

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy because it commemorates the restoration of the Holy Icons and the triumph of the Orthodox Faith against the terrible heresy of the Iconoclasts, i.e. those heretics who refused to honor the Holy Icons. For more than a hundred years the Church was disturbed by the evil doctrine of iconoclasm.

The first Emperor to persecute the Church was Leo the Isaurian, and the last was Theophilos, the spouse of Saint Theodora (February 11), who reigned after her husband's death and re-established Orthodoxy in the time of Patriarch Methodios (June 14). Empress Theodora proclaimed publicly that we do not kiss the Icons as a sign of worship, nor do we honor them as "gods," but as images of their prototypes.

In the year 843, on the first Sunday of the Fast, Saint Theodora and her son, Emperor Michael, venerated the Holy Icons together with the clergy and the people. Since that time this event has been commemorated every year, because it was definitively determined that we do not worship the Icons, but we honor and glorify all the Saints who are depicted on them. We worship only the Triune God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and no one else, neither a Saint, nor an Angel.

Originally, the Holy Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage.

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

2220 Reeves Road NE

Warren, OH 44483

www.stjohnswarren.org

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



Sunday, March 9th, 2025

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Fr. Brian Crivella, *Rector*.....330-372-3895 / BrianCrivella@gmail.com

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

Nina, *Prayer List Coordinator*.....treasurerstjohnsorthodoxchurch@gmail.com

Sunday, Mar 9th Sunday of Orthodoxy / Tone 4

9:30 am Divine Liturgy with the Procession of Icons & Reading of the Synodicon

5:00 pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers at Archangel Michael Orthodox Church in Campbell

Wednesday, Mar 12th Ven. Theophanes the Confessor, of Sigriane

4:00-5:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm AA Meeting

6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy followed by Confessions

Saturday, Mar 15th Memorial Saturday. Martyrs Agapius, Publius

5:00 pm Great Vespers followed by Confessions

Sunday, Mar 16th St. Gregory Palamas / Tone 5

9:30 am Divine Liturgy Followed by Coffee Hour

5:00 pm Pan Orthodox Vespers at **our parish** followed by Lecture & Potluck

Attendance/Stewardship March 2nd

Attendance: 62 Adults and 12 Children	74 Total
Weekly Stewardship Offerings:	\$4,132.00
Weekly Candle Offerings:	\$133.00
Charity of the Month (St. Herman House):	\$45.00
YTD Budget Inflows:	\$33,409.25
YTD Budget Outflows	\$32,755.60
YTD Surplus/deficit	\$653.65

Prayer Corner

Sbdcn Joseph (Clyde)	Sbdcn George Kaschack
Sarah Crivella	Larry Lees
Ellen Malacky	Sbdcn Eugene Stan
James Livermore Jr.	David Campbell
Cassandra, Patrick, Elizabeth, & Patrick	Anna
Jeffrey	Denise Higgins
Laura & Roy	Greg, Clara, Jeanie
Azouria	Cara DeToro (Fr Dcn John’s Friend)
Tristan Beil	Barb Leis
David McGee (David Wood’s friend)	Patty DiGiacobbe
Michael (Jennifer’s son)	Patricia Tutoki (Dcn John’s Aunt)
The Faculty, Teachers, and Students of Holy Trinity Orthodox Academy	
The Suffering Christians in Ukraine, Russia, & the Middle East	

Newly Departed: Phillip Johnson (2/20), & also Tom Freer (2/21) [Vadim’s Good Friend], & Renee Dann (2/9) [Jennifer’s Cousin]

Expecting: Tom & Cadie Kirk, Natalie & Chase York, Erin & Paul DiGiacobbe & their unborn children

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

Birthdays: Ann Bakich, Cheryl Ciulei, & Ian Zimomra (9th), Ariana McBride, Donna Metz, & Tim Williams (13th), & Yvonne Yugovich (14th)

Anniversaries: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Candle Commemorations

Theotokos	For the Health of Ann Cverko
Altar	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Christ	In Memory of Tom Freer

Announcements

New Parish Officers & Parish Council Meeting this Tuesday @ 6pm

Our new parish officers are: Chris Wallace (Parish Council President), Jim Stan (Vice President), Nina Harvey (Treasurer), Ellen Malacky (Secretary), Michael Stan, Timothy Williams, Paula Kapp, & Mary Kaschak. If you have any ideas, questions, or concerns regarding the parish be sure to talk to them or Fr. Brian! Their first Parish Council Meeting will be this Tuesday at 6:00pm, all are welcome to attend.

Saint John’s Pan-Orthodox Vespers Potluck

This next coming Sunday (Mar 16th) our parish will be hosting the Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers followed by a short lecture and Lenten Meal. If you haven’t signed up to bring something, please do so at the candlestand!

Fr. Brian’s Teen & Young Adult Class Saturday the 22nd

Fr. Brian has taken over the Teen & Young adult class from our church school and will be having his first class (with snacks and games) in the Parish Social Hall on the 22nd after Great Vespers at 6:00pm. All parish youth ages 12-18 are invited to attend!

PARISH ALMS GIVING PROJECT FOR GREAT LENT

During Great Lent we invite all parishioners to collect toiletries for women, men, and children, which will be used to create “hygiene bags” to be passed out to the needy by the Warren Family Mission on Tod Avenue. Please place your donations of NEW and UNUSED FULL-SIZED (not travel-sized) ITEMS in the labeled bins in the church hall. Questions? Contact: Mat. Deb Belonick (914-274-1150), Carol Bobosh (330-898-7935), or Daria Fickes (330-727-3319).

Go Paperless - Giving Online With Tithely

You can now support our parish online by going to our website (<https://saintjohnswarren.org/>) and clicking the word “DONATE” in the upper right corner which will take you to our parish’s Tithely page.

Paska Bread Bake & Fundraiser

Mary Kaschak is interested in getting a group together at the parish to bake Paska Breads that will later be sold to help raise money for our parish. If you’re interested in helping her out, a sign up sheet is at the candlestand. No baking experience required!