

Saint Patapios was born at Thebes into a pious Christian family. Reaching the age of maturity, he scorned the vanity of this world, and so he went into the Egyptian desert where he became known for his ascetic deeds. Though he wished to live in silence, people began coming to him for advice. To every tired pilgrim who visited his cell, he offered rest and hospitality, as well as spiritual instructions and profitable counsel for the salvation of one's soul. The Saint's reputation spread quickly, and every day many arrived at his cell in order to hear these beneficial instructions from his lips. Later, he went to Constantinople, where he had a cell by the city wall, near the Blachernae church. But even here, he soon became known. The infirm started to gather around Patapios, and because he had been granted the gift of healing, he helped all those in need.

Once a certain woman was afflicted by the terrible disease of cancer, and worms came forth from her breasts. Not only did she suffer a great deal of pain in her chest, but throughout her entire body as well. She was in constant pain, and it reached her heart, so that she was near death. The doctors could not help her, and she felt she was wasting her money without obtaining relief. Therefore, she came to Saint Patapios and fell at his feet, begging him to heal her. The worms were devouring her flesh even before she was in the grave, causing her such pain that she longed for death. The Saint answered, "If you have faith in the Lord, and have no doubt that you shall be healed, then let it be done according to your faith." Sighing from the depths of her soul, she said, "I believe, O Lord, that You know all things which are hidden and unknown, and that You are all-powerful. Therefore, have mercy on me and heal me." Then the Saint asked the woman to let him see the effects of her distress. When he saw the ravages of the disease, he was struck with awe, saying, "Your affliction is indeed great, and difficult to cure. Go in peace, for you shall not suffer anymore."

As soon as he said this, the woman was healed and went home rejoicing and glorifying God. She told of this miracle everywhere, and praised Saint Patapios. After a life adorned with virtue and miracles, Saint Patapios fell asleep in the Lord and was buried in the church of Saint John the Baptist.

## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

2220 Reeves Road NE

Warren, OH 44483

[www.stjohnswarren.org](http://www.stjohnswarren.org)

Friend of the Bridegroom: "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:30)



**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Venerable Patapius of Thebes**

Fr. Brian Crivella, Rector.....330-372-3895 / [BrianCrivella@gmail.com](mailto:BrianCrivella@gmail.com)

Dn. John Tutoki, Hall Coordinator ..... 330-720-3541

Nina, Prayer List Coordinator.....[treasurerstjohnsorthodoxchurch@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerstjohnsorthodoxchurch@gmail.com)

**Sunday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>** 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after PNTCST/Tone 7. Ven. Patapius of Thebes

9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by coffee hour

5:00 pm Great Vespers with Litya followed by Confessions

**Monday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup>** Conception of the Most Holy Theotokos

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

11:00 am - 3:00 pm Confessions

**Tuesday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>** Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugephus

4:00 pm -5:45 pm Confessions

6:00 pm Parish Council Meeting

**Wednesday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>** Ven. Daniel the Stylite of Constantinople

5:00 pm AA Meeting

**Friday, Dec 13<sup>th</sup>** Saint Herman of Alaska

3:00 pm - 5:45 pm Confessions

6:00 pm Akathist to Saint Herman followed by Catechuman Class

**Saturday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>** Martyrs Thyrsos, Leukios, and Kallinikos

5:00 pm Great Vespers Followed by Confessions

**Sunday, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>** 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after PNTCST/Tone 8. Sunday of the Forefathers

9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by coffee hour

**Attendance/Stewardship December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Attendance: 60 Adults and 10 children 70 Total

**Prayer Corner**

Fr. Dcn. John Tutoki Sbdcn Joseph (Clyde)  
Sbdcn George Kaschack Sarah Crivella  
Aiden Bowels Patty DiGiacobbe  
James Livermore Jr. David Campbell  
John Keaty Cassandra, Patrick, Elizabeth, Patrick  
Susan Wood Renee & Anna  
Benjamin Laura & Roy  
Greg, Clara, Jeanie Azouria  
Catherine Wood Soltis Family  
Kathy Soltis-Cyhan Dawn & Bradley Cyhan  
Walter Toles (Joe Yez's Neighbor) Nicky Cole  
The Faculty, Teachers, and Students of Holy Trinity Orthodox Academy  
The Suffering Christians in Ukraine, Russia, & the Middle East

**Newly Illumined:** Kelly, Carter, Emma, & Bennett Worley & Kayla, Alexander, & Cesar Ventura

**Newly Departed:** Archbishop Peter of the Mid American Diocese of ROCOR (11/8) & Anna Mae Stehnach (11/6) & also Gary Altamara (11/27) [Fr. Bri's Uncle]

**Catechumens:** Lucian & Lilianna Vasil, Kayla, Donald, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Robert, Timothy, Melissa, Ian, Christopher, & William Cunningham, Matthew Rose, Nicky Lewis, Alexander Mackey & Tristan Beil

**Birthdays:** Madelyn Henry (8<sup>th</sup>), Ean Keene & Stephanie Zimomra (10<sup>th</sup>), Mat. Peggy Tutoki (11<sup>th</sup>), Rocco Mediate (12<sup>th</sup>) & Michelle Thomas (13<sup>th</sup>)

**Anniversaries:** xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

**Candle Commemorations**

Theotokos For the Memory of Katherine Cuckovich  
Altar For the Memory of Anna Mae  
Christ For the Memory of Ralph Angle

**Announcements**

**Great Vespers with Litya rescheduled for Warren Civic Chorus's "Messiah"**

Due to popular request, Great Vespers with Litya has been moved to 5:00pm tonight so that we're done in time for those that would like to see "Messiah" at Blessed Sacrament down the road from us where some of our friends and parishioners will be performing at 6:30pm tonight.

**UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Parish Development Forum is planning the first ever Ugly Sweater Christmas Party for all parishioners and their families on Sunday December 29, following the Divine Liturgy, and annual Christmas Concert. All attendees are encouraged to wear their favorite classic, ugly, silly, traditional, dressy, or creative sweater to the party for a chance to win a prize in one of multiple Sweater categories. We'll be ordering chicken as a main entree, but will handle side dishes and desserts as a potluck - a sign up sheet will be available on the candle stand. Enjoy a game of Christmas/Nativity trivia, a Hot Cocoa Bar, and a holiday Photo Booth, Christmas music too! This is going to be a great event, so please plan to attend for some fun, food, and fellowship!

**PARISH PHOTO**

At the conclusion of the Choir Concert on Sunday December 29, we'll be taking an updated parish group photo at the front of the Church before heading to the party in the social hall. Please be sure to attend, and let your fellow parishioners know about the photo!

**Nativity Program**

The children will be performing a Nativity play for the parish on December 22 during coffee hour. They will be practicing during church school the next two Sundays (8th & 15th) with a final run through on Saturday, December 21 at 10:00 am. All of our children are welcome, but if any children would like a speaking part, please make an effort to attend these practices. If you have any questions please see Mary Neimi.

**Confessions**

During the fast, in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord, confessions are in order for all Orthodox Christians. Please note the added times that confessions are being heard and be sure to approach in a timely manner.

**Charity for the Month of December: Saint John's Monastery in Hiram**

St. John the Theologian Monastery is a small monastic community of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, located in northeastern Ohio. The Monastery supports itself through the sale of church goods to be found on this website, and seeks to live a quiet life of prayer and common labor for the sake of Christ and His Holy Church.

**Angel Gift List for Children Services**

Unwrapped presents should be returned to the church **today**. If you sponsored a child and didn't bring a gift, please let Fr. Brian know, ASAP.