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

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



THIRTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Meatfare Sunday, Sunday of the Last Judgment

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Bretheren: Food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.



Last judgment

GOSPEL: Mt 25:31-46

The Lord said, "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Basil Glovinsky, 1007 Glendale Drive, Port Clinton, OH 43452; **Irene Vangeloff**, 454 Strouse Lane, Sandusky, OH 44870



FEBRUARY REPOSED

Helen Hritsko (1908) No date provided; Alexandra Brendza (1909) No date provided; Steve Danchisen (1909) No date provided; **2**- Nancy Pipenur (2018); **5**- Peter Kowal (2004); **6**- Steve Michael Mazur (1970); **6**- Elizabeth Kravetz Mc Mahon (1984); **12**-

Glenn Schoonmaker (2002); **12**- Lawrence Beck (2018); **14**- Rose Polosky (1953); **17**- Stanley Guzy (1986); **20**- Linda Sue Alber & infant (1969); **20**- Dc. Mike Cinalli (2020); **21**- Mary Tomka Matso (1956); **21**- John Richard Elchisco (2021); **22**- Metro Mazur (1973); **22**- Marguerite Bird (2022); **23**- George Elchisco Sr. (1961); **23**- Tom Twarek (2024); **26**- Elizabeth Millie (1998); **29**- Mary Uka Kosteary (1996)

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Tina Rindfleisch / Sharon Shaheen (Patti Owen's sister) / Norb / Heidi Golob / Ron & Bobbie Royhab /Rodney Clevenger / Jennifer Heffernan / Tom Hileman / Pam / Jim Twarek / Ed Garrity / Patti Owens / Barbara Wroblewski / Michal Tomáš / Helena Tomášová / 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 / Betty Kovach / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Earl Rindfleisch / Helen

Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Gleice, Sophie & Chloe / Carol / Nora.

Other Requests: Tom Osborne / Sarah King / Catechumen Blake Shoemaker / Catechumen Nickolas Dawenport / Catechumen Joshua Paull / Catechumen Danielle Paull / Catechumen Wrenley Paull / Arimus Paull / Linkoln Paull / Catechumen Joshua Schulden / Catechumen Ryan Stamp / Matushka Melania / Sharyn Osborne / Christine Zahm / Amy / Bill Byrnes / Michael Heffernan / Susanne / Barbara Heffernan / Charles Schlett / Kathy Debevits / Maxwell Chaney / 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

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK					
MON. Feb 24	First and second finding of the Honorable Head of St. John the Baptist; 3 John 1:1-15, Lk 19:29-40, 22:7-39				
TUE. Feb 25	Saint Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople; Jude 1:1-10, Lk 22:39-42,45-23:1				
WED. Feb 26	Saint Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza; 6th Hour: Joel 2:12-26, Vespers: Joel 3:12-21				
THU. Feb 27	Saint Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn; Jude 1:11-25, Lk 23:2-34,44-56				
FRI. Feb 28	Venerable Basil the Confessor; 6 th Hour: Zechariah 8:7-17, Vespers: Zechariah 8:19-23				
SAT. Feb 29	Martyr Eudokia of Heliopolis; Rom. 14-19-26, Mt 6:1-13				
4:00 PM VESPERS					
SUN. Feb 30 36 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 3, Cheese-fare Sunday, Forgiveness Sunday					
	AM HOURS DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Potluck Lunch				



VIGILS FOR FEBRUARY 16

Susan Guzy 1 In loving memory of Uncle Stanley(2/7) and Linda Sue & infant(2/20), In memory of Marguerite, Vichnaya Pamyat

Jean Hileman 1 Special Intentions

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

Safe travels for family and friends

Memory eternal to my mom and Marilyn Taylor

Sandy Martin 1 In loving memory of Marg, special intentions

Natalie Twarek 9 In loving memory of Marilyn Batcha Taylor, In loving memory of John Bredbeck, For God's strength and peace for Ed and Irene, God's grace and strength to the Rakosky family as they recover from their house fire, For the health of Ruth and Mike, For the health & recovery of Matushka Melania, For the health and recovery on Basil, Ron, Rodney, Betty, Carol, Kayla, Pam, Jim, Heidi, Wayne, Father Emilian, Health and healing for Father's parents Michal & Helena and Matushka's mom Barbara, and Walter, For the health of Jen, Tony, Father David, Judy, Tina, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Tina's dad, Earl, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat

FEBRUARY 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, In memory of my dad Steven and birthday memory of my mom Margaret (\$20); Candles at St. Tikhon Icon:

Available (\$20)



OUR SYMPATHIES - MEMORY ETERNAL!

We would to express our deepest sympathies to **Irene** and the entire Vangeloff family on passing of *†ED VANGELLOF* into Life Eternal on Monday, February 17th. The Funeral services will take place next Saturday, March 1st at our church at 10:00 AM with the prior viewing at 9:00 AM. Viewing at Neidecker, Crosser & Priesman Funeral Home will take place on Friday, March 28th between hours 4:00 - 7:00

PM, with the Panachida served at 6:30 PM. The luncheon will take place at Twin Oast Brewing at 3630 NE Catawba Rd., Port Clinton, OH after the funeral services. "In blessed repose grant eternal rest, O Lord, to your ever-remembered servant # ED, and make his Memory Eternal! Vichnayja Yemu Pamyať!"



READERS LIST

Sunday Feb 23 - Jake Sunday Mar 2 – Tim Sunday Mar 9 – Jake



ATTENDANCE

02/015 Vespers, **5** attending; **02/16** Divine Liturgy, **16** attending (5 guests)

UP-COMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Cheesefare Sunday - (Maslenitsa) - Potluck after the Divine Liturgy (Sunday) Mar 2nd

Mar 3rd Beginning of the Great Fast (Monday)

Mar 9th Daylight Saving Time begins (Sunday)

Mar 15th Memorial Saturday (Saturday)

Apr 13th Palm Sunday (Sunday)

Apr 20th HOLY PASCHA (Sunday)





NEW PARISH COUNCIL

The Installation of the new officers will take place today, Sunday, February 23rd after the Divine Liturgy.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

24 – Sonya Rose; 25 – Fellar (Michael) Fay; 25 – Heidi Golob *; 26 – Basil Glovinsky



CHARITY OF THE MONTH

"St. Vladmir's Seminary" is the charity we donate to for the month of February.

CLEANING SCHEDULE



Feb 24, Bobbie Mar 3, Natalie Mar 10, Basil & Tim Mar 17, Susan

COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST



Feb 23- Parish Potluck Lunch for the Meetfare Sunday
Mar 2- Parish Potluck Lunch for the Cheesefare Sunday

Mar 9- Roddie

Mar 16- Matushka Michelle

Mar 23- Danielle & Josh (Wrenley's 2nd Birthday)

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



SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Holy Day Donation Total:	<u>\$</u>	125.00 514.00
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Vigils	\$	55.00
Candles	\$	43.00
Donations	\$	146.00
Tithe	\$	145.00

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

CHURCH MONTLY INCOME AND EXPENSES

Month of JANUARY 2025

Church Donation income was \$ 6,860.06 Church Operating Expenses totaled net loss of \$ 12,209.42 - \$ 5,403.36

MATUSHKA'S CORNER

A poem by St. Gregory the Theologian, d. 390. A prayer for the close of day.

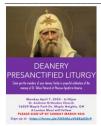
Word of God, and Truth itself,
I consecrated this day to you;
But I have played you false.
Night now falls upon me
And finds my own lamp barely bright.
This I prayed over, and foresaw,
But even so my feet still stumbled,
And so darkness fell around me,
That hater of salvation.
Oh, my Christ!
Rekindle my little lamp,
And shine on me once more.



NEW ALTAR LINENS AND VESTMENTS SPONSOR – THANK YOU!

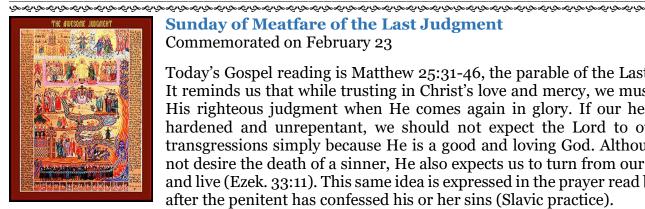
We wish to express our sincere thanks to **Tina Rindfleisch** for sponsoring two new sets of purple and green altar linens, priestly vestments set, and a set of vestments for Altar Servers in the amount of \$3,050.00, "For Good Health and Spiritual well-being of the Rindfleisch and Monastra

Families". The sets were made in Ukraine and were be blessed yesterday after Vespers. May Our Lord and God bless Tina for her generosity and grant her and Tony good health, peace, and happiness for Many Happy and Blessed Years!



DEANERY PRESANCTIFIED EVENT

You are invited to the Deanery Presanctified Divine Liturgy which will take place on Monday, April 7, 2025, from 6:30pm at St. Andrew Orthodox Church, 16029 Maple Park Dr., Maple Heights, OH hosted by Cleveland Deanery. A Lenten Meal will follow. If you are planning to attend, please sign up at https://forms.gle/CN5AkLaVbEEgXZtrq See the Flyer on our bulletin board!



Sunday of Meatfare of the Last Judgment

Commemorated on February 23

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice).

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, "Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45).

Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

The Last Judgment – What Is a Church?

by Archpriest Vincent Saverino

Today is commonly known as Meatfare Sunday, the last day to eat meat before Pascha; it's western equivalent used to be Carnival (from Latin to remove meat) but in the west removing meat doesn't have much meaning anymore. But today's real impact is so much more than just what we eat. Liturgically

this is the Sunday devoted to The Last Judgment and it is critical to know that Chapter 25 of St. Matthew's gospel from which Christ's sermon about the sheep and goats takes place after Palm Sunday, His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and was told by Our Lord only to His apostles on the Mount of Olives, away from the crowds of Jerusalem. That's why this gospel is read again on Holy Tuesday, exactly 50 days from Meatfare. Our Lord's private sermon is remarkable in the language that He chose to use to explain things to the apostles, not in a parable, now at the end of His ministry, directly. He makes it clear that His second coming will be with "glory" with "holy angels" as opposed to His first coming, as He was right then and there on earth knowing that later in that week He would suffer the dishonor and indignities of being tried, scourged, and crucified. Christ also uses the phrase "inherit the kingdom" to show that God has made the blessed of His Father, whom he refers to as the sheep on His right hand, to be true sons, not to be GIVEN eternal life, but to INHERIT what is rightly theirs, eternal life that was prepared for all men from the beginning of time. On the other hand, the left hand that is, are the goats. To the goats, He uses the words "depart from Me" signifying what hell really is: Being utterly cut off from God. Remember the words of Psalm 50 (Psalm 51 KJV): "Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy Holy Spirit from me."

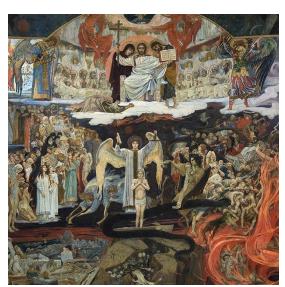


The Last Judgment fresco in the Sistine Chapel

In the west, the Last Judgment is a fearful thing. It brings to mind the fire and brimstone sermons that were popularized in Colonial America by preachers such as Jonathon Edwards, grandfather of Aaron Burr who killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel, who is famous for his fiery "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." An angry God. That motif of an Angry God is manifest in the famous Last Judgment fresco in the Sistine Chapel in which Michealangelo paints Christ sitting on the Judgment Seat with His right arm upraised in a threatening position and His left arm repelling the condemned goats on His left.

Compare that Sistine fresco with eastern icons of the Last Judgment, such as one by Victor Vasnyetsov that pictures Christ on the Judgment Seat quite differently, holding the emblem of the Life Giving Cross in one hand and the Gospel

Book in the other (usually open to the famous "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest"), the Righteous Judge, but certainly not an Angry God.



The Last Judgment by Victor Vasnyetsov

In many churches in Russia an icon or a fresco of the Last Judgment is strategically placed at the back of the church so that believers leaving the church are reminded of Christ's upcoming Second Coming as they walk out into the world to practice Christianity face to face with their neighbors.

The difference between west and east is not more stark than comparing the words of the Orthodox vespers for Meatfare: "when Thou sittest on Thy throne O Merciful Judge and revealest Thy dread glory...... with my whole heart I cried to the all-compassionate God" with the words of Jonathan Edwards: "There is nothing that keeps the wicked men at any one moment out of hell but the mere pleasure of God."

Brothers and Sisters, the difference is highlighted by how one answers question: For what does the Church exist? When posed with that question recently, our Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev, whom many of us were so blessed to meet in person

last year, gave this answer: "To save people, to save them from sin, the devil, and all that is associated

in our lives with evil, vice, and what as we say leads to the destruction of the human soul." That's it! That is the task of the Orthodox Church: to save each one of us individually from being told "Depart from Me." Fr. Alexander Schmemann hits the nail right on the head when writing on the theme of the Sunday of the Last Judgment: the theme is not fear of an Angry God, but love, "concrete and personal love for any human person that God makes us encounter in our lives." He is so right when he says that in modern America Christians tend to "identify Christian love with political, economical, and social concerns." With love for "mankind" rather than love for the very man who is standing right there in front of you. The latter, that's the kind of love that God has—a love for each one of us, created in his image and likeness, for each of us AS INDIVIDUALS. One by one. Our jobs on earth, and especially during this fast approaching Great Lent, is to fill the sinful world with this kind of personal love and by doing so become more like God, get closer to God, just as we are all called..... to be saintly. That's the same love exhibited by the compassionate Judge, the just Judge, the merciful Judge in the icon of Christ seated on the Judgment Seat holding the Cross and the Gospel. The Judge with love for each individual person is the Head of our Church, the Head of the Church Who came to save us, to fulfill the mission of His Church to save each one of us. Who yearns that we INHERENT the Kingdom for which we were made. Otherwise, what is referred to as a church is a mere social agency, devoted to the abstract and undefined task of caring for "humanity" rather than helping each one of us to keep from being goats.



HOLY ASSUMPTION ORTHODOX CHURCH 110 East Main Street - Marblehead, Ohio 43440 (phone) 419-798-4591



			MARCH 2025			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27	Feb 28	1
Meatfare						
9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy followed by Pre Lent Potluck			6:00pm Choir rehearsal			4:00pm Great Vespers
	Fast: dairy, fish, wine, & oil	Fast: dairy, fish, wine, & oil	Fast: dairy, fish, wine, & oil	Fast: dairy, fish, wine, & oil	Fast: dairy, fish, wine, & oil	Fast: dairy, fish, wine, & oil
2 Cheesefare/Forgiveness	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy followed by						
Forgiveness Vespers and Prelenten Meatless Potluck/fellowship	6:00pm The Great Canon of St. Andrew	6:00pm The Great Canon of St. Andrew	6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy followed by Lenten Soup meal and fellowship	6:00pm The Great Canon of St. Andrew	6:00pm Akathist followed by Lenten Book Club/Reflections	4:00pm Great Vespers
Fast: dairy, fish, wine, & oil	Fast	Fast	Fast	Fast	Fast	Fast: wine & oil
9 Sunday of Orthodoxy	10	11	12	13	14	15 Memorial Saturday
9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy followed by Procession with Holy Icons		6:00pm Choir	6:00pm		6:00pm Akathist	9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy
followed by Lenten coffee hour/fellowship	Fast	rehearsal	Presanctified Liturgy followed by Lenten Soup meal and fellowship	Fast	followed by Lenten Book Club/Reflections	4:00pm Great Vespers
Fast: wine & oil			Fast		i dot	Fast: wine & oil
16 St. Gregory Palamas	17	18	19	20	21	22 Memorial Saturday
9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy followed by Lenten coffee hour/fellowship		6:00pm Choir rehearsal	6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy followed by Lenten Soup meal		6:00pm Akathist followed by Lenten Book Club/Reflections	9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy 4:00pm Great Vespers
Fast: wine & oil	Fast	Fast	and fellowship Fast	Fast	Fast	Fast: wine & oil
23 Veneration of the Cross	24	25 ANNUNCIATION	26	27	28	29 Memorial Saturday
9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy followed by Lenten coffee hour/fellowship		9:10 Hours 9:30 Divine Liturgy for the Feast	6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy		6:00pm Akathist followed by Lenten Book	9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy 4:00pm Great
Fast: wine & oil	6:00pm Vespers Fast	6:00pm Choir rehearsal	followed by Lenten Soup meal and fellowship	Fast	Club/Reflections Fast	Vespers Fast: wine & oil
		Fast: fish, wine, & oil	Fast			
30	31	Apr 1	Apr 2	Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5
St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)		r.pr	T.P. Z	The second	Ch 4	- Pro-
9:10 Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy followed by Lenten coffee hour/fellowship		6:00pm Choir rehearsal	6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy followed by		6:00pm Akathist followed by Lenten Book Club/Reflections	4:00pm Great Vespers Fast: wine & oil
Fast: wine & oil	Fast	Fast	Lenten Soup meal and fellowship Fast	Fast	Fast	