

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

110 EAST MAIN STREET,  
Marblehead, OH 43440

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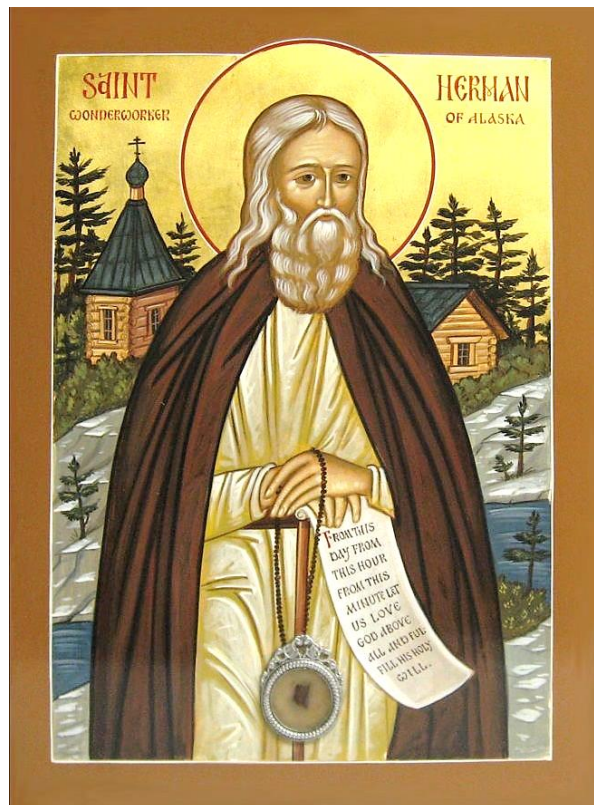
*Holy Assumption Orthodox Church is a parish of the Orthodox Church in America,  
Diocese of the Midwest*

DECEMBER 8, 2024

TWENTY FORTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**EPISTLE: Ephesians 2:14-22**

Brethren: It is Christ who is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with e saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.



**Venerable Herman of Alaska**  
**Feast Day – December 13<sup>th</sup>**

## GOSPEL: Lk 17:12-19

At that time, as Jesus entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So, when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So, Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

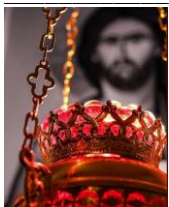
<b>MON. Dec 9</b>	Conception of the Most Holy Theotokos by Saint Anna; 2 Thess 1:1-3:10, Mk 8:11-21
<b>TUE. Dec 10</b>	Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Euegraphus; 2 Thess 1:10-2:2, Mk 8:22-26
<b>WED. Dec 11</b>	Venerable Daniel the Stylite; 2 Thess 2:1-12, Mk 8:30-34
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Choir practice in the Rectory</b>
<b>THU. Dec 12</b>	Saint Spyridon the Wonderworker: 2 Thess 2:13-3:5, Mk 9:10-16
<b>FRI. Dec 13</b>	Repose of Venerable Herman of Alaska; 2 Thess 3:6-18, Mk 9:33-41
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>AKATHIST in Preparation of the Nativity</b>
<b>SAT. Dec 14</b>	Martyrs Thyrsos, Leukios, and Kallinikos; Gal 1:3-10, Lk 14:1-11
<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>VESPERS</b>
<b>SUN. Dec 15</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, <i>Tone 8</i></b>
<b>9:10 AM</b>	<b>HOURS</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Coffee Social</b>

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS



**Patti Owens**, 311 Woodbridge Road, Vermilion, OH 44089; **Basil Glovinsky**, 1007 Glendale Drive, Port Clinton, OH 43452; **Subdeacon Roger Pinta**, P.O. Box 39, Middle Bass, OH 43446; **Ed & Irene Vangeloff**, 454 Strouse Lane, Sandusky, OH 44870

### DECEMBER REPOSED



Peter Onyock (1952) No date provided; Anna Mazurik (1968) No date provided; **1-** Helen Elchisco (1990); **3-** Mary Hubicki (2013); **8-** Mary (Marika) Lefas (2019); **12-** Anna Bretz (2002); **13-** Joseph Mazurik (1986); **13-** Archimandrite Seraphim Oblivantseff (1954) Former Pastor; **15-** Michael W. Belenky (1971); **20-** Julia Brosojah Millie (1953); **20-** John Mazurik (2017); **20-** William Pipenur (2003); **21-** Mary Sennich (1985); **22-** Antonima Vecsey (1972); **23-** Steven Danchisen (1982); **24-** Alexandra Turkul (1980); **24-** John Bird No year Provided; **25-** Joe Rose (2022); **29-** Alexandra Dotsenko (1980); **30-** Rita Felenchak (1996); **31-** Jevgeny Cernonok (1980); **31-** Janice Timko (2021)



## DECEMBER CANDLE SPONSORS

**Altar Candles:** Jen Fela and the Havrilla Family, In Loving Memory of Bernadine Havrilla (\$50); **Chandelier:** Sonya Rose, In Loving Memory of Joe Rose (\$50); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** Angela Bricker, For the Health and God's Blessings for Holy Assumption's Parishioners, Family, and Catechumens this Nativity Season; Jean Hileman In loving memory of my father, William (\$25); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Ben (\$20); **Candles at St. Tikhon Icon:** For Safety and Health of Nicholas, Tikhon, Gleice, Sophie & Chloe (\$20)



## VIGILS FOR DECEMBER 1

**Susan Guzy 1** In loving memory of aunt Mary (12/3) Vichnaya Pamyat

**Jean Hileman 1** Special intentions

**Laura Kovach 3** For health and/or healing of Heidi G., Ruthe F., Jerry P., Matushka Melania, Ron R., Betty K., Margaret M., David M., Hannah S., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Kathie J., Ed V., and Irene V.

Birthday blessings to Angela and George

Safe travels for family

**Sandy Martin 2** In loving memory of mom, Special Intentions

**Natalie Twarek 8** For the health Fr Peter & Matushka Michelle, For the health & recovery of Matushka Melania, For the health and recovery on Ron, Rodney, Betty, Carol, Kayla, Bill, Ruth, Pam, Jim, Jerry, Heidi, Father Emilian, Barbara Heffernan, Health and healing for Father's parents Michal & Helena and Matushka's mom Barbara, and Walter, For the health of Jen, Tony, Bev, Ed, Irene, Father David, Judy, Tina, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Tina's dad, Earl, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, special intentions

## PRAYER LIST

**Parishioners & Family:** Ron & Bobbie Royhab / Rodney Clevenger / Jennifer Heffernan / Tom Hileman / Pam / Jim Twarek / Ed Garrity / Patti Owens / Barbara Wroblewski / Michal Tomáš / Helena Tomášova / Ruth Sheller / Basil Glovinsky / Dale / Sophie / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Chris Hannon / Subdeacon Roger Pinta / Ed Vangeloff / Irene Vangeloff / Sonja Rose / Ron Royhab / James Bargdill / John Beadle / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Joseph Habegger / Elaine Hileman / Betty Kovach / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Earl Rindfleisch / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Clifford / Gleice, Sophie & Chloe / Carol / Nora.

**Other Requests:** Catechumen Blake Shoemaker / Catechumen Nickolas Dawenport / Matushka Melania / Sharyn Osborne / Christine Zahm / Amy / Bill Byrnes / Michael Heffernan / Susanne / Barbara Heffernan / Charles Schlett / Kathy Debevits / Maxwell Chaney / Sidharth Bijilani – friend of Subdeacon Roger and Debbie Pinta / Anthony / Archpriest Ján Čižmár / Archpriest David Lis / Archpriest Emilian & Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Robert Piznar / Mark Masica / Valerie Ritzenthaler / William / Rick Rowe / Chris.

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

## ATTENDANCE



**11/30** Vespers, **6** attending; **11/01** Divine Liturgy, **27** attending (7 guests); **12/05** Vespers, **8** attending (1 guest) **12/06** Divine Liturgy, **14** attending; **12/06** Akathist, **7** attending



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**11** – Tina Rindfleisch; **13** – Gabe Mazurik; **17** – Tim Heffernan \*; **20** – Natalia Stamp; **21** – Ed & Irene Vangeloff Anniversary (72); **23** – Teri Cassell \*; **25** – Darlene Mazurik \*; **26** – Fr. John Adamcio \*; **31** – Fred & Christi Soski Anniversary \*



## READERS LIST

Sunday Dec 8 – Tim  
Sunday Dec 15 – Jake  
Sunday Dec 22 – Tim

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



- Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>** Conception by Righteous Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos (*Monday*)
- Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>** Holidays pre-orders pick up 9:00 – 10:30 am (*Saturday*)
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Eve - GREAT COMPLINE with Litya at 4:00 PM (*Tuesday*)
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>** NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM (*Wednesday*)
- Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>** New Year’s Eve – Vespers at 6:00 pm (*Tuesday*)
- Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>** Circumcision of Our Lord, St. Basil the Great – Div. Liturgy at 10:00 pm (*Wednesday*)



## SUNDAY OFFERING

### Sunday, December 1, 2024

Tithe	\$ 825.00
Donations	\$ 65.00
Candles	\$ 27.00
Vigils	\$ 125.00
Holy Day Donation	\$ 180.00
Flowers Donation	\$ 270.00
Eternal Light and Icon Screen	\$ 25.00
Bistro 163 (Dec)	\$ 15.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,532.00</b>

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

## CHURCH MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSES

Month of <b>NOVEMBER 2024</b>	
Church Donation income was	\$11,312.00
Church Operating Expenses totaled	<u>\$ 8,559.87</u>
net gain of	<b>\$ 2,752.13</b>



## CLEANING SCHEDULE

Dec 9, Sandy  
Dec 16, Greg  
Dec 23, Roddie & David  
Dec 30, Natalie



## COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST

- Dec 8 – Natalia, Ryan & Sebastian
- Dec 15 – Danielle & Josh Paull
- Dec 22 – Matushka Michelle
- Dec 29 – Natalia

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



## CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“Bistro 163” is the charity we donate to for the month of December.



## NEW “2025” LITURGICAL CALENDARS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to **Tom Priesman of Neidecker, Crosser & Priesman Funeral Home** for sponsoring our liturgical calendars. The new calendars are located in the vestibule of the church.



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA PLANTS

We would like to offer you an opportunity to sponsor the poinsettia plants which will beautify our church for the Nativity Season. We also kindly ask for your prayerful consideration to sponsor liturgical wine, incense, and charcoal that we use during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The forms for sponsoring are located in the vestibule of the church. Thank you in advance for your generosity and care!

## ST. NICHOLAS VISITED OUR PARISH

On Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the feast of St. Nicholas the wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia. The Holy Day was celebrated with vespers on Thursday evening and the Divine Liturgy in the morning.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, we welcomed in our midst St. Nicholas who brought the gifts to all who were present in the church.

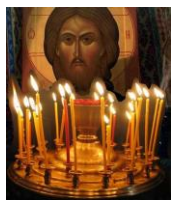
We are very grateful to St. Nicholas for his visit to Marblehead and we hope that he will visit us again next year. *“O Holy Father Nicholas pray to God for us.”*





## DECORATING OUR CHURCH FOR THE NATIVITY SEASON – THANK YOU!

Our heartfelt thanks are extended to the following parishioners for coming yesterday, Saturday, to decorate our church: Laura, Jim, Sandy, Bobbie, Donna, Tim, Ryan, Sebastian, and Mat. Michelle. *May Our Lord reward you all with his special blessings throughout this Holy Season of the Nativity of Our Lord and grant you good health and happiness in the New Year!*



## OUR SYMPATHIES – MEMORY ETERNAL!

Ron Royhab's uncle, † **John Naiser**, 93, of Louisville, KY, fell asleep in the Lord on December 5. He was the last of six siblings including Ron's mother Elizabeth Naiser Royhab; his parents, Nicholas and Nazha Naiser, emigrated from Lebanon. He was a lifelong member of St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church in Louisville where funeral services will be held on December 14. He leaves three children, John, Stephen, and Matushka Joni Soroka who is married to Fr. Thomas Soroka of the Pittsburgh area. *"In blessed repose grant eternal rest, O Lord, to your ever-remembered servant † John and make his Memory Eternal! Vichnaya Jemu Pamyat!"*



## Venerable Patapius of Thebes

Commemorated on December 8

Saint Patapius was born at Thebes into a pious Christian family. Reaching the age of maturity, he scorned the vanity of this world, and so he went into the Egyptian desert where he became known for his ascetic deeds. Though he wished to live in silence, people began coming to him for advice.

To every tired pilgrim who visited his cell, he offered rest and hospitality, as well as spiritual instructions and profitable counsel for the salvation of one's soul. The Saint's reputation spread quickly, and every day many arrived at his cell in order to hear these beneficial instructions from his lips.

Later, he went to Constantinople, where he had a cell by the city wall, near the Blachernae church. But even here, he soon became known. The infirm started to gather around Patapius, and because he had been granted the gift of healing, he helped all those in need.

Once a certain woman was afflicted by the terrible disease of cancer, and worms came forth from her breasts. Not only did she suffer a great deal of pain in her chest, but throughout her entire body as well. She was in constant pain, and it reached her heart, so that she was near death. The doctors could not help her, and she felt she was wasting her money without obtaining relief. Therefore, she came to Saint Patapius and fell at his feet, begging him to heal her. The worms were devouring her flesh even before she was in the grave, causing her such pain that she longed for death.

The Saint answered, "If you have faith in the Lord, and have no doubt that you shall be healed, then let it be done according to your faith."

Sighing from the depths of her soul, she said, "I believe, O Lord that You know all things which are hidden and unknown, and that You are all-powerful. Therefore, have mercy on me and heal me."

Then the Saint asked the woman to let him see the effects of her distress. When he saw the ravages of the disease, he was struck with awe, saying, "Your affliction is indeed great, and difficult to cure. Go in peace, for you shall not suffer anymore."

As soon as he said this, the woman was healed and went home rejoicing and glorifying God. She told of this miracle everywhere, and praised Saint Patapius.

After a life adorned with virtue and miracles, Saint Patapios fell asleep in the Lord and was buried in the church of Saint John the Baptist.



## Conception of the Most Holy Theotokos by Saint Anna

Commemorated on December 9

The Gospels and other books of the New Testament do not mention anything about Saint Anna, the mother of the Theotokos. According to Tradition, the priest Matthan (Matthew 1:15), a resident of Bethlehem, had three daughters: Mary,<sup>1</sup> Sobe (Sobé), and Anna. Mary was married in Bethlehem, where she gave birth to Elizabeth, the mother of Saint John the Baptist.

The Holy Righteous Anna was the youngest daughter of the priest Matthan, who was from the tribe of Levi, of the family of Aaron. Her husband, the Holy Righteous Joachim was from the tribe of Judah, from the house and family of King David.

According to the ancient promise, the Messiah was to come from the lineage of King David (Luke 2:4).

The couple lived in Nazareth of Galilee. Every year, they gave two-thirds of their income to the Temple in Jerusalem, and to the poor. By God's Providence, the holy couple had no children until their old age. They were greatly saddened by this, since the Jews considered childlessness a great misfortune and a punishment from God. They prayed fervently for the Lord to give them children.

On a certain feast, when the Israelites were bringing gifts to God in the Temple at Jerusalem, the High Priest, believing that the childless Joachim did not have God's blessing, refused to accept gifts from him. Saint Joachim was grief stricken. He consulted the genealogy of the twelve tribes of Israel and ascertained that all righteous men had offspring, including Abraham, when he was a hundred years old. Without returning home, Saint Joachim went into the wilderness and spent forty days there in strict fasting and prayer, entreating God's mercy for himself, and washing away his disgrace with bitter tears. Saint Anna thought that she was to blame for their sorrow. One day saw a nest with barely fledged chicks in the branches of a laurel tree, she wept and prayed for the gift of a child, promising to bring the infant to God as an offering. As soon as Saint Anna spoke these words, an Angel of the Lord told her that her prayer had been answered, and revealed that she would have a daughter named Mary, through whom all the peoples of the world would be blessed. Rejoicing, Saint Anna hastened to the Temple in Jerusalem, in order to give thanks to God. She repeated her vow to dedicate the child to Him. An Angel came to Saint Joachim in the wilderness with the same news and commanded him to go to Jerusalem. There, the Righteous Anna conceived and gave birth to the Most Holy Theotokos.

The Orthodox Church does not accept the teaching that the Mother of God was exempted from the consequences of ancestral sin (death, corruption, sin, etc.) at the moment of her conception by virtue of the future merits of her Son. Only Christ was born perfectly holy and sinless, as Saint Ambrose of Milan teaches in Chapter Two of his Commentary on the Gospel of Saint Luke. The Holy Virgin was like everyone else in her mortality, and in being subject to temptation, although she committed no personal sins. She was not a deified creature removed from the rest of humanity. If this were the case, She would not have been truly human, and the nature that Christ took from her would not have been truly human either. If Christ does not truly share our human nature, then the possibility of our salvation is in doubt. Saint Anna has been honored since ancient times. We infer this from various Fathers of the Church, and also from ancient hymns in honor of the mother of the Theotokos. In the year 550, Emperor Justinian dedicated a temple in Constantinople to Saint Anna.

Part of the Saint's left hand is located in Stavronikita Monastery on Mount Athos. Part of the Saint's incorrupt left foot is located in Saint Anna's Skete on Mount Athos. Part of the Saint's incorrupt right foot is located in the Monastery of Koutloumousiou on Mount Athos.

Fragments of the Saint's Holy Relics are to be found in Saint Anna's Monastery at Lygaria in Lamia, and also in the Monastery of Saint John the Theologian at Sourotis.

Some of the Saint's incorrupt flesh is in the Roman Catholic International Crusaders Collection of Holy Relics. The Saint's wrist is to be found in the Roman Catholic church of Saint Paul "Outside the Walls" in Rome.

Many icons of the Conception by Saint Anna show the Most Holy Theotokos trampling the serpent underfoot. Saints Joachim and Anna are usually depicted with hands folded in prayer; their eyes are also directed upward and they contemplate the Mother of God, who stands in the air with outstretched hands; under her feet is an orb encircled by a serpent (symbolizing the devil), which strives to conquer the universe by its power.”

There are also icons in which Saint Anna holds the Most Holy Virgin on her left arm as an infant. On Saint Anna’s face is a look of reverence. A large ancient icon, painted on canvas, is located in the village of Minkovetsa in the Dubensk district of Volhynia Diocese. From ancient times this Feast was especially venerated by pregnant women in Russia.

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1 This Mary is the mother of Saint Anna, and the grandmother of the Theotokos. She is commemorated on the Sunday of the Forefathers.

