



St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Church

1182 Ashland St., Greensburg, PA 15601
*Diocese of Charleston, Oakland and the Mid-Atlantic
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
of North America.*

(See the back cover for detailed contact information.)

Sunday, December 10, 2017

*To all who are present with us this morning,
Welcome! Thank you for being here!*

*Please join us for "coffee and..."
in the Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy.*

You May Find the Text of the Divine Liturgy beginning on the bottom of page 91 of the Service Book (gold embossed cross on the reddish brown cover) or in the green-spiral-bound book; sheet music can be found in the 8.5" x 11" large, spiral-bound booklet.

At the Kiss of Peace our practice is for each of us to greet the person to our right and left with the bowing of our head, hands held in a prayerful clasp or crossed on the chest, while offering each other the seasonal Christian greeting, "Christ is in our midst!" and responding, "He is and shall be!"

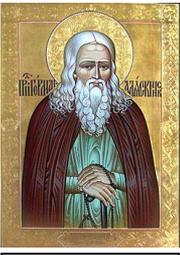
Please remember that Holy Communion is reserved for those Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have appropriately prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and Confession to receive the Holy Mysteries of the Church. The bread (*anti'doron*, which means 'in place' of the gifts) which we share after Communion and at the end of the Liturgy is for all.

Being mindful we are in church, let us always remember to...

...be quiet and attentive. Let us sing, pray, stand, sit, kneel and respond where responses are indicated. Let us not talk, look around, text message, play games, etc.. Especially, let us work at this in the Communion line and when in line to venerate the Cross and depart. If we cannot hear the post-Communion prayers being chanted during our church departure, we are way too noisy.

...refrain from eating, drinking or chewing gum (most obviously and especially if you will be receiving Holy Communion).

...stay put. Except in rare cases, there are few of us who cannot stay in one location for two hours (actually less, for most of us).



Herman of
Alaska
(Dec. 12-13)

The Mission of Our Church

The mission of St Michael's Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church is to tend the flock of our Lord Jesus Christ and to spread the Good News of Christ to those outside the flock. This mission is to be accomplished by a) living a full liturgical and sacramental life, b) proclaiming the Orthodox Christian faith to all people, c) providing effective charitable and social programs, and d) establishing strong spiritual leadership and resources.

TONE 2

Arr: Basil Kazan.

When Thou didst sub - mit Thy - self - un - to death,
O Thou Death - less and Im - mor - - tal One, then Thou didst
de - stroy Hell with Thy God - ly pow'r; and when Thou didst
raise the dead from be - neath the earth, all the pow'rs of
Hea - ven did cry a - loud un - to Thee: O Christ
Thou Gi - ver of Life, glo - - - ry to Thee!

SYRIAN CHRISTIAN RELIEF

As the Syrian crisis continues, we continue to accept *donations* to do what we can to help ease the suffering there. Checks may be written to "St. Michael's" with the note "Syrian Relief." The following is a link to International Orthodox Christian Charities ((IOCC) "Response to the Crisis in Syria" page with more information on what you can do to help:

http://www.iocc.org/countries/countries_syria.aspx

Sunday, December 10, 2017

Greeting: Christ is in our midst! **Response:** He is and shall be!

Tone: 2 **Eothinon:** 5

Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost & Tenth Sunday of Luke; Martyrs Menas, Eugephos & Hermogenes of Alexandria; Venerable Thomas Dephourkinos of Bithynia; Blessed Angelina Brancovich and her son Blessed John, king of Serbia; Joasaph, bishop of Belgorod.

THE EPISTLE READING

St. Paul to the Ephesians (6:10-17)

BRETHREN, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

According to St. Luke (13:10-17)

AT THAT TIME, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

**ANTIOCHIAN
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE**
of North America

December 10, 2017

Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday

Beloved Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful of Our God-protected Archdiocese:

Blessings and greetings to all of you in the Name of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ!

One of the hallmarks of our Orthodox Christian faith is our worship. Our ecclesiastical music, when done with prayer and skill, can elucidate the rich theology of our hymnography in such a way that worshipers can exclaim — as did the emissaries sent by St. Vladimir — “We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth!”

Because we owe such a tremendous amount of gratitude to our choirs and our chanters, we set aside the second Sunday of December to honor them for the key role they play in our liturgical life. I offer thanks especially for the work of the Department of Sacred Music in working diligently to expand the repertoire of music and to make it accessible to all. In addition, the Department offers the Sacred Music Institute to help our choir members and chanters learn more about this sacred art and fine tune their God-given talents.

To support this work, which is so vital to our Orthodox Christian liturgical lives, I ask each parish of this Archdiocese to offer a second collection on December 10, 2017 and to offer special recognition to those who are fulfilling this sacred ministry.

Wishing you all a holy and grace-filled continuation of the Fast, and joyous Feast of the Nativity, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+ Metropolitan Joseph

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

NEXT SATURDAY EVENING, December 16, at 6:00 PM
here at St. Michael's, we will be hosting a Great Vespers
Service for the local Westmoreland County Orthodox Churches.

Fr. Larry Daniels of Sts. Cyril and Methodios Church in Jeannette has spear-headed organizing these opportunities for us to get together with fellow Orthodox Christians to bring in the Lord's Day the way it ought to be brought in — with the celebration of Great Vespers. Come celebrate with us!

Thank you from Darryl Hill... The healing effects of your prayers, well wishes and cards were felt. Thank you.

Thank you to Sara Armanious, Helen Joseph and Christina Miller for sponsoring this morning's Fellowship Hour.

REMEMBER... Sarris Christmas Candy Sale orders will be distributed next Sunday, December 17th.

The Fellowship Hour Schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall and we are in need of volunteers to sign up to take a turn to provide refreshments following Divine Liturgy each week. We provide the coffee and you provide whatever you feel you want to contribute to St. Michael's community.

Please sign up to host Fellowship Hour.

December 3rd to January 7th
Giving Tree Pet Donations

St. Michael's Orthodox Church School & Teen SOYO are accepting new pet supplies for the Animal Friends of Westmoreland.

Please drop off any donations
by the Giving Tree!



Sign up sheet for the **December 13th luncheon** to be held at the First Lutheran Church on South Main Street, Greensburg, is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



Come join us from 11:30 to 1:00pm, as we take a turn serving a luncheon to the local community.

Contact Michele Murray at 724-837-2244 if you would like to join us!

ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, we will host a

Christmas Party (Antiochian Men sponsored) for families (including a dozen children, or so) who are staying at the “Welcome Home” Shelter in Greensburg. If you have any questions, please check with Fred Charles.



**Food on the Hill Tuesday
January 2, 12:00 to 1:00 PM**

The 2018 *Antiochian Women's Post-Holiday Luncheon* will be held on **Sunday, January 21** at 12:30PM at **Rodney's in Irwin**. The hot luncheon buffet will cost \$20. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall, make checks out to St. Michael's Antiochian Women, and give to Michelle Gajewski by January 14th.



CONGRATULATIONS to those who since last Sunday have *become members of our Parish Council* — Melanie Bell, Jillian Crowe, and Julia Ritter (*nominated for 3 year terms (2018-20); affirmed for service by acclamation*); Sara Armanious (*appointed to a 3 year term 2018-20*); Jeff Curry and Christian Sam (*appointed to fulfill 2 remaining years (2018-19) on incomplete terms*); Fred Charles (*appointed to complete one remaining year of vacated position*). They join remaining members David Lebo, Veronica Fennell, Gus Flizanes, Carol Patton and Don Yoder in rounding out the 2018 Council.



If you would like to provide the Holy Bread for a Divine Liturgy service during the coming year, please contact Debbie in the Church Office, as the 2018 schedule is being put

together this week. If you have a special week during the year that you want to request, please let Debbie know.

REMEMBER, the **Second Week** on this schedule **May Change...**
ALWAYS USE THE MOST CURRENT BULLETIN!

Secretary Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

December 10 thru December 16

Sunday, Dec. 10 (*fish, oil, wine okay*)

- **8:45 AM - MATINS**
- 9:30 AM - Choir Rehearsal
- **10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY**
 - 40 Day Memorials -
 - Norma Nicholas
 - Dorothy Krinock
 - Church School
 - Parents/Adults Meeting
(*Come join us for a discussion on living our lives with faith.*)

Tuesday, Dec/ 12. (*oil, wine okay*)

- **6:00 PM - VESP. DIV. LIT'RGY**
Herman of Alaska
- **CONFESIONS follow**

Wednesday, Dec. 13 (*strict fast*)

- 11:30AM to 1:00PM - Feed the Hungry neighbors at First Lutheran Church, S. Main Street, Greensburg
- **6:00 PM - HOLY UNCTION**

Thursday, Dec. 14 (*strict fast*)

- **9 to 11:00 AM - CONFESIONS**
- 6:00 PM - "Welcome Home"
Christmas at St. Michael's
- 7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, Dec. 16 (*oil, wine okay*)

- **8 AM NATIVITY PARAKLESIS**
- 9:00 AM - AntiochianMEN Meeting at Bean & Baguette
- 10:00 AM - Budget Meeting
- **6:00 PM - GREAT VESPERS**
for Westmoreland County Area Churches

December 17 thru December 23

Sunday, Dec. 17 (*oil, wine okay*)

- **8:45 AM - MATINS**
- 9:30 AM - Choir Rehearsal
- **10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY**
 - Church School
 - AntiochianMEN-Meet 'n Greet
- 12:30 PM - Abortion Prayers

Monday, Dec. 18 (*strict fast*)

- **9:00 to 10 AM - CONFESIONS**

Tuesday, Dec. 19 (*strict fast*)

- **6:00 PM - VESP. DIV. LIT'RGY**
Ignatius of Antioch, the God-bearer
- **CONFESIONS follow**

Wednesday, Dec. 20 (*oil, wine okay*)

- **10 AM to 12 PM - CONFESIONS**
- **4:30 to 6:30 PM - CONFESIONS**
- 6:30 PM - Executive Board M'ting
- 7:00 PM - Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 21 (*strict fast*)

- **5 to 6:30 PM - CONFESIONS**
- 7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Friday, Dec. 22 (*strict fast*)

- **9:00 AM - ROYAL HOURS**
for the Nativity of Christ
- **5 to 6:30 PM - CONFESIONS**

Saturday, Dec. 23 (*oil, wine okay*)

- **8 AM NATIVITY PARAKLESIS**
- 5:15 PM - Vespers Chant Practice
- **6:00 PM - GREAT VESPERS**
- **CONFESIONS follow**

Sunday, Dec. 24 (*strict fast*)

- **8:45 AM - MATINS**
- 9:30 AM - Choir Rehearsal
- **10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY**

for the Feast of Christ's Nativity —

- **8:15 PM - FESTAL MATINS**
- 9:30 PM - Traditional Carols
- **10:00 PM - FEST. DIV. LIT'GY**



There will be no church services here on Monday, December 25,
as we will have celebrated the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Christ's Nativity late on Sunday evening.
