

St Michael's Orthodox Church

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

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September 22, 2024 – 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Apostle Quadratus of the Seventy. Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope.

Schedule of Services

TODAY, Sunday September 22, we welcome His Eminence, Archbishop Mark, for the Divine Liturgy.

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

Sunday, Sept 22 – Divine Liturgy with His Eminence, Archbishop Mark.

9:00 Greeting, followed by 3rd & 6th Hour, and Divine Liturgy

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

Saturday, Sept 28, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions. **Last 6:30 Vespers this year.**

Sunday, Sept 29, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

Saturday, Oct 5 – No Vespers

Coffee Hour is offered by:

Sept 22: (Potluck)

Sept 29: Susan Schlasta & Deborah Bernosky

Oct 6: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

Oct 13: Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

Today's Scripture

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Brethren: Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love. I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the first-fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us.

I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. [I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand.]

If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11 (1st Sunday of Luke)

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, He saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

Hymns of the Day

Resurrection (Tone 4)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is over-thrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!"

Apostle Quadratus (Tone 3)

Holy Apostle Quadratus, / entreat the merciful God // to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

Hieromartyr Phocas (Tone 4)

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, / thou didst become a successor to their throne. / Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; / by teaching the word of truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy blood. // O Hiero-martyr Phocas, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

Resurrection (Tone 4)

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

For the Mother of God (Tone 6)

Steadfast protectress of Christians, / constant advocate before the Creator; / despise not the en-treating 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...

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: Alexander Wanas (9/24/2022), Anna Willgrube (9/25/2001), Anna Hockin Leschak (9/26/1990), Robert Lloyd (9/27/2015).

Announcements

NEXT WEEK, Saturday 9/28, is our Community Breakfast! 8-11 am. EVERYONE from the surrounding area is welcome. There is no charge, but donations are accepted. Please spread the word throughout town. ***There is nothing more effective than word-of-mouth, person-to-person invitations – both to events, and to church.***

It is through the Liturgy that we learn how to live a spiritual life, for it shows us a pattern of how to take this world and to offer it up in an Anaphora, invoking the Holy Spirit on everyone, everything, and every situation. This in turn grants the possibility of everything in our personal world of becoming eucharistic, an encounter with God, a point of contact and not of separation. Our main task as liturgical beings is to take our world and re-connect it to God in thanksgiving (i.e., to make it eucharistic).

The first-created man, by severing the tie of this world from God (when he began to use the world apart from God for its own sake), **became the first official “consumer.”** We on the other hand must reverse the Fall in our own lives by re-connecting this world and our lives back to the source of all: Christ, the Life-giver and Creator. **If the Liturgy of the Church can permeate every part of our life, we will no longer be consumers** as Adam had become, **but rather communicants** as Adam once was, the world becoming a window and a mirror for us to see the invisible and almighty power of God.

... **Orthodox Christian life is, by definition, a liturgical life.** To fail to recognize this is to fail to find the key to the mystery of Orthodox Christianity... The Liturgy is meant to become our life, and the continual entry into the new life that is granted to us in Christ. The Church's teachings are inseparable from the Liturgy, and all of her theological definitions that she proclaims (such as the Creed) are confirmed by and revealed through the Liturgy. It is primarily through this liturgical life that we begin to enter the corporate dogmatic visionary consciousness of the Church. Fr. Georges Florovsky once explained that "**the Church is first of all a worshiping community.** Worship comes first and then doctrine and discipline."

– Archimandrite Sergius (Bowyer), *Acquiring the Mind of Christ: Embracing the Vision of the Orthodox Church* (St Tikhon's Monastery Press, 2015), 4-6.