



Welcome to St. Michael's Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

1182 Ashland Street, Greensburg, PA 15601

www.stmichaelsgreensburgpa.org

Rev. Fr. David Hyatt, Pastor

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Office Hours:

Tuesday – 9am – 12pm

Thursday – 9am – 4pm

Office Telephone:

(724) 834-1311

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Fr. David Hyatt – Cell Phone:

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Fr. David Hyatt:

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This Week

Sunday, February 9th

Triodion Begins

8:45 AM – Orthros

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

11:15 AM – Church School

12:00 PM – Antiochian Women Mtg

12:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice

12:00 PM – Inquirer's Class

Tuesday, February 11th

9:00 AM – SM Historical Society Mtg

Wednesday, February 12th

6:00 PM – Vespers

(Confession Follows)

Friday, February 14th

7:00 PM – Valentine's Dance

Saturday, February 15th

4:30 PM – Catechism Class

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

(Confession Follows)

Sunday, February 16th

8:45 AM – Orthros

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

11:15 AM – Church School

12:00 PM – Ask Abouna

Divine Liturgy Variables on Sunday, February 9, 2025

Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican &

Leave-taking of the Presentation (Meeting) of Christ

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN)

The Lord hath made known His salvation; He hath revealed His justice in the sight of the Gentiles. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia. • After the Entrance, sing the hymns in the following order below.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the threeday burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ARCHANGELS IN TONE FOUR

O foremost of the Heav'nly Hosts we beseech thee, though we are unworthy. Pray that we may be encompassed with a shadow of thine unearthly glory, preserving us, who kneel and cry endlessly. Deliver us from oppression since ye are the princes of the highest power.

KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

MEGALYNARION OF THE PRESENTATION IN TONE THREE

O Theotokos, thou hope of all Christians; keep and shelter and preserve them that set their hope in thee. In the shadow and letter of the Law, let us the faithful contemplate a prefiguring: Every male child that openeth the womb is holy unto God. Therefore, do we magnify the first-born Word, the Son of the Father Who is without beginning, the first-born Child of a Mother who hath not known wedlock.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.

Live-Streaming Services

Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Ellwood City, PA

Holy Cross Monastery

Wayne, WV

St. Tikhon's Monastery

Waymart, PA

Serving Schedule

Jr. Altar Boys

02/09 – Noor Sahawneh

02/16 – Breccan Daniels

02/23 – Noor Sahawneh

Fellowship – Clean Up Crew

02/09 – Memari, Sahawneh

02/16 – Belchou, Miele

02/23 – Stewart

Lock Up

02/09 – Samar Khalil

02/16 – Elias Memari

02/23 – Mercedes Michetti

How to Prepare to Receive Holy Communion

- Confession Regularly
- Pray the Pre-Communion Prayers
- Reconciliation with others
- Correcting our bad habits
- Fast from food and drink from midnight (12am) the night before or 8 hours before an evening liturgy
- Arriving on time (before Gospel)

“Adherence to these instructions is essential and important in order to partake of the Holy Body and Blood of the Lord in a worthy manner, that is, with proper preparation.”

Metropolitan SABA

<https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/1919>

Fellowship Hour Clean Up

The **Signup Sheet** is on the bulletin board outside of the kitchen. The cleanup guide and supplies are provided for your use, and Raymounda Chaho will provide guidance as needed.

EPISTLE — 2 Timothy 3:10-15

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL – Luke 18:10-14

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Triodion Begins Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee

“O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, the lust of power, and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to your servant.

Yea, O Lord, and King grant me to see my own sin and not to judge my brother, for You are blessed from all ages to all ages. Amen”

(Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian)

Definition

The word Triodion: It is a Greek word meaning three odes, that is, three stanzas. The word ὠδή “ode” refers to stanzas of praise or hymns, from the verb of αἰδῶ “to sing”. This period has been called "Triodion" because the Canons (hymns) of 9 odes (stanzas) are replaced with the liturgical book with Canons of 3 odes called “The Triodion”. (See below explanation of words: Canons - Odes).

The Triodion period takes its name from the book that we use in this ecclesiastical time.

The Triodion begins with Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee and lasts until Holy Saturday.

It is a time of special compunction, a return to oneself and to God, in order to rise with Christ as a new creation in sincere repentance.

It is a time of self-purification when we cry: "O God have mercy on me, a sinner."

Inquirer's Class

Join us the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month for our Inquirer's Class, Journey to Fullness. We meet in the multi-purpose classroom at the end of the education hallway. All are invited to attend.

2024 Giving Statements Emailed Last Week

On **Monday, January 27th**, an **email was sent to your email address** with a link to download and print your 2024 St. Michael's Giving Statement. If you have difficulty opening your giving statement, please contact Fr. David.

Theophany Home Blessings

If you are interested in having your home blessed before the start of Great Lent, March 3rd, please contact Fr. David.

Prayers of Oblation

...in memory of Diana Roberts and Irene Papas by Dina Papas

Intercessory Prayer List (Orthodox & Non-Orthodox)

Please pray for the following people this week. ***Names will remain on the list for 2 weeks.***

MAT. SOPHIE Daniels in hospice care at their home.

DALE Ackerman (Mary Gazal's brother-in-law) who is dealing with health issues.

CARRI Reda (Ruba Nicola Reda's mother-in-law) cancer treatment.

GEORGE Kozar (Cousin of Connie Volchko) for health issues.

JOANNE Hasnauer recovering from medical procedure.

Subdeacon JOSEPH Gazal recovering from a medical procedure.

KATHY Kartalija (Sister of Carolyn Hill) who has dementia.

FOUAD & JOANNE Bassilios (Extended Family of Armanious Family) Fouad was recently hospitalized with

This is what we read in the Synaxarion of the beginning of the Triodion: "O Creator of all above and below, as Thou receivest the thrice-holy hymn from the angels, so also from mankind receive the Triodion".

Heaven and Earth join to form a single choir. Angels and humans come together to praise the "Creator of all", angels sing lauds to the Holy Trinity (Trisagion- the Thrice Holy Hymn) and human beings respond with honorable odes of the Triodion, filled with compunction.

The author of the Triodion, Nikephoros Kallistos Xanthopoulos, says that the three odes were first composed by Cosmas of the Hymnographer, Bishop of Maiuma who arranged them after the model of the life-giving Holy Trinity to be chanted on Holy Week. Then several authors including Theodore and Joseph of the Studite Monastery in Constantinople followed him; they wrote Canons for each week of Great Lent.

The Triodion is characterized by three hymns that are chanted at Matins after the Gospel and Psalm 50, from the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee to the Sunday of Saint Mary of Egypt.

These hymns form a liturgical unit inspired by Psalm 50; they begin thus:
- "Glory...The gates of repentance, do Thou open unto me..."
- "Both now...Guide me on the paths of salvation, O Theotokos..."
- "Have mercy...As I the wretched one ponder the multitude of evil deeds I have done..."

The Triodion Sundays

The Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee (Luke 18:10-14)

On this Sunday, the gospel reading is the parable given by the Lord about the virtues of repentance and humility. It shows how much these virtues are dear to God, even more than the apparent sacrifices and worship with a spirit of pride and arrogance.

Consequently, the Church warns that the cornerstone of Great Lent is the humility with a spirit of repentance.

Setting the Gospel of the Publican and Pharisee on the first Sunday is mostly to emphasize humility.

When St. Macarius was asked, "What is the greatest virtue?" He replied, "Just as arrogance brought down an angel from the highest and caused the first humans to fall, so does humility raise the person endowed with it from the lowest pit."

Saint Isaac the Syrian says on humility: "The one who sighs every day because of his sins is greater than one who raises the dead. It is better to deserve beholding one's sins than beholding angels".

Anyone who views himself as being sinless falls in delusion and pride (1John 8:1). We are in constant need to cry unto God with the Publican "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" (Luke 18:13).

No matter how many virtues we acquire, let us always remember that we are sinners and ask God for mercy and forgiveness.

heart failure and Joanne is battling uterine cancer on chemotherapy.

ANDREW Grobe (Friend of the Armanious Family) who is on life support with a very slim possibility of recovery.

QUENTIN Guy (Grandson of friends of Fr. David & Kh. BethAnn) who died unexpectedly on Wednesday night.

KAYLA Thompson (Family friend of Bonnie Koury) who is fighting cancer. Kayla is 35 years old.

SOULS of the departed during the recent aviation accidents, and all of their loved ones.

All those suffering with illness and disease, both acute and chronic.

All those affected by events in Syria, Lebanon, Ukraine, Russia, and throughout the world.

CATECHUMENS at St. Michael: DAVE Bartholomew, STACIE Bartholomew, RYAN Bartholomew, DEBBIE Paulus, DOUG Gilliland, ROSCO (ROBERT) Ross, Matthew Valenti, and SHANE Winters.

Free Items

The former padded cloth chairs that were in church are available to parishioners at no cost. Two sample chairs will be in the social hall for viewing. Also available is a small pool table, and a foosball table. Contact Sara Armanious for details. 724-875-0345. Items will be removed soon, so let us know if you are interested.

AMEN: Antiochian Men's Ministry February 23rd @ 12pm

The Antiochian Men's Ministry is being reignited with our first gathering on Sunday, February 23rd after the divine liturgy. Led by Nick Senuta and Petros Papas, we will have a time of getting to know one another to relaunch this important ministry for our adult men. Make plans to join us!



Valentine's Dance & Party

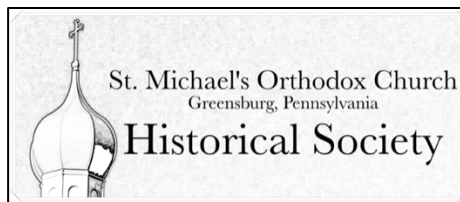
February 14, 2025
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Join us for our annual Valentine's Dance & Party. Musical entertainment is provided by the Wayne Macuga Quartet. Tickets are \$20/person and will include coffee, water, and light snacks. You are welcome to bring your own beverages and snacks for your table. Groups of 6-7 can reserve a table. Contact Raymounda Chaho (412-558-5877) to reserve your seat.

Caleb's Cupboard & Food on the Hill

St. Michael's parishioners can support FOOD ON THE HILL and the GREATER THINGS RESOURCE CENTER by financial donations to Food on the Hill. Make checks payable to St. Michael's church and designate in memo space for Food on the Hill.

Also, there is a need for these items as well. Donations of children and baby clothing, diapers, and personal hygiene products. Most useful food items: canned food, especially tuna, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, soups, etc. Only non-perishable food items please. Any questions see Gust Flizanes.



Meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the Month

The St. Michael's Historical Society is hard at work curating a wide variety of artifacts from this life of our parish. There are many photographs that we could use help in identifying all the people pictured. If you are interested in helping us, or if you have historical records, photos, memorabilia related to the history of St. Michael's, please come to one of our meetings. Everyone is invited to help! Direct your questions to Petros Papas or Don Yoder.



A new chapter of Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), the college ministry of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, has been started for all college/grad students in Westmoreland County, PA. Fr. David Hyatt has been given a blessing by His Eminence Met. SABA to serve as the Spiritual Advisor, and Drs. Mat & Christina Hahey have volunteered to be Lay Leaders. Nathan Caldwell is our first president helping us to get this new OCF chapter off the ground. If you know of any Orthodox college students within Westmoreland County, please encourage them to join us! Please keep this new ministry in your prayers!