

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.*

- **His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH**, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America
- **His Grace Bishop THOMAS**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, Oakland and the Middle Atlantic
- **Archpriest John Nosal**, Pastor

Sunday, December 2, 2018

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

*Please join us for “coffee and...”
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).



The mission of the members of St. Michael's Orthodox Church is to become completely loving people.

(see Lk 10:27) This will occur by the Grace of God as we strive to live holy lives, using the tools He has given us for this endeavor: prayer, fasting, charitable works, and the constant remembrance of death.

TONE 2

Arr: Basil Kazan.

When Thou didst sub - mit Thy - self - un - to death,
O Thou Death - less and Im - mor - - tal One, then Thou didst
de - stroy Hell with Thy God - ly pow'r; and when Thou didst
raise the dead from be - neath the earth, all the pow'rs of
Hea - ven did cry a - loud un - to Thee: O Christ
Thou Gi - ver of Life, glo - - - ry to Thee!

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 2, 2018

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

Tone: 2 Eothinon: 5

Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost & Fourteenth Sunday of Luke; The Holy Prophet Habakkuk; Martyr Habib the New; Martyr Myrope of Chios; Venerable John, Heraclemon, Theophilos and Andrew of Egypt; Martyr Stephen Urosh, the Serbian king; Venerable Ioannikios of Devitch.

THE EPISTLE READING

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians (6:10-17)

B **RETHREN**, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

According to St. Luke (18:35-43)

A **T THAT TIME**, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

No Joke

The good news is that Paul Capar will be back with us some time in December, returning from his relocation in Chicago. *The bad news* is that this is happening because he has recently had surgery to stabilize his health with the focus on managing his Crohn's disease.

The good news is that the surgery went very well and his health continues to improve. *The bad news* is that all of this, the medical and logistical alike, has placed a considerable strain on Paul's and his family's psychic and material resources.

The good news is that we can help. *There's no bad news about that.* Should you be so moved, you are encouraged to contribute toward lessening their load with prayers, communications, and whatever you will see fit to offer toward their fiscal needs.

If you will write a check, make it out to "St. Michael's" with "Capar Relief" jotted on the note line. Thank you.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, December 15th

9:00 AM to 2:30 PM

St. Michael's Multi-Purpose Room



American
Red Cross
Together, we can save a life

"TOYS FOR TOTS"

DEADLINE IS **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH.**

**DROP YOUR DONATION IN THE "TOYS FOR TOTS" BOX
OPPOSITE THE BOOKSTORE, NEXT TO THE CHRISTMAS TREE.**

Sponsored by the Church School.



SCRIP Gift Card Program

Thinking of buying gift cards for your Christmas shopping? Or to give as Christmas gifts? Why not purchase them through St. Michael's? Our Church earns money on every gift card purchased. You can purchase gift cards for your everyday shopping like gas, groceries and eating out; as well as giving the cards as birthday or Christmas gifts. Some of the gift cards available are: Giant Eagle, Dick's Sporting Goods, Macy's, Texas Road House, Panera Bread, Sheetz, Dunkin Donuts, Starbuck's, Old Navy, Chipotle, Red Robin, Eat 'n Park, Lowe's, Home Depot, Wendy's, Subway, Olive Garden, Denny's, IHOP, GFS, Visa Gift Card, Sam's Club, Walmart, and many more!

Go to <http://www.shopwithscrip.com> to review the complete list of retailers.

We submit everyone's orders together to Great Lakes. The gift cards will arrive at the Church anywhere from 7-10 days after an order is placed. We will notify you when they are available for pick-up in the office. You do not have to order each time. You choose the order dates that work best for you.

Our next gift card order will be placed **TODAY, December 2,** after Divine Liturgy. Bring your check book to pay for your gift cards — ***checks need to be made out to "St. Michael's"***; payment must be made when you order. Thank you for supporting St. Michael's through the SCRIP Program and Happy Shopping! Any questions, see Fotini.

***Our Annual General Parish Meeting and election
for 2019 Parish Council is **TODAY, December 2.*****

"Treasures for Children"

Salvation Army Christmas Program

Please return gifts by December 13th.

*Pick a White Tag from
the Tree in the hallway across from Bookstore.*

Address questions to Michele Murray.



ON ANY SUNDAY there are needs that arise during the conduct of our church services that you may be called upon to assist with. These include helping with the collection, holding the Communion cloth, serving the memorial wheat, distributing the holy bread, reading the epistle, etc. Please be ready, should you feel a tap on your shoulder, to step up and help out. Thank you, in advance.

2018 Christmas Crèche Show

All are invited free of charge!
Refreshments and Children's Activities

*First United Methodist Church
15 East Second Street Greensburg, PA*

Thursday, December 6th	4 pm to 8 pm
Friday, December 7th	4 pm to 8 pm
Saturday, December 8th	11 am to 3 pm

Come and welcome the season of peace, hope and love!

We are seeking additional parishioners to provide the Holy Bread

for Divine Liturgy service during the coming year. We have some open Sundays on the 2019 schedule, so please let Debbie know as the schedule is being done now. You do not have to make the Holy Bread, but can make a donation. Please consider this special way to remember your departed and to honor your living family and friends.



Operation Reindeer



Imagine being in the hospital for the holidays, separated from the ones you love. Now, imagine you can do something to make the holidays a little brighter for Westmoreland County residents in the long-term psychiatric unit at Torrance State Hospital.

This year, consider making a donation to "Operation Reindeer," sponsored by Mental Health America of Southwestern PA, so that each patient at Torrance will receive a gift this season. Donations of large sized clothes for men and women, men's wallets, shoes without laces, portable CD players, phone cards, stationery with stamps, puzzles, crafts, AA batteries, sports memorabilia (Pittsburgh teams), are particularly appreciated.

If you are not able to give a gift item, please consider making a monetary donation to MHA/SWPA and designate for "Operation Reindeer."

Items may be dropped off **by December 10** at:

Mental Health America SWPA, 409 Coulter Ave., Greensburg

Please contact Martina Kaufman at Step-Up Drop In Center at 724 537-6120 or stepup@mhaswpa.org with any questions.

HIGHLIGHTS of UPCOMING EVENTS

SUN., DEC. 2 - Annual General Parish Meeting w/ Elections

- Shop with Scrip Order Due

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4 - Food on the Hill 12:00Noon

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5 - 6:00 PM Divine Liturgy;

St. Nicholas Day; Pasta Dinner;

Visit from St. Nicholas

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 - 10 AM to 1 PM - Pick up your Christmas

Bake Sale order

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 - Community Christmas Card listing due

- Caroling — Gbg Care Center; Weatherwood

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12 - Luncheon at 1st Lutheran Church,

Greensburg; sign up in Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 - Red Cross Blood Drive 9 AM TO 2:30PM

SUNDAY, DEC. 16 - Women and Church School Bake Holy Bread

- "Toys for Tots" Donations Deadline

- Sarris Candy Delivery to parishioners

- Poinsettia Plant Donation and Listing Deadline.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 - Outdoor Blessing of the Waters

at Twin Lakes

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13 - 12:00pm Ladies' Brunch at Waterworks in

South Greensburg. Sign up in Fellowship Hall.

Cost is approximately \$20 paid at time of event.

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

*Debbie will be in the office on
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
from 9 am to 3 pm.*

December 2 thru December 8

Sunday, Dec. 2 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 8:45 AM - **ORTHROS**
- 9:30 - Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 AM - **DIVINE LITURGY**
 - MEMORIAL—Nicholas Masterson 40-Day
 - Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council Elections

Monday, Dec. 3 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 9:00 AM to 12 - **CONFESSIONS**
- 6:00 PM - **VESP DIV LITURGY**
 - Great Martyr Barbara
 - **CONFESSIONS** follow

Tuesday, Dec. 4 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 12:00 PM - Food on the Hill

Wednesday, Dec. 5 (wine & oil ok)

- 6:00 PM - **VESP DIV LITURGY**
 - Nicholas the Wonder-worker
 - Pasta Dinner; Program

Thursday, Nov. 29 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, Dec 8 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 9:00 AM - **Nativity PARAKLESIS**
- 10 AM to 1 PM - Bake Sale Pick Up
- **NO** Vespers tonight

December 9 thru December 15

Sunday, Dec. 9 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 8:45 AM - **ORTHROS**
- 9:30 - Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 AM - **DIVINE LITURGY**
 - Outreach Caroling at Greensburg Care Center & Weatherwood Manor

Monday, Dec. 10 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 9:00 AM to 12 - **CONFESSIONS**
- 6:00 PM - **VESP DIV LITURGY**
 - Great Martyr Barbara
 - **CONFESSIONS** follow

Tuesday, Dec. 11 (fish, wine & oil ok)

- 5:00 PM - **VESP DIV LITURGY**
 - Spyridon of Trymithous
- 6:30 PM - Stewardship Team Mtg

Wednesday, Dec. 12 (wine & oil ok)

- 12:00 PM 1st Lutheran Church Luncheon
- 6:00 PM - **VESP DIV LITURGY**
 - St. Nicholas of Myra, the Wonder-worker
 - Dinner and Sainly visit

Thursday, Dec. 13 (strict fast)

- 7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, Dec 15 (wine & oil ok)

- 9:00 AM - **Nativity PARAKLESIS**
- 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM—Blood Drive
- 11:00 AM - **BAPTISM** —
 - Leila Maria Busch
- 6:00 PM - **GREAT VESPER**

JOY will be spread TO THE

NEARBY WORLD by all of us who will do a little caroling on Sunday, Dec. 9, following Fellowship Hour. We'll spend some time at Greensburg, Care Center before going to visit Jeanne and Salema at Weatherwood Manor. We'll finish somewhere we can eat!

**NATIVITY OF CHRIST
DIVINE SERVICES**

Monday, December 24

- 9:00 AM - **ROYAL HOURS, GREAT VESPER, TYPIKA**
- 8:00 PM - **FESTAL ORTHROS**
- 9:30 PM - Traditional American **Christmas Carols**
- 10:00 PM - **FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY**