

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

Parish Council President: Matthew Adamcio

V. Rev. Archpriest Andrew Bartek, Rector



Sunday, November 22, 2020

Tone 7

Gospel: St. Luke 12:16-21

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

24th Sunday after Pentecost / Afterfeast of the Entry Into the Temple

Apostles of the Seventy Philemon and Archippus, Martyr Apphia, wife of Philemon and Equal-to-the-Apostles, and Onesimus, disciple of St. Paul

NOVEMBER Bulletin Sponsor:

In Memory of Fr. Andrew's mother, Dorothy Bartek

From Diane Tyron for a Birthday Memory of her Aunt Marian & Uncle Norman

Liturgical & Events Schedule

TWO WEEK BULLETIN

Sunday, November 22

9:05 am: Hours / Divine Liturgy / Memorial
Sunday / Social

Friday, November 27

9:15 am: 40th Day Liturgy for His Beatitude Met.
Theodosius

Saturday, November 28

4:00 pm: Great Vespers

Sunday, November 29

9:05 am: Hours & Liturgy / Social

Monday, November, 30

9:00 am-5:30 pm: Diocesan Council Retreat online

Tuesday, December, 1

9:00 am-8:00 pm: Diocesan Council retreat online

Wednesday, December 2

5:00 pm: Diocesan Council Meeting

Thursday, December 3

7:00 pm: Online seminar for clergy

Saturday, December 5

4:00 pm: Great Vespers for St. Nicholas

Sunday, December 6

9:05 am: Hours / Divine Liturgy / Social

(NOTE): You must let Fr. Andrew know if you want to attend any service or the social. Also, please arrive 15 min prior to any service

UPDATE ON INCOME & EXPENSES

OCTOBER:

Income	\$7,548
Expenses	\$10,355
Total	(\$2,807)
Year to Date	(\$10,300)

LITURGICAL ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER

Saturday, October 31: 7 attended Vespers

Sunday, November 1: 17 members; 11 Communicants

Saturday, November 7: 8 attended Vespers

Sunday, November 8: 17 members; 7 Communicants

Wednesday, November 11: 10 attended Liturgy

Saturday, November 14: 8 attended Vespers

Sunday, November 15: 12 members; 9 Communicants

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATION

If we are going to have a Christmas tree this year, it needs to be up by Vespers on December 5, the Feast of St Nicholas.

Apostle Andrew, the Holy and All-Praised First-Called

Commemorated on [November 30](#)

The Holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called was the first of the Apostles to follow Christ, and he later brought his own brother, the holy Apostle Peter, to Christ (John 1:35-42). *Con't Pg 11*

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

Rectory 419-798-4591 / Cell 570-212-8747
info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org

**MONTHLY TITHING ONLY
NOVEMBER**

Goal Pledged per month: \$4,600

Sunday, November 1: \$655
Sunday, November 8: \$1,875
Sunday, November 15: \$710

OTHER INCOME FROM NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 1: \$20 Candles; \$50 Chandelier; \$85 Vigils; \$25 Eternal Light & Icon Screen; \$100 Special Collection; \$50 Bulletin; \$100 No Festival; \$50 Tithely donation

Sunday, November 8: \$45 Candles; \$50 Altar candles; \$95 Vigils; \$100 Special Collection; \$25 special Collection October; \$150 Holiday B.; \$25 Restoration; \$25 Cemetery; \$100 Food Pantry; \$35 Bookstore

Sunday, November 15: \$20 Candles; \$75 Vigils; \$100 Special Collection; \$60 Christmas flowers; \$15 Bookstore

NOVEMBER CANDLE & BULLETIN SPONSORS

Bulletin: (\$50) From Father Andrew in memory of his mother, Dorothy

Chandelier: (\$50) From Father Andrew in memory of my grandmother, Mary Billy and all my relatives reposed in the month of November.

Altar Candles: (\$50) From Basil in memory of his sister Marion

Candles on the Tomb: \$25 open

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (25) Tammy in memory of her dad William

TENTATIVE READERS

Saturday, Nov. 21: Tim
Sunday, Nov. 22: Terri
Sunday, Nov. 29: Laura

VIGILS 11-15

Basil Glovinsky (2) In memory of Father Andrew's mother, Dorothy; Health of Jim Mazur

Tim Glovinsky (1) In birthday memory of Uncle Norm

Jennifer Heffernan (1) God's blessing to Cole as he begins his military career. God, place your hands on Cole's shoulder, guide and protect him.

Laura Kovach (4) For health of Margi, Joe, Betty, Betty, Julia, Andrea, Mark, Dana, Bodhi, Cheryl, Wayne, Kathi, Don, and Gary; Birthday blessings to Madelyn and Jacob; Safe travel for Andrew; God's blessings and peace to our country and the world

Sandy Martin (2) For God's guidance and protection of Cole during his time in the military; Special intentions

Jim Mazur(2) In memory family and friends; For health of family and friends

Joe & Valerie Schutt (1) In memory of Charles DeGrove, Memory Eternal

Twarek (6) God's blessing to Cole on his military journey; Health and recovery of Jim Mazur; Health of Jewel, Natalie and Morgan and their unborn babies; Health and recovery of Sarah, Cheryl and Laura; Health Wayne, Tom, Ron, Mary, JC, Loren, Joe, Sonya, David, Julia, Tom, Jason, Margi & Joe, Betty, MaryAnn & Bob, Judy, Chuck, Bohdi, Liz, Diane,

DECEMBER CANDLE & BULLETIN SPONSORS

Bulletin: (\$50) From Father Andrew in memory of my family members deceased in the month of December

Chandelier: (\$50) Open

Altar Candles: (\$50) Open

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) From Peter & Judy Hritsko in memory of Peter's great grandparents Michael & Mary Hritsko

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (25) Open

PRAYER LIST Updated 11-18

Clergy:

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman
His Eminence Archbishop David from
Alaska
John Duranko (Father's home pastor)
James Gleason (Father's Spiritual Father)
Moses Barry
Joseph Gibson
Gregory Grivna
Emilian Hutnyan
Joseph Von Klarr
Vladimir Lecko
Myron Manzuk
Luke Mihaly
Andrew Nelko
Christopher Phillips
Peter Tutko
John Zabinko
Dc. Paul Gansle
Dc. Paul Mitchell
Sub-deacon Wylie Meath

Matushkii:

Pani Patricia Duranko
Virginia Lecko
Maura McCartney
Trudi Richter
Snezanna Ruzic
Sonya Tutko
Margaret Zabinko

Parishioners / & their Family:

John Beadle (Elcishko)
Mandy Braccini (Mazurik)
MaryAnn Cook (Cousin to Twarek's)
John Richard Elchisco
Ruthe Flewelling
Debbie Garnek (Roddie's sister)
Michael Glovinsky (Basil's nephew)
Heidi Golob
Shirley Gresh (Wife of Ernest)
Julia Guzy
Joseph Habegger (Laura brother-in-law)
Barb Heffernan
Charisse Hileman
Alice Jackson (Mazurik)
William Jappsen (Diane T.)
Kris Kollar (Fr.'s cousin)
Joe Kollar (Fr's cousin)
Debbie Kollar (Fr's cousin)
Betty Kovach
Kristen (Cassell's daughter)
Terri Lariccia (Fr's cousin)
David LaValle (Fr.'s cousin)

Helen Lis
Child Stephanos Loizos
Jim Mazur
Judy Mazurik (Paul Mazurik's)
Child Stella Miller
Tony Monastra
Katelyn Pipenur (Niece of Jean)
Earl Rindfleisch
Tina Rindfleisch
Helen Jean Rofkar (Elchisco)
Joe Rose
Sonya Rose
Ron Royhab
George Royhab
Maryann Royhab
Steven Schirtzinger (Soski)
Christy Schutt (Joe's sister)
Dacia Snider (Hileman)
Christi Soski
Peter Truta (Jean H's cousin)
Diane Tryon
Greg Tryon
Tom Twarek
Katie and her baby Bodhi
(Cassell's daughter-in-law)
Brittany And her newborn Lorelei
(Fr's cousin)

Other Requests:

Alexia
Kerry (Cassell)
Baby Emma (Cassell)
Baby Finn (Cassell)
Trisha (Daughter of Cassell)
Brendan (From Norwalk)
Delores Danchisen
Betty Dubbert (Kovach)
Marge Dziama
Mary Dziak (Twarek)
Matt Essex
Ben Franklin (Laura friend)
James Geisman (Twarek)
Theodore Geletka
(St. Michael Broadview
Heights' choir director)
Brad George (Christi's friend)
Donald Gresh (Basil)
Elliot Joy (Police chief's son)
Andrea Joy (Kovach)
Ann Marie Krynock (timko)
Melinda Kuzara (Archb. List)
Jake Lipstraw (Twarek)
Mark Ludvik (Guzy)
Mark Masica (Kovach)

Pauline Meath (Fr's friend)
Cole Miller (Cassell)
Karen Muzyka (Fr's friend)
Charlie Nowak (Avery's)
Beth Reinhard (Diane friend)
Chris Reinheimer (Bruno's)
Sandy Scafaria (Hileman)
Arby Shenesky (Pastor Bob's sister)
Matthew Sterling (Tyron)
Andrea Szabo (Sonya friend)
Janice Timko
Philip (Andy) Timko
George Timko
Cheryl Wieber (Twarek)
Chuck Wiedenhoft (Twarek)
Loren Welch
Rachel (Darlene M.)
Zoland Zile (fr's friend)

Military:

Alex, Nathan Brown, Craig Cassell,
Jake Ellithorpe, Jordan Fulton,
Alena Grabavoy, Cole Heffernan

Captives:

Metropolitan Paul
(Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo)
Archbishop John
(Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo)

The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid
workers in & around Syria; Those
suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria,
Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and through-
out the world

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For Your Prayers

Julia Guzy (97)
1601 Church Rd
Marblehead, OH 43440

Diane Tryon
109 Joslyn Street
Arcadia, OH 44804

Please remember our shut-ins,
especially now during this
National crisis.

Thank You for Your Support of Stewards of the OCA!

Thank you to all those who have responded to the recent appeal to support the continued growth of ministries in the Orthodox Church in America through the Stewards of the OCA!

We encourage everyone to view the outstanding and informative live conversations recently conducted showcasing the current work and development now underway which will support the life and growth of parishes and clergy.

[“Fulfilling Apostolic Work in the Parish”](#) with His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, Primate of the Orthodox Church in America

[“Expanding Ministries in the Parish”](#) with Archbishop Alexander Rentel, Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America

[“Building a New Adult Catechetical Program”](#) with Dr. Edith Humhrey, Biblical Scholar and Professor of New Testament

[“Ministries of Evangelization in our Parishes”](#) with Fr. Matthew Markewich, Orthodox Apologist and Parish Priest

We encourage you to [support the growth](#) of these ministries with your prayerful and generous support. Go to oca.org/stewards to give a monthly or one-time gift. Thank you and may God richly bless you!

His Eminence Archbishop Nathaniel Completes 40 Years of Hierarchical Ministry

Sunday, November 15, 2020, was the 40th anniversary of the episcopal ordination (consecration) of [His Eminence Archbishop Nathaniel \(Popp\)](#) of Detroit and the [Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America](#). It is indeed a rare, unique, and joyous occasion in the Church when a hierarch completes 40 years of archpastoral ministry. Many Years, Your Eminence! Intru Multi Ani, Înaltpreasfinția Voastră!

His Eminence Archbishop Nathaniel was raised by his Romanian-American parents, Joseph and Vera (Boytor) Popp, in Aurora, IL. Growing up in the Byzantine Catholic tradition and being educated in Rome, he joined the Orthodox Church in 1968. After serving as the parish priest at Holy Cross Church, Hermitage, PA in the 1970's, he was nominated to the Holy Episcopacy on September 20, 1980. His episcopal ordination (consecration) to the Holy Episcopacy took place at Saint George Cathedral, Southfield, MI on November 15, 1980. He was ordained to serve as the Auxiliary Bishop to Archbishop Valerian (Trifa) of Detroit and the Romanian Episcopate, and so he received the title of Bishop of Dearborn Heights.

In 1984, following the retirement of Archbishop Valerian, then-Bishop Nathaniel was enthroned as the ruling hierarch of the Romanian Episcopate. Since then, he has overseen the tremendous growth and expansion of the diocese with the establishment of dozens of new missions and parishes, as well as monastic communities for women and men, while carefully maintaining the Romanian Orthodox tradition and integrating many recent immigrants into North American society. At the same time, he has recognized the importance of a united Orthodox Christian witness in this land, and has remained at the forefront of the movement toward this end. On October 20, 1999, he was elevated to the dignity of Archbishop by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America.

While an in-person celebration is not able to take place due to the ongoing health restrictions, those wishing to congratulate His Eminence may send him mail at:

Archbishop Nathaniel (Popp)
Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America
PO Box 309
Grass Lake, MI 49240-0309
Many Years, Your Eminence! Intru Multi Ani,
Înaltpreasfinția Voastră!

TENTATIVE SINGING

Friday, Nov. 20:	Natalie & Susan
Saturday, Nov. 21:	Natalie & Laura
Sunday, Nov. 22:	Natalie & Fred
Friday, Nov. 27:	Natalie & ?
Sunday, Nov. 29:	Natalie & Susan

NOVEMBER Celebrations

Anniversary	Birthday	
11-1-2008: Retired Metropolitan Jonah (Consecration)	1- Fr John Zdinak	17- Roddie Mazurik
11-12-2008: Retired Metropolitan Jonah (Elected Primate)	7-Philip Sokolov	18- Angie Kukay
11-13-2012: The Most Blessed Tikhon (Elected as Primate)	11- Amanda Kovach	19- Fr. Andrew Groom
14- Fr. Matthew Moriak priestly ordination	16- Valerie Schutt	19- Kristen Cassell
11-15-1980: Archbishop Nathaniel of Detroit	16- Madelyn (Laura's granddaughter)	23- Cheyanne Welch
	17- Kim Sorrentino	23- Joe Samilenko
	17- Cole Heffernan	28- Darryl Whitham
		30- Kristen Basala

NAMESDAY

11-6: Bishop Paul of Chicago

11-25: Retired Bishop Lazar of Ottawa

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.

Eighth Anniversary of Election of Metropolitan Tikhon to Primatial Office

November, 13TH we celebrated the eighth anniversary of [the election](#) of [His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon](#) to be the Archbishop of Washington and Metropolitan of All America and Canada and the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America. The election was held during the [17th All American Council](#) held at Holy Trinity Church in Parma OH, gathering nearly 600 delegates from across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. May God grant His Beatitude good health as he continues to guide our church!



Heartbeat of Ottawa County offers compassionate support and active guidance to those experiencing family

challenges and/or unplanned pregnancy. You don't have to make uninformed decisions about your pregnancy.

Open House - Sunday, December 13

140 Buckeye Boulevard, Suite E; Port Clinton, OH

419-734-9359

NOVEMBER Reposed

1-Peter Felenchak (1974)	19- Fr. John Dolhy (2006)
2- Donald Sennich (1994)	19- Frances (Nancy B. mom) 2019
3- Marian Glovinsky (2001)	21- Ann S. Ratica (1991)
5- Margaret Pietropolo (2009)	21- Fr. Joseph Mihaly (1975)
6- Joseph Guzy (1974)	22- Joann Carender No year recorded
6- William Rentz (2018)	23- George Michael Elchisco (2016)
6- Michael Chemorov (2019)	23- Serge Mihaly (2019)
8- Ann G Stretchberry (2003)	26- Janet Elchisko (2018)
8- Anne Catherine Glovinsky (2004)	28- Anna Grabonsky (1972)
9- Ann Golob (No year recorded)	29-Alexander Mazur (2003)
10- Mary Billy (1934)	Michael Guzy (1927) No date provided
11- Dorothy Bartek (2005)	Mary Lou Hobson (2015) No date provided
11- Protodeacon Dennis Lucak (2018)	Mary Hritsko (1948)-
11- Matushka Helen Lucak (2018)	Anna Holodnak (1951)
18- Archpriest George Timko (2000) Former Pastor	John Danchisen (1951)
19- Evelyn Biecheler (2002)	

The Entry of the Most Holy Mother of God into the Temple

Commemorated on [November 21](#)

According to Holy Tradition, the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple took place in the following manner. The parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anna, praying for an end to their childlessness, vowed that if a child were born to them, they would dedicate it to the service of God.

When the Most Holy Virgin reached the age of three, the holy parents decided to fulfill their vow. They gathered together their relatives and acquaintances, and dressed the All-Pure Virgin in Her finest clothes. Singing sacred songs and with lighted candles in their hands, virgins escorted Her to the Temple (Ps. 44/45:14-15). There the High Priest and several priests met the handmaiden of God. In the Temple, fifteen high steps led to the sanctuary, which only the priests and High Priest could enter. (Because they recited a Psalm on each step, Psalms 119/120-133/134 are called "Psalms of Ascent.") The child Mary, so it seemed, could not make it up this stairway. But just as they placed Her on the first step, strengthened by the power of God, She quickly went up the remaining steps and ascended to the highest one. Then the High Priest, through inspiration from above, led the Most Holy Virgin into the Holy of Holies, where only the High Priest entered once a year to offer a purifying sacrifice of blood. Therefore, all those present in the Temple were astonished at this most unusual occurrence.

After entrusting their child to the Heavenly Father, Joachim and Anna returned home. The All-Holy Virgin remained in the quarters for virgins near the Temple. According to the testimony of Holy Scripture (Exodus 38; 1 Kings 1: 28; Luke 2: 37), and also the historian Josephus Flavius, there were many living quarters around the Temple, in which those who were dedicated to the service of God dwelt.

The earthly life of the Most Holy Theotokos from Her infancy until She was taken up to Heaven is shrouded in deep mystery. Her life at the Jerusalem Temple was also a secret. "If anyone were to ask me," said Saint Jerome, "how the Most Holy Virgin spent the time of Her youth, I would answer that that is known to God Himself and the Archangel

Gabriel, Her constant guardian."

But there are accounts in Church Tradition, that during the All-Pure Virgin's stay at the Temple, She grew up in a community of pious virgins, diligently read the Holy Scripture, occupied Herself with handicrafts, prayed constantly, and grew in love for God. From ancient times, the Church has celebrated the Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple. Indications that the Feast was observed in the first centuries of Christianity are found in the traditions of Palestinian Christians, which say that the holy Empress Helen (May 21) built a church in honor of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple.

Saint Gregory of Nyssa, in the fourth century, also mentions this Feast. In the eighth century Saints Germanus and Tarasius, Patriarchs of Constantinople, delivered sermons on the Feast of the Entry.

The Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple foretells God's blessing for the human race, the preaching of salvation, the promise of the coming of Christ.

DISCOURSE ON THE FEAST OF THE ENTRY OF OUR MOST PURE LADY THEOTOKOS INTO THE HOLY OF HOLIES by Saint Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

If a tree is known by its fruit, and a good tree bears good fruit (Mt. 7:17; Luke 6:44), then is not the Mother of Goodness Itself, She who bore the Eternal Beauty, incomparably more excellent than every good, whether in this world or the world above? Therefore, the coeternal and identical Image of goodness, Preeternal, transcending all being, He Who is the preexisting and good Word of the Father, moved by His unutterable love for mankind and compassion for us, put on our image, that He might reclaim for Himself our nature which had been dragged down to uttermost Hades, so as to renew this corrupted nature and raise it to the heights of Heaven. For this purpose, He had to assume a flesh that was both new and ours, that He might refashion us from out of ourselves. Now He finds a Handmaiden perfectly suited to these needs, the supplier of Her own unsullied nature, the Ever-Virgin now hymned by us, and Whose miraculous Entrance into the Temple, into the Holy of Holies, we now celebrate.

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Archbishop Paul's Travel Schedule:

St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Herman Church,
Minneapolis, MN

November 20th to 23rd

- *Elevation of Fr. Benjamin Tucci to Archpriest (Cathedral)*
- *Elevation of Fr. William Neumann to Archpriest (Cathedral)*
- *Elevation of Deacon Gregory Krutchek to Protodeacon (Cathedral)*
- *Elevation of Fr. Thaddeus Nielsen to Archpriest (St. Herman)*
- *Presentation of Gold Cross to Fr. Christopher Maciolek (St. Herman)*

BUILDING / RESTORATION FUND

Our 125th Anniversary is coming!

Fund Purpose: To collect funds to pay for the restoration, repair and beautification of the building and parish room. This will avoid using general funds which are earmarked for budgetary items.

Please consider contributing generously to the
Building/Restoration Fund.

OTTAWA COUNTY HOLIDAY BUREAU / NOVEMBER SPECIAL COLLECTION

Due to the pandemic, this year no clothes or food will be collected. The Bureau will be distributing gift cards. Because of this, only financial support is being requested. Please make checks payable to:
Ottawa County Holiday Bureau-Danbury Division

Mail to:

2259 E. Sand Rd, Port Clinton, OH 43452

Or you can make a donation through the Special Collection of the church & we will send a check in December. Thank You

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Help defray cost of Christmas Flowers & have your family remembered at the Christmas Liturgy during the Great Entrance. Cost \$15

Fr. Andrew: (4)

- For the Health of Holy Assumption & the parishioners
- For the Health of my family & friends
- In Memory of my Father & Mother George & Dorothy & all my family
- In Memory of His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

SEND HOMEMADE COOKIES TO U.S. MARINES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Use our code (Church basement bulletin board) to send donations to Cortney's Cookies or send via paypal.me/cravingcookies247 until November 30.

This is veteran owned & operated: James Wireman, CEO & Cortney Wireman, baker.

You can reach out to them at
cravincookies24.7@gmail.com.

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

Nov. 1: Pastor Kevin Brown / Theodore

Nov. 8: Tommy Leonchik / Officer Jacob from SC / Helen Beveridge

Nov. 15: Steve Turinsky / Charles Degrove

Nov. 29: Tom Wiseman / Police officer from TX / Police officers from SC / His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius

Dec. 6: Church Terror attack victims in France / Matushka Elizabeth Kachur; terror attack victims in Canada

Dec. 13: His Eminence, Metropolitan Maximos / Terror attack victims from Vienna

Dec. 27: 5 military killed in Egypt



Entry Con't

God predestined Her before the ages for the salvation and reclaiming of our kind. She was chosen, not just from the crowd, but from the ranks of the chosen of all ages, renowned for piety and understanding, and for their God-pleasing words and deeds.

In the beginning, there was one who rose up against us: the author of evil, the serpent, who dragged us into the abyss. Many reasons impelled him to rise up against us, and there are many ways by which he enslaved our nature: envy, rivalry, hatred, injustice, treachery, slyness, etc. In addition to all this, he also has within him the power of bringing death, which he himself engendered, being the first to fall away from true life.

The author of evil was jealous of Adam, when he saw him being led from earth to Heaven, from which he was justly cast down. Filled with envy, he pounced upon Adam with a terrible ferocity, and even wished to clothe him with the garb of death. Envy is not only the begetter of hatred, but also of murder, which this truly man-hating serpent brought about in us. For he wanted to be master over the earth-born for the ruin of that which was created in the image and likeness of God. Since he was not bold enough to make a face to face attack, he resorted to cunning and deceit. This truly terrible and malicious plotter pretended to be a friend and useful adviser by assuming the physical form of a serpent, and stealthily took their position. By his God-opposing advice, he instills in man his own death-bearing power, like a venomous poison.

If Adam had been sufficiently strong to keep the divine commandment, then he would have shown himself the vanquisher of his enemy, and withstood his deathly attack. But since he voluntarily gave in to sin, he was defeated and was made a sinner. Since he is the root of our race, he has produced us as death-bearing shoots. So, it was necessary for us, if he were to fight back against his defeat and to claim victory, to rid himself of the death-bearing venomous poison in his soul and body, and to absorb life, eternal and indestructible life.

It was necessary for us to have a new root for our race, a new Adam, not just one Who would be sinless and invincible, but one Who also would be able to forgive sins and set free from punishment those subject to it. And not only would He have life in Himself, but also the capacity to restore to life, so that He could grant to those who cleave to Him and are related to Him by race both life and the forgiveness of their sins, restoring to life not only those who came after Him, but also those who already had died before Him. Therefore, Saint Paul, that great trumpet of the Holy Spirit, exclaims, “the first man Adam was made a living soul, the last Adam was made a quickening spirit” (1 Cor. 15:45).

Except for God, there is no one who is without sin, or life-creating, or able to remit sin. Therefore, the new Adam must be not only Man, but also God. He is at the same time life, wisdom, truth, love, and mercy, and every other good thing, so that He might renew the old Adam and restore him to life through mercy, wisdom and righteousness. These are the opposites of the things which the author of evil used to bring about our aging and death.

As the slayer of mankind raised himself against us with envy and hatred, so the Source of life was lifted up [on the Cross] because of His immeasurable goodness and love for mankind. He intensely desired the salvation of His creature, i.e., that His creature would be restored by Himself. In contrast to this, the author of evil wanted to bring God’s creature to ruin, and thereby put mankind under his own power, and tyrannically to afflict us. And just as he achieved the conquest and the fall of mankind by means of injustice and cunning, by deceit and his trickery, so has the Liberator brought about the defeat of the author of evil, and the restoration of His own creature with truth, justice and wisdom.

It was a deed of perfect justice that our nature, which was voluntarily enslaved and struck down, should again enter the struggle for victory and cast off its voluntary enslavement. Therefore, God deigned to receive our nature from us, hypostatically uniting with it in a marvelous way. But it was impossible to unite that Most High Nature, Whose purity is incomprehensible for human reason, to a sinful nature before it had been purified. Therefore, for the conception and birth of the Bestower of purity, a perfectly spotless and Most Pure Virgin was required.

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