

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church
Celebrating 125 years witnessing to the Apostolic Faith



110 EAST MAIN STREET,
Marblehead, OH 43440
Rev. Fr. Peter Tomas, Rector

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*Holy Assumption Orthodox Church is a parish of the Orthodox Church in America,
Diocese of the Midwest*

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

FORTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Liturgical Schedule

WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 13

*Forfeast of the Exaltation of the Precious and
Life-giving Cross*

VESPERS, 6:00 PM

THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 14

**EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND
LIFE-GIVING CROSS (Strict Fast)**

**9:10 AM HOURS, 9:30 AM
DIVINE LITURGY**

SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 16

Great Martyr Euphemia the All-praised

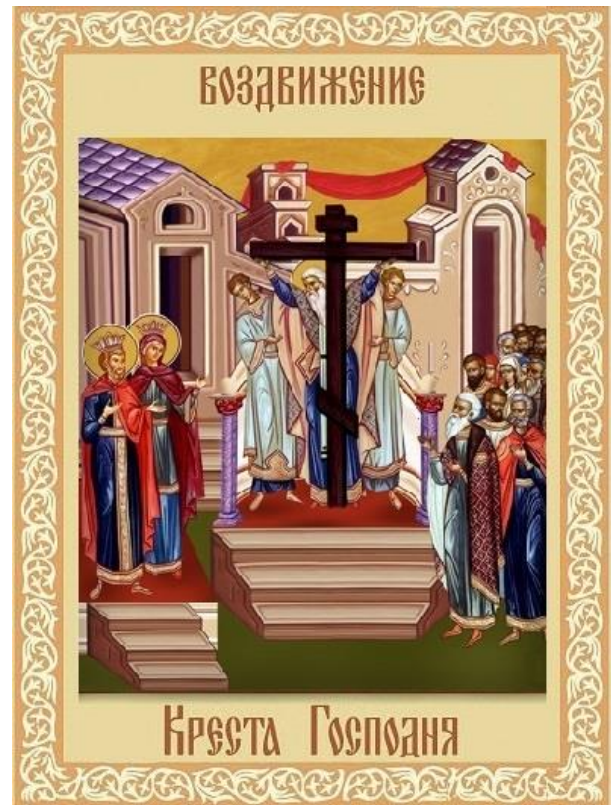
VESPERS, 4:00 PM

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 17

15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Holy Martyrs Saint Sophia and her Daughters
Faith, Hope and Love*

**9:10 AM HOURS, 9:30 AM
DIVINE LITURGY** Followed by Coffee Hour



*Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross
Feast Day – September 14th*

EPISTLE: Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren: See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they

desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

EPISTLE: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Brethren: Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover, I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

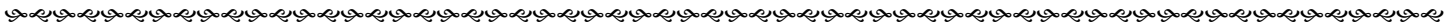
GOSPEL: John 3:13-17

No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-42

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding."' But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore, go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So, he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him

away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."



FOR YOUR PRAYERS



Basil Glovinsky, 1007 Glendale Drive, Port Clinton, OH 43452; Subdeacon Roger Pinta, P.O. Box 39, Middle Bass, OH 43446; Diane Tryon, 109 Joslyn Street, Arcadia, OH 44804; Ed & Irene Vangeloff, 454 Strouse Lane, Sandusky, OH 44870

SEPTEMBER CANDLE SPONSORS



Altar Candles: In memory of Violet Bargdill & LaVerne Schutt (\$50); **Chandelier:** In memory of Rose Haburt (September 13) (\$50); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** In memory of Gordon Schutt (\$25); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Fin and Jack (\$15); **Candles at St. Tikhon's Icon:** For Safety and Health of Nicholas, Tikhon, Gleice, & Chloe (\$15)

VIGILS FOR SEPTEMBER 3



Susan Guzy 3 In loving memory of mom on her 100th birthday 9/2, "Vichnaya Pamyat" & In memory of Dave Douglas 9/2, Special intentions, Special intentions

Laura Kovach 3 Birthday blessings to Joe.

In loving memory of Pam.

For health and/or healing of Nick S., Barbara D., Pauline O., George K., Joe H., Margi H., Basil G., Kathie J., Diane T., Robin C., Betty K., Ben F., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Sharon D., John D., and Karen D.

Sandy Martin 1 Special intentions

Natalie Twarek 8 Birthday blessings for Zach (9/8), For God's grace and peace for Ashley Mooney Below, For the health and recovery of Barbara, Health and recovery of Diane, and Basil, Health and recovery of Don Kiser, Health of Roger, Carol, Tony, Irene, Father David, Diane, Marilyn, Pauline, Sandy, Judy, Mimi, Tina, Ed, Ron, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Kurt, Leslie, Amber, Zach, Jeanne, Dottie, Jamie, Ezra, David, Helen Lis and Tina's dad, Earl, Tom, Loren, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Betty, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Chuck, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, Karen, special intentions

Dennis Lapsos & Family - In perpetual memory & repose of Annette Mary Ressetar Lapsos

SEPTEMBER REPOSED



William Rose (1980) No date provided; **2-** David Douglas (2015); **4-** John Matalaska (1986); **4-** Archpriest John Grandziuk (1947) Former Pastor; **5-** Archpriest Michael Dziama (1944) Former Pastor; **7-** Lisa Monak (2020); **13-** Rose Haburt; **14-** Archpriest George Breyan (2009) Former Pastor; **14-** Mary Kamiotis (2017); **15-** Infant Sloane Swanton (2021); **15-** Eileen Libb (2022); **16-** John George Mazurik (1997); **18-** Bernie Labouda (2018); **19-** Peter Rindfleisch (2006); **20-** Nora Bird (2017); **21-** Joseph Mazur (2002); **26-** Pastor Kevin Brown (2020); **27-** Michael Ittescu (1968); **27-** Alison Pickney (2017); **27-** Karen Milano (2017); **28-** William Felenchak (1977)

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Don Kiser / Ruth / Basil Glovinsky / Dale / Sophie / Jeanne Smith / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Chris Hannon / Subdeacon Roger Pinta / Ed Vangeloff / Irene Vangeloff / Diane Tryon / Sonja Rose / Ron Royhab / James Bargdill / John Beadle / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Joseph Habegger / Elaine Hileman /

Betty Kovach / Helen Lis / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Earl Rindfleisch / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Stephanie Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Gleice & Chloe / Gabrielle and her newborn Josey / Carol / Debbie & Marco / Nora. **Other Requests:** Charles Schlett / Tom Haynal / Kathy Debevits / Maxwell Chaney / Barbara Wroblewski / Sidharth Bijilani – friend of Subdeacon Roger and Debbie Pinta / Anthony / Archpriest David Lis / Bishop Matthias / Archpriest Emilian & Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Marge Dziama / Kurt Franck / Ben Franklin / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Marsha / Mark Masica / Robert Piznar / Valerie Ritzenthaler / William / Rick Rowe / Chuck Wiedenhoft / Chris. **Military:** Craig Cassell / Jake Ellithorpe / Jordon Fulton / Justin Issler / Tikhon / Nicholas / & All Military

ATTENDANCE



9/02 Vespers, 10 attending (2 guest); 9/03 Divine Liturgy, 28 attending (9 guests); 9/07 Vespers, 11 (1 guest) attending; 9/08 Divine Liturgy, 10 attending

READERS LIST



Sunday Sept 10 – Natalie
Sunday Sept 17 – Jake
Saturday Sept 23 – Subdeacon Roger
Sunday Sept 24 – Joseph

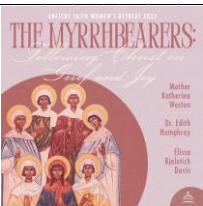
HOLY ASSUMPTION BOOKSTORE - STOP BY TO SHOP!



Fr. Peter and Matushka Michelle have donated many great religious items to Holy Assumption Bookstore! Mostly from Ukraine and Russia, they include: icons; neck and wall crosses; large and small religious pouches; key rings; rope prayer bracelets from a monastery; men's leather bracelets; "egg" pendants; needlepoint crosses for refrigerator; a standing cross.

We also have purchased new icons. The bookstore/gift shop is a means of outreach of Holy Assumption Church. We sell items at cost and the church does not profit from sales.

2023 ANCIENT FAITH WOMEN'S RETREAT



The 2023 Ancient Faith Women's Retreat will be held Thursday Nov. 9 through Sunday, Nov. 12 at Antiochian Village Conference Center, 140 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA. The retreat "seeks to create a peaceful, loving, and reflective gathering of women who have come to learn, worship, make friends, and rest at the entrance into the holy Nativity season." For more information see 3-page posting on bulletin board in church hall.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



September **11** – David & Roddie Mazurik Anniversary; September **11** – Wayne & Heidi Golob Anniversary; September **13** – Tom & Jean Hileman Anniversary; September **19** – Cooper Kowal; September **24** – Mike & Diane Tryon Anniversary; September **25** – Subdeacon Roger Pinta; September **26** – Greg Twarek

SOCIAL HALL CLEANING – THANK YOU!



Our sincere thanks are extended to Bobbie, Laura, Jean, and Mat. Michelle for coming last Tuesday and cleaning our hall in preparation for our Anniversary. May our Lord and God reward you all for your hard work and love for our church with His Special Blessings! Next cleaning is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 12th at 10:00 AM** with the meeting at **Red Bicycle Coffee Shop** next door at **9:00 AM**.



ANIVERSARY AFTER VESPERS REFRESHMENTS - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

As we are preparing for our Anniversary celebration, we would like to ask for your help with the meal that will be served after the Vespers service on Friday, September 22nd.

We are looking for a variety of foods for our meal. Our dishes need to be vegan and/or vegetarian, since the meal will be during a Friday fast.

Here are a few dishes that we need volunteers to make:

Egg and tuna salad, finger sandwiches, Fruit platter, Desserts.

If there is another plate you wish to make, please see Jean or Mat. Michelle, just to make sure there are no dishes that are too similar. Thank you and God bless you!



MARKET DAY – THANK YOU!

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the following parishioners and friends who helped us with our Market Day yesterday: Tina, Natalie, Roddie, David, Laura, Greg, Sandy, Kathy, Cliff, Susan, Mimi, and Tim. The gross income from the sale was

\$2,060.65 May Our Lord reward you all for your time and energy with good health, peace, and happiness for Many Happy and Blessed Years!

Our next Market Day will take place on **Saturday, September 30th** starting with set up at **8:00 AM**. We will have perohi, kielbasa and kraut, spanakopita, and a large variety of baked goods. Your help is greatly appreciated!



CLEANING SCHEDULE

Sept 11, Laura
Sept 18, Roddie
Sept 25, Laura
Oct 2, Tina



SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, September 3, 2023

Tithe	\$1,157.00
Candles	\$ 28.00
Vigils	\$ 70.00
Donations	\$ 70.00
Holy Day Donation	\$ 400.00
Support our Seminarians	\$ 100.00
Bookstore	\$ 133.00
Total:	\$1,958.00

May the Lord reward you for your financial and spiritual support!



HOLY ASSUMPTION CHURCH - 125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our 125th Anniversary Celebration will take place on **Saturday, September 23rd** with the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy to be celebrated at **10:00 am** by **His Eminence, The Most Reverend Daniel**, Archbishop of Chicago, and the Midwest. **Friday** evening the **Vespers** service will take place at **6:00 PM** followed by refreshment in our Social Hall.

Please Note: The deadline to purchase your banquet tickets is today, September 10th!

CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“Support our Seminarians” is the charity we donate to for the month of September.



THANK YOU, LETTER, RECEIVED

Our parish received a Thank you letter from the Dean of St. Tikhon's Seminary for our charitable donation. Please see the copy of the letter in this bulletin.

UP-COMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Sept. 12th** Cleaning church basement at 10 AM, coffee at 9 AM at Red Bicycle Coffee Co. next door
- Sept. 14th** Exaltation of the Precious Cross (*Thursday*)
- Sept. 23th** 125th Anniversary Celebration (*Saturday*)
- Sept. 30th** Market Day at 8 AM (*Saturday*)
- Oct. 1st** Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (*Sunday*)
- Oct. 14th** Last Market Day of the season at 8 AM (*Saturday*)
- Nov. 15th** Nativity Fast begins (*Wednesday*)
- Nov. 21st** Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple (*Tuesday*)
- Consider sponsoring a Sunday coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy



Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia *Commemorated on September 10*

The Holy Virgins Menodora, Nymphodora, and Metrodora (305-311), were sisters from Bithynia (Asia Minor). Distinguished for their special piety, they wanted to preserve their virginity and avoid worldly associations. They chose a solitary place for themselves in the wilderness and spent their lives in deeds of fasting and prayer.

Reports of the holy life of the virgins soon spread, since healings of the sick began to occur through their prayers. The Bithynia region was governed at that time by a man named Frontonus, who ordered that the sisters be arrested and brought before him.

At first he tried to persuade them to renounce Christ, promising great honors and rewards. But the holy sisters steadfastly confessed their faith before him, rejecting all his suggestions. They told him that they did not value the temporal things of this world, and that they were prepared to die for their Heavenly Bridegroom, for death would be their gateway to eternal life.

Flying into a rage, the governor took out his wrath on Saint Menodora, the eldest sister. She was stripped of her clothes and beaten by four men, while a herald urged her to offer sacrifice to the gods. The saint bravely endured the torments and cried out, "Sacrifice? Can't you see that I am offering myself as a sacrifice to my God?" Then they renewed their torments with even greater severity. Then the martyr cried out, "Lord Jesus Christ, joy of my heart, my hope, receive my soul in peace." With these words she gave up her soul to God, and went to her Heavenly Bridegroom.

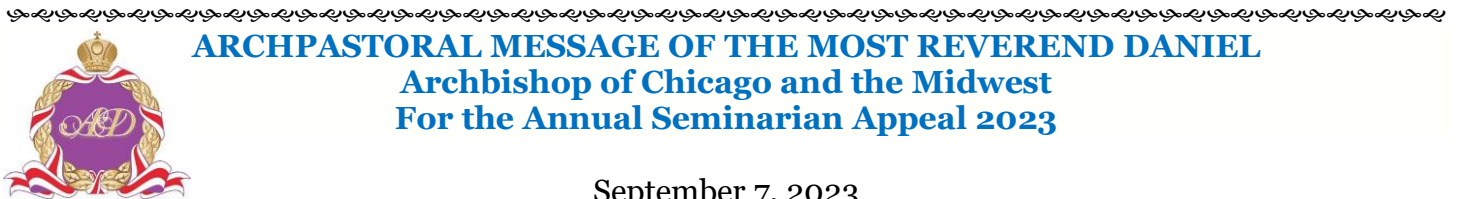
Four days later, they brought the two younger sisters Metrodora and Nymphodora to the court. They showed them the battered body of their older sister to frighten them. The virgins wept over her, but remained steadfast.

Then Saint Metrodora was tortured. She died, crying out to her beloved Lord Jesus Christ with her last breath. Then they turned to the third sister, Nymphodora. Before her lay the bruised bodies of her sisters. Frontonus hoped that this sight would intimidate the young virgin.

Pretending that he was charmed by her youth and beauty, he urged her to worship the pagan gods, promising great rewards and honors. Saint Nymphodora scoffed at his words, and shared the fate of her older sisters. She was tortured and beaten to death with iron rods.

The bodies of the holy martyrs were to be burned in a fire, but a heavy rain extinguished the blazing fire, and lightning struck down Frontonus and his servant. Christians took up the bodies of the holy sisters and reverently buried them at the so-called Warm Springs at Pythias (Bithynia).

Part of the relics of the holy martyrs are preserved on Mt. Athos in the Protection cathedral of the Saint Panteleimon Russian monastery, and the hand of Saint Metrodora is on the Holy Mountain in the monastery of the Pantocrator.



September 7, 2023

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (John 10:11)

Beloved Sons and Daughters in Christ,

In the well-known Gospel verse cited above, the Lord Jesus likens His relationship to His people to that of a shepherd to his sheep. He reveals himself as the Good and True Shepherd sent from God to care for the Flock, to protect and guide us in such a way that we are confident in His care. Because the Lord is our Shepherd, we have nothing to fear: as the anaphora of Saint John Chrysostom reminds us, this Shepherd was not “given up ... [but] rather, *gave Himself up for the life of the world.*” He is the Good Shepherd who knows His own sheep, and lays His life down for them (*cf.* John 10:14-15).

Christ has continued His work as the Shepherd of our souls from one generation to the next. He guides us with His voice as He speaks to us in the Holy Gospels. As our Good Shepherd, He gathers us so that we can be nourished with the sacred nourishment of His most Pure Body and Precious Blood. He protects us as we turn to Him in our time of need. He leads us and calls us to follow Him into the Kingdom He has prepared for us. Yet to guide, gather, nourish, and protect us, the Lord calls others to continue His work of caring for and pasturing His Flock. These faithful shepherds, called to minister in the Name of Christ, are recognizable on the local level in the bishop with his priests and deacons.

The Diocese of the Midwest has a long and blessed history of episcopal and priestly service. Throughout the past century and more, the Lord has provided faithful clergy to shepherd the faithful flock of God in our Diocese and across the vast expanse of the American Midwest. Some of these servant-shepherds are now listed among the saints: Saint Tikhon of Moscow, Saint John of Chicago, Saint Alexis of Minneapolis, Saint Raphael of Brooklyn, Saint Madarije of Libertyville, Saint Varnava the New Confessor, and Saint Nikolai of Žiča. In addition to these saints, we can add a long list of other holy bishops, priests, and deacons who have served the Lord and His Church faithfully, sacrificially, and with honor and dignity. Their efforts have borne fruit: they shepherded the flock to Christ the Door, through Whom the sheep have found salvation and green pastures (*cf.* John 10:9).

As we reflect upon the past service of clergy in our Diocese, we should also acknowledge the present. In our own day, the Lord continues to care for His flock in the faithful clergy who are now serving in our

parishes and mission communities. And He also continues to provide for the future by calling individuals from our parishes to prepare themselves for ordained ministry. I am grateful to God for the eleven men who are now enrolled in the seminaries of the Orthodox Church in America: Saint Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary and Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. These seminarians are men from our own parish communities. They have heard the voice of the Shepherd to follow Him and to prepare themselves, through prayer, study, and service, to take their place as servant-shepherds caring for the flock of Christ.

These men, and others who will follow them, are to be educated in Orthodox Theology and formed in the image of the Good Shepherd so that, God willing, they will one day take their place in the history of the ordained ministry in the Diocese of the Midwest. They sacrifice and make special efforts to that end: most of them are married family men, and their wives and children sacrifice along with them. Just as each one of us needs the support of the clergy now serving in our parishes, so too we need to support our seminarians, so that they may one day stand at the Holy Altar, preach the Gospel, and offer pastoral care to us, our families, and our parishes. They need our fervent prayers, certainly, but they and their families also need our equally sacrificial financial support.

To that end, each September, our Diocese of the Midwest promotes a project known simply as "Support our Seminarians." During this month, I ask of all our clergy to increase our common liturgical prayers asking the Good Shepherd to send raise among us more servant-shepherds to participate in His work of caring for the flock. I also invite each community and every individual not only to join in these prayers to Christ, the Door of the Sheep (*cf.* John 10:7), but to give generously to our Seminarians' Fund, as we seek to show our appreciation and support for our diocesan seminarians—present and future.

Invoking the Lord's blessing upon you, your families, and loved ones, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

DANIEL

Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

- "The enjoyment of this present life, though it seems to give delight and sweetness, is well thrust from us. At the very moment of its being it ceases to be, and for our joy repays us with sorrow sevenfold. Its happiness and its sorrow more frail than a shadow, and, like the traces of a ship passing over the sea, or a bird flying through the air, quickly disappear. But the hope of the life to come which the Christians preach is certain and quite sure; howbeit in this world it has tribulation, whereas our pleasures now are short-lived, and in the beyond they only win us correction and everlasting punishment without release. For the pleasures of life are temporary, but its pain eternal; while the Christians labors are temporary but their pleasure and gain immortal. Therefore, right it is to exchange the corruptible for the incorruptible."— St. John of Damascus

- "There is nothing better than peace in Christ, for it brings victory over all the evil spirits on earth and in the air. When peace dwells in a man's heart it enables him to contemplate the grace of the Holy Spirit from within. He who dwells in peace collects spiritual gifts as it were with a scoop, and he sheds the light of knowledge on others. All our thoughts, all our desires, all our efforts, and all our actions should make us say constantly with the Church: "O Lord, give us peace!" When a man lives in peace, God reveals mysteries to him." — St. Seraphim of Sarov

- "When we call upon the Saints in prayer, if we pronounce their names from the heart, it already means that we bring them near our heart itself. Therefore ask their prayers and intercession undoubtingly for yourself. They will hear you, and will speedily lay your prayers before the Lord, in the twinkling of an eye, for He is omnipresent and omniscient." — St. John of Kronstadt



ST. TIKHON'S ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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8/16/23

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church
110 East Main Street
Marblehead, OH 43440

Dear Fr. Peter and faithful parishioners:

We give thanks to God always for all, constantly mentioning you in our prayers (1 Thess 1:2)

Please accept my personal thanks for your generous gift to St. Tikhon's Seminary. Our Rector, Archbishop Michael always reminds me: if a person goes to medical school, incurring great debt, he graduates, becomes a doctor, and in a few years, pays off his medical school debt. If a Person goes to law school, incurring great debt; she becomes a lawyer, and in a few years, pays off her law school debt. Those who go to seminary, to study to be formed for ministry in the Church, rarely have the blessing of a money tree in their front yard. It is, therefore, gifts from faithful and generous folks like you who make the financial burden of seminary lighter for those in need.

St. Tikhon's is growing every day. There is a palpable sense of joy and purpose here . For now, as always, thank you. Thank You! And again we thank you.

Yours in Christ,

V. Rev. John Parker
Dean

Donation: \$1,000.00

This document serves as an acknowledgement of the charitable contribution you made to St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary. No goods or services were provided by the seminary for this contribution. This acknowledgement must be retained and is required by the Internal Revenue Service in order to substantiate and verify this charitable deduction on your tax return.

Thank you all!