blessings for Holy Assumption's Parishioners, Family, and Catechumens this Nativity Season; Jean Hileman In loving memory of my father, William (\$25); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Ben (\$20); **Candles at St. Tikhon Icon:** For Safety and Health of Nicholas, Tikhon, Gleice, Sophie & Chloe (\$20)

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## VIGILS FOR DECEMBER 8

**Susan Guzy 1** Safe travel for brother, Gary

**Jean Hileman 1** Special intentions

**Laura Kovach 3** For health and/or healing of Heidi G., Ruthe F., Jerry P., Matushka Melania, Ron R., Betty K., Margaret M., David M., Hannah S., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Kathie J., Ed V., and Irene V.

Birthday blessings to Ben, Tina, and Gabe  
Safe travels for family

**Sandy Martin 1** Special Intentions

**Darlene Mazurik 1** Prayers for thanksgiving, health, and guidance

**Natalie Twarek 8** For health and recovery of Mimi, Birthday blessings to Tina (12/11), For the health Fr Peter & Matushka Michelle, For the health & recovery of Matushka Melania, For the health and recovery on Ron, Rodney, Betty, Carol, Kayla, Bill, Ruth, Pam, Jim, Jerry, Heidi, Father Emilian, Barbara Heffernan, Health and healing for Father's parents Michal & Helena and Matushka's mom Barbara, and Walter, For the health of Jen, Tony, Bev, Ed, Irene, Father David, Judy, Tina, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Tina's dad, Earl, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, special intentions

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## PRAYER LIST

**Parishioners & Family:** Ron & Bobbie Royhab / Rodney Clevenger / Jennifer Heffernan / Tom Hileman / Pam / Jim Twarek / Ed Garrity / Patti Owens / Barbara Wroblewski / Michal Tomáš / Helena Tomášova / Ruth Sheller / Basil Glovinsky / Dale / Sophie / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Chris Hannon / Subdeacon Roger Pinta / Ed Vangeloff / Irene Vangeloff / Sonja Rose / Ron Royhab / James Bargdill / John Beadle / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Joseph Habegger / Elaine Hileman / Betty Kovach / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Earl Rindfleisch / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Clifford / Gleice, Sophie & Chloe / Carol / Nora.

**Other Requests:** Catechumen Blake Shoemaker / Catechumen Nickolas Dawenport / Matushka Melania / Sharyn Osborne / Christine Zahm / Amy / Bill Byrnes / Michael Heffernan / Susanne / Barbara Heffernan / Charles Schlett / Kathy Debevits / Maxwell Chaney / Sidharth Bijilani – friend of Subdeacon Roger and Debbie Pinta / Anthony / Archpriest Ján Čižmár / Archpriest David Lis / Archpriest Emilian & Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Robert Piznar / Mark Masica / Valerie Ritzenthaler / William / Rick Rowe / Chris.

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

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## ATTENDANCE

**12/07** Vespers, 7 attending; **12/08** Divine Liturgy, **28** attending (14 guests); **12/13** Akathist, 7 attending



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**17** – Tim Heffernan \*; **20** – Natalia Stamp; **21** – Ed & Irene Vangeloff Anniversary (72); **23** – Teri Cassell \*; **25** – Darlene Mazurik \*; **26** – Fr. John Adamcio \*; **31** – Fred & Christi Soski Anniversary \*



## READERS LIST

Sunday Dec 15 – Jake  
Sunday Dec 22 – Tim  
Wednesday Dec 25 – Jake  
Sunday Dec 29 – Tim

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



- Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>** Holidays pre-orders pick up 9:00 – 10:30 am (*Saturday*)
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Eve - GREAT COMPLINE with Litya at 4:00 PM (*Tuesday*)
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>** NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM (*Wednesday*)
- Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>** New Year’s Eve – Vespers at 6:00 pm (*Tuesday*)
- Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>** Circumcision of Our Lord, St. Basil the Great – Div. Liturgy at 10:00 pm (*Wednesday*)
- Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>** Eve of Theophany – Vespers at 6:00 pm (*Sunday*)
- Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>** THEOPHANY (BAPTISM) OF OUR LORD – Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM (*Monday*)



## SUNDAY OFFERING

### Sunday, December 8, 2024

Tithe	\$1,520.00
Donations	\$ 155.00
Candles	\$ 47.00
Vigils	\$ 65.00
Holy Day Donation	\$ 100.00
Flowers Donation	\$ 260.00
Sacramental Wine	\$ 40.00
Charcoal	\$ 10.00
Altar candles	\$ 50.00
St. Tikhon Icon Candles	\$ 20.00
Candles at the Cross	\$ 20.00
Bistro 163 (Dec)	\$ 225.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,512.00</b>

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



## CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“Bistro 163” is the charity we donate to for the month of December.



## CLEANING SCHEDULE

Dec 16, Greg  
Dec 23, Roddie & David  
Dec 30, Natalie  
Jan 6, Basil & Tim



## COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST

Dec 15 – Danielle & Josh Paull  
Dec 22 – Matushka Michelle  
Dec 29 – Natalia

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

## NEW CATECHUMENS IN OUR PARISH

We are very happy to announce that **Joshua Schulden, Danielle & Josh, and little Wrenley Paull** will become new Catechumens of our parish and will be received into Catechumenate next **Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>** before the Divine Liturgy. May Our Lord and God bless them as they prepare to be fully received into the Holy Orthodox Church in the near future!



## OUR SYMPATHIES – MEMORY ETERNAL!

Our prayers and deepest sympathies are extended to the family and friends of former parishioner † **RUTH M. FLEWELLING (MONAK)**, who fell asleep in the Lord on **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>** and was buried from the Neidecker, Crosser & Priesman Funeral Home on **Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**. *“In blessed repose grant eternal rest, O Lord, to your ever-remembered servant †RUTH and make her Memory Eternal! Vichnayja Jej Pamyat!”*



## Sunday of the Holy Forefathers of Christ

Commemorated on December 15

The two last Sundays before the Nativity of Christ are called the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers and the Sunday of the Holy Fathers. The Holy Forefathers and Fathers are the Old Testament relatives according to the flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ, beginning with the holy ancestors Adam and Eve, Abel, Seth, Enoch, Noah, and his sons, the holy patriarch Abraham, and so on up to the glorious Nativity of Christ.

We honor all the righteous of the Old Testament, including those who became the Savior’s ancestors according to the flesh, because these people burned like candles of God in the darkness of paganism, and lived in the hope of the coming of the Messiah and mankind’s deliverance from slavery to the devil, sin, and death. They lived by this hope, lead by it as by a certain inner ray of the heart, which cut through the darkness of pagan religion and gave them the anticipation, the prescience of Christ, the joy of communion with God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the foretaste of paradise, where human feet had not stepped for many thousands of years but where the gates would unfailingly open; because into the world would come the One Whom these forefathers and fathers loved above all else, loved more than life itself, and for Whose sake were ready for anything—even death. Into the world would come our Lord Jesus Christ, Who would save them. And he will save all of us!



## A Dinner Invitation: What's Your Excuse?

By Fr. John McCuen

Today we celebrate the holy forefathers of our Lord Jesus Christ, the patriarchs and the prophets and the other holy men and women from Adam and Eve to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to Moses and Joshua, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel up to John the Baptizer, the last of the Old Testament prophets. When we read the Old Testament, we should do so to learn not only of the history of God's involvement with us, but also to learn the many ways in which we were being prepared for the coming of Christ. Yes, we know that the prophets told us of His coming, from the "Suffering Servant" mentioned in the prophecies of Isaiah, and of His miraculous birth, also found in the book of the prophet Isaiah, who foretold that the Virgin would conceive and would bear a child, whose name would be called, "Immanuel" – that is, "God with us." But if we read and learn, we may also recognize in Abel a prefiguring of Christ the Good Shepherd, who was the first to offer sacrifice pleasing to God, for which he became the first martyr. We might learn of the faith of Abraham that led him to depart from his homeland to the place where God would lead him, to give him a home, even as we are called to leave this world behind to follow where God leads, to our true dwelling-place with Him in His kingdom. We would see the sacrifice of our Lord in the offering of Isaac, we would see the faith of Ruth and Rahab the prostitute, and many, many others, all of whom can teach us about who we are and who we are meant to be as followers of our Lord Jesus Christ, Whose coming fulfilled the promise God made to Adam and Eve even as they were being forced to leave Paradise because of their sin, that a Deliverer would come to set us free from sin and death. As we draw near to the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, we do well to prepare ourselves, to learn, and to live as we should.

In the reading today from the Gospel according to St. Luke, we hear of the man who prepares a great feast, and sends his servants to gather those who had been invited to take part. But they respond by making excuses as to why they cannot attend; and so, the host sends his servants out again and again, to gather the uninvited as guests, even using force to compel them to enter, until the hall has been filled; but, in his anger, he declares that those who had been invited would now be refused entrance to the feast.

What shall we make of this? Do you realize that a feast has been prepared for you this very day, and that all who desire to take part and have prepared themselves will be fed with the most holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ? What excuses have kept you from accepting the invitation today? It is true, no one will compel you to come today – no one will be forced to come to the feast today, nor next Sunday, nor on the Feast of the Nativity itself – but why do you not come? Why do you refuse the hospitality of our God, Who desires that we share in His rejoicing in His Son, our Savior? Brothers and sisters, a day is coming when we will make excuses to not attend His feast, and find that we are no longer welcome. Let us not harden our hearts, and so risk being denied a place at the great banquet of the kingdom. Let us prepare ourselves with fasting, confession, repentance and prayer; and let us come to the Mystical Supper, especially on the day we celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ into our midst, remembering also that He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. Let us strive by the grace of God given to us in our baptism and in the Lord's Supper to be ready for the day of His return, that we may celebrate and rejoice to behold Him.

Our King and Savior is drawing near! Come, let us adore Him.