

Christ is in our midst! He is and shall be!

"Memory Eternal" for all who perished in the attacks on September 11, 2001.

Memorial Meal workers - Go to the Fellowship Hall not later than 11:00 AM.

St. Michael's "We Remember..."

September 11, 2022, 12 to 4 PM

Memorial Service with name-by-name remembrance.

Memorial Meal - 1) grilled lamb-kebab, green beans & rice - \$20

**2) Frozen ethnic foods will also be available to purchase ---
grape leaves, kibbee, meat pies, spanakopita, pastitsio, etc.**

3) and a Gyro Stand - \$8

**All proceeds to benefit Sage's Army, Blackburn Center and
South Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department.**

At the risk of being misunderstood, here are

A Few Comments to Reflect On

Regarding the Church's Response to Suicide

"God is love." We imagine, each of us, that we know what these words mean. We do know, but most often, not very deeply. I know what I mean by them. That's all. And what we often include in that meaning is that anything that is disturbing or difficult must not be loving. That's an assumption that gets us in trouble. Tough love is the deepest kind of all. (We also think we might know what everyone means by 'tough.') Shallow, feel-good love is easy. Those who really love us are willing to be tough with us, to speak the truth for our *highest* good, when it may not feel good or reflect a popular attitude.

The Church's "no church funeral" rule for those who have taken their own life is **not** a condemnation of the person who has died but is an absolute statement to each of us who know that person that suicide, that permanent solution to a temporary problem, is **never, EVER**, an acceptable choice. Again, this message is delivered to us knowing we may misinterpret the stricture, but with a sense that it needs to be said, especially in our death-dealing culture that gives us permission to do *virtually anything* and be affirmed in that choice, whatever it may be.

To repeat, **this is not** a judgment of any person's soul and eternal destiny - God is judge (but not how we think) and God is Love (and not how we think). The intention of the Church in this matter is to leave no room for the misunderstanding of suicide as a reasonable, rational, acceptable, let alone blessable, choice in our walk through this life. It is none of these.

dial **988 --- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline --- 988** dial

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)

The Ukraine Crisis

<https://iocc.org/blog/category/where-we-serve/ukraine>

Ukrainian Relief Dinner - Sunday, September 25, 2022

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Oakland

Tickets now available from Raymounda.

All the canvas bags have been picked up
to participate in the **School Kit Program** to benefit children in Ukraine.

Thank you! (Please return filled bags immediately.)
(In 2014 we filled 25 bags. This year we're filling 80!)

NO Church School this Sunday, September 11.
Please remember to bring 101 Orthodox Saints to Church School next week.

Remember that children and their teachers depart for their classrooms right after they receive Holy Communion.

There will be no snacks provided - BYOSnacks or join in Fellowship Hour when class is over.

It is never too late to register a student.

We are always recruiting volunteers in support of our Church School Program.

Speak with Kh. Melanie about either of those matters or anything else pertaining to Church School.

(Please remember that active participation in our Church School Program is required for a child to receive a St. Michael's scholarship to Antiochian Village.)

"Off the Wall" = 3 minutes and 3 thoughts
on a Saint(s) in communion with us
"on the walls" of our church.

This will happen at the end of the sermon.

Post-Sermon, our children will remain in the front pews until they receive Holy Communion and are dismissed to Church School.

Schedule of Services and Church Events

(Check this calendar for Usher, Fellowship Hour and lock-up schedules.)

Secretary Debbie will be in the office on Monday afternoon, Thurs. and Friday.

SUNDAY, September 11

Ushers - Sara Armanious, Gust Flizanes, Wayne Macuga, Michele Murray, Elias Memari)

8:45 AM - ORTHROS

10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY (may we strive to arrive early)

"Off the Wall" - Nativity of the Theotokos; Joachim & Anna; Euphrosynos the cook

- **NO** Church School today
- Fellowship Hour (weekly coordinator - Raymounda Chaho)
12:00 PM to 4 PM - 9/11 Memorial Meal. (*If you would read names at the Memorial, come into the church between 12 and 4.*)
(Lock-up - Christina Armanious - (we lock all but the church entry double-doors by 10:15))

TUESDAY, September 13

4:45 PM - FESTAL ORTHROS - Elevation of the Life-Giving Cross
6:00 PM - DIVINE LITURGY - Elevation of the Life-Giving Cross

WEDNESDAY, September 14

6:30 PM - Bible Study - Philippians, Chapter 4

SATURDAY, September 17

9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY - Martyrs Sophia and her 3 daughters: Faith, Hope & Love
10:00 AM - Daniels family members Baptisms/Chrismations
6:00 PM - GREAT VESPERS

SUNDAY, September 18

Ushers - Sara Armanious, Gust Flizanes, Wayne Macuga, Michele Murray, Dina Papas)

8:45 AM - ORTHROS
10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY (*may we strive to arrive early*)
"Off the Wall" - *Elevation of the Cross; Jonah the Prophet*
- Church School
- Antiochian Women's Meeting
- Fellowship Hour (weekly coordinator - Raymounda Chaho)
Thank you to Hala and Ayman Aboud and
Safaa and Laith Sahawneh for hosting today.
(Lock-up - Sara Armanious - (we lock all but the church entry double-doors by 10:15))

*Confessions are heard when scheduled on calendar,
by appointment in church, or by visit.
Call Fr. John at (724) 244-1228.*

AT DIVINE LITURGY, among others, we will be praying for... (bold=recently added)

...ADEL & SARA Armanious, Mat. SOPHIE Daniels, THOMAS Abraham, MARY Andrews, CHRISTIAN & NICHOLAS Bell (Melanie's sons), MARGARITA (Peggy) Bolha, BRADY Byers, GREGORY Cervo, HELEN Ciavarra (*Valerie Flizanes' mother*), JILLIAN Crowe, JAMES Dayoob, VERA Dydiw, MICHAEL Evans, MICHAEL Hamwey, RONALD and JOANNE Hasnauer, CAROLYN Hill, BONNIE Koury, SAMUEL Koury, KARIM Khalil, CJ Kudlik, IDA Langer, NATHANIEL McNicol, HEATHER, KARIN & DALE Personett, SAM Nataros (*Jennifer Sacksen's brother*), FRANK Porembka, NICOLE Rosado, NICK Senuta, JACK Copeland (*father of Kh. Melanie, Melinda Copeland, Stephanie Heydorn*), BERNADETTE Briettinger (*wife of friend of Jeff Stewart*), ANTHONY & JILLIAN Crowe, baby JOSEPH PAUL Cervo and parents JOSEPH & ANGELINA; ROB Newton, DINA Papas, PAULETTE & THOMAS Sproch, LEO Szymkowiak, PAULETTE Weiss, LEILA Zakhary, CINDY & ROBERT Stupak (*cancer and Parkinson's; Janet Mochak's sister and bro-in-law*)... that they may have mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation.

...**birthday celebrants** --- VERA Dydiw (9/11), BENJAMIN Gajewski (9/11), CHRISTINA Miller (9/11), LAILA Evans (9/12), MICHAEL Arndt (9/13), JANET Dellavecchio (9/13), ROMA Dalicandro (9/14), DAVID Kushner (9/15), AURORA Cawog (9/16), ROSE ANN Barbato (9/17), ERIC Bevan (9/17), PATRICIA Krisner (9/17). God grant them many years!

MANY YEARS to mom JOELLE and baby THEODORA IRENE, dad BRANDON and big brother ATREUS, as mom and daughter are churched today. God grant them many years!

MANY YEARS to mom ALLISON, dad CHRIS, and children, BRECCAN, ISOBEL, WINIFRED (Winnie), BEATRIX (Trixie), and BRENDAN, as mom and children prepare to be received into the Holy Orthodox Church this Saturday morning, September 17. God grant them many years!

WE WILL REMEMBER THE DEPARTED SERVANTS OF GOD... Metropolitan PHILIP, Bishop ANTOUN, Archimandrite GEORGE, Protopresbyter GEORGE Livanos, Kh. STEFANIE Yazge. May their memories be eternal.

PRAYERS OF OBLATION ARE OFFERED...

...in memory of Metropolitan KALLISTOS Ware (+8/24).
...in memory of Archpriest JOHN Reeves (+8/22).
...in memory of MARY Joseph by Jeff and Donna Curry.
...in memory of RACHEL Ferguson by the Armanious family.
...in memory of CATHERINE Romanus by CJ Kudlik.
...in memory of JOHN Mansour by Shirles and Charles King.
...in memory of FRED Charles by Christine Mansour.
...in memory of HELEN Porembka by Carmella, Michael
and Megan Porembka.
...in memory of DIANA Roberts by Dina Papas.
...in memory of IRENE Papas by Dina Papas.
...in memory of DAVID A. Mirilovich (Flt 427) by Rich & Harriet Mirilovich.
...by Michaelene McWhinney for God's protection and blessings on her
son-in-law, RUSSELL DeMailly, as he travels to Ukraine with the
Medical Corps from Massachusetts General Hospital to work in
trauma units there.

**ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, MEMORIAL PRAYERS WILL BE PRAYED
for the following people who departed this life in Septembers past ---**

--- DEMETRIUS Keller (9/2/2011), AMELIA Mansour (9/3/1997),
NAFILEY Monsour (9/3/1990), MARIAN Rantovich (9/3/2005),
DEBRA DelVitto-Gamble (9/4/2020), JOAN Plishka (9/7/2021),
NORMAN McWhinney (9/8/2017), DAVID A. Mirilovich (9/8/1994).
JOSEPH Rebitch (9/8/2020), DONALD Wilson (9/8/1994)
RUTH Solomon (9/10/1998), MICHAEL Farrah (9/13/1999),
RUTH Matovich (9/14/1999), PAUL Mauer (9/17/2014),
WILLIAM J. Smolcic (9/20/2015), THEODORE Manos (9/21/1998),
JOSEPH McGonigle (9/21/2013), MARY Mirilovich (9/22/2002),
ELIZABETH Nosal (9/23/2021), DEREK Yoder (9/23/2020),
MANNY Stoupis (9/25/14), SHIRLEY Eakin (9/24/2020),
EMMA Anton (9/27/2002), JOHN B. Wagner (9/27/15),
STEPHANIE Schultz (9/28/96), SOPHIE Belch (9/29/2000),
WATFA Richeh (9/2021).

To add to the memorial list, call (724) 834-1311 and leave the name and date.

Joumana Sallitt says "thank you" to everyone who conveyed through cards and calls their concern for her well-being during her recent hospital stay.

Raymounda coordinates the 2022 Fellowship Hour Hosting Schedule. Call or text Raymounda - (412) 558-5877) - and leave your NAME, NUMBER and DATE(s) you'd like to reserve. *Realizing that hosting a Fellowship Hour may be financially difficult for some of us, let that not be a reason for feeling unable to support our weekly Sunday post-Divine Liturgy time with each other. Everyone is always encouraged to step up and into the kitchen to find out how they can help!*

THINGS TO REMEMBER and THINGS WE NEED...

...WE WILL BE INSTALLING A SECURITY SYSTEM (cameras, etc.) in the near future. If anyone has an 'extra' **tablet** or **iPad** or a computer **monitor** that they would donate (3 years old or newer), those items could reduce our expense.

...CALEB'S CUPBOARD (our 'memorial hallway' collection bin for people in need) is still an active ministry of our church.

...PHONE CALLERS. Pete Papas is reviving our Phone Tree Team for emergent information to be passed along to those who are not regular users of email. See Pete to be part of the calling team or to add your name to the roster of those who'd like to be called.

...BREAD BAKERS AND WHEAT MAKERS. Leave your name and number on the church voicemail (724-834-1311) and we will contact you regarding the details of what you'd have to know and do.

...USHERS. See Fr. John or Gust Flizanes to sign up to serve.

...IDEAS for Fund-raising (and people to act on their ideas). For support, direction and coordination regarding your ideas, speak with Elias Memari (724-244-3055) or Stephanie Heydorn (724-216-7866). **Thank you to Elias and Stephanie for their willingness to be Fund-Raising Co-Coordinators.** They will take on the task of helping to break inertia and give momentum to the return of active fund-raising events to our financial and budgetary plan.

...INFORM THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN whenever we might be intending to use the kitchen, to make sure no one else has scheduled to use it.

THINGS TO REMEMBER ALL THE TIME...

...BE ON TIME for church; **BE QUIET** in church, except when singing ; -)

...WHEN IT'S TIME FOR COMMUNION - Watch for direction from an usher when to proceed up the center aisle:

- 1) Church School/Children go first so they can get to class;
- 2) two center sections follow the children, then the "wing" sections;
- 3) rear section of sitters and standers.

...REMEMBER TO CROSS YOUR ARMS, right over left on your chest, and keep them crossed from the time you get in line until you reach to pick up a piece of the antidoron, the post-Communion holy bread. (This helps avoid any 'bump' accidents at the chalice. This is one time we refrain from blessing ourselves. **Say your name** as you come to stand before the priest.

...BEFORE IT'S TIME FOR COMMUNION - Be aware that regular Confession is understood to be a prerequisite act of our receiving the Precious and Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Besides fasting from eating or drinking anything on the day will Commune, our spiritual preparation is completed with prayer and *periodic participation in the Sacrament of Confession (at least during the Advent and Paschal fasts)*.

LONG TERM CALENDAR (UPCOMING DATES to Remember)

- **Sunday, September 16-19** - Adult Camp at Antiochian Village
REGISTER NOW --- <https://avcamp.org/other-programs/adult-camp/>

- **Tuesday, September 20, 7:00 PM** - Parish Council Meeting

- **Sunday, September 25** - IOCC "Ukrainian Relief" Dinner
Prayer Service - 4:00 PM Dinner - 5:00 PM
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Pittsburgh
Raymounda has tickets (we received a block of 20)

- **Stewardship Days** - October and November

- **Saturday, Oct. 15; Weekly Reader (Read, Discuss)**

(*attendees will read together; more descriptive info to come*)

- 10:00 AM - Autopsy of a Deceased Church (*pick AM or PM*)
- 5:00 PM - Great Vespers
- 6:00 PM - Autopsy of a Deceased Church (*pick AM or PM*)

- **Thursday, Nov 10 - Sun, Nov 13** - Ancient Faith Women's Retreat
at Antiochian Village ---

REGISTER NOW --- Info/Registration at <https://store.ancientfaith.com/2022-afwr>

- **Sunday, December 4** - Annual General Parish Meeting

Our Parish Council

(year designates final year of term)

**Sara Armanious '23 (Chair), Christine Mansour '22 (Vice-Chair),
Samar Khalil '23 (Treasurer), Joyce Eger '23 (Recording Secretary),
Carolyn Hill '22 (Corresponding Secretary), Raymounda Chaho '24, Andrew Cuff
'24, Christina Armanious '24, Michaelene McWhinney '22, Tom Sproch '23, Lisa Stewart
'24, Donald Yoder '22.**