

# St Michael's Orthodox Church

A parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

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**January 19, 2025 – 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

## Upcoming Services & Events

Saturday, Jan 18, 4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Jan 19, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

*Thursday–Friday, Jan 23–24 – Annual Diocesan Assembly at St Michael's Church in Wilmington, DE*

Saturday, Jan 25, 4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Jan 26, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

On Sunday, Feb 9, we will hold a Charity Potluck for IOCC's "SOUPer Bowl" Food Drive. Starting today, we are collecting canned goods and shelf-stable groceries to be given to a local food bank. All proceeds from the potluck will be given to local shelters or International Orthodox Christian Charities.

*Looking ahead:* Sunday, Feb 16 is our Annual Parish Meeting.

*Coffee Hour is offered by:*

Jan 19: Susan Schlasta & Deborah Bernosky

Jan 26: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

Feb 2: Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

Feb 9: SOUPer Bowl Charity Potluck

Feb 16: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

Jan. 23: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

## Today's Scripture

*Epistle: Colossians 3:12-16*

*Brethren:* As the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

*Gospel: Luke 18:35-43*

*At that time, as Jesus was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"*

*So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.*

## In your prayers

***Especially pray for:*** Archbishop Anastasios of Albania, who is nearing the end of his life. All those afflicted by wildfires and other natural disasters. ***The ill and the afflicted:*** Fr. Daniel Donlick, Fr Gregory White, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Dn Geoffrey LoBalbo, Mat. Myra Kovalek, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa, Barbara Mosley, Mary Ann Serafini, Alexis Meholic, Tom Shaw, Marilyn Petorak, Sandy Gillott, Debbie Jadick, Susan Schlasta, Karina Goetter, Evan Kraky, Laura Piwowski, Karen Abercia, Mark Klapatch, Gregory Klapatch. ***Homebound or in hospitals:*** John Drutarosky, Theresa Krenitsky, Barbara Palubniak, Peggy Petrilak, Nicholas Mattise, Jerry & Marilyn Soroka, Paul Kostiak, Dolores Brophy, Paul Mosley, Adam & Mary Ann Serafini, Florence Zielinsky.

***The newly-departed:*** Fr. Michael Evans (11/14., Mat. Marie Meyendorff (11/24). Mat. Jeanne Ciarciaglino (12/16). Mat. Eugenia Nehrebecki (1/2) (grandmother of Fr. Stephen Vernak of our Harrisburg parish and Mat. Anastasia Gorodenchuk of our Philadelphia cathedral). Gene Howells (a friend of the parish who has worked on many of our restoration and repair projects).

## Hymns of the Day

*Resurrection (Tone 5)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

*St. Michael (Tone 4)*

O Commander of the heavenly hosts, / we who are unworthy beseech you ceaselessly / that you would encompass us with the shelter of your prayers, / and cover us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory. / We fall down before you, crying out: / "Protect us all from harm, // O Michael, Prince of the powers on high!"

*St. Macarius (Tone 1)*

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father Macarius. / Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him Who granted thee a crown! // Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

*Resurrection (Tone 5)*

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, / shattering its gates as Almighty, / resurrecting the dead as Creator, / and destroying the sting of death. / Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, // and we cry to Thee: "O Lord, save us!"

*St. Michael (Tone 2)*

Commanders of God's armies / and ministers of the divine glory, / princes of the bodiless angels / and guides of mankind, / ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy, // supreme commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

*For the Mother of God (Tone 6)*

Steadfast protectress of Christians, / constant advocate before the Creator; / despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, / but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. / Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, // for you always protect those who honor you!

...The Scriptures address the **need of the giver**, as well as the needs of the recipient. Our Lord presents giving as a necessity in the Sermon on the Mount, in Matthew 6:1-18. In these verses our Lord speaks of *prayer, fasting, and almsgiving* - the three "pillars of piety." The key point here is that Christ links these three together as practices **necessary for Christian growth**. This means, among other things, that **we give for the same reason that we pray or fast**. We do not pray because God or the Church needs our prayers. We do not fast because God or the Church needs our fasting.... Why then should we imagine that we give for God's benefit or for the Church's needs! We pray because we have a need to experience the communion with our heavenly Father that prayer provides; we fast because our development as Christians requires that foundation of discipline that fasting provides. We also need to give because it is only through expressing our Christian love that this love can grow and mature. It is only through giving that we can cultivate the proper Christian attitude toward the world and toward that part of the world's bounty which God has entrusted to us, our material possessions.

– Fr. Dmitri Cozby, *The Theology of Giving*

## Together we can tackle hunger.

Help feed the hungry by collecting nonperishables for a local food bank, and collect money for IOCC to support our work around the globe.

Together we can turn the biggest weekend in football into a super day of giving!

[iocc.org/superbowl](http://iocc.org/superbowl)



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025