

# SS. PETER & PAUL

Lorain, OH | [www.OrthodoxLorain.org](http://www.OrthodoxLorain.org) | (440) 277-6266

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**Gospel Reading ~ Luke 8:41-56**  
**Epistle Reading ~ Galatians 1:11-19**  
*Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenaries*

## This Week at a Glance

**Sat, Nov 9th**

6:00 pm - Great Vespers

**Sun, Nov 10th**

9:00 am - 3rd & 6th  
Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy  
Small Plate Dinner  
(see info below)

## **Small-Plate Dinner**

Join us after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Nov. 10, for a parish fundraiser. Enjoy tastes of Russian and Greek cuisine! Beef Stroganoff, Greek Soup, Stuffed Grape Leaves, Spanikopita and more. \$12 adult. Kids eat free! See Sam Jacob to reserve your spot.

## **Gospel Meditation**

Sometimes we think that everyone has to approach God in exactly the same way. After all, we are Orthodox Christians. The Divine Liturgy and other services are set; they don't change and are celebrated in by the Orthodox around the world. Our beliefs were defined through ancient councils. Our spiritual practices have been passed down over the centuries by countless generations. The Holy Spirit has preserved our church in a unity that is unique among Christians. But that unity doesn't mean complete uniformity in the sense that we all must or should do exactly the same thing. We are all distinct, free persons; and it's as such that we will find God's blessing and salvation in our lives.

We read in today's gospel passage about two very different people who approached Jesus Christ in different ways. One was Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue. The other person was very different. She was a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years, and had spent all her money on treatments that did not work. Not only was she now poor, she was also considered unclean because of the flow of blood. She was isolated: anyone who had physical contact with her would also become unclean.

People are different. We have distinct personalities, occupations, interests, and spiritual strengths and weaknesses. But we can all have faith. When we open the wounds and sorrows of our lives to Christ as best we can, He will hear us. If you are prepared to receive Communion today, I urge you to approach the chalice with "the fear of God and faith and love." For we do not simply touch the hem of Christ's clothing in the Eucharist or ask him to heal our sick child. We do far more, for we eat His flesh and drink His blood. And we do so praying that Jesus Christ will heal the deepest wounds of our souls and make us participants in the eternal life of the Kingdom. We receive Communion by name, as unique individuals whose only hope is in our Lord. Jairus and the woman came to Him in faith as best they could. We should do the same.

## **Orthodox Singles Group**

Next meeting of the Cleveland area Pan-Orthodox singles group will be Saturday, Nov. 9th. Vespers, 6 p.m., at St. Theodosius Cathedral (733 Starkweather Avenue, Cleveland 44113). After Vespers---Food, drink, talk at Nano Brew, 1859 West 25h St., Cleveland 44113.

