



## This Weeks Schedule

### THIS WEEK

**WED @ 11 AM-1:30 PM:** Silent Prayer/Confession

**WED @ 5:00 PM:** Daily Vesper

### NEXT WEEKEND

**SAT, May 28:** Great Vespers @ 5:00 PM

**SUN, May 29:** Hours @ 9:10 AM, Divine Liturgy @ 9:30 AM

### UP COMING

Ascension: Thursday, June 2

Pentecost: Sunday, June 12

### Announcements

### & Upcoming Parish Events



**Upcoming Fundraisers:** If you would like to plan something please get with me to discuss the details and the dates such as **Peirogi Project**

**Financial Meeting:** Every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

**Parish Steering Meeting:** Are now the Second Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m. prior to Great Vespers

**Parish Work Day:** Thank You to those who came out to help clean out the rectory. Many hands make light work!

**“For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.” ~ 1 Thessalonians 4:16**

**Holy Archangel Michael Pray unto God for us!**



### *From The Ambvon*

ST MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH,  
OLD FORGE, PA

Priest Michael Shepherd (frmichael@stmichaelof.org)

Steering Committee: Barbara Sevensky, Bev Elko,

Sandra Condon

Phone: (570) 457-3703 Web: <http://www.stmichaelof.org>

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Sun, May 22nd, 2022 5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 4. Samaritan  
Woman - Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

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### Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Birthdays:** Daniel Jones (5/30)

**Nameday:** Emily Krenitsky (5/30)

**Anniversary:** Fr Michael Shepherd - Priest Ordination (5/26)

**Baptism:** Fr Michael and Matushka Emilia Shepherd (5/8); Maximus Shepherd (5/16); Rodion Shepherd (5/18)

**Travelers:** For all who are traveling this week

**Visitors:** Thank you for joining us and please introduce yourself to Fr Michael

**Kitchen Schedule:** Need volunteers for Kitchen

**Prospora Schedule:** May - Marie Pasternak

June - Fr Michael

July - Need Volunteer

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**DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS:** A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

## 2022 St Tikhon's Memorial Day Pilgrimage

The monastery brotherhood is pleased to welcome pilgrims to the annual Memorial Day pilgrimage from May 27th-May 30th. Metropolitan Tikhon and the myrrh-streaming icon of the Mother of God from Hawaii will be joining us for the entire pilgrimage. All are welcome and please plan to attend:

### Friday

4:30 pm ... opening of the Memorial Day pilgrimage with greeting of the Hawaiian Icon of the Mother of God followed by Vespers and Matins

### Saturday

9:00 am ... Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

1:00 pm ... Seminary Graduation

4:00 pm ... Vigil for the Resurrection of Christ

### Sunday

9:00 am ... Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

4:30 pm ... Vespers and Matins

7:30 pm ... Choral Concert in the Music Center

### Monday

7:30 am ... Hours and early Divine Liturgy in Main Church

10:00 am ... Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at the Bell Tower

2:30 pm ... Healing service with the Iveron Icon at the Bell Tower

4:30 pm ... Vespers and Matins and closing of Pilgrimage

## Parish Prayer List

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Matushka Paula Soucek, Fr Theodore Orzolek, Mike Jadick, Bernie Elko, Rose Krenitsky, Margaret Pregmon, Dr David Lezinsky, Fr John Nightingale, Stella Krenitsky, Marie Buranich, Helen Wytovich, Tammy Wytovich, Rosemary Kuzmich, Sandra Pritchuk, Marie Pasternak, Sandy Batton, Paula Stavisky, Al Pritchuk, Dr. Eli Stavisky, Evelyn Bunevitch

Departed: Archbishop Paul, Paul, Marie, Walter, Dennis



## Orthodoxy 101

### The Law of God

By Seraphim Slobodskoy.

**G**od created the whole world **out of nothing**, by His Word alone. God can do all that He wishes. God is the highest existence. There is no one nor anything equal to Him anywhere, neither on earth nor in Heaven. We, mankind, cannot fully comprehend Him by our reason. We would know nothing about Him unless He Himself had not revealed it to us. What we know about God has all been revealed to us by God Himself.

When God created the first people, Adam and Eve, He appeared to them in Paradise, revealing Himself to them, revealed how He created the world, and how people must believe in the One True God and fulfill His will. This teaching of God was first passed on orally from generation to generation, but later, at the inspiration of God, it was written down by Moses and by the other prophets in the sacred books.

Finally, the **very Son of God, Jesus Christ**, appeared on earth and revealed all that mankind needs to know about God. He revealed to mankind a great mystery: **God is One** but a **Trinity in Three Persons**. The first Person is **God the Father**; the second Person is **God the Son**, the third Person is **God the Holy Spirit**. These are not three gods but one God in three Persons, **the Trinity in one essence and indivisible**.

All three Persons have the same divine dignity; there is not a senior one among them nor a junior; as **God the Father** is true **God**, so also **God the Son** is true **God**, and likewise, the **Holy Spirit** is true **God**.

They are different only in that **God the Father** is not begotten and does not proceed from anyone; **God the Son** is **begotten** of God the Father; the **Holy Spirit** **proceeds** from God the Father.

Jesus Christ through the revelation of the mystery of the All-holy Trinity taught us not only to worship God truly, but also to love God as all three Persons of the Most-holy Trinity — the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All eternally abide with one another in unceasing love and make up one Being. God is all-perfect love.

The great mystery, which God revealed to us concerning Himself, is **the mystery of the Holy Trinity**, which our weak mind cannot contain or understand.

St. Cyril, the teacher of the Slavs, tried to explain the mystery of the Most-holy Trinity. He said, "Do you see in the heavens the brilliant sphere of the sun and how from it light is begotten and warmth proceeds? God the Father is like the sphere of the sun, without beginning or end. From Him is eternally begotten God the Son, like light from the sun; just as there comes warmth together with light from the sun, the Holy Spirit proceeds. Each one is distinguished separately: the sphere of the sun and the light and the warmth —

these are not three suns, but one sun in the heavens. So also, in the Holy Trinity: there are three Persons but God is one and indivisible." Blessed Augustine says: "You see the Trinity if you see love." This means that we can understand the mystery of the Holy Trinity more readily with the heart, that is by love, than with our feeble mind.

The teaching of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was written down by His disciples in a sacred book, which is called the **Gospel**. The original word for Gospel is the Greek word *Evangelion*, which means glad tidings or good news.

The sacred books, gathered together into one book, are called the **Bible**. This is from Greek word which means "**book**."

**Questions:** Can we completely comprehend with our mind what God is and by ourselves learn about Him? Where do we learn about God and how He is the Creator of the world? Who revealed the teaching about God, that He is One but a Trinity in Persons? How are the Persons of the Holy Trinity called? How are They distinguished from One Another? What is the Gospel and what is the Bible?

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## Scripture Readings

Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

John 4:5-42

## Words of Wisdom

From the Saints & Teachers

4:24a *God is Spirit*

**The Spirit Is a Being, Not Wind. Didymus the Blind:** Since God cannot be seen, his incorporeal nature follows directly on his invisibility. For if God is unseen, then he must be incorporeal. And if this is the case, then the Spirit spoken of here cannot be air that has been set in motion. For among people a body reveals its spirit; however, we cannot say the same about God. Just as the Light spoken of here is not a physical light, but an intellectual light since it illuminates the mind, not the face, and just as he who is called Love is not a disposition but rather a Being who loves what he has made and takes care of it, so he does not address the Spirit as a blast of wind, but rather presents him as an incorporeal and life-giving Being. Everyone who has learned that “God is spirit” worships him spiritually “in spirit and truth” and no longer worships the God of all under the shadows of types. He makes a distinction between the letter and the spirit and distinguishes between the type and the truth. The letter and the type were useful for a time, but when the truth came, that is, when Christ arrived, all these things came to an end. Fragments on John 3.

Elowsky, J. C. (Ed.). (2006). [John 1–10](#) (pp. 160–161). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

#### **4:28 *The Woman Left Her Water Jar***

**The Samaritan Woman an Apostle. Origen:** He also uses the woman as an apostle, as it were, to those in the city. His words to her are so forceful that she leaves her water jar to go to the city and tells them to her fellow townspeople.... I think there was a definite purpose why the Evangelist recorded that the woman left her water jar and went into the city. At the literal level, then, this shows the tremendous eagerness of the Samaritan woman, who forsakes her water jar and is more concerned for how she may benefit the multitude than for her more humble duty related to material things. For she was very benevolently moved and wished to

announce the Christ to her fellow citizens by bearing witness to the one who told her “all I ever did.” And she invites them to behold a man whose speech is greater than man, for his appearance to the eye was human. So must we, too, therefore, forgetting things that are more material in nature and leaving them behind, be eager to impart to others the benefit of which we have been partakers. For by recording the woman’s commendation for those capable of reading with understanding, the Evangelist challenges us to this goal. Commentary on the Gospel of John 13.169, 173–74.

Elowsky, J. C. (Ed.). (2006). [John 1–10](#) (pp. 165–166). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

#### **4:34 *Doing the Will of God***

**Christ Hungry for Our Salvation. Chrysostom:** He calls the salvation of men and women his food, showing his great desire that we should be saved. His desire for our salvation is as great as our desire for food. And see how often he does not express himself directly but figuratively. This necessarily makes it difficult for his hearers to comprehend his meaning, but it also gives a greater importance to that meaning once it is understood. Homilies on the Gospel of John 34.1.

**The Will of God Is Repentance and Forgiveness. Ambrose:** The food of a priest is the remission of sins. Therefore, the Prince of priests, Christ, says, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me.” What is the will of God but this: “When you turn and groan, then shall you be saved”?<sup>20</sup> Letter 57 (to Simplicianus).

Elowsky, J. C. (Ed.). (2006). [John 1–10](#) (p. 167). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.