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From The Ambvon

ST MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

512 WINTER ST., OLD FORGE, PA

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27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2.

Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugephus, of Alexandria (ca. 313). St. Joasaph, Bishop of Belgorod (1754). Martyr Gemellus of Paphlagonia (ca. 361). Ven. Thomas of Bithynia (10th c.). Bl. Jovan (John), King of Serbia (1503) and his parents, Stephen (1446) and Angelina Brancovich.

Birthdays & Anniversaries for November

Birthdays:

Nameday: Barbara Sevensky (12/4); Daniel Jones (12/17); David Jadick (12/31)

Anniversary:

Baptism:

Travelers:

Prospora Schedule: We need families to start baking prospora at home. Please sign up. We are out. Thank you to Emily Hart & Maura Elko for today's prospora. *The Church has a prospora kit if you would like to borrow it.*

Dec 17:

Dec 24:

Dec 31:

Counting: Thank you Tammy Wytovich for assisting in counting today's offerings. Please sign up and help our Treasurer count.

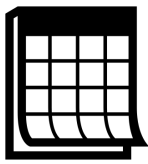
Dec 17:

Dec 24:

Dec 31:

Visitors: *PLEASE JOIN US FOR DOWNSTAIRS for an Agape Meal. Thank you to everyone who donated. Please donate what you would spend for a cup of coffee at the agape meal to replenish our supplies.*

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 prayer, fasting, and a recent (monthly) confession. If you have questions please ask Fr Michael! Visitors, if you did not introduce yourself to Fr Michael at Vespers, please refrain from Holy Communion.*



Service Schedule

SAT, Dec 9th: @ 4:50 PM 9th Hour - Great Vespers. Confession following
SUN, Dec 10th: Hours @ 9:10 AM Hours - 27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST —
Tone 2. Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugephus, of Alexandria (ca. 313).

SAT, Dec 16th: @ 4:50 PM 9th Hour - Great Vespers. Confession following
SUN, Dec 17th: Hours @ 9:10 AM Hours - 28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3.
Sunday of the Forefathers.

NATIVITY SCHEDULE

FRI, Dec 22nd: @ 9AM Nativity Royal Hours

SAT, Dec 23rd: @ 4:50 PM 9th Hour - Great Vespers. Confession following

SUN, Dec 24th: Hours @ 9:10 AM Hours - Divine Liturgy Eve of the Nativity of Christ
Compline and Matins w/Litya @ 5:00PM

MON, Dec 25th: Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 AM - Nativity of Christ



Announcements

Upcoming Parish & Diocesan Events

Silent Prayers and Confession: Every Wednesday 11:00AM - 1:30PM or you can make an appt for confession.

Catechumen/Inquirers/Continuing ED Class: Every Saturday 3:30pm-4:30pm. COME AND LEARN ABOUT YOUR FAITH!

Bible Study: Every Thursday 11am - Noon. Bring a sack Lunch. I am working my way through Romans if you want to join me.

Church Work Day: Every Friday is Church Maintenance day. Come help! Please come and help maintain the Church and its grounds.

Parish Council Meeting: 10DEC23 All are invited. (Every first Sunday of the Month) Please come and see the great things our parish council is doing and the vision we have.

16DEC23 Potluck Dinner: 6PM-8PM Nativity Saints Display from our youth and Talent Contest.

Update on Fundraising:

1. Repaint Cupolas -	estimated Cost: \$13K	raised: \$13K
2. Paint ceiling dark blue for cosmos -	estimated Cost: \$12K	raised: \$8K
3. Repair walls from leaks -	estimated Cost: \$5K	raised: 0
4. New Carpet -	<u>estimated Cost: \$5K</u>	<u>raised: \$25</u>
	\$35K	\$21,025.00

VA PASTA MEAL & RAFFLE

After expenses, we received a total of \$3729 in donations. The Parish Council used 10% of that to send to Valhalla Veterans Services. VVS is a local counseling service for vets in Scranton. The remainder of the proceeds will go towards our Heavenly Vision Program to fix/repair/update our facilities.

Parish Prayer List

Newly Departed: *Alexander Horek (11/14); Evelyn Bunevitch (11/27)*

Departed: *Michael Toczko (12/1); Peter Mizgala (12/2); Helen Sorok (12/9); Dorothy Polanchik (12/11); Robert Sorok (12/23);*

Please remember in your prayers LIVING

Ill-afflicted *Archpriests Michael Evans, John Nightingale, & Theodore Orzolek*

All those caring for the sick and suffering at this time throughout the world, especially our families and friends: *Christine Sevensky, Mike Jadick, Margaret Pregmon, Daniel Jones, Matushka Paula Soucek, The children of God Abigail and Nathan.*

Servants of God *Emily Krenitsky, Gregory Krenitsky, Barbara Sevensky, Bernie & Beverly Elko, Sandra Condon, Marie Pasternak, Ann Tyrpak, Sandy & Danny Pregmon, Walter Pritchky, Michael & Euphemia Keklak, Elizabeth Jackson, Justin Kane, Maria & Vitaliy Rakovsky, Ekaterina & Anna, Joe & Kelly Cigna, George, Natasha (and her unborn child), & Rosa Coyoy, Paul & Ann Newmeyer, Mat. Emilia, Blaise, Maximus, Rodion, Savina Shepherd, Joseph, Emilia, Judah, Nadezda, & Silas Hart, Eli & Paula Stavisky, Helen Wytovich, Tammy Wytovich, Charissa & Debra, Nadia Macheska, Paulette Ezbiansky, Maura Elko*

Catechumen - *Jason Vo, Santo Joseph Cerminaro, Mikayla Brown*

How Much is my tithe

Weekly	2%	4%	5%	10%
\$200	\$4	\$8	\$10	\$20
\$500	\$10	\$20	\$25	\$50
\$750	\$15	\$30	\$37	\$75
\$1000	\$20	\$40	\$50	\$100
\$1500	\$30	\$60	\$75	\$150

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.

December Income: \$11,031.10

Expenditures: \$431.41

Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$3,225.62

Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,902.49



Words of Wisdom

From the Saints & Teachers

Today Readings

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

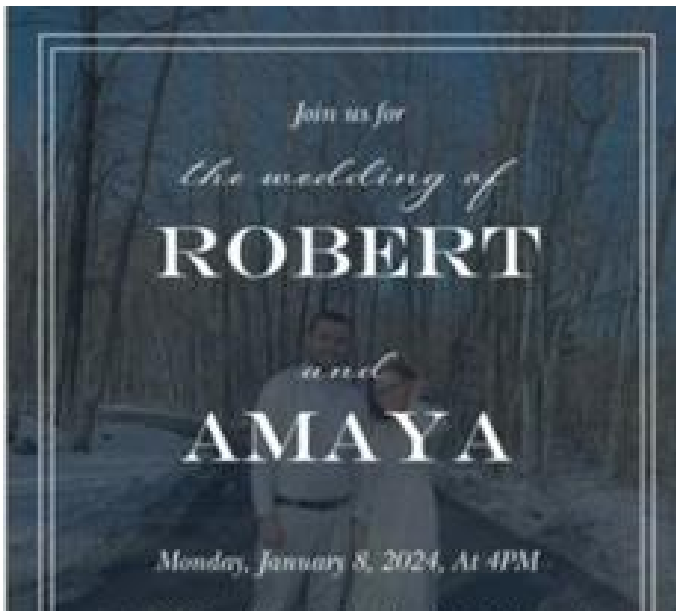
Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

Colossians 3:5 Put to Death What is Earthly in You Postbaptismal Sin. St John

Chrysostom: Does Paul write as though these things were in us? There is no contradiction. It is similar to one who has scoured a statue that was filthy, recast it, and displayed it new and bright, explaining that the rust was eaten off and destroyed. Yet he recommends diligence in clearing away the future rust. He does not contradict himself, for it is not that rust which he scoured off that he recommends should be cleared away but that which grew afterwards. So it is not that former putting to death he speaks of here, nor those fornications, but those which afterward grow. **Homilies on Colossians 8.**

Luke 14:15–24: The Bread of Eternal Life. St Athanasius:

Oh, brothers and sisters, what a banquet that is! How great is the harmony and joy of those who eat at this heavenly table! They enjoy food that produces everlasting life, not that ordinary food which passes right on through the body. Who will be considered worthy to be in that group? Who is so blessed as to be called to and counted worthy of that divine feast? “Blessed is he who will eat bread in your kingdom.” Although he has been washed, even a person who has been judged worthy of this heavenly calling and has been sanctified by it can become unclean. How can he become unclean? “Counting as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified and despising the Spirit of grace,” he hears the Lord say, “Friend, how did you get in here without wedding garments?” **Festal Letter.**



EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Please join us for the wedding of
Robert and Amaya!

Monday January 8th, 2024 at 4PM here at St
Michaels Orthodox Church. Dinner to follow next
door at the hall. Please RSVP by December 11th,
2023 by calling 570-877-0821.