



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

20th Sunday after Pentecost + Sun, Oct 30th, 2022 + Hieromartyrs Zenobius and his sister Zenobia, of Aegæ in Cilicia



Hymns for Today

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

As brother and sister united in godliness together you struggled in contest Zenóbius and Zenobía. You received incorruptible crowns and unending glory and shine forth with the grace of healing upon those in the world.

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Let us honor with inspired hymns the two martyrs for truth: the preachers of true devotion, Zenóbius and Zenobía; as brother and sister they lived and suffered

together and through martyrdom received their incorruptible crowns.

Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading - Galatians 1:11-19

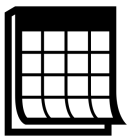
But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Gospel Reading - Luke 8:26-39

Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man.

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: *A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!*

For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness. Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned. When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned. Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.



This Week's Schedule Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

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THIS WEEKEND

Saturday, October 29th

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

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Sunday, October 30th

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy

10:30 AM: Coffee Hour, Church School

40th Day Parastas for Peter Holoviak

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TODAY's Parastas following Divine Liturgy
In Memory of Peter Holoviak on his 40th Day & the
Duda Family: Mary, Andrew, John, Andrew, Peter,
Michael, Joseph and Joseph Jr.

Offered by Paula Holoviak and Family

THIS WEEK

Wed, 11 AM-1:30 PM: Private Prayer in Church
Wed, 6:30 PM - Akathist (Glory to God for All Things)

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NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, November 5th

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

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Sunday, November 6th

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy

10:30 AM: Coffee Hour, Church School

Noon: Annual Harvest Dinner @ Pavillion

(Doors open at 11:30 AM)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

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WEDNESDAY NIGHT AKATHIST THIS WEEK:

Wednesday nights @ 6:30 PM, join along with Fr. Innocent in singing a weekly Akathist Service. Each week we will sing a different Akathist. Join us for this midweek time of prayer and supplication to our Lord, His Mother, and the Saints.

ORTHODOXY 101: Beginning next Sunday, Nov 6th, we will have a weekly class for visitors, inquirers, catechumens, or anyone wanting to refresh on the basics of the Orthodox faith.

SUN, NOV 6th, HARVEST DINNER IS BACK: The menu will include: turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, rutabaga, bacon/scallion carrots, brussel sprouts, corn, cranberry sauce, homemade rolls and assorted desserts. ALL YOU CAN EAT (usually enough for everyone to take home as well).. Drinks include soda, water, and a variety of wine and beer. The price per person: under 7 years old - free; 7-12 years old - \$10; over 13 years old - \$32. Pavilion doors will open at 11:30 for cocktails with the feast beginning at noon. Anyone wishing to attend can sign up in the vestibule or call Deborah Mills at 570-822-5975 by Oct 30th. Payment can be left at the candle stand or sent to the rectory. Write "Harvest Dinner" and the number of people attending on the memo line. If you would like to volunteer to help setup or decorate come to the Harvest dinner meeting today or see Sandy Serafin.

DONATIONS FOR UKRAINE: Paula Holoviak is helping to gather donations for Ukraine. **The deadline for this collection is November 6th.** At this time, the following is being collected: Winter clothes and items for children and adults (gloves, hats, jackets, thermals, socks, boots, etc.). All items must be New or Like New. Light and easily transportable food items such as dried soup, trail mix, protein bars, tuna packets, etc. Any clothes that are suitable for spring and summer should be held for shipments that will be going out in the April time frame. Bring your donations to church and leave them in the Vestibule.

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GRAMMY®-Nominated Saint Tikhon Choir to Perform Benedict Sheehan's Vespers at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre - The Saint Tikhon Choir is pleased to announce the world premiere concert series of Benedict Sheehan's modern masterwork Vespers at 7:30pm on November 12, 2022, at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Two-time GRAMMY®-nominated conductor and composer Benedict Sheehan will lead the professional choristers of Saint Tikhon's in this unique and powerful musical exploration that has been called "luminous and uplifting" (Choir & Organ) and a work of "unique musical genius" (Fanfare Magazine).

NOTE TO PARISHIONERS: Do not miss this extraordinary concert. Vespers at Holy Trinity will be canceled this night to encourage everyone to attend. (Plus they will be singing Vespers, so it counts :). Tickets can be purchased at: vespersdebut.bpt.me/

Parish Calendar

NOV 6th - Annual Harvest Dinner Feast

NOV 8th - Feast of St. Michael the Archangel: Celebrating Divine Liturgy at St. Michael's in Old Forge @ 9:00 AM

NOV 13th - Monthly Parish Council Meeting @ 11:30 AM

NOV 21st - Great Feast - Entrance of the Mother of God

NOV 23rd - Akathist - Glory to God for all Things

NOV 27th - Monthly Parish Potluck (Lenten Foods Only)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Birthdays: Scott Harvey (11/4), Matushka Melanie Neal (11/4), Irene Dutko (11/5), Fred Pleban (11/6), Steve Nealon (11/10), Joli Dutko (11/12), Andrew

Neal (11/24), Douglas Cardoni (11/26) **Anniversaries:** Steve & Jean Hutz (11/19), Michael & Lisa Talpash (11/22) **This Week's Birthdays:** Scott Harvey (11/4), Matushka Melanie Neal (11/4), Irene Dutko (11/5) **Anniversaries:**

Ask Fr. Innocent: Do you have questions about the Orthodox faith? Submit your questions anonymously in the vestibule in the small black "Ask Fr. Innocent?" box. Questions will be answered during coffee hour and/or in the bulletin.



Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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The Gadarene Demoniac

Met Anthony Bloom

How familiar is this story to us. Yet every time we read it we rediscover something in it which touches our heart, or gives a new light to our mind. And today I would like to attract your attention to three features of this passage.

The first is the attitude of the devils, of the powers of evil, to their victims. The powers of evil have no other intention or desire than to take possession of a living creature and to make it both a sufferer and one that will fulfil their will. The Fathers of the Church teach us that the devils can have no direct action in this world; all they can do is enslave human beings and through them work the evil within them. So this is what these powers of evil had intended: to enslave these men and to make them instruments of destruction, but at the same time to make them suffer for it.

When Christ commanded them to leave their victims they cried, shall I say, for a place of refuge, a place where they could dwell and work destruction. And Christ allowed them to in-dwell the pigs. Pigs, in the eyes of Jews, were a symbol of impurity; the request to be lodged in their bodies was a sign for all who could understand - and every Jew could - that they were as impure as the impurest of the animals. But what happened next was a demonstration to people of what happens when we allow

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Theodore & Elenor Sovryda, Nadine Breisch, Sonja & Leanne Kay, Josie Bissett, Lisa & Scott Harvey, Daniel & Shannon Bissett, Holoviak Family, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Mary Ann Lepa, Mat. Delores Donlick, Fr. Vladimir Fetchko, Reader Matthew, Vladimir & Marie Dutko, Alan, Cathy & Paul, Archpriest Vladimir, Tom Austin, Donna Stankiewicz, Samir Abdo, Nesrin Dahdal, Sara Abdo, Mansour Abdo, Siwar Abdo, Silin Abdo, Natalya Elkin, Paul Berdy, **Departed:** Peter Holoviak

ourselves to be possessed of evil, when we allow passions to have power over us - hatred, lust, jealousy, and all the passions of body and soul. Being possessed by them we are doomed to destruction, as this herd ended in death.

We should remember this because we do not always realise how much we are in the grip, in the power of those things which rule our life: likes and dislikes, hatreds, resentments and so on. We are not only possessed, but we are also working evil through our subjection to the power of evil. And the warning is clear: if we only allow evil to take possession of us completely, it will mean death; not physical death, but a total, tragic alienation from all that is life: from God, from love, from beauty, from meaning. We cannot fall out of existence but we can be possessed of an existence which is a ghostly one, an existence without life, without content - a shell that is empty, and yet a torment.

And in contrast to this we see the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God become Man. He is the Creator, He is the Lord, He is the Saviour of the whole world; and He forgets everything, as it were, the whole of creation to pay attention to nothing but these two men who are in need of salvation, indeed He is prepared to leave ninety-nine righteous, whole people who do not need Him at that moment alone in order to give all His attention, all His life, indeed all His power to save these two men. In the face of all the need of the world He can see every individual need and respond to it with all His love, all His compassion, all His understanding and all His divine power to save and to heal.

There is a third group of people whom we see in action in this Gospel story; it is the inhabitants of the country. They had known of the desperate condition of these two men; they were told of what Christ did for them; they were told who their master was, who was their tormentor; should they not have come to give glory to God and thank Him for delivering the two men from the power of evil? NO! All they saw in the act of Christ was that they were deprived of their herd of swine. What mattered to them the wholeness and the life and the salvation of these two men? They were deprived of what was important to them, what mattered to them more than a human life, and they asked Christ to leave their borders, to go because they did not want to risk another miracle that would be costly to them. What a tragic - not monstrous, but just tragic contrast between the attitude of God and the attitude of these people. Let us give

thought and ask ourselves, where do we stand? Of course, the first movement we shall have is to say, 'On God's side' - it is not true. When there is a tragic need, and the cost of helping would be perhaps not a disaster but a pain or loss to us, what would we choose? Let us reflect on this: are we really on the side of Christ Who can forget the whole world because His Heart is pierced, transfixed with compassion, or - do we allow our heart to be moved one moment, and then recalculate the cost and turn away from the need?

Let us reflect - because every one of these stories, every parable, every image, every act of God is challenging us: Where do you stand? Who are you? The person possessed, to whatever extent? A disciple of Christ ready to forget everything for the sake of a desperate need? Or rather one of those who say to Christ: Go, go away - you are disturbing our peace, the harmony of our life and our security? Let us reflect deeply; but not only reflect, make a decision and act. Amen.



The Treasury

"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. + Jesus Christ

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Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305
Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840
Last Week's Collection (10/23/22) : \$3044

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PROPORTIONAL GIVING CHART

How much is my weekly tithe?!

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$37	\$30	\$15
\$1000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40