Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

110 EAST MAIN STREET,
Marblehead, OH 43440

V. Rev. Archpriest Peter Tomas, Rector

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

NOVEMBER 1, 2026

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE: Galatians 6:11-18

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

Jesus heals Gadarene Demoniac

GOSPEL: Lk 8:26-39

At that time, Jesus came 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. 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.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

MON. Nov 2	Saint Marcian of Cyrrhus; 1 Thess 1:1-5, Lk 11:29-33
TUE. Nov 3	Hieromartyrs Akepsimas, Joseph, and Aeithalas; 1 Thess 1:6-10, Lk 11:34-41
WED. Nov 4	Venerable Joannicius the Great; 1 Thess 2:1-8, Lk 11:42-46
THU. Nov 5	Martyrs Galaction and his wife, Epistemis; 1 Thess 2:9-14, Lk 11:47-12:1
FRI. Nov 6	Saint Paul the Confessor, Patr. of Constantinople; 1 Thess 2:14-19, Lk 12:2-12
SAT. Nov 7	33 Holy Martyrs of Melitene; 2 Cor 8: 1-5, Lk 9:1-6
4:00 PM	**VESPERS**
SUN. Nov 8	**23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, Archangel Michael and the Other Bodiless Powers, *Tone 6***
9:10 AM	**HOURS**
9:30 AM	**DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Coffee Social**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Subdeacon John (Roger Pinta), P. O. Box 39, Middle Bass, OH 43446; **Laura Kovach,** 382 South Church Road, Marblehead, OH 43440; **Joe Schutt,** 9340 Roseto Villa Drive, Dublin, OH 43016; **Tony Monastra & Tina Rindfleisch**, 2119 Willow Cove, Marblehead, OH 43440; **Irene Vangeloff**, 3580 Shaw Ave., Apt. 305, Cincinnati, OH 45208 Tel.: (513) 376-9693

NOVEMBER REPOSED

Mary Hritsko (1948) No date provided**;** Anna Holodnak (1951) No date provided**;** John Danchisen (1951) No date provided**;** Michael Guzy (1927) No date provided**;** Mary Lou Hobson (2015) No date provided**;** **1**-Peter Felenchak (1974)**;** **2**- Donald Sennich (1994)**;** **3**- Marian Glovinsky (2001)**;** **5**- Basil Glovinsky (2025); **5**- Margaret Pietropolo (2009); **5**- Dan Opritza (2021) **5**- Joseph Guzy (1974); **6**- William Rentz (2018); **6**- Michael Chemorov (2019); **8**- Ann G Stretchberry (2003); **8**- Anne Catherine Glovinsky (2004); **9**- Ann Golob (No year recorded); **9**- Robley Blackford (2021); **18**- Archpriest George Timko (2000) Former Pastor; **19**- Evelyn Biecheler (2002); **19**- Frances (Nancy B. mom) (2019); **19**- Orestes Mihaly No year provided; **21**- Ann S. Ratica (1991); **22**- Joann Carender No year provided; **22**- Mary Dziak (2024); **23**- George Michael Elchisco (2016); **23**- Violet Bargdill (1995)**;** **26**- Janet Elchisko (2018); **28**- Anna Grabonsky (1972); **29**- Alexander Mazur (2003)

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Mike Karnionis / Peter Kowal / Kris / Tom & Ellen Martin / Laura Kovach / Joe Schutt / Tony Monastra / Sessely and her unborn baby / Russel / Debby /Subdeacon John (Roger Pinta) / Bryan Gibson / Tom Sitzler / Valerie Schutt / Hayden Issler / Roger Pinta Jr. / Richard Williams / Christine Twarek / Alvin Foland / Delaine Ward (Ron Royhab's sister) / Kristen Cassell / Laura DeKemper / Tom Hileman / Cliff & Kathy Ruggles / Sandra / Renee Haynal / Heidi Golob / Ron & Bobbie Royhab /Rodney Clevenger / Jennifer Heffernan / Pam / Jim Twarek / Ed Garrity / Barbara Wroblewski / Michal Tomáš / Helena Tomášová / Ruth Sheller / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Irene Vangeloff / Sonja Rose / James Bargdill / Carole Conaway/ Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Betty Kovach / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Gleice, Sophie & Chloe / Carol / Nora.

Other Requests: Bailey Calhoun / Catechumen Justin Inks / Catechumen Mariah Moses / Catechumen Cory Moses / Chris Clabaugh / Samantha Lee / Peggy / Becky / Ella / Tom Virostek / Bob Stephenson / Jim Rinaldo / Roy / Greg / Patty Wandover / Russ M. / Suzeann / Laura Engler / Steve Rohweder / Nicole Williams / John Couture / Ann Turinsky / Marcia / Catechumen Blake Shoemaker / Linkoln Paull / Matushka Melania / Sharyn Osborne / Amy / Bill Byrnes / Susanne / Charles Schlett / Kathy Debevits / Anthony / Archpriest Ján Čižmár / Archpriest David Lis / Archpriest Emilian Hutnyan / Archpriest John Adamcio / Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Mark Ludvik / Robert Piznar / William / Rick Rowe / Chris.

Military: Craig Cassell / Jake Ellithorpe / Jordon Fulton / Justin Issler / Tikhon / Nicholas / & All Military

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VIGILS FOR OCTOBER 25th

Bundren Family 1 Special Intentions

Tim Glovinsky 1 In memory of Don Gresh

Susan Guzy 1 For health of Peter, Russ, Gary

Laura Kovac3h 3 For health and/or healing of Lynn M-C, Peter K., Mike K., Bailey C, Judy W., Roger P., Jim K., Joe S., Katie M., Robin L., Margi & Joe, Heidi & Wayne G., Lindsay & Janet, Jerry Z., Deb F., Russ M, Burt K., Bobbie & Ron R., Peggy S., Brenda T., Betty K., Margaret M., Mark M., Dana M., and Bodhi C.
Prayers for successful surgery for Joe Schutt
Memory eternal to Donnie Gresh. Safe travels for Jim and Tina

Sandy Martin 1 Special Intentions

Roddie & David Mazurik 2 Special Intentions

Gabe Mazurik 1 Special Intentions

Natalie Twarek 10 In loving memory of Don Gresh, In birthday remembrance of Mom(10/28), For the health and recovery of Mike Karnionis, Pete Kowal, Bailey Calhoun, and Lynn Mate Cramer, For the health and recovery of Chris Clabaugh, For the health of Sessely and unborn baby, For the health and recovery Laura and Joe and Elaine, Roger, For God's guidance for Mia, For the health of Fr Peter & Matushka Michelle, and Fr John & Matushka Melania, For the health and recovery of John, Mimi, Rodney, Bob, Richard, Laura, Kathy & Cliff, Irene, Ron & Bobbie, Betty, Kayla, Heidi, Wayne, Peggy & Becky, Marcia, Health and healing for Father's parents Michal & Helena and Matushka's mom Barbara & Walter, For the health of Nick & family, Christine, Jen, Father David, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Sonya, Margi & Joe, MaryAnn & Bob, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, Special Intentions

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ATTENDANCE

10/24 Vespers, 7 attending; **10/25** Divine Liturgy, **27** attending

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READERS LIST

Sunday Nov 1 – Tim
Sunday Nov 8 – Joe
Sunday Nov 15 – Tim
Sunday Nov 22 – Joe

NOVEMBER CANDLE SPONSORS

Altar Candles: Joe & Valerie Schutt, Holy Assumption Orthodox Church (Father & Matuska, Ryan & Sebastian, Choir, Council) **($50)**; **Chandelier:** Joe & Valerie Schutt, In memory of Violet Bargdill (November 25, 1995) **($50)**; **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** Jean Hileman, God's Blessings for Justin and his deployment **($25)**; **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Madelyn, Amanda, Andrew, and Betty; and in memory of Uncle Alex **($20)**; **Candles at St. Tikhon Icon:** Available **($20)**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

8 – Sessely Maciejewski; **8** – Wayne & Nancy Bunge-Daniel Anniversary; **16** – Valerie Schutt; **17** – Cole Heffernan; **17** – Roddie Mazurik; **30** – Victoria Voloschuk

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SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, October 25, 2026

Tithe	$ 1,368.00
Donations	$ 40.00
Candles	$ 74.00
Vigils	$ 90.00
Danbury Holiday Bureau (Oct.)	$ 30.00
Bookstore	$ 74.00
Building Restoration	$ 700.00
Building Restoration (for Garage)	$26,000.00
Total:	**$28,376.00**

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

MEMORIAL DONATION RECEIVED – THANK YOU!

We wish to express our sincere thanks to **Irene Vangeloff** for her generous donation of **$1,000.00** in Memory of her husband † **ED VANGELOFF**. *May Our Lord and God reward Irene for her care and love and grant to his departed servant † **ED** Eternal Memory! Vechnaya Pamyat'!*

SINCERE THANK YOU

We would like to express our sincere thanks to **TINA RINDFLEISCH** for her very generous donation of **$26,000.00** for our garage project. *May Our Lord and God bless Tina for her generosity with all His special blessings and preserve her for Many Years. Mnogaya Leta!*

2026 LITURGICAL MUSIC WORKSHOP

St Andrew of Crete Music Ministry of the Diocese of the Midwest will hold their 5th Annual Liturgical Music Workshop at **St Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church** in Dayton, OH on **November 13-14.** This year, as a capstone to the workshop, there will be a concert to benefit our diocesan seminarians. *Please see the flyer on our bulletin board in vestibule!*

CHARITY OF THE MONTH

"St. Herman's House" is the charity we donate to for the month of November.

UP-COMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov 12th – Monthly Parish Social 6:00 pm at a local Restaurant *(Thursday)*

Nov 15th – Beginning of Nativity Fast *(Sunday)*

Nov 15th – Parish Council Meeting after Coffee hour at Social Hall *(Sunday)*

Nov 21st – Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple *(Saturday)*

Dec 6th – Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia *(Sunday)*

COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST

Nov 1 - Mike & Sharon Cole
Nov 8 - Sessely &Dan
Nov 15 - Teri Cassell
Nov 22 - Natalia

Please sign up to host coffee hour. Signup sheet is located in the Social Hall

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CLEANING SCHEDULE

Nov 2, Natalie
Nov 9, Laura
Nov 16, Sue
Nov 23, Jean

Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia

Commemorated on November 1

The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas and Damian and their mother Saint Theodota were natives of Asia Minor (some sources say Mesopotamia). Their pagan father died while they were still quite small children. Their mother raised them in Christian piety. Through her own example, and by reading holy books to them, Saint Theodota preserved her children in purity of life according to the command of the Lord, and Cosmas and Damian grew up into righteous and virtuous men.

Trained and skilled as physicians, they received from the Holy Spirit the gift of healing people's illnesses of body and soul by the power of prayer. They even treated animals. With fervent love for both God and neighbor, they never took payment for their services. They strictly observed the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Freely have you received, freely give." (Mt. 10:8). The fame of Saints Cosmas and Damian spread throughout all the surrounding region, and people called them unmercenary physicians.

Once, the saints were summoned to a grievously ill woman named Palladia, whom all the doctors had refused to treat because of her seemingly hopeless condition. Through faith and through the fervent prayer of the holy brothers, the Lord healed the deadly disease and Palladia got up from her bed perfectly healthy and giving praise to God. In gratitude for being healed and wishing to give them a small gift, Palladia went quietly to Damian. She presented him with three eggs and said, "Take this small gift in the Name of the Holy Life-Creating Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Hearing the Name of the Holy Trinity, the unmercenary one did not dare to refuse.

When Saint Cosmas learned what had happened, became very sad, for he thought that his brother had broken their strict vow. On his deathbed he gave instructions that his brother should not be buried beside him. Saint Damian also died shortly afterward, and everyone wondered where Saint Damian's grave should be. But through the will of God a miracle occurred. A camel, which the saints had treated for its wildness, spoke with a human voice saying that they should have no doubts about whether to place Damian beside Cosmas, because Damian did not accept the eggs from the woman as payment, but out of respect for the Name of God. The venerable relics of the holy brothers were buried together at Thereman (Mesopotamia).

Many miracles were worked after the death of the holy unmercenaries. There lived at Thereman, near the church of Cosmas and Damian, a certain man by the name of Malchus. One day he went on a journey, leaving his wife all alone for what would be a long time. He prayerfully entrusted her to the heavenly protection of the holy brothers. But the Enemy of the race of mankind took on the appearance of one of Malchus' friends, and planned to kill the woman. A certain time went by, and this man went to her at home and said that Malchus had sent him to bring her to him. The woman believed him and went along. He led her to a solitary place intending to kill her. The woman, seeing that disaster threatened her, called upon God with deep faith.

Two fierce-some men then appeared, and the devil let go of the woman and fled, falling off a cliff. The two men led the woman home. At her own home, bowing to them deeply she asked, "My rescuers, to whom I shall be grateful to the end of my days, what are your names?"

They replied, "We are the servants of Christ, Cosmas and Damian," and became invisible. The woman with trembling and with joy told everyone about what had happened to her. Glorifying God, she went up to the icon of the holy brothers and tearfully offered prayers of thanksgiving for her deliverance. And from that time the holy brothers were venerated as protectors of the holiness and inviolability of Christian marriage, and as givers of harmony to conjugal life. From ancient times, their veneration spread also to Russia.

The Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Asia Minor should not be confused with the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Rome (July 1), or the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Arabia (October 17).

What Saint Seraphim's Greeting Means—and Why It Matters Today

by Fr. Evgeny Murzin

Saint Seraphim of Sarov was the first saint canonized in the twentieth century. That fact itself carries a spiritual hint, a sign pointing to something vital for us.

The last century was perhaps the most paradoxical, complex, and turbulent in history. In certain ways it recalls the Renaissance—an age of breathtaking achievements in science and art, shadowed by monstrous eruptions of cruelty, treachery, and hatred—only multiplied a hundredfold.

The twentieth century also brought a new phenomenon, often called in political thought "the age of the masses": the moment when an impersonal collective—no longer shaped by older social and cultural hierarchies—became the main actor in public life. Multitudes of persons were dissolved into an amorphous mass, easily steered, while leaders—political, cultural, social—were not guardians of tradition or ideas so much as figures fluent in the language of the crowd, adept at pandering to its instincts, fears, and desires.

For the "modern" person—child of this age of the masses—it is very easy to lose oneself. To the state and to society he is a statistic, faceless and nameless. In a system that prizes function over personhood, with its unrepeatable inner world, he is entirely interchangeable. Fashion, slogans, and mass media turn his gaze outward and frustrate inner recollection. And for all his involvement in countless groups and activities, he tastes a deep loneliness and inner emptiness that he does not know how to fill.

This is alienation from one's own self, and it inevitably erodes our sense of dignity. One ceases to feel that one's life is unique, precious, called to something greater. What remains is a spiritual crisis with the psychological wounds that follow. It is no accident that depression has become one of the most prevalent afflictions of the modern age.

What, then, has Saint Seraphim to do with all this?

Precisely here his person, his deeds, and his words speak with striking force. There was a profound peace about him, born of an unbroken communion with God. People felt in his presence a palpable holiness. He was single-heartedly focused on what he never ceased to teach those who came to him: *acquiring the Spirit of peace*. And, above all, there was his famous greeting: "**My joy, Christ is Risen!**" Why "above all"? Because—at least as I hear it—those words are not merely kind and cordial (though he was unfailingly both); they proclaim the unrepeatable worth of every person.

Saint Seraphim addressed this greeting to everyone alike: humble pilgrims and high officials, believers and seekers, children and the elderly. He said it always—not only at Pascha—and not as a quaint or original turn of phrase, but sincerely, as though opening to each person the spiritual world in which he himself dwelt and drawing them into his grace-filled experience.

His "**my joy**" is a true spiritual message. The elder received each person as one sent by God, as the very image of God—and so he rejoiced in every visitor. In his greeting one can almost hear: "You are not

some random, unwanted passer-by. You are the image of God; He cares for you; He has brought you to me—and it is my joy to do His will in serving you."

He did not address a person's function or social standing, but the heart—the image of God within. When someone calls you "my joy," and especially when that someone is Saint Seraphim, something within awakens, rises to life again. Not only a warm feeling, but a remembrance of your true self: that you are not a mere cog in a machine, not simply a product of the system or a mirror of others' expectations. You are greeted as one who bears worth and meaning. You are received not out of courtesy, but with a grateful readiness to be at your side.

And the second half of the greeting— "**Christ is Risen!**"—confirms and *seals* that message. With the Paschal proclamation the saint reminds each person: "You are God's beloved creature. For you Christ died and rose again. Even if you wander in darkness now, God has not ceased to believe in you."

On Saint Seraphim's Day, as we ask his prayers, it is good to remember who we truly are and to what we are called. It is good to ponder the supreme sacrifice of the Son of God and the victory over sin and death marked by His Resurrection. To do this, simply imagine Saint Seraphim addressing his unique greeting to you personally—that *you* are his joy, and that for *you* Christ suffered and rose.

Then try to pass that grace along. How? Begin with an inward readiness to receive the other person—especially the one who, for whatever reason, feels unwelcome to you at the moment—not as an irritating obstacle on the way to your favorite program, but as one sent to you by God. Entrust yourself to His Providence, and speak words to your neighbor that spring not from annoyance but from a genuine faith that every person bears the image of God and therefore is worthy of love.