



FROM THE AMBON

ST MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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February 18th, 2024 - 37th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 4.

Sunday of Zacchaeus. St. Leo the Great, Pope of Rome (461). Ven

Cosmas of Yakhromsk (1492). St. Agapitos the Confessor and Wonderworker, Bishop of Synnada in Phrygia (4th c.). St. Flavian the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople (449-450).

Birthdays & Anniversaries for February

Birthdays: Barbara Sevensky (2/14); Stephen Krenitsky (2/26)

Nameday: Blaise Shepherd (2/3);

Anniversary:

Baptism:

Travelers:

Prospora Schedule: HELP! We need families to start baking prospora at home. Please sign up. *The Church has a prospora kit if you would like to borrow it. Last of the Prospora today.*

Feb 18 Emilia Hart

Feb 25 Marie Pasternak

Mar 3

Counting: HELP! Please sign up and help our Maura Elko count.

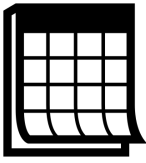
Feb 18 Emilia Hart

Feb 25 Tammy Wytovich

Mar 3

Visitors: PLEASE JOIN US FOR DOWNSTAIRS for an Agape Meal. Thank you to everyone who donated. Please donate what you would spend for lunch at the agape meal to replenish our supplies PLEASE SING ALONG! Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies throughout the services is encouraged!

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, Feb 24th: Great Vespers & Matins w/confessions 4:50PM

SUN, Feb 25th: @ 9:10 AM - Hours and Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & THE PHARISEE - Tone 5. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion.

SAT, Mar 2nd: Great Vespers & Matins w/confessions 4:50PM

SUN, Mar 3rd: @ 9:10 AM - Hours and Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON - Tone 6.

SAT, Mar 16th: Great Vespers & Matins w/confessions 4:50PM

SUN, Mar 17th: @ 9:10 AM - Hours and Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY OF MEATFARE - Tone 7. Sunday of the Last Judgment.



Words of Wisdom

From the Saints & Teachers

Today Readings

Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

1 Timothy 4:11 (ACCS Col-Phl): 4:11 Command and Teach These Things

Distinguishing Commanding from Teaching. Chrysostom: In some cases it is necessary to command, in others to teach. If you command in cases where teaching is required, you will become ridiculous. Again, if you teach where you ought to command, you are exposed to the same reproach.... Not to profess Judaism should be a simple command, but teaching is required when you would lead people persuasively to part with their possessions, to live chastely, or when you would discourse on faith.... But where the salvation of others is concerned, command and interpose with authority. This is not a case for moderation but for authority, lest the common good suffer. Homilies on 1 Timothy 13.

Luke 19:5–8 Jesus Must Stay in Zacchaeus's Home

Zacchaeus Welcomes Jesus to His House. Augustine: The Lord, who had already welcomed Zacchaeus in his heart, was now ready to be welcomed by him in his house. He said, "Zacchaeus, hurry up and come down, since I have to stay in your house." He thought it was a marvelous piece of good luck to see Christ. While imagining it was a marvelous piece of luck quite beyond words to see him passing by, he was suddenly found worthy to have him in his house. Grace is poured out, and faith starts working through love. Christ, who was already dwelling in his heart, is welcomed into his house. Zacchaeus says to Christ, "Lord, half my goods I give to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone of anything, I am paying back four times over." It is as if he were saying, "The reason I am keeping back half for myself is not in order to have it, but to have something from which to pay people back." There you are. That is really what welcoming Jesus means, welcoming him into your heart. Christ was already there. He was in Zacchaeus and spoke through him. The apostle says that this is what it means, "For Christ to dwell by faith in your hearts." Sermon 174.5.

Luke 19:9–10 Jesus' Pronouncement About His Ministry

One Man Without Sin. Augustine: "The Son of man came to seek and to save what was lost." All were lost. From the moment the one man sinned, in whom the whole race was contained, the whole race was lost. One man without sin came. He would save them from sin. Sermon 175.1.

Parish Prayer List

Newly Departed: *Nicole Serniak Cochrane (2/11)*

Departed: *Andrew Kurtzo (2/4); Helen Buranich (2/6); Anna Zupko (2/6); Jean Wasko (2/7); Ann Freeman (2/18); Walter Pritchyk Sr. (2/28); Alexandra Teczek (2/14); Femia Pasternak (2/14); Martha Matechek (2/21)*

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, Michael Sokol; Michael Krenitsky; The children of God Abigail and Nathan.*

Servants of God *David Barsigian, Patricia Jones, Anne Buday, Mary Krevko, Gregory Krevko, Emily Krenitsky, Gregory Krenitsky, Barbara Sevensky, Bernie & Beverly Elko, Sandra Condon, Marie Pasternak, Ann Tyrpak, Sandy & Danny Pregmon, Walter Pritchyk, Michael & Euphemia Keklak, Justin & Elisabeth Kane, Maria & Vitaliy Rakovsky, Ekaterina & Anna, Joe & Kelly Cigna, George, Natasha, Rosa, & Lucia 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*

Seekers - *Paul, Christopher, Eugene, Mike, Brayden, & JoAnne*

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.

February Income: \$10,974.28

February Expenses: \$6,651.46

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

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

TITHING Assessing our personal giving for the coming new year. Tithing is the practice of returning to the Lord a portion of the financial treasure He has blessed us with in this life. We offer our gifts in gratitude for His. This principle is found in both the Old and New Testament scriptures. Tithing is what is returned to Him and is different for each family/household. The giving chart above offers a starting point for giving based on a range of weekly incomes along with a range of giving levels beginning at 10%, the ideal for a Christian tithe if one is capable, down to 2%. Our goal as we journey through life is to offer increasingly more of what God has given us back to Him, just as we give more of our heart. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also (Matt 6:21). This, of course, is done freely and out of love for God and His Church, not in response to an outward rule (Freely you have received, freely give - Matt 10:8). May this chart be helpful for you in prayerfully determining your level of giving this coming new year, challenging yourself to tithe to God the good portion of His financial blessings.

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 at 2:30-4:00

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

Monthly Panikhida: 24FEB24 @ 4PM

Annual Parish Meeting: WAS GREAT! THANK YOU WHO ALL ATTENDED. We had a quorum IAW our bylaws and all those nominated along with the budget passed unanimously.

Pre-Lenten Womans Retreat: COMPASSION: From God to Us - from Us to Others given by Presbyteria Kerry Pappas. Saturday, March 2nd at 10 am at Holy Trinity in Stroudsburg. Talk to Matushka if interested.

Nerf & Pizza: Saturday, March 9th 11am - 3pm Calling all St. Michael's youth! Join us for an afternoon of Nerf gun battles and Old Forge pizza! Ages 9 and up. Bring your own Nerf gun and a friend - darts and goggles provided. Questions? Contact Jason Hart - jasonhart4@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting: 10Mar after Liturgy. All are invited.

Please pick up your Tithing/Donation Letters.

ChurchTrac: Maura and I are in the process of importing our weekly donations and record keeping to ChurchTrac. This is an updated, cloud base system that will improve our reporting requirements and will give me the ability to make bulletins, track birthdays & anniversaries etc, make the church calendar....

D. THE MAKING OF THE SIGN OF THE CROSS AND KNEELING:

(Week days with the exception of specific days indicated below)

Outside of Lent at the Divine Liturgy:

1. At the exclamation: "Let us give thanks unto the Lord!," at the Consecration—the end of the singing of "We praise Thee ...;"
2. During the singing of "Our Father;"
3. During the first and second bringing forth of the Holy Gifts (for receiving of Holy Communion);
4. A prostration may be made at the exclamation: "The Holy Things for the Holy!"

According to the Typicon, Irmologion, and the Lenten Triodion, during Lent, prostrations are prescribed only at the following times:

1. Three prostrations during the reading of the kathismas at Matins (at the kathismas of the Hours and Vespers the metania is done instead of the prostration.);
2. During every refrain of the hymn to the Theotokos at Matins: "More honorable than the Cherubim ...";
3. During "It is truly meet ...;"
4. At the Great Compline during: "O All-holy Sovereign Lady, Theotokos ..." and at each of the petitions which follow;
5. At Vespers and the Hours during the singing of the penitential troparia;
6. At the Typica during the singing of "Remember us, O Lord in Thy Kingdom" (thrice);
7. At the Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian, make three prostrations, and with the accompanying petition "O God, cleanse me a sinner" do twelve metanias and again, one prostration after repeating St. Ephraim's prayer in its entirety.

NOTE: When the Prayer of St. Ephraim is read at other certain times of the service of the Ninth Hour and the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, without the accompanying prayer "O God, cleanse me a sinner," then do only the three prostrations.

8. From Vespers on Friday through Sunday evening Vespers during Lent prostrations are dispensed with except at the following specific times during the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (if celebrated on Friday evening) at the exclamation: a. "The Light of Christ illumeth all!" and the singing of: b. "Let my prayer arise ...;" c. "Now the Powers of Heaven...."