



# Welcome to St. Michael's Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

1182 Ashland Street, Greensburg, PA 15601

[www.stmichaelsgreensburgpa.org](http://www.stmichaelsgreensburgpa.org)

Rev. Fr. David Hyatt, Pastor

## Sunday, March 24, 2024

### Office Hours:

By Appointment

### Office Telephone:

(724) 834-1311

### Church Office Email:

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### Fr. David Hyatt – Cell Phone:

(218) 576-8324

### Fr. David Hyatt:

[frdavidhyatt@gmail.com](mailto:frdavidhyatt@gmail.com)

### This Week

#### Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Sunday of Orthodoxy

8:45 AM – Orthros

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy with the Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession with Church School Children

11:30 AM – Church School

11:30 AM – Fellowship Hour

12:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice

12:00 PM – Inquirer's Class

6:00 PM – Great Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation

#### Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

#### Feast of the Annunciation

6:00 PM – Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Annunciation

#### Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>

10:00 AM – Spinach Pie Making

6:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting

#### Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

6:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy

7:30 PM – Lenten Soup Supper

#### Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

6:00 PM – Akathist & Little Compline

#### Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

#### Saturday of Souls

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

4:30 PM – Catechism Class

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

(Confession Follows)

### Divine Liturgy Variables on Sunday, March 24, 2024

#### First Sunday of Great Lent (Sunday of Orthodoxy)

*Venerable Zachariah the recluse and Artemon, bishop of Seleucia*

#### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

#### APOLYTIKION OF THE FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT IN TONE TWO

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, with thankfulness we cry aloud to thee: Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

#### KONTAKION FOR SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT IN TONE EIGHT

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

#### **EPISTLE — Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40**

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of the Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the recompense of reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Sampson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and all the prophets, who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

#### **THE GOSPEL – John 1:43-51**

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom

**Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas**

8:45 AM – Orthros

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

11:30 AM – March Memorial

12:00 PM – Church School

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### Serving Schedule

*Jr. Altar Boys*

3/24 – Noor Sahawneh

3/31 – Andrew Hahey

4/07 – Noor Sahawneh

*Fellowship Hosts*

3/24 – Kh. BethAnn Hyatt, Carolyn Hill,  
Christine Mansour

3/31 – POTLUCK

4/07 – Dan & Connie Capar, Jen & Zach  
Saxman, Mercedes Michetti

*Lock Up*

3/24 – Donald Yoder

3/31 – Christina Armanious

4/07 – Raymounda Chaho



In the Antiochian  
Archdiocese, **March is  
Women's Month.**

Please read the attached  
letter from His Eminence

Metropolitan SABA at the end of the  
bulletin. We are grateful to God for all  
the service our women contribute to the  
life of St. Michael's. As part of this  
special month, the following are the  
schedules for service:

### Epistle Readers

March 24 - Luann Johnson

March 31 - Joyce Eger

### Holy Bread (distribute)

March 24 - Pattie Senerius & Joyce Eger

March 31 - Connie Capar &  
Bernadette McNichol

### Offering Collection

March 24 - Patricia Baughman,  
Raymounda Chaho, Valerie Flizanes

March 31 - Violet Kharma, Kathy  
Bleibtrey, Laura Simmons

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### Live-Streaming Services

[Holy Transfiguration Monastery](#)

Ellwood City, PA

[Holy Cross Monastery](#)

Wayne, WV

[St. Tikhon's Monastery](#)

Waymart, PA

Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

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### Prayers of Oblation

...in memory of Thomas Andrews by Marian and Rod Perry

...in memory of Adel Armanious by Christine Mansour

...in memory of Diana Roberts and Irene Papas by Dina Papas

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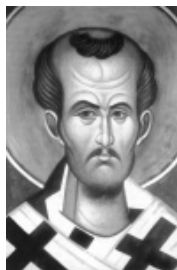
### Intercessory Prayer List

(Orthodox & Non-Orthodox)

Please pray for the following people this week. ***Names will remain on the list for 2 weeks.*** Please contact Fr. David to add a name for prayer.

PAULETTE Weiss (*Ongoing Cancer Treatment*)

FAMILY from Jeanette who had a house fire and lost the lives of Tyler (Father), Kyson – 7yrs, Kinzleigh – 6yrs, Kegan – 3yrs, Korbyn – 1mo. The mother and two other sons survived.



**For the value of fasting consists not in abstinence from food, but in withdrawing from sinful practices;** since he who limits his fasting only to an abstinence from meats, is one who especially disparages it. Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works! Is it said by what kind of works? If you see a poor man, take pity on him! If you see an enemy, be reconciled to him! If you see a friend gaining honour, envy him not! If you see a handsome woman, pass her by! For let not the mouth only fast, but also the eye, and the ear, and the feet, and the hands, and all the members of our bodies.

Let the hands fast, by being pure from rapine [plunder] and avarice [desire for wealth]. Let the feet fast, by ceasing from running to the unlawful spectacles. Let the eyes fast, being taught never to fix themselves rudely upon handsome countenances, or to busy themselves with strange beauties. For looking is the food of the eyes, but if this be such as is unlawful or forbidden, it mars the fast; and upsets the whole safety of the soul; but if it be lawful and safe, it adorns fasting. For it would be among things the most absurd to abstain from lawful food because of the fast, but with the eyes to touch even what is forbidden.

Do you not eat flesh? Feed not upon lasciviousness [excessive sexual desire] by means of the eyes. Let the ear fast also. The fasting of the ear consists in refusing to receive evil speakings and calumnies [slander]. 'You shall not receive a false report,' it says. Let the mouth too fast from disgraceful speeches and railing. For what does it profit if we abstain from birds and fishes; and yet bite and devour our brethren? The evil speaker eats the flesh of his brother, and bites the body of his neighbor. Because of this Paul utters the fearful saying, 'If you bite and devour one another, take heed that you be not consumed one of another.' [Galatians 5:15]

+ St. John Chrysostom, Homily 3, On the Statues



**Please sign-up** to bring soup and/or bread for the weekly meals after

Wednesday Presanctified Liturgies.

Reminder: the soup needs to be Lenten / Vegan (no animal products). *The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside of the kitchen.*

### **Ministry Opportunity**

Throughout the year, but especially during Great Lent, we are in need of men and women to **volunteer to serve our parish as an USHER**. Gust Flizanes, Head Usher, is willing to train you, so no experience is necessary. Please speak with Gust regarding any questions or to express your interest in serving in this way. You can reach Gust Flizanes at 724-863-4443.

### **Catechumens at St. Michael's**

Please keep in your prayers our catechumens who are preparing to be received as members of the Orthodox Church.

1. Bob Gunther
2. Dave Bartholomew
3. Stacey Bartholomew
4. Ryan Bartholomew
5. Victoria Gray
6. Mat Hahey
7. Pamela Johnson
8. Garrett Kalinowski
9. Nicholas Lehman
10. Brandon Miele
11. Debbie Paulus
12. Riley Polomoscanik
13. Brooke Williams

### **Upcoming Events for the Antiochian Women at St. Michael's**

1) **Ladies Annual Luncheon** is Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Morelands @Waterworks. It is the same place as last year. Cost: \$25. Sign up by April 28<sup>th</sup>. Only 40 reservations permitted. See Michelle Gajewski in social hall to make payment by check or cash.

2) **Pirates Ball Game** - Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ticket cost: \$28. More details coming later.



### **Pick up your Food for Hungry People Collection ALMS Box today!**

*(Boxes are available outside of the Church Office)*

Our Lord Jesus Christ instructs us to make our own the needs of others, especially the needy of the world. Help us to recognize that needy are all around us: men, women, children, the elderly, the sick, the suffering, families and individuals, next door neighbors and those in all corners of the world.

During Great Lent we remember those who need us the most and proclaim we are here to help. Almsgiving goes together with Prayer and Fasting, and the Food for Hungry People & Charitable Outreach program has become synonymous with Great Lent. For almost five decades we have aided our loved ones, our families, and our friends. We have assisted our parishioners, our parishes, and those in our local communities.

We are here to help those who cannot help themselves. We are here to lend a hand, and we are here to offer ourselves that others might share in our blessings.

Robin Lynn Nicholas  
Food for Hungry People and Charitable Outreach

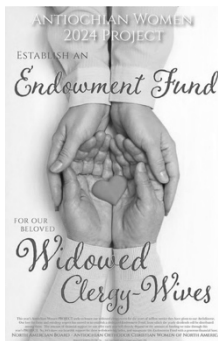
### **Fasting Rules as Followed in our Antiochian Archdiocese**

Saturdays and Sundays of Great Lent  
**Abstain from meat, fish, dairy, eggs**

Monday through Friday of Great Lent  
**Abstain from meat, fish, dairy, eggs, alcohol, oil**

Feast of Annunciation of the Theotokos on March 25<sup>th</sup>  
**Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs. Fish is allowed.**

Palm Sunday  
**Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs. Fish is allowed.**



### **2024 Antiochian Women's Special Project**

During the month of March, a **special collection** will be received in the Social Hall during the Fellowship Hour. All proceeds will go to the **Antiochian Women's special project** for 2024 – establishing an endowment fund to help support widowed clergy-wives. We appreciate your generosity!

### **Festal Divine Services for the Feast of the Annunciation**

To make it possible for the majority of our parish to attend the Festal services for the Feast of the Annunciation, we will have a Vesperal Divine Liturgy of the evening of March 25<sup>th</sup> – as approved by Metropolitan SABA of the Antiochian Archdiocese. Please fast from food and drink after eating a light lunch on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, in preparation to receive the Holy Eucharist during the liturgy that evening.

## Nut Roll Sale

Today during Fellowship Hour, nut rolls will be for sale. There are only 18 of these delicious treats for Pascha left! Thank you to the Antiochian Women for your continued hard work on behalf our parish.

## Spinach Pie Making

On Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am, the ladies will be making Spinach Pies. All are welcome to come help!

## ***LONG TERM CALENDAR***

*(Upcoming Dates to Remember)*

### **Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

#### **Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas**

8:45 AM – Orthros

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

11:30 AM – March Memorial

12:00 PM – Church School

### **Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**

6:00 PM – Great Compline

### **Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

6:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy

7:30 PM – Lenten Soup Supper

### **Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 PM – Akathist & Little Compline

### **Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**

4:30 PM – Catechism Class

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

### **Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Sunday of the Holy Cross**

8:45 AM – Orthros

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy with the Adoration of the Holy Cross

NO Church School

12:00 PM – Antiochian Women's Meeting

## **Feast of the Annunciation, March 25<sup>th</sup>**

By Fr. Stephen Rogers, The Word magazine, March 1999

In the midst of our Lenten journey, in this time of contrition and repentance, a proclamation of great hope and expectation is heard throughout the Church. Even as our struggles in Lent confront our sin and our powerlessness to overcome it, God sends a messenger to assure us that because of His love and mercy, salvation has been bestowed upon us if only in faith we will receive it.

And so, on March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, the Church celebrates this message of salvation delivered to the Virgin Mary by the angel Gabriel. What is this message of salvation? The angel Gabriel tells her: "And behold you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever and of His Kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:31-33). Gabriel explains to Mary the amazing plan of salvation, that the child within her will be born of her and the Holy Spirit and this child Himself will be God.

In the Feast of the Annunciation, the Church celebrates the initiation of God's salvation for man, the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Trinity. But even as the Church celebrates the divine initiative of God, it also celebrates the response and acceptance of that initiative by Mary. It is clear that Mary is initially troubled and even frightened by Gabriel's message. She questions the angel's message — both her worthiness to receive it and the possibility it could be true. Gabriel calms her with two wonderful statements. As to her worthiness, Gabriel says: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God" (Luke 1:30). And concerning the possibility that the message could be true, Gabriel responds: "For with God nothing will be impossible" (verse 37). Of her own free will, without force or compulsion, Mary humbly accepts the news of salvation and, in so doing, becomes the Mother of God.

In the visitation of Gabriel to Mary and her acceptance of his message, we can see God's plan for salvation for all of us. God, in His love for us, is the initiator of our salvation. He offers us eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. It is a free gift; we need only to accept it.

Yet, like Mary, we often question this. "How can this be so? How can God extend salvation to someone like me? Someone so sinful, so wretched . . . how could God love someone like me? I am so sinful, I shouldn't even be in church!"



Whatever your name, replace it with Mary's in the angelic proclamation, "Do not be afraid, \_\_\_\_\_ for you have found favor with God." The message of the Annunciation is that God's love for you is unlimited and unconditional, no matter who you are or what you've done. While we are confronted by our weakness and sinfulness during Great Lent, the ultimate message behind the realization of our shortcomings is that the love of God overshadows our limitations. The only things separating us from that power and love are our unwillingness to accept it and the fear of what that acceptance might require of us.

Mary freely accepted God's love. Her response to the Annunciation was, "Let it be to me according to your word." As we continue our journey to Pascha, let us celebrate the free gift of God's love — a love that tramples down sin, death and the devil. A love that conquers all. A love that makes us sons of God and heirs of His kingdom.

Let us, like Mary, humbly accept this gift of love and, in so doing, like her, allow God to dwell within us.

# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS		THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week <b>FEBRUARY 25th</b>		<i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week <b>MARCH 3rd</b>		<b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare <b>MARCH 10th</b> FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY		<b>The Last Judgement</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare <b>MARCH 17th</b> FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY		<b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 24th</b>		<i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> <b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b> Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 31st</b>		<b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 7th</b>		<b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 14th</b>		<b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b> Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 21st</b>		<b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b> Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! <b>APRIL 28th</b> GREAT WEEK BEGINS		<i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> <b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <b>MAY 3rd</b>		<b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b> <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! <b>MAY 5th</b> NO FASTING!		<i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> <b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!