



Sunday, September 15, 2019
Gospel: St. Matthew 21:33-42

Tone 4
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

13th Sunday after Pentecost
Greatmartyr Nicetas (Nikita) the Goth
Sunday after Elevation

SEPTEMBER Bulletin Sponsor: Fr. Andrew
In memory of His Grace, Bishop John Martin

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, September 15
 9:05 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy /
 Mem'l Sunday / Social / 125th Ann.
 Committee Meeting

Monday, September 16
 6:30 pm: Orthodoxy 101 Class

Saturday, September 21
 Deanery Parish, Warren, OH Russian Festival
 NO VESPERS HERE

Sunday, September 22
 9:05 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy /
 Social / Choir Rehearsal

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

September 8: Serviceman Brandan &
 Michael from the Army killed in
 Afghanistan / Shooting victims from
 the mall in El Paso, TX / Mass
 shooting victims from Dayton, OH

September 15: Serviceman killed in Iraq
September 22: Archpriest John Matusiak /
 Thomas Hutnyan

September 29: IL State Trooper Nicholas /
 Damien Bailey

October 6: His Eminence Archbishop Nikon /
 Shooting victims from Odessa TX

**SEPTEMBER SPECIAL
 COLLECTION**

Support our Seminarians Month (SOS)

**DANBURY FOOD PANTRY -
 SEPTEMBER**

Suggested donation of **canned fruit** (and other
 non-perishable goods) will be collected through
 September 15.

September donations will be delivered to the food
 pantry Thursday, September 19.

Thank You & God Bless.

**CANDLE / BULLETIN SPONSORS
 FOR SEPTEMBER**

Bulletin (\$50): Fr. Andrew: in memory of his
 Grace Bishop John

Chandelier (\$50): Tina: in memory of her
 brother Peter Rindfleisch (9-19-06)

Altar Candles (\$50): Joe & Valerie: In memory
 of Rose Haburt & Dorothy Czuha

Candles on the tomb (\$25): Layne in memory of
 her sister Desiree on her b-day

Eternal Light & Icon Screen (\$25): Joe &
 Valerie in memory of Violet Bargdill &
 LaVerne Schutt

**CANDLE / BULLETIN SPONSORS
 FOR OCTOBER**

Bulletin (\$50) OPEN

Chandelier: (\$50) OPEN

Altar Candles: (\$50) OPEN

Candles on the tomb: (\$25) OPEN

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (\$25) Jean H:
 memory of her mother, Helen Pipenur

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

Parish Council President: Matthew Adamcio

Fr. Andrew Bartek, Rector



110 E Main Street, Marblehead, OH 43440
www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org

Rectory 419-798-4591 / Cell 570-212-8747
padrebartek@gmail.com

ATTENDANCE - SEPTEMBER

Sunday September 1: 33 Total (22 members; 2 non-member reg.; 3 children; 6 guests; 24 Communicants; 13 attended Vespers

Sunday, September 8: 34 Total (22 members; 1 non-reg; 3 children; 8 guests; 28 communicants; 27 attended Vespers

MONTHLY TITHING ONLY

Goal Pledged per month: \$4,100

Sunday, September 1: \$790

Sunday, September 8: \$869

OTHER WEEKLY INCOME

Sunday, September 1: \$27 candles; \$55 Vigils; \$45 Special Collection (SOS Month).

Sunday, September 8: \$27 Candles; \$120 Vigils; \$110 Special Collection for August; \$260 Special Collection (SOS Month); \$110 Cemetery; \$225 into Building Fund.

VIGILS-SEPTEMBER 8

Basil Glovinsky (1) Birthday blessings to Julia

Susan Guzy (4) Special intentions

Laura Kovach (4) Safe travels for family; Health of Maddie, Joe, Joe, Mark, Lisa, Dana, Julia, Steve; Special intentions; Special intentions

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Jim Mazur(2) Health of family and friends

Darlene, Nick and Gabe Mazurik (2) Special intentions

Twarek (7) Safe travel for Bishop Paul and all servers; Health and recovery of Steve Turinsky; Birthday blessing to Julia; Birthday blessings to Zach (9/8); Birthday blessings to Chris and Brandon (9/7); Health of Liz, Christine, MaryAnn and Bob, Joe, Sonya, Julia, Diane, Stella, Ron, John, Becky, Jake, Helen; Special intentions

Bishop Paul's Travel Schedule

Christ the Savior Church, Chicago, IL, September 13th to 15th

- *Feast of the Exaltation*

St. Nicholas Church Joliet, IL, September 21st to 22nd

Holy Resurrection Church, Fargo, ND, September 28th to September 30th

- *10th Anniversary of Mission, church to be elevated to parish status*

September

	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Social</u>
1	Tina R.	Wayne	Open
8	Open	Tim	POT-LUCK
15	Laura K	Joe S	Open
22	Joe & Valerie S	Ron	Open
29	Sandy Martin	Natalie	Open

PRAY FOR OUR CATECHUMENS

Tim Heffernan
Luke Welch
Tristen Welch

Rachael Adamcio
Lydia Welch

Possible Catechumans:

Loreen Welch

Cheyenne Welch

May God & the Holy Spirit guide them in their journey in the Orthodox Church and the Orthodox way of Life.

IT'S OFFICIAL

Last weekend during his visit, His Grace Bishop Paul officially installed Fr. Andrew as Rector of Holy Assumption.

Congratulations Fr. Andrew!

PRAYER LIST Updated 9-10

Clergy:

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius
His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman
John Duranko (*Father's home pastor*)
James Gleason (*Father's Spiritual Father*)
Moses Barry
Joseph Gibson
Emilian Hutnyan
Josef Von Klarr
Vladimir Lecko
Christopher Phillips
Peter Tutko
Deacon Paul Mitchell
Deacon Mark Sauskojus
Sub-deacon Wylie Meath

Matushkii:

Pani Patricia Duranko
Virginia Lecko
Sonya Tutko
Victoria Kopistiansky

Parishioners / & their Family:

John Beadle (*Elcishko*)
MaryAnn Cook (*Cousin to Twarek's*)
John Richard Elchisco
Ruthe Flewelling
Debbie Garnek (*Roddie's sister*)
Michael Glovinsky (*Basil's nephew*)
Basil Glovinsky
Ernest Gresh (*Basil's nephew*)
Shirley Gresh (*Wife of Ernest*)
Aldin Griffith (*Soski*)
Julia Guzy
Joseph Habegger (*Laura brother-in-law*)
Alice Jackson (*Mazurik*)
Michael Kouznetsov (*Mary Hiser's son*)
Kristen (*Cassell's daughter*)
David LaValle (*Fr.'s cousin*)
Eileen Libb (*Royhab*)
Helen Lis
Walter Litzie (*Fr.'s cousin*)
Maria (*Terrie's mom*)
Greg Mazur
Jim Mazur
Judy Mazurik (*Paul Mazurik's*)
Baby Stella Miller
Katelyn Pipenur (*Niece of Jean*)

Helen Jean Rofkar (*Elchisco*)
Joe Rose
Margaret Rose
Steven Schirtzinger (*Soski*)
Christy Schutt (*Joe's sister*)
Peter Truta (*Jean H's cousin*)
Diane Tryon
Greg Tryon
Christine Twarek
Valentin (*Cassell*)
Bob Whitham (*Fr's cousin*)
Katie and her newborn Bodhi
(*Cassell's daughter-in-law*)

Other Requests:

Alexia
George Bicheler
Dick Biro (*Natalie's friend*)
Anna Burch (*Wayne's friend*)
Mary Ann Cook (*Twarek*)
Bob Cook (*Twarek*)
Danielle (*Cassell's friend*)
Ben Franklin (*Laura friend*)
Theodore Geletka
(*St. Michael Broadview Heights'*
choir director)
Brad George (*Christi's friend*)
Donald Gresh (*Basil*)
Elliot Joy (*Police chief's son*)
Tommy Leonchik (*Fr's friend*)
Jake Lipstraw (*Twarek*)
Anna Maiani (*Friend of Wayne*)
Pauline Meath (*Fr's*)
Charlie Nowak (*Avery's*)
Debbie Pribanic (*Golob*)
Beth Reinhard (*Diane friend*)
Elvis Reyes (*Fr's friend*)
Sandy Scafaria (*friend of Jean*)
Matthew Sterling (*Tyron*)
Janice Timko
Becky Yatsko (*Twarek*)
Rachel (*Darlene M.*)
Bonnie (*Cassell*)
Kim (*Cassell*)
Sharon (*Cassell*)
Susan (*Cassell*)
Dominic (*Cassell*)
Allison Spoerl (*Cassell*)

Mat. Carley & her unborn
baby (*Cathedral in Chicago*)
Elizabeth McDonald & her
unborn Baby (*Fr's friend*)

Military:

Craig Cassell
Nathan Brown

Captives:

Metropolitan Paul
(*Orthodox Archdiocese of
Aleppo*)
Archbishop John
(*Syriac Archdiocese of
Aleppo*)
The UN & IOCC humanitar-
ian aid workers in & around
Syria; Those suffering perse-
cution in Iraq, Syria, Israel,
Egypt, Ukraine and through-
out the world

*NOTE: Please let Fr. Andrew
know when someone needs to
go on or come off the list.*

For Your Prayers

Julia Guzy (96 yrs old)
1601 Church Rd
Marblehead, OH 43440

Please remember her & Susan
(her daughter) in your prayers.
Send a card of greeting.

Locum Tenens announced for the Diocese of New England and the Albanian Archdiocese

On Tuesday evening, September 3, the [Holy Synod of Bishops](#) of the Orthodox Church met via teleconference in Special Session under the presidency of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon. At this meeting, the Holy Synod declared vacant the sees of the Diocese of New England and the Albanian Archdiocese following the death of [His Eminence, Archbishop Nikon](#).

At this same meeting, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon informed the members of the Holy Synod that he would be the *locum tenens* for these two dioceses.

St. Vladimir's Seminary launches search for new librarian

[St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary](#) [SVOTS] has announced a [job opening for a full-time librarian](#) for the Seminary's [Father Georges Florovsky Library](#).

The position opened September 1 following the [retirement of longtime Seminary Librarian Eleana Silk](#). Silk had worked for SVOTS since 1985.

The new librarian will take charge of the Florovsky Library and be responsible for acquiring, organizing, managing, and distributing library resources and ensuring that the library meets the needs of all its patrons.

To fill this important position, the Seminary has launched a search for qualified candidates who have backgrounds in both library science and theology/religious studies. To read more about the job requirements and apply, [visit the Seminary's website](#).

About The Father Georges Florovsky Library

The [Father Georges Florovsky Library](#) at St. Vladimir's Seminary is considered one of the richest resources available in North America for research in Eastern Christianity, and is particularly strong in the areas of Orthodox Christian church history, theology, philosophy, and culture. The Library currently holds approximately 200,000 volumes and receives over 330 periodicals. The holdings have been immensely enriched by the donation of the following private collections, among others: [Nicholas Arseniev](#),

Fr. Georges Florovsky, John Kolchin, Metropolitan Makary, Fr. John Meyendorff, Nicholas Ozerov, Anthony Repella, and Fr. Alexander Schmemmann. In addition to this vast resource of physical materials, patrons of the Library also enjoy access to the American Theological Library Association Serials (ATLAS) Database and collections of other libraries in the New York Area Theological Libraries Association (NYATLA), of which St. Vladimir's Seminary was a founding member.

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Commemorated on [September 14](#)

The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: The pagan Roman emperors tried to completely eradicate from human memory the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and was resurrected for mankind. The Emperor Hadrian (117-138) gave orders to cover over the ground of Golgotha and the Sepulchre of the Lord, and to build a temple of the pagan goddess Venus and a statue of Jupiter.

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

In 313 he had issued the Edict of Milan, by which the Christian religion was legalized and the persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the empire were stopped. The ruler Licinius, although he had signed the Edict of Milan to oblige Constantine, still fanatically continued the persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the 313 Edict of Milan extend also to the Eastern part of the empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, having gained victory over his enemies in three wars with God's assistance, had seen in the heavens the Sign of the Cross, and written beneath: "By this you shall conquer." **Con't Pg 6**

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARY	BIRTHDAY	NAMESDAY
3- Frank & Crystal Batura 11- David & Roddie Mazurik 11- Wayne & Heidi Golob 13- Sam & Angie Dardovski 13- Fr. Peter Zarynow (priestly anny.) 13- Tom & Jean Hileman 21- Vitaly & Karen Muzyka 24- Mike & Diane Tryon 9-28-1990: Retired Bishop Lazar of Ottawa	1-Denny Bird 2- Julia Guzy 5-Chico Elcisko 11- Fr. John Beskid 18- Fr. David Lis 19- Cooper Kowal 20- Fr. Matthew Moriak 20- Charisse Hileman 23- Rita Mazur 25- Nikki Twarek 25- Noah Adamcio 30- Jaxson Monschein	9-9: Retired Metropolitan Theodosius 9-30: Archbishop Michael of NY & NJ

If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.

SEPTEMBER REPOSED LIST

2- David Douglas (2015) 4- John Mataleska (1986) 4- Archpriest John Grandziuk (1947) Former Pastor 5- Archpriest Michael Dziama (1944) Former Pastor 6- Anna Dahulich (2017) 14- Archpriest George Breyan (2009) Former Pastor 14- Mary Kamiotis (2017)	5- Peter Rindfleisch (2006) 16- John George Mazurik (1997) 18- Bernie Labouda (2018) 20- Nora Bird (2017) 21- Joseph Mazur (2002) 27- Michael Ittescu (1968) 27- Alison Pickney (2017)	27- Karen Milano (2017) 28- William Felenchak (1977) 30- Bishop John Martin (1984) William Rose (1980) Joseph L. Mazurik (1944) Anna Mazur (1945) Anna Danchisen (1945)
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1 Corinthians 16:13-24 (*Epistle*)

Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love. I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The salutation with my own hand – Paul’s. If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Exaltation Con't

Ardently desiring to find the Cross on 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 Macarius, Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Although the holy empress Helen was already in her declining years, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. The empress gave orders to destroy the pagan temple and the statues in Jerusalem. Searching for the Life-Creating Cross, she made inquiry of Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful.

Finally, they directed her to a certain elderly Hebrew by the name of Jude who stated that the Cross was buried where the temple of Venus stood. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Tomb of the Lord was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discern on which of the three crosses the Savior was crucified, Patriarch Macarius alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead one, he came to life. Having beheld the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-Creating Cross was found.

Christians came in a huge throng to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching Saint Macarius to elevate the Cross, so that even those far off might reverently contemplate it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders raised up the Holy Cross, and the people, saying "Lord have mercy," reverently prostrated before the Venerable Wood. This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-Creating Cross another miracle took place: a grievously sick woman, beneath the shadow of the Holy Cross, was healed instantly. The elder Jude and other Jews there believed in Christ and accepted Holy Baptism. Jude received the name Cyriacus and afterwards was consecrated Bishop of Jerusalem. During the reign of Julian the Apostate (361-363)

he accepted a martyr's death for Christ (see October 28).

The holy empress 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 death.

Saint Helen took part of the Life-Creating Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. The holy emperor Constantine gave orders to build at Jerusalem a majestic and spacious church in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-Giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The temple was constructed in about ten years. Saint Helen did not survive until the dedication of the temple, she died 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 Venerable and Life-Creating 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 Phocas (602-610) the Persian emperor Khozroes II in a war against the Greeks defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem and captured both the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord and the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633).

The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years and only under the emperor Heraclius (610-641), who with the help of God defeated Khozroes and concluded peace with his successor and son Syroes, was the Cross of the Lord returned to the Christians.

With great solemnity the Life-creating Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Heraclius in imperial crown and royal purple carried the Cross of Christ into the temple of the Resurrection. With the emperor went Patriarch Zacharios. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the emperor suddenly stopped and was not able to proceed farther. The holy Patriarch explained to the emperor that an angel of the Lord was blocking his way. The emperor was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world from sin had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then Heraclius donned plain garb, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church. **Con't Pg 7**

Exaltation Con't

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

Matthew 21:33-42 (Gospel)

Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?" They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

HEARTBEAT FUNDRAISING EVENT (DINNER, DANCE, DO- NATE)

WHEN: Saturday, September 28

TIME: 6:00pm-9:30pm

WHERE: Port Clinton Elks Lodge

COST: \$40 per person (419-734-9359)

Join us for a night of food and fun. Special guest: Actress, Sarah Hernandez from the movie "Unplanned"

Featuring: Classic Trendz Entertainment

The Two Calendars Impacting Family Life

There are two calendars that many Orthodox Christians observe during the year: the public school calendar and the liturgical calendar. The attention given to these two has a significant impact on how well-connected kids are to their local church and their experience of parish life.

If children are involved in several sports activities or musical programs at school, chances are they are tied up with practices, recitals, actual sporting events, or weekend band competitions. Parents become a taxi cab service during the week ushering their children to and from these events. That means there is not a lot of time left for getting involved in anything church related, whether that be a service or a youth activity. What complicates things even more is that people no longer seem to live close the parish they attend. It is not unusual for some people to have a 45 minute to a one-hour drive to get to their church. I had a priest recently tell me that whenever he tries to plan a time for kids to get together for a particular event, it is a real challenge getting a commitment from families to bring their children.

So why is this so? It seems children find these school activities fulfilling and enjoy participating in them. Secondly, if they don't show up for practice, they face the possibility they won't be able to play in a game or participate in a school play or music program. I think there is also a philosophy many believe that by getting involved in school activities, it keeps kids busy and out of trouble. All of the above are powerful motivators for participating in school related activities.

This active observance of the school calendar does negatively impact a family's participation in the liturgical calendar of the church. It is a big reason why for many, church life is a Sunday only experience. This leaves little time for youth to connect with their parish and their fellow friends.

How do we address this issue if it is a concern for families? It is easy for me to tell parents they just need to say "no" to some of the school activities, so that they can go to church for a planned event like a Festal or Lenten service or youth retreat. I am sure many priests have told parents the same thing. I don't know if this approach has worked all that much. If families do choose to cut down on some of the school related activity, what do we have to offer as the Church that will encourage children to make a closer connection? **Con't Pg 8**

Two Calendars con't

I will continue this theme next week.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you,
The unworthy +Paul

Greatmartyr Nicetas the Goth **Commemorated on [September 15](#)**

The Holy Great Martyr Nicetas was a Goth (a Germanic tribe). He was born and lived on the banks of the Danube River, and suffered for Christ in the year 372. The Christian Faith was then already widely spread throughout the territory of the Goths. Saint Nicetas believed in Christ and accepted Baptism from the Gothic bishop Theophilus, a participant in the First Ecumenical Council. Pagan Goths began to oppose the spread of Christianity, which resulted in internecine strife.

After the victory of Fritigern, heading a Christian army and inflicting defeat on the pagan Athanaric, the Christian Faith began to spread increasingly among the Goths. The Arian bishop Ulfilas, the successor to Bishop Theophilus, created a Gothic alphabet and translated into the Gothic language many priestly books. Saint Nicetas worked intensely among his fellow Goths at spreading Christianity. By his personal example and inspired words he brought many pagans to the Christian Faith.

However, after his defeat Athanaric again contrived to gather his own forces, return to his own country and regain his former power. Since he remained a pagan, he continued to hate Christians and persecute them.

Saint Nicetas endured many tortures, and died after being thrown into a fire. His body remained unharmed by the fire and was illumined by a miraculous light. By night, a friend of the martyr, a Christian named Marianus, retrieved the body of Saint Nicetas, and buried it in Cilicia. Afterwards, it was transferred to Constantinople. Part of the relics of the Great Martyr Nicetas were later transferred to the monastery of Vysokie Dechani in Serbia. Saint Nicetas received an unfading crown of glory from Christ in the year 372. We pray to Saint Nicetas for the preservation of children from birth defects.

Martyrs Theodotus, Asclepiodotus, and Maximus, of Adrianopolis

Commemorated on [September 15](#)

The Holy Martyr Theodotus suffered with Saints Maximus and Asklepiodote, at the beginning of the fourth century under the emperor Maximian Galerius (305-311). Eminent citizens of the city of Marcianopolis, Maximus, and Asklepiodote led a devout Christian life. By their example they brought many to faith in Christ and to holy Baptism.

During the persecution Tiris, the governor of Thrace, went around the city subject to him and persecuted those believing in Christ. He summoned Maximus and Asklepiodote before him and demanded they abandon the Christian Faith. When the martyrs refused, he ordered that they be beaten.

Then a certain pious man named Theodotus, began to reproach the governor for his inhumanity and cruelty. They seized him also, and hanging him on a tree, they tortured him with iron hooks. After this, they threw the three martyrs into prison. Tiris traveled for two weeks more and took the holy martyrs along with him.

In the city of Adrianopolis he put them to still greater tortures, commanding that their bodies be scorched with white-hot plates. In the midst of their suffering they heard a Voice from Heaven encouraging them to persevere. After several days of torture they threw the martyrs to be eaten by wild beasts in the circus, but instead the she-bear released upon Saints Maximus and Theodotus began to cuddle up to them.

Saint Asklepiodote was tied to a bull, but she seemed to be rooted to the spot, and did not budge. Tiris resumed the journey and stopped in the village of Saltis before reaching the city of Philippopolis. Again he urged the martyrs to renounce Christ. When they refused, he ordered them to be beheaded. God's wrath overtook him when a bolt of lightning struck him as he sat upon the judgment seat.