

St Michael's Orthodox Church

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

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September 8, 2024

11th Sunday After Pentecost. **Nativity of the Most-holy Theotokos.** Sunday Before the Cross.

Schedule of Services

Sunday, Sept 8, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

*Saturday, September 14 is the Feast of the **Universal Exaltation of the Precious Cross.***

Friday, Sept 13, 6:30 p.m. – Festal Vespers w/ Litya

Saturday, Sept 14, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy

Saturday, Sept 14, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions.

Sunday, Sept 15, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

Tuesday, September 17 – St Sophia and her three daughters, Faith, Hope, and Agape

Saturday, Sept 21, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions.

Sunday, Sept 22, 9:30 a.m. – **Divine Liturgy with His Eminence, Archbishop Mark.** Potluck following the Liturgy. (See the downstairs signup sheet if you would like to bring something.)

Monday, Sept 23 – St John the Baptist

Tuesday Sept 24, 8 – All Saints of Alaska; Martyrs Juvenaly & Peter; St Silouan the Athonite

Saturday, Sept 28, 8 – 11 a.m. – **Community Breakfast**

Coffee Hour is offered by:

Sept 8: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

Sept 22: (Potluck)

Sept 15: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

Sept 29: Susan Schlasta & Deborah Bernosky

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Brethren: Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

At that time, Jesus entered a village; and a woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her."

... As he said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!" But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Hymns of the Day

Resurrection (Tone 2)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, /
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. /
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all
the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ
our God, glory to Thee!”

Nativity of the Theotokos (Tone 4)

Your nativity, O Virgin, / has proclaimed joy to the whole
universe! / The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God, / has
shone from you, O Theotokos. / By annulling the curse, /
He bestowed a blessing. // By destroying death, He has
granted us eternal life.

Resurrection (Tone 2)

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the
miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead
arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with
Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Nativity of the Theotokos (Tone 4)

By your nativity, O most pure Virgin, / Joachim and Anna
are freed from barrenness, / Adam and Eve — from the
corruption of death. / And we, your people, freed from the
guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: // “The barren
woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our
Life.”

In your prayers...

The ill and the afflicted: Fr. Dennis Swencki, Fr. Daniel Donlick, Fr Michael Evans, Fr Joseph Chupek, Fr Peter Telencio, Fr Gregory White, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Dn Geoffrey LoBalbo, Mat. Myra Kovalek, Eileen Dance, 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. ***Those who are alone or confined:*** Eileen Dance, John Drutarosky, Theresa Krenitsky, Nicholas Mattise, Barbara Palubniak, Peggy Petrilak, Jerry & Marilyn Soroka, Paul Kostiak, Dolores Brophy, Paul & Barbara Mosley, Adam & Mary Ann Serafini, Florence Zielinsky.

Remember the departed this week: Fr. John Kivko (9/14/1974), Myra McInnis (9/9/2005), John Getzie (9/12/2004), Henry Koruszko (9/12/2010), Basil (Charles) Wurster (9/14/2023)

If you know of anyone who is sick, hospitalized, homebound, or has any other need of our prayers, please let us know so their name can be added to our bulletin and prayer list. It is in our very nature as Christians to give comfort to those who are ill, afflicted, or isolated. Please consider sending a card or letter to your fellow parishioners on the prayer list, or to anyone whom you have not seen in church for a long time. Sometimes all it takes to raise someone's spirits is a kind word from someone who cares.

Announcements

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28 is our first Community Breakfast! 8-11 am. ALL are welcome. There is no charge, but donations are accepted. Please spread the word throughout town, and THANK YOU for all your donations.

We are called to eternal life in the Kingdom of our Father which is in heaven. But entry into the Kingdom for created beings inevitably entails great suffering. Many decline the Father's gift of love precisely because the utmost effort is required to assimilate it.

How many times did I say to myself at first, “Oh no ... if that is the cost; I don't want even this gift.” But strong are “the hands of the living God,” and “it is a fearful thing to fall into them” (cf. Heb 10.31).

– St. Sophrony, *On Prayer*.

We enter into communion with God through love, which means love for all around us **without exception**, and especially our enemies and those who hate us. Until we are ready to love with the very love with which God has loved us in Jesus — who is the Son of his love — by the Holy Spirit who has been poured out into our hearts, we will never know God. If you allow God's love to penetrate into the marrow of your bones, you'll get a fire in your bones and then you can love with his love. Pray every day like a baby bird, wide-mouthed begging, full of absolute trust, to be filled with the Holy Spirit. St. Seraphim says that the whole spiritual life is acquiring the Holy Spirit. Ask. Seek. Knock. God can't resist expectant, trusting, persevering faith.

– Fr. Thomas Hopko