

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

"It was an amazing, beautiful day."

"Amazing food! Please do it again soon!"

These were a couple comments left on our FaceBook page.
Thank you to everyone who made those comments possible at
St. Michael's "We Remember..." Memorial Meal
(A report will be given on the "Meal" at Fellowship Hour.)

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

**Metropolitan JOSEPH has informed Patriarch JOHN of Antioch of his desire to retire.
Continue reading the texts of their letters to us:**

FROM METROPOLITAN JOSEPH ---

September 17, 2022

To the Hierarchs, Clergy, and Faithful of the Archdiocese:

By the grace of God, by His providence, and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I have decided to retire from my administrative position as Metropolitan of New York and All North America for the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese. After prayerful consideration, a life of sacrifice and decades of service to the church, my painful but deliberate decision is intended to give you peace as it has now done for me.

It is my hope that my decision to remove myself will spare the Archdiocese and its faithful any further unnecessary burdens, attacks, and potential financial burdens. May God continue to protect this Archdiocese as a safe haven for all our beloved Hierarchs, clergy, and faithful. This is the hour for us to stand in unity and strength, undivided, and unshaken. I ask your prayers and understanding as I take these steps which I believe are in the best interest of the church.

May God reveal the truth in His time for His purpose and have mercy upon us all.

FROM PATRIARCH JOHN X ---

17 September 2022

To our Beloved in the Lord, The Hierarchs, Priests, Deacons, Members of the Board of Trustees, and Spiritual Children of our Holy Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America,

I greet you in Christ, lifting up my prayers for your protection. Further to my previous

letters to you at this critical period in the life of the Archdiocese, I would like through the present letter to inform you of the following:

First, we have received from His Eminence, the Most Reverend JOSEPH Zehlaoui, Metropolitan of New York and Archbishop of all North America, his Retirement Letter from his position as Metropolitan of the Archdiocese.

Second, we will duly forward the letter of His Eminence to the Holy Synod to take the necessary actions accordingly.

Third, the immediate effect of the resignation of His Eminence the Metropolitan of the Archdiocese and the circumstances related to it necessitate from us, as patriarch, to take appropriate measures in order to ensure the proper care and administration of the Archdiocese, in preparation for the next phase. We will inform you of these measures in due course.

Fourth, we ask the Lord to give Metropolitan JOSEPH many years of good health, that he “may complete the remaining time of his life in peace and repentance,” in a manner well-pleasing to the Lord, and in His Grace.

Fifth, last but not least, I call upon you again to remain united in prayer, and we are with you in this before the Lord, asking for the wellbeing of the Archdiocese and of each and every one member in it, both clergy and laity.

We put our hope in the Lord, and He always does not disappoint those who rely on Him with faith.

With our Apostolic blessings,

JOHN X Patriarch of Antioch and all the East

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

Last Chance --- Tickets now available from Raymounda.

Church Schoolers, remember to bring 101 Orthodox Saints to church with you.

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 Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

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

- Memorial Meal Wrap-Up Report in Fellowship Hall

- 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))

TUESDAY, September 20

7:00 PM - Parish Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, September 21

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

FRIDAY, September 23

9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY - Conception of John the Baptist

SATURDAY, September 24 *(nice night for a ride)*

6:00 PM - Great Vespers at St. Mary's, Johnstown

We're all invited to the bon-fire hot dog roast that will follow!

111 Alberta Ave., Johnstown, PA

SUNDAY, September 25

(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" - Thekla the Protomartyr

- Church School

- September MEMORIAL SERVICE

- Fellowship Hour (weekly coordinator - Raymounda Chaho)

Thank you to Michelle and Lou Gajewski and

Dolly Maruschock for hosting today.

(Lock-up - Raymounda Chaho - (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 Brietinger (*wife of friend of Jeff Stewart*), ANTHONY & JILLIAN Crowe, baby JOSEPH PAUL Cervo and parents JOSEPH & ANGELINA; ROB Newton, DINA Papas, 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** --- MARK Bleibtrey (9/18), CHRISTINE Derr (9/18), SOPHIA Gazal (9/18), MARY Nicola (9/19), REGIS McHugh (9/20), MICHAELENE McWhinney (9/20), JOHN A. Nosal (9/20), ELIAS Simon (9/20), STACY Adams (9/21), DAWN Carson (9/21), YALENA CRAIG (9/21), BRITTANI Salathe (9/21), DAVID Waugaman (younger; 9/21), ELIZABETH Eger (9/22), NICHOLAS Eger (9/22), CHRISTOPHER Adamson (9/23), RONNY Aboud (9/24), ELLA Wallace (9/24). God grant them many years!

...**wedding anniversary celebrants** --- MILAD and RIHAB Daoud (9/18), MICHELLE and CHAD Miller (9/22). God grant them many years!

...**baptism/chrismation commemorants** --- SAMUEL Gunther (9/20), ELIAS Bevan (9/22), MATTHEW Abraham (9/24), BETH Miller (9/24), 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 (*they were under the weather last Sunday*). 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 were received into the Holy Orthodox Church this past 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 Rich and Harriet Mirilovich.
- ...in memory of CATHERINE Romanus by Ron and Joanne Hasnauer.
- ...in memory of JOHN Mansour by Violet Kharma.

...in memory of HELEN Porembka by Mary Wagner.
...in memory of DIANA Roberts and IRENE Papas by Dina Papas.
...in memory of mother MARY Mirilovich on the 20th anniversary of her death by Rich and Harriet Mirilovich.
...for the health of SOFIA, ALEKSANDER, TATIANA, RYAN, YEKATERINA, DANIIL, ALEKSEY, TAMARA, ELEONORA and CHAD by Tatiana Lucas.
...in memory of REBA, IVAN, HERBERT and VASILEY by Tatiana Lucas.

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.

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...

...**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)

- **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)

- **October and November** - Stewardship Days
 - **Sunday, October 2** - Antiochian Women's Meeting
 - **Sat., Oct. 8** - Antiochian Women of the East - 1 Day Fall Retreat
 - Location** - Holy Protection Monastery, White Haven, PA
 - Presenter** - Georgia Mamalakis **Topic** - "The Garden of the Heart"
 - Speak with Valerie Flizanes or Lisa Stewart re: registration
 - **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*)
 - **Sunday, October 16** - Special Olympics Awareness Day Collection
 - Our Teen(s) will be collecting - be generous
 - "Gyro" Fellowship Hour - \$10 each
 - **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](https://store.ancientfaith.com/2022-afwr)
 - **Sunday, December 4** - Annual General Parish Meeting
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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.