



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

+ 10th Sun after Pentecost + Sun, August 13th, 2023 + The Leavetaking of the Transfiguration of Our Lord



Hymns for This Week

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest of mankind!"

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Theotokos! O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

From thy youth thou didst love Christ, O blessed one. Thou hast been an example for all by word, life, love, faith, purity, and humility. Therefore, thou dost now

abide in the heavenly mansions, where thou standest before the throne of the All-holy Trinity. Holy Hierarch Tikhon, pray for the salvation of our souls!

On the mountain Thou wast transfigured, O Christ God, and Thy Disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

Epistle Reading - 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now. I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 17:14-23

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him." Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. Then

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!

the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting." Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up." And they were exceedingly sorrowful.



This Week's Schedule

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

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THIS WEEKEND - Leavetaking of the Transfiguration of our Lord

Saturday, August 12th

10 AM: Friends of the Poor

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, August 13th

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy, Adult Education w/ Seminarians, 11:30 AM: Parish Council

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THIS WEEK

The Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God

MON, Aug 14th @ 6:30 PM - Great Vespers w/ Lity

TUES, Aug 15th @ 9 AM - Divine Liturgy

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WED 11 AM - 1:30 PM: Private Prayer in Church

6:30 PM: Akathist: "Glory to God for All Things"

THURS 11 AM: Bible Study - Luke Chapter 3

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NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, August 19th

11 AM: Baptism of Gabriel Brisk

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, August 20th

8:30 AM: Chrismation of Anela Saracina

8:50 AM: 6th Hour 9 AM: Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Adult Education w/ Seminarians

NEXT Sunday, August 20th, The Very Rev. John Kowalczyk, the Chair of the Department of Pastoral Theology at St. Tikhon's Seminary will join us for Divine Liturgy and Coffee hour. As the Professor in charge of

seminarian internships, Fr. John would like feedback about our experience with Dns. Damian & Kirill. Join us for coffee hour to get to know Fr. John and answer his questions.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

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TODAY - SO GREAT A CLOUD OF WITNESSES - The Rich History of the Lemko-Rusyn People. A 3-part presentation by Our Seminarian Interns - Deacons Damian Kulp & Kirill Zawatski. Come hear about the rich history of the Lemko-Rusyn people and the establishment of our beautiful local parishes in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Frs. Deacon Kirill and Damian will explore our local history and popular figures of the Church from our ancestral homeland. Learn why so many churches and people are named after these figures and finish the series with a personal look at which saints might be a good fit in your life and select a patron to be commemorated annually. **This presentation will be a 3 part series given during coffee hour beginning Sunday Aug 13-27.**

BAPTISM OF GABRIEL BRISK AUG 19 @ 11 AM - Daniel Brisk & Lisa Ehm would like to invite all of you to the baptism of their son, Gabriel Brisk at 11 AM on August 19th. There will be a meal to follow. Please come and welcome Gabriel into our community through the sacrament of baptism.


CHRISMATION OF ANELA SARACINA AUG 20 @ 8:30 AM - Join us as the Holy Trinity community welcomes Anela Saracina into the Orthodox Faith (and our community) through the sacrament of Holy Chrismation.

SUN, AUG 27th - Preparation of the Gifts (Proskedia) in the Nave: Have you ever wondered what the priest is doing behind the Iconostasis before Divine Liturgy every Sunday morning? Now is your chance to find out. On Sunday, Aug 27th at 9 AM, Fr. Innocent will serve this very brief but important service in the main church (Nave) for everyone to see and learn. For those who are interested, He will also put on his

priestly vestments at 8:45 AM and explain the significance of each piece. See you then!

Please join us for our weekly

BIBLE STUDY



Thursdays, 11 AM - Noon
Bring a Bible. Everyone is Welcome.
Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 401 East Main Street - Downstairs in the Church



Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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Life of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk



HAS GOD BLESSED YOU WITH A GOOD SINGING VOICE?

THE HOLY TRINITY CHOIR is seeking new members. If you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry, please call or text Greg Polk at (570)362-2642. Previous choral experience is helpful but not required. All ages are welcome.

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BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

August Birthdays: Joe Lello (8/14), William Talpash (8/19), Lisa Talpash (8/16), Greg Kurtz Jr. (8/16), Olivia Dutko (8/22), Carl Zbegner (8/22), Denise Meck (8/23), Ephraim Neal (8/25), Sylvia Dreater (8/29) Lindsey Rivera (8/31) **Anniversaries:** Paul & Sylvia Dreater (8/3), Greg & Laura Polk (8/17), George & Rita Krill (8/29)

This Week's Birthdays: William Talpash (8/19), Lisa Talpash (8/16), Greg Kurtz Jr. (8/16) **Anniversaries:** Paul & Sylvia Dreater - 60 Years! (8/3), Greg & Laura Polk (8/17)

Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk, Bishop of Voronezh, was born in the year 1724 in the village of Korotsko in the Novgorod diocese, into the family of the chanter Sabellius Kirillov. (A new family name, Sokolov, was given him afterwards by the head of the Novgorod seminary). He was baptized with the name Timothy. His father died when Timothy was a young child, leaving the family in such poverty that his mother was barely able to make ends meet. She wanted to give him to be raised by a neighbor, a coachman, since there was nothing with which to feed the family, but his brother Peter would not

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Holoviak Family, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Mary Ann Lepa, Vladimir & Marie Dutko, Alan, Cathy & Paul, Tom & Joan Austin, Lilly, David, Elizabeth, George Krill, Lydia, Melanie Bishop, Hannah Selick, Dave Hamilton, David & Delores Voda, Nicole Hapeman, Archpriest Daniel Donlick & Family
Departed: John Seseck, George, Basil, Mat Delores Donlick

permit this. Timothy often worked a whole day with the peasants for a single piece of black bread.

As a thirteen-year-old boy, he was sent to a clergy school near the Novgorod archbishop's home, and earned his keep by working with the vegetable gardeners. In 1740, he was accepted under a state grant set up for the Novgorod seminary. The youth excelled at his studies. Upon finishing seminary in 1754, he became a teacher there, first in Greek, and later in Rhetoric and Philosophy. In the year 1758, he was tonsured with the name Tikhon. In that same year they appointed him to be prefect of the seminary.

In 1759, they transferred him to Tver, elevating him to be archimandrite of the Zheltikov Monastery. Later, they appointed him rector of the Tver seminary and, at the same time, head of the Otroch Monastery.

His election as bishop was providential. Metropolitan Demetrius, the presiding member of the Holy Synod, had intended to transfer the young archimandrite to the Trinity-Sergiev Lavra. On the day of Pascha, at Petersburg, Archimandrite Tikhon was one of eight candidates being considered for selection as vicar-bishop for Novogorod. The lot fell on him three times.

On the same day, during the Cherubic Hymn, Bishop Athanasius of Tver, without realizing it, commemorated him as a bishop while cutting out particles from the prosphora at the Table of Oblation. On May 13, 1761 he was consecrated Bishop of Keksgolma and Ladoga.

The Saint considered it essential that each priest, deacon and monk have a New Testament, and that he should read it daily. In an Encyclical, he called on pastors to perform the Holy Mysteries with reverence, with the fear of God, and love for one's neighbor.

In 1765, Saint Tikhon transformed the Voronezh Slavic-Latin school into a seminary. He invited experienced instructors from Kiev and Kharkhov, and planned the courses for it. He exerted much attention and effort to build up both the churches and the school, and to guide pastors to understand the need for education.

The Saint was unflagging in his efforts to administer the vast diocese, and he often spent nights without sleep. In 1767, poor health compelled him to give up running the

diocese and withdraw for rest to the Tolshevsk Monastery, at a distance 40 versts from Voronezh.

In 1769, the Saint transferred to the Monastery of the Theotokos in the city of Zadonsk. Having settled into this monastery, Saint Tikhon became a great teacher of the Christian life. With deep wisdom he set forth the ideal of true monasticism in his *Rule of Monastic Living* and his *Guidances to Turn from the Vanity of the World*, and in his own life he fulfilled this ideal. He kept strictly to the precepts of the Church. Zealously (almost daily) he visited the temple of God, and he often sang and read in the choir. In time, out of humility, he altogether ceased participating and serving, but merely stood in the altar, reverently making the sign of the Cross over himself. He loved to read the *Lives of the Saints* and the works of the holy Fathers. He knew *The Psalter* by heart, and he usually read or sang the Psalms on his journeys.

Shortly before his death, the Saint saw in a dream a high and twisting ladder and he heard a command to climb it. "At first, I was afraid because of weakness," he told his friend Cosmas. "But when I started to go climb, the people standing around the ladder lifted me higher and higher, up to the very clouds."

"The ladder," said Cosmas, "is the way to the Heavenly Kingdom. Those who helped were those you have helped by your advice, and they remember you." The Saint said with tears, "I thought so, too. I feel that my end is near." He frequently received the Holy Mysteries during his illness.

Saint Tikhon died, as was revealed to him, on Sunday 13 August 1783, at the age of fifty-nine. On May 14, 1846, during the construction of the new cathedral at Zadonsk, Saint Tikhon's relics were uncovered and reported to be incorrupt. His relics were kept in Zadonsk.

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."

<p>Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305 Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840 Collections last Sunday (8/6): \$1,711</p>
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