



Words of Wisdom

From the Saints & Teachers

12:1 So Great a Cloud of Witnesses

Witnesses Who Testified for Our Faith. Theodore of Mopsuestia: He did not simply say that there is one time of repayment for all—for this was not his intention—but he said this to show that also those who had done such things and suffered such things through faith might still await the payment of the things promised. Not bearing it with ill grace, they are brought with us of the later generation. Thus he showed their even greater endurance, if indeed they still await after death those who ought to contend likewise with them so that with them we may obtain the enjoyment of all the good. And therefore he speaks of “witnesses,” not of the things suffered but of the things testified for our faith. Fragments on the Epistle to the Hebrews 12.1.

Heen, E. M., & Krey, P. D. W. (Eds.). (2005). [Hebrews](#) (p. 209). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

4:25 Great Crowds Follow Jesus

The Lord Gathers His Army. Anonymous: Every king about to do battle against an enemy king first gathers together an army, then goes off to war. So too the Lord about to do battle with the devil first gathers together his apostles and thus begins to preach the gospel of the kingdom throughout Galilee. The taking of the devil by storm is the preaching of truth; the deadly arrow in his heart is the speaking of righteousness. Overturning him is the work of signs. The stripping of his powers is the conversion of believers. An earthly king gathers together an army that by its efforts he may attain glory. The Lord gathered together his apostles not that by their efforts he might attain glory but that by his own effort he might win victory for them. Incomplete Work on Matthew, Homily 8.

Simonetti, M. (Ed.). (2001). [Matthew 1–13](#) (p. 76). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.



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: www.stmichaelof.org

Sun, June 26th, 2022 2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1.
All Saints of America

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays: Bernard (6/30)

Nameday:

Anniversary: Bernard & Beverly (6/8)

Baptism:

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: June - Fr Michael

July - Volunteers from Prospora class! Thank you!

August -

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 themselves by fasting and a recent (monthly) confession..If you have questions please ask Fr Michael!*



This Weeks Schedule

THIS WEEK

TUES @ 5:00 PM: Great Vespers w/Litya

WED @ 9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Ss Peter and Paul

We will be joined by Holy Trinity and Holy Resurrection

NEXT WEEKEND

SAT, July 2: @ 3:45 PM Catechism

SAT, July 2: @ 5:00 PM Great Vespers / Confession After

SUN, July 3: Hours @ 9:10 AM, Divine Liturgy @ 9:30 AM

UP COMING

Akathist to St Alexis of Wilkesbarre for revitalization: 13July (Wed)

Proskomede Class: 17July @ 8:00 AM



Announcements

& Upcoming Parish & Diocesan Events

Financial Meeting: This Wednesday June 29th, @ 10 a.m.

St Tikhon's Summer Camp: July 3-9 (Diocesan Campers are FREE!)

Clergy Continuing Education: July 7th @ 10 a.m. St Nicholas, Bethlehem PA

Parish Prospora Baking Class: July 12th at 10 a.m.

All American Council: July 18-22

Parish Steering Meeting: July 23, @ 3:30 p.m. prior to Great Vespers

“The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.” MT 13:41-43

Holy Archangel Michael Pray unto God for us!

2. Parishioners are taught/reminded that every asset financial, human etc they have is a gift from God to be managed as a steward on the Master's behalf. We are not the owners, we are the borrowers.

3. Proportional giving is a basic quality of our stewardship efforts.

4. We thank members often for their generous and responsible giving.

5. We ask annually. Lay leaders do at least part of the asking.

6. We link our requests for funds to our vision – hopefully describing a solid future for what we will do in the parish and how generous donations enable that future.

7. We don't “nickel and dime”; we limit special collections.

8. We expend serious effort to deliver clear reports on how money is used. We do not waste money. Nor do we sit on it or hoard it. Neither are we overly tight with expenditures. We put the money we receive to work for the building up the Church.

9. We do NOT fund the parish using per capita dues.

10. Children are taught clearly and directly about stewardship and generosity in Church school.

11. Achieving our annual budget is not dependent on fund raising or alternative sources of income. Fundraising is used for charitable and outreach projects and to enhance fellowship.

About Saints – “The Law of God” By Seraphim Slobodskoy.

On the icons also we represent holy people or the saints of God. We call them by this name because when they lived on earth, they pleased God by their righteous life. And now, dwelling in Heaven with God, they pray for us to God and help us who live on earth.

The saints have different titles: prophets, apostles, martyrs, hierarchs, holy monks, unmercenaries, blessed ones, and the righteous.

The prophets are the saints of God who, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, foretold the future, primarily about the Saviour. They lived before the coming of the Saviour.

The apostles were the closest disciples of Jesus Christ, whom He sent during His earthly life to preach. After the coming of the Holy Spirit upon them, they preached the Christian faith in all lands. At first there were twelve of them, and later, seventy more.

Two of the apostles, Peter and Paul, are called leaders of the apostles, because they labored in preaching the faith of Christ more than the others. Four of the apostles, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John the Theologian, who wrote the Gospels, are called Evangelists.

Saints who spread the Christian faith in various places like the apostles, are called Equal-to-the-Apostles, as for example, Mary Magdalene, the first woman-martyr Thecla, the pious monarchs Constantine and Helen, the pious Russian prince Vladimir, Saint Nina, the Enlightener of Georgia, and others.

The martyrs are those Christians who accepted terrible tortures and even death for their faith in Jesus Christ. If they died in peace, that is, not as an immediate result of their sufferings for Christ, then we call them confessors.

The first to suffer for the Holy Faith after especially terrible sufferings for faith in Christ were Archdeacon Stephen and St. Thecla, and therefore they are called the first martyrs.

Those who died for the Holy Faith after especially cruel tortures, such as not all

the martyrs were subjected to, are called great martyrs, as for example, holy Great Martyr George, and the holy Great Martyrs Barbara and Catherine.

The confessors on whose faces the persecutors branded or tattooed blasphemous words are called branded.

Hierarchs are bishops and prelates who pleased God by a righteous life, such as St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, St. Alexis, Metropolitan of Moscow, and others.

Hierarchs and priests who suffered persecution for Christ are called hieromartyrs.

The hierarchs Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom are called ecumenical teachers, teachers of the entire Christian Church.

Holy monks and nuns are righteous people who abandoned the life of the world in society and pleased God by preserving their virginity (not entering into marriage), by fasting and prayer, and dwelling in the wilderness or in monasteries. Some examples are Sergius of Radonezh, Seraphim of Sarov, St. Anastasia, and others.

Holy monks that endured suffering for Christ are called Monk Martyrs.

Unmercenaries are saints who served their neighbors with the unmercenary healing of illnesses; that is, without payment they healed illnesses, both physical and spiritual. They include Cosmas and Damian, the Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon, and others.

The Righteous led a righteous life that was pleasing to God, living as we do in the world, with a family, as for example, Joachim and Anna and others.

The first righteous people on the earth were the patriarchs of the human race, who are called forefathers. They include Adam, Noah and Abraham.

Questions: Who are depicted in the holy icons, apart from God and the Mother of God and the holy angels? What names do they have? Whom do we call prophets, apostles, martyrs, hierarchs, holy monks, unmercenaries and righteous?

Readings Today

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16
 Hebrews 11:33-12:2 (Saints)

Gospel : Matthew 4:18-23
 Matthew 4:25-5:12 (Saints)

Service Attendance:
 Last weekend Divine Liturgy: 23

If your Annual Gross Income is:	Your Proportionate Weekly Gift Would Be:				
	3%	4%	5%	10%	12%
\$20,000	\$11.54	\$15.38	\$19.23	\$38.46	\$46.15
\$25,000	\$14.42	\$19.23	\$24.04	\$48.08	\$57.69
\$30,000	\$17.31	\$23.08	\$28.85	\$57.69	\$69.23
\$35,000	\$20.19	\$26.92	\$33.65	\$67.31	\$80.77
\$40,000	\$23.08	\$30.77	\$38.46	\$76.92	\$92.31
\$45,000	\$25.96	\$34.62	\$43.27	\$86.54	\$103.85
\$50,000	\$26.92	\$38.46	\$48.08	\$96.15	\$115.35
\$55,000	\$31.73	\$42.31	\$52.88	\$105.77	\$126.92
\$60,000	\$34.62	\$46.15	\$57.69	\$115.38	\$138.46

The Month of June (as of 6/22)
WEEKLY GIVING UPDATE: We thank you for your continued giving in gratitude for all that our loving God does for each of us, for His Holy Church, and all the blessings we receive through her.
Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$3,245.23
Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,980.92
Collections June 1st: \$3859.00
Collections June 8th: \$3471.00
Collections June 15th: \$2530.00
Collections June 22nd: \$3078.00
Total \$12938.00

FINANCIAL GENEROSITY - Parish Health Inventory Model +Tikhon Dec 2011

<https://doepa.org/files/Revitalization%20Committee/PHIM-with-revisions-ver1.5.pdf>

1. We teach people that stewardship (financial and otherwise) is a foundational quality of being an Orthodox Christian.

Parish Prayer List

Living: Fr John Nightingale, Fr Theodore Orzolek, Matushka Paula Soucek, Mike Jadick, Bernie Elko, Rose Krenitsky, Margaret Pregmon, David Lezinsky, Stella Krenitsky, Marie Buranich, Helen Wytovich, Tammy Wytovich, Rosemary Kuzmich, Sandra Pritchky, Marie Pasternak, Sandy Batton, Paula Stavisky, Al Pritchky, Eli Stavisky, Evelyn Bunevitch, Nadia Macheska, John Pritchky, Paulette Ezbiansky, Andrew Lutzick

Departed: Paul Bezuhley (5/15); Andrew; Irene Pritchky (6/5)

Thank you for the donations in Memory of Irene Pritchky from: Ann Trypak; Sandra Condon; Dan Jones; Emily Pritchky; Helen & Tamara Wytovich; Jessica Nemetz; Dan & Sandy Pregmon; The Germick Family; Walter Pritchky; Marie Pasternek; Patricia Jones; Emily, Rose, & Irene Krenitsky; Dorothy Petercuskie; Nancy Burnson; Iona, George, Jr., & Deana Penyak; Michael & Maria Kelly; Michael Penyak; George Semian; Bruce Newton; Jeanne Pallman; & Amy Capone

Catechumen: Michael Keklak (6/12), Amaya Jackson (6/19), Robert Kane (6/19)

Reminder: Names will be rotated off on occasion - request again to have a loved one put back on again.