

**ST. MARY'S
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

VERY REV. RICHARD I. LAMBERT

356 S. BelleVista Ave.

Youngstown, Ohio 44509

Rectory 330-799-8163

Social Center 330-792-1578

**Aug. 6, 2023
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TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

SAT. 4:30 p.m. Health & Blessings of Parishioners
**SUN. 10:30 a.m. + Anthony & Margaret Hanigosky by Daughter,
Susan & Rick Teter**

MON. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy

TUE. 10:30 a.m. +Deanna Coletti by Sister Mary Theresa

WED. 10:30 a.m. +Joyce Haydu by Salloum & Rose Sahyoun

THU. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy

FRI. 10:30 am. No Liturgy



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Aug. 13, 2023
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SAT. 4:30 p.m. +Charles Turjanica by Sister, MaryAnn
SUN. 10:30 a.m. Health & Blessings of Parishioners

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, revealing as much of Your glory to Your disciples as they could be-hold. Through the prayers of the Theotokos let Your everlasting light also shine upon us sinners. O Giver of Light, glory to You!

July 30, 2023
Candles \$20.00 Cemetery \$500.00
Maintenance \$60.00 Holy Day \$10.00
Offertory...\$870.00

CHURCH PICNIC.....PLEASE NOTE

CHANGE OF DATE.....Feast of Dormition is Aug. 15th. Liturgy will be held on that day AT 10:30 AM. PICNIC WILL BE HELD ON WED. AUG. 23 AT 5:00 P.M. \$15.00 PER PERSON. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE 330 792 1578 TO RSVP. By Aug. 16th.

SECOND ANNUAL SUPER BINGO

will be held in our Center on Sept. 9, 2023 Doors open at 2: 00 p.m. Tickets are \$45.00 which includes Pasta/meatball Dinner FROM 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Pre-purchase your tickets and choose your seat. Tickets on sale at Sun. Bingo or at the Church Hall 9:00 -6:00 p.m. Mon. - Fri.....\$6,000.00 in PAY OUTS !

Vote YES on Issue One on August 8th

The Ohio Constitution is meant to spell out the State's obligations to its citizens and the limits of its power. It should not be the place for partisan and special interest patronage.

Currently, only a simple majority – 50% plus one vote, may amend our Constitution. This 50% plus one vote threshold for amendments makes our Ohio government a target for special interests and divisive partisan attacks – the very thing that our Constitution should protect us from. Examples of such special or partisan issues are the locking out of competition when casinos were approved and the contradictory redistricting plan that tied up our primary elections last year. Since it was first adopted, the Ohio Constitution has been amended 172 times. This is not good, balanced government.

Issue One would require those circulating petitions to amend Ohio Constitution to collect signatures from all 88 Ohio counties, not just from some big city.

And, if the proposed amendment did get onto the ballot, a favorable vote by at least 60% of all Ohio voters would be required to pass it.

As a **Non-Partisan** voter, you do not want partisan politics and special interest groups to tie up how our State government run. If Issue One is passed, with the help of your vote, our Ohio Constitution and the way our State government works may be changed only for those matters that are supported by a large majority of citizens throughout the State.

FEAST OF TRANSFIGURATION

Approximately 2000 years ago, man saw God. This is what we will be celebrating on The Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, God's revelation of Himself to man. God has chosen to reveal Himself throughout human history in many and varied ways. In the beginning, Adam and Eve, spoke with God and enjoyed the pleasure of His conversation with them, but they never saw Him, or at least did not see Him as He truly is. He was hidden from their view, more so for their sake, than for His. They were something other than what God was, and therefore, they could not behold His Majesty and Greatness with their human eyes. Noah too spoke with God, before and after the flood, but was denied the privilege of seeing Him. God however chose to reveal himself to Abraham and Sarah by the terebinth in Mamre, not as He truly is, but in the form of angels as the Book of Genesis describes. Now keep in mind this book was written at least a thousand years before the Christian understanding of God as Trinity came into being with the birth of Jesus Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. "The Lord appeared to Abraham by the terebinth of Mamre, looking up, he saw three men standing nearby, these three men, angels or messengers of the Lord, symbolic of the three persons of the Holy Trinity were to announce to Abraham and Sarah that they were to give birth to a multitude of generations which would be as numerous as the sands by the seashore, even though they were both well-beyond the years of childbearing. They were to give birth to a son Isaac who would be the father of Jacob, the father of the nation of Israel. From Israel would come the Savior, the Messiah, who would draw all nations and all peoples together. Moses, likewise, whom we hear about in today's gospel reading, also had a vision of God in the burning bush which he encountered in the land of Midian and from which God spoke to Him. He was also privileged to be allowed to see the back of God when God passed by Him at Mount Horeb in Israel. But as God warns Moses at Mt. Horeb before He passes by him, "I will make all my beauty pass before you, and in your presence I will pronounce my name, 'Lord' but my face you cannot see, for no man sees me and still lives" (Ex. 33:19-20). Elijah also had an encounter with God on Mt. Horeb as described in the First Book of Kings. God told Elijah, "Go outside and stand on the mountain before the Lord; the Lord will be passing by. A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountains and crushing rocks before the Lord - but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake - but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was fire - but the Lord was not in the fire. After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak and went and stood at the entrance of the cave. A voice [the Lord's voice] said to him, 'Elijah, why are you here?' Yet Elijah did not see God, he only heard Him. It was to a band of three lowly fisherman, that God chose to reveal His glory and His majesty, and to the poor people of Israel, His face. God revealed Himself to us, human beings, that we might come to believe in Him and place our complete faith, hope, and trust in Him. Jesus Christ was transfigured on the mount that the world may come to know that there was something more here than just a human being who taught good teachings in ancient Israel, there was the infinite, immortal, uncontainable Son of God who became man to show us God. But if God chose to reveal Himself to us 2000 years ago, how come He doesn't do it today. If God wants us to believe in Him, why doesn't He simply come down out of Heaven and reveal Himself to us. He did, He has, and He still does. But we're looking for Him in all the wrong places. He's closer to us now than He's ever been in human history. God is not out there somewhere. He's right here, in our hearts. The Holy Spirit of God dwells in each of us who have been baptized and chrismated. He brings Jesus to us who brings us to the Father. To find God we need to look inside, not outside.

PLAIN OLD KINDNESS

Remember kindness? It is that old-fashioned virtue of being nice.

Kindness manifests itself in a pleasant attitude, even when one is tempted to be sharp or critical. Kindness gives, asking nothing in return, for that is its nature.

Kindness seeks occasions to compliment others and does so freely.

There is no martyr spirit about kindness. It never shows what a sacrifice it is making. It asks for no bell to be rung in its honor. It is neither shy nor gushing, but has about it the tone of simple honesty.

Kindness is transparent. It has nothing to hide. Its words and deeds have no hidden motive behind them. There is such a wholesomeness about it that brightens any atmosphere and brings hope to even the most despondent.

Here is an excellent test for Christianity: judge us by our kindness.

If we are not kind in word and deed, then mark it down that we are church members only...that our religion is in our heads, not our hearts. For it should be impossible to have Christ in the heart and be unkind in any way.

True Christianity not only prepares men for another world; it makes them good citizens in this world. There ought to be no such thing as an unkind Christian.