

THE HOLY MARTYRS MENODORA, METRODORA, & NYMPHODORA OF BITHYNIA

Saints Menodora, Metrodora, & Nymphodora were three Christian virgin sisters who lived together in Bithynia (now part of Turkey) in the early 300's A.D. During one of the waves of Roman pagan persecution of those times they were hauled before Roman Governor Fronto to be tried. He first tried to persuade them to deny Christ and worship pagan gods by using gentle words. He got nowhere. Then he resorted to violent torture. Menodora was beaten with rods but wouldn't give in. This angered the governor so much that he had her beaten to death with a club. Metrodora was hung up and burned slowly with torches which finally killed her after 2 hours. Nymphodora was hung up and her flesh torn with iron hooks. She responded with prayer. The governor then had her beaten to death with clubs. All three remained faithful to Christ, no matter what the governor did. Their martyrdoms took place on September 10, 305 A.D.

SERMON COPIES from the last couple of Sundays are usually available on the long table in narthex near coat rack.

ZOE for Life!! Needs Your Help

May we ask you to help us provide mothers coming to Zoe House for assistance for new or gently used strollers, high chairs, walkers for babies, baby swings and activity centers? If you are able to help with any of these items, we ask you to contact us at 216-465-9030, and thank you in advance for your help for His little ones.

NORTH ROYALTON MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION---COMMUNITY MONTHLY MEAL---This

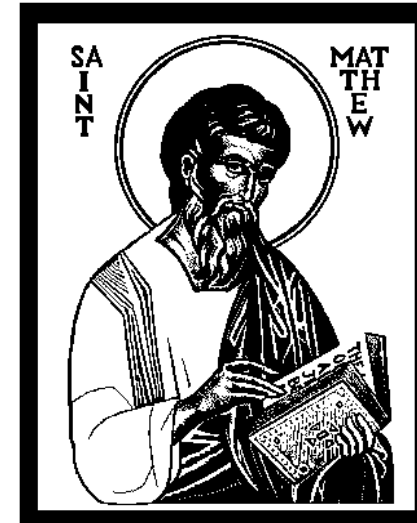
ministry has been organized with Orthodox (2 parishes), Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Nazarene, & Methodist participation. The basic plan is for the parishes to go together to serve a hot meal to all who can come---the target group was originally the needy, but all are welcome! The next meal is SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 3-5 p.m., and will be at St. Albert Catholic Church on Wallings Road. If you can help in any way, please contact Father Andrew.

"MERCY MEALS" MINISTRY JUST BEGINNING

If you are able to make meals **and/or** deliver meals to parishioners needing help in difficult circumstances, please contact Lisa Amer-----lisa.amer@att.net,
—440-882-6372

ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

10383 Albion Road, North Royalton, OH 44133-1408



SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

V. REV. FATHER ANDREW HARMON
REV. DEACON MACARIUS TOLBERT
REV. DEACON BASIL VAZQUEZ

Fred N. Bourjaily Sub-Deacon Mark Katzbach Sub-Deacon
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Saturday Vespers 5:00 PM

Sunday Matins 8:50 AM

Saturday Confessions 5:30 PM

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Sunday Confessions 9:45 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS
The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, & Nymphodora of Bithynia; The Holy
Empress Pulcheria; St. Peter, Bishop of Nicea

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS TODAY! We are glad to have you praying with us on this great holy day! *And we hope you will stay for our parish picnic right after the service. The reception of the Sacrament of Holy Communion* is limited to members of the Orthodox Church who are in good sacramental standing and have made proper preparation to receive. All are welcome to receive a portion of the blessed bread distributed at the end of the service.

THE HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION is offered today by the Vazquez for the health & safety of Joe Vazquez, Sophia Gazal, and Jay & Julianna Amer on their birthdays; and will be offered today by Larry & Gail Malaniak in beloved memory of Gail's mother, the departed handmaid of God, Mary Assad.

DURING TODAY'S LITURGY WE WILL PRAY FOR THE HEALTH & SAFETY OF:

Josephine Katzbach	Jamie Peffer	Carol Palmer
Justin Mosier	Fouad & Selwa Zogheib	Sylvia Audey
Ardelle George	Mary Farage	Peter George
Corinne Farris	Marc Balke	Nancy Donnelly
Joanne Esber	Christopher Samuel	Georgeta Popa
Renee Schwenk	Christina Saada	Lena
Sam & Mary Violanti	Issa Zaboura	Caroline Fish
Tony Burhen	Mary Kirkwood	Francisca Melendez
Rosalee Haddad	Evelyn Farage	Ruth Humphrey
Bella, Bret, & Savayah Pacl	Lucy Kincaid	Richard Hakaim
Presbyteria Rosy Tanveer	Darlene Schwenk	Diana Popa
Judy Burhen	Michael Resanovich	Daniel Kaleal
Baby Quinn	Heidi Menoas	Edward Haddad

WE WILL ALSO PRAY TODAY for the newly departed servants of God, Melissa Rilling, Alex Arshinkoff, (Jeff Joseph's brother-in-law), Maria Popa (George Popa's sister), Besam Waara (Issa Zaboura's uncle), Matyshka Catherine Jula, Marija Marjanovich, and Larry Patrick (Dan Patrick's uncle).

TODAY'S SERVICE

EPISTLE LESSON---Galatians 6: 11-18 **Reader:** Lisa Palivoda

GOSPEL LESSON---John 3: 13-17

HOMILY: "Glorying Only In The Cross"

Altar Boys: Gregory Tolbert, Josiah Blazek, Jacob Kash, Joseph Mozden, Saba Saada

Ushers: The Handmaidens **Greeters:** Penny Sent, Rachael Palmer, Alexandria Palmer

THE ONE-YEAR MEMORIAL will be offered today by Larry & Gail Malaniak in memory of Gail's mother, Mary Assad.

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17---The holy bread of oblation will be offered by the Katzbach family for Subdeacon Mark's mother, Eleanor, on her birthday. Also, children whose Saints Days are in September will be honored and prayed for at end of liturgy. Also, we will have the blessing ceremony of our Parish Prayer Garden after liturgy.

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC-----TODAY AFTER LITURGY--

As always, hosted by brotherhood and free of charge.

GOOD FOOD & FELLOWSHIP---INFLATABLE CHILDREN'S OBSTACLE
COURSE, VOLLEYBALL, ARCHERY, ETC.! PLEASE STAY!

SUNDAY EVENING TEACHING SERIES
BY PAUL FINLEY BEGINS THIS EVENING, 6 P.M.----
see elsewhere in bulletin for details....

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMED FOR FALL THIS SUNDAY MORNING---
IT WILL BE HELD FROM HERE ON IN AT 9 EVERY SUNDAY.

NORTH BIBLE STUDY-----Monday, September 11, 6:30 p.m., at Ralph & Elle Parkers', 1350 Elmwood Court, Rocky River. We are studying the book of Revelation----in particular, this month, all about the Anti-Christ. Please come!

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP----Tuesday, September 12, 7 p.m., at Jean Fadil's, 477 Cranston Drive, Berea. All women are welcome! Call Joanne Vazquez, 440-239-9464, for more info.

THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS HOLY DAY IS

SEPTEMBER 14----Our schedule:

Vespers with Artoklasia—6:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 13.

Thursday, September 14---Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m.; Potluck lunch, 11:30 a.m. Strict fasting food, please.

CHANTING CLASS-----Saturday, September 16, 4 p.m.

VESPERS---Saturday, September 16, 5 p.m.

WEST BIBLE STUDY—Saturday, September 16, 5:45 p.m., right after Vespers. We are studying the book of Daniel---all are welcome!

TEEN/PARENT HOME BIBLE STUDY & LUNCH---After church, next Sunday, September 17, at Olivia & Joe Ibrahim/Serafino's home---9550 Cove Drive, #14, North Royalton (very close to church). Food, fellowship, Bible---*parents & siblings are encouraged to attend.*

MINISTRY TO THE HOMELESS---Some of our parishioners will be delivering personal necessity bags, sandwiches, clothing, water, etc. to the homeless on the streets of Cleveland **next Sunday, September 17**. If you can help by donating items for future deliveries, please let Josie Katzbach know, 440-668-9831, or contact Fr. Andrew. **ESPECIALLY NEEDED NOW—SOCKS (see big box on table in hall) AND WATER. *And please remember the need for cash funding—please put your donations in alms box in church narthex.*** And a particular need right now---sleeping bags. **No blankets needed currently**

ST. HERMAN'S MEAL SERVING—NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 is our next monthly meal serving at St. Herman Orthodox Homeless Shelter in Cleveland. We already have volunteer cooks---Jon Scordos and Sara Phillips---thanks!. If you can help with the serving of the meal, contact Deacon Basil to volunteer. 440-665-3591 The meal is at 5:30.

A GIANT DELIVERY OF FOOD & CLOTHING TO THE HOMELESS WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11---Please mark your calendar to help with sandwich production at the church that morning. Donations needed:----sweaters, jackets, socks, underwear, blankets, gloves, tents. See Father Andrew about bringing in donations.....

NEED FOR COFFEETIME HOSTS---- COFFEETIME IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF OUR PARISH LIFE-----it is where we greet our visitors, make new friends, and see old friends. It is crucial to our parish family life. **THE COFFEETIME SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE SECOND HALF OF 2017 IS NOW ON BULLETIN BOARD IN THE HALL (in the rear).** Please take a look at it and sign up to host for a Sunday---it's fine for 2 families to host together. Coffee and paper products are provided. *And if you are not signed up for Coffeetime but decide to bring food, please let coordinator Jean Fadil, 440-234-3064, know ahead of time so as to avoid confusion—thanks!*

Acts 20: 35---“remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

A “FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS BOOK” FOR ST. MATTHEW’S IS NOW AVAILABLE IN OFFICE FOR YOU TO SEE---in the interests of parish financial transparency you are welcome to look at it to view current financial reports. Just check with any Parish Council member or Father Andrew.

As of 9/5/2017

Total Pledged \$ 107,086.18

Total Received \$ 106,669.61

Difference \$ 3,416.57

Percent Received 97 %

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMED FOR FALL THIS MORNING

CLASSES FOR AGE 3 THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, **PLUS....**

On alternating Sundays, our teen class will be a Bible study on the book of Genesis that is open to young adults and adults as well as teens. It will be led by Peggy Latina—first time will be September 10. On the other Sundays, the class will be just for teens and led by George Nassif and Scott Palmer.

September Teen class schedule----Sept. 10 & 24---Peggy;

Sept. 17—George & Scott

All classes start at 9 a.m.