



St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Church

1182 Ashland St., Greensburg, PA 15601
Diocese of Charleston, Oakland and the Mid-Atlantic
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
of North America.

(See the back cover for detailed contact information.)

Sunday, December 4, 2016

*To all who are present with us this morning,
Welcome! Thank you for being here.*

*Please join us for complimentary lunch and our annual
meeting in the Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy.*

You May Find the Text of the Divine Liturgy beginning on the bottom of page 91 of the Service Book (gold embossed cross on the reddish brown cover) or in the green-spiral-bound book; sheet music can be found in the 8.5" x 11" large, spiral-bound booklet.

At the Kiss of Peace our practice is for each of us to greet the person to our right and left with the bowing of our head, hands held in a prayerful clasp or crossed on the chest, while offering each other the seasonal Christian greeting, "Christ is in our midst!" and responding, "He is and shall be!"

Please remember that Holy Communion is reserved for those Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have appropriately prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and Confession to receive the Holy Mysteries of the Church. The bread (*anti'doron*, which means 'in place' of the gifts) which we share after Communion and at the end of the Liturgy is for all.

Being mindful we are in church, let us always remember to...

...be quiet and attentive. Let us sing, pray, stand, sit, kneel and respond where responses are indicated. Let us not talk, look around, text message, play games, etc. Especially let us work at this in the Communion line and when in line to venerate the Cross and depart. If we cannot hear the post-Communion prayers being chanted during our church departure, we are way too noisy.

...refrain from eating, drinking or chewing gum. (most obviously and especially if you will be receiving Holy Communion).

...stay put. Except in rare cases, there are few of us who cannot stay in one location for two hours (actually less, for most of us).



St. Nicholas
Bishop of Myra

The Mission of Our Church

The mission of St Michael's Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church is to tend the flock of our Lord Jesus Christ and to spread the Good News of Christ to those outside the flock. This mission is to be accomplished by a) living a full liturgical and sacramental life, b) proclaiming the Orthodox Christian faith to all people, c) providing effective charitable and social programs, and d) establishing strong spiritual leadership and resources.

TROPARIA FOR THE RESURRECTION

TONE 7

Arr: Basil Kazan.

Thou didst shat - ter death by Thy Cross; Thou didst
 o - pen Pa - ra - dise to the thief; Thou didst
 turn the sad - - - ness of the oint - ment bear - ing
 wo - men in - to joy, and didst bid Thine A -
 pos - tles pro - claim a war - - - ning that
 Thou hast ri - sen, O Christ, grant - ing
 to the world the great mer - - - cy.

SYRIAN CHRISTIAN RELIEF

As the Syrian crisis continues, we continue to accept *donations* to do what we can to help ease the suffering there. Checks may be written to "St. Michael's" with the note "Syrian Relief." The following is a link to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) "Response to the Crisis in Syria" page with more information on what you can do to help:

http://www.iocc.org/countries/countries_syria.aspx

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Greeting: Christ is in our midst! **Response:** He is and shall be!

Tone: 7 **Eothinon:** 2

*Great-martyr Barbara of Syria and Tenth Sunday of Luke;
Venerable John of Damascus; Martyr Juliana; New-hieromartyr
Seraphim, bishop of Phanarion in Greece.*

THE EPISTLE READING

St. Paul to the Galatians (3:23-4:5; for St. Barbara)

BRETHREN, before faith came, we were confined under the Law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the Law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

According to St. Luke (13: 10-17)

AT THAT TIME, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

VOTIVE CANDLES in Memoriam: “Memory Eternal.”

Eternal memories Mom & Dad Mirilovich ~ Rich & Harriet Mirilovich

Eternal memory Frank S. Porembka, Sr. - Wife, Helen

Eternal memory for the departed Kozar & Porembka families

~ Helen Porembka

Eternal memory Ina Abraham

Helen Porembka

Eternal memory Pat Abraham

Helen Porembka

Memory eternal, newly departed Ina Abraham - Salema Slyman

Memory Eternal Miller & Pat

Daughter Dana

In memory of Diana Roberts

Dina Papas



Salvation Army “TREASURES FOR CHILDREN” and FOCUS Pittsburgh “ANGEL PROJECT”

- 1) Attach the “tag” to the gift.
- 2) **DO NOT WRAP** the Salvation Army Treasures.
- 3) FOCUS “Angel Project” gifts may be wrapped, but **NO BOWS**, please.

Place your donated gifts at the tree near the Baptismal font.

RETURN GIFTS BY DECEMBER 9th.

See Michele Murray if you have any questions.

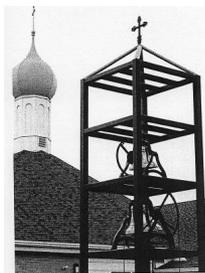
“Food on the Hill” Lunch Ministry

“Food on the Hill” is the name that has been attached to the lunch for those in need that will be prepared and served free of charge on the first Tuesday of each month . Our Men’s Fellowship has continued to take on the work of providing a bit of “daily” bread to those who can benefit from it. At the most recent luncheon, we served 24 meals to diners and 11 ‘take-out’ lunches.

The next “Food on the Hill” lunch is scheduled for
Tuesday, December 6, 2016 from 12:00 to 1:00 PM.

Anyone who would like to support “Food on the Hill” in any capacity you would like, should contact Gus Flizanes. Please make checks out to “St. Michael’s

Church” with “Food on the Hill” on the memo line. If you can possibly also help provide transportation on the day of the luncheon, please contact Gus.





Deadline is December 11th.

Boxes are located in the hallway next to the Christmas tree.

Thanks for contributing to this worthwhile community effort sponsored by the US Marine Corps Reserve and coordinated by our Church School.

Now that the gratitude and bounty of Thanksgiving have passed and before the gifts and glitter of Christmas arrive, we have a few short weeks to make some spiritual use of the time. The liturgical usage of these days is regularly revealed to us in the weekly bulletin calendars. The devil is in struggling against the voice in our head that gives us every reason why we must ignore Christ's call to worship in His Church and ponder the real point of this time of year — that of the Incarnation in our midst of the Uncreated God of all creation. Below are a few special opportunities to come, worship and ponder the upcoming Mystery in the Cave.

Monday evening, December 5
following Vespers Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas of Myra Fellowship, Dinner and some time with the Saint

Monday evening, December 12
following Vespers Divine Liturgy for St. Herman of Alaska
A discussion of a little book, Leaf by Niggle by JRR Tolkien
This very short book may be easily and inexpensively purchased online.
It may also be read for free in PDF format at:
heroicjourneys.files.wordpress.com/2008/09/niggle.pdf

Monday evening, December 19
following Vespers Divine Liturgy for St. Ignatius of Antioch
A sharing of websites and apps on our gadgets
that may help grow our souls.

GRIEF RECOVERY PROGRAM

Begins **THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017 at 5:00PM**
8 Week Program to be held at St. Bruno's Church, Greensburg
(If enough parishioners are interested, a separate group can be offered here at St. Michael's. Please let Fr. John know.)

\$25 Registration and Workbook

Program Leader: Sr. Edie Strong, SC, MSW

Certified Grief Recovery Specialist

(724) 547-1911

Additional information is available in our church office.

Poinsettia Plants Order Form

LIVING

“For mercy, life, health, peace,
protection, and salvation of
the servants of God...”

DEPARTED

“For eternal memory and
blessed repose of the souls of
the servants of God...”

_____ X \$10.00 per plant = _____
no. of plants total amount paid

OFFERED BY: _____

Make checks payable to: *St. Michael's Orthodox Church*
Return completed forms with your offering by
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18



Western PA Clergy Brotherhood
Christmas Concert
Holy Cross GO Church
123 Gilkeson Road
Pittsburgh 15228



***RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE***
at St. Michael's
Saturday, December 10
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Lunch at our
Annual Parish Meeting

Appointment Sign Up Sheet
Church Entrance Lobby.
Bring your friends!!



SYRIAN BREAD
\$2 per loaf
while supplies last!

From our Bookstore —

The Christian Religion and its accompanying Faith in Christ give meaning and understanding to the overwhelming, awesome mystery of our very brief lives as we sojourn on this magnificent planet that has existed for countless aeons.

The Eastern Orthodox Christian Faith is a major world religion that has been considered the most beautiful world religion. Widely known landmarks such as the magnificent Hagia Sophia (Holy Wisdom) in Constantinople (Istanbul), the Church of St. Mary Magdalene on the slopes of the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, the colorful Intercession of the Theotokos (St. Basil the Beatific) on Beautiful (Red) Square in Moscow, St. Catherine's Monastery on Mt. Sinai, Egypt, the Annunciation Church in Milwaukee, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, the new, golden multi-domed church near the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the jewel of St. Nicholas Church at the footprints of the World Trade Twin Towers are world renowned.

Do we know and appreciate the depth and expanse of our faith to be able to share it with the ever-growing and increasing “nones” (no religious affiliation) of our country? If we are neither a tribal, ethnic group that excludes strangers nor a drive-thru express lane, feel-good religion that requires little sacrifice and less commitment, then what are we?

Our *BOOKSTORE* offers many titles to help you answer this question and continue your lifelong journey to the Kingdom of God.

Come down the hall and take a look at what is here for you.

13TH ANNUAL COOKIE WALK

St. Peter and St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall
220 Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie, PA (gold domes)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2016
10 am to 2 pm

Enjoy “walking” among tables filled with homemade cookies and pastries... so many you will be amazed!

Many varieties of Eastern European holiday cookies will be available along with a beautiful selection of your traditional favorites (homemade lady locks, pizzelles, nutrolls, and more).

Info call Sherri 412-276-2768 or Alexis 724-348-7326

www.orthodoxcarnegie.org

OrthodoxCargenie@gmail.com

REMEMBER, the *Second Week* on this schedule *May Change*.
ALWAYS USE THE MOST CURRENT BULLETIN!

Secretary Debbie will be in the office
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
from 9-2

December 4 thru December 10

Sunday, December 4 (fish, oil, wine)

- 8:45 AM - MATINS
- 10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Church School
 - Annual General Parish Meeting with Elections (Free lunch)
- 1:00 PM - The Faith Book Study

Monday, December 5 (fish, oil, wine)

- 5:00 PM - VESP. DIV. LIT'RGY
 - Nicholas of Myra
- Pasta Dinner; visit from St. Nicholas

Tuesday, December 6 (fish, oil, wine)

- 12:00 noon - Food on the Hill
- 7:00 PM - Church School Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 7 (fast)

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Ambrose, bishop of Milan
- (Confessions follow until noon)
- 6:00 to 8:00 PM - Confessions

Thursday, December 8 (fish, oil, wine)

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Patapios the Righteous
- (Confessions follow until noon)
- 6:00 PM - Nativity PARAKLESIS
- 7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 9 (fast)

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Conception of the Theotokos

Saturday, December 10 (fish, oil, wine)

- 8:00 AM - Nativity PARAKLESIS
- 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM -
 - Red Cross Blood Drive
- 6:00 PM - GREAT VESPERS
 - (Confessions follow)

December 11 thru December 17

Sunday, December 11 (fish, oil, wine)

- 8:45 AM - MATINS
- 10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - 40 Day Memorials
 - Church School
 - Antiochian Women's Mtg
- 1:00 PM - The Faith Book Study
- 5:30 PM - Clergy Brotherhood Christmas Concert

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
123 Gilkeson Rd, Pgh 15228

Monday, December 12 (oil, wine)

- 6:00 PM - VESP. DIV. LIT'RGY
 - Herman of Alaska
- "Leaf by Niggle" follows

Wednesday, December 14 (fast)

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Martyrs Thyrsus, Leucius, and Callinicus of Asia Minor; and Philemon, Apollonius, and Arian
- (Confessions follow until 11 AM)
- 12:00 noon - Feed the Hungry
 - 1st Lutheran Church, S. Main, Gbg
- 6:00 to 8:00 PM - Confessions

Thursday, December 15 (oil, wine)

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Eleutherios, bishop of Illyricum, and his mother Anthia
- (Confessions follow until 11 AM)
- 6:00 PM - Nativity PARAKLESIS
- 7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 16 (fast)

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Prophet Haggai
- (Confessions follow until 11 AM)

Saturday, December 17 (oil, wine)

- 9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 - Daniel and the Three Holy Youths
- (Confessions follow until noon)
- 6:00 PM - GREAT VESPERS
 - (Confessions follow)



Christmas Divine Liturgy will begin at 8:00 PM on Saturday night, December 24, preceded by Festal Matins at 6:30 PM.
(no church services on Sunday)
