

St Michael's Orthodox Church

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

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August 4, 2024: 6th Sunday After Pentecost.
Holy Seven Youths ("Seven Sleepers") of Ephesus.

Schedule of Services

The Dormition Fast has begun (as of this past Thursday) and continues until the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God on August 15. This is one of the four major "fasting seasons" of the Church. Please use this opportunity to catch up on Confession, especially if you have not come since Great Lent. Remember that the minimum standard for our spiritual health is to come at least four times a year (even better, every 1-2 months).

Saturday, August 3, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers with Confessions.

Sunday, August 4, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

Tuesday, August 6 is the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord.

Monday, August 5, 6:30 p.m. – Small Festal Vigil with Litya

Tuesday, August 6, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy. **Blessing of First-Fruits.**

Tuesday, August 6 – Monthly Parish Council meeting

(Thursday, August 8 – 40th Day of Repose of Peter Senio)

(Friday, August 9 – St Herman of Alaska)

Saturday, August 10, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers with Confessions.

Sunday, August 11, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

(Tuesday, August 13 – St Tikhon of Zadonsk)

Thursday, August 15 is the Feast of the Dormition of the Most-holy Theotokos.

Wed, Aug 14, 6:30 p.m. – Small Festal Vigil with Litya

Thurs, Aug 15, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy. **Blessing of Fragrant Herbs** (and flowers).

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14

Brethren: Having gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

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 the Archangel (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!"

Holy Seven Youths (Tone 4)

Thy seven holy martyrs, O Lord, / through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. // Through their intercession, save our souls!

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 the Archangel (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!

In your prayers...

Please pray especially for: Debbie Jadick, who is now suffering with cancer. **The ill and the afflicted:** Fr Michael Evans, Fr Joseph Chupek, Fr Peter Telencio, Fr Gregory White, Fr John Sorochka, Fr Michael Shepherd, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa, Barbara Mosley, Mary Ann Serafini, Alexis Meholic, Tom Shaw, Marilyn Petorak, Sandy Gillott, Debbie Bernosky. **Those who are alone or confined:** Eileen Dance, John Drutarosky, Theresa Krenitsky, Nicholas Mattise, Barbara Palubniak, Peggy Petrillak, Jerry & Marilyn Soroka, Paul Kostiak, Dolores Brophy, Paul & Barbara Mosley, Adam & Mary Ann Serafini.

The newly-departed: Peter Senio (6/30), Mat. Annice Oleynik (7/6), Audrey Matthews (6/15). **Also remember the departed this week:** Fr. Peter Karel (8/4/1970), Allan Senio (8/5/2007), Mat. Karen Mahaffey (8/8/2007), Irene Kupinski (8/8/2007), Kenneth Carite (8/9/2001), and Mark Zielinski (8/10/2002).

Announcements

Donations are needed to build up funds to offer a Community Breakfast tentatively Saturday August 17. Please use the envelopes marked for this purpose (or write a note on any envelope). The purpose of these meals is to serve the greater community (especially those who may not have enough food) and to build fellowship among us and those whom we meet. We will only be able to host a meal after its costs are fully-funded through donations, so that it can be offered freely to those who come.

Coffee Hour is offered by:

Aug 4: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

Aug 18: Susan Schlasta & Deborah Bernosky

Aug 11: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

Aug 25: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

Grumbling is caused by misery and it can be put aside by **doxology (giving praise)**. Grumbling begets grumbling and doxology begets doxology. When someone doesn't grumble over a problem troubling him, but rather praises God, then the devil gets frustrated and goes off to someone else who grumbles, in order to cause everything to go even worse for [the other one]. You see, the more one grumbles, the more one falls into ruin.

Sometimes the devil deceives us and makes us unable to be pleased with anything; however, one can celebrate all things in a spiritual manner, with doxology, and secure God's constant blessing.

– St Isaac the Syrian, *Chapters on Active Life*