



FROM THE AMBIVON

ST MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

512 WINTER ST., OLD FORGE, PA

Phone: 570-457-3703

Web: www.stmichaelof.org Facebook: [stmichaelof1891PA](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelof1891PA)

Priest Michael Shepherd (frmichael@stmichaelof.org)

Chair - Tammy Wytovich (chair@stmichaelof.org)

Vice Chair - Danny Pregmon (vicechair@stmichaelof.org)

Secretary - Vitaliy Rakovskiy (office@stmichaelof.org)

Treasurer - Santo Cerminaro (treasurer@stmichaelof.org)

June 30th, 2024 1st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8. All Saints. "Seven Arrows".

Synaxis of the Holy, Glorious and All-praised Twelve Apostles: Peter, Andrew, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, the son of Alphæus, Jude, the brother of James, Simon the Zealot, and Matthias (1st c.). St. Peter, Prince of Ordinsk (Rostov—1290). Translation of the Relics of St. Sophroný, Bishop of Irkutsk (1918).

Birthdays & Anniversaries for June

Birthdays: Patricia Jones (6/8); Archbishop Mark (6/22); Bernard Elko (6/30)

Nameday:

Baptism: Jason Hart (6/25); Emily Hart (6/25); Silas Hart (6/25); Judah Hart (6/25); Nadia Hart (6/25)

Anniversary: Fr Michael & Emilia Shepherd Wedding anniversary (6/3); 50th Wedding Anniversary for Bernard & Beverly Elko (6/8); Jason and Emily Hart Wedding Anniversary (6/10)

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. Thank you all for your offering "for the people by the people."*

July 7

July 14

July 21

Counting: HELP! Please sign up to help us count weekly donations!

July 7

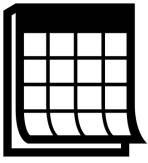
July 14

July 21

Visitors: PLEASE JOIN US 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, July 6th: @ 5:00 PM - Great Vespers

SUN, July 7th: @ 9:10 AM - Hours and Divine Liturgy

2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1. All Saints of America (All Saints of Russia).

SAT, July 13th: @ 5:00 PM - Great Vespers

SUN, July 14th: @ 9:10 AM - Hours and Divine Liturgy

3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2. Fathers of the 1st Six Ecumenical Councils.



Words of Wisdom

From the Saints & Teachers

Today's Readings

Epistle: (330) Hebrews 11:33-12:2

Gospel: (38) Matthew 10:32-33,37-38; (79) 19:27-30

EPISTLE

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 8th Tone, a Psalm of David: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God.

Choir: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God.

Reader: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel!

Choir: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God.

Reader: In the 4th Tone: God is wonderful in His saints the God of Israel.

Choir: God is wonderful in His saints the God of Israel.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews.

Deacon: Let us attend!

[(330) Hebrews 11:33-12:2] Brethren: All the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, * quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. * Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. * Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. * They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated -- * of whom the world was not worthy -- wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. * And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, * since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. * Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, * looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Priest: Peace be unto thee, Reader.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

ALLELUIA

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Alleluia in the 4th Tone: Alleluia, Alleluia, AL-LE-LU-IA!

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their troubles.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: Many are the afflictions of the righteous, and the Lord shall deliver them out of them all.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GOSPEL

[(38) Matthew 10:32-33,37-38; (79) 19:27-30] The Lord said to His disciples: "Every one who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father Who is in heaven; * but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father Who is in heaven. * He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; * and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me." * Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed Thee. What then shall we have?" * Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me shall also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. * And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. * But many that are first shall be last, and the last first."

Hebrews 11:32-40 Time Would Fail Me. Things Closest to Home. St John Chrysostom: "Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment." He ends with these, things that come nearer home. For these examples especially bring consolation when the distress is from the same cause, since even if you mention something more extreme, yet unless it arises from the same cause, you have effected nothing. Therefore, he concluded his discourse with this, mentioning "chains, imprisonments, scourges, stonings," alluding to the case of Stephen, also to that of Zechariah. **On the Epistle to the Hebrews 27.5.**

Matthew 19:27 What Shall We Have?

We Have Left Everything. St John Chrysostom: What is "everything," blessed Peter? Is it your fishing rod? your net? your boat? your skill? Are you telling me these are the "everything"? "Yes," he says, "I am not saying these things to show off but in order that by this question I may embrace the multitude of the poor." For when the Lord said, "If you wish to be perfect, sell what you have and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven," one of the poor may say, "What then? If I have no possessions, can I not be perfect?" Peter asks the question so that you, the poor man, may learn that you are in no way inferior to the disciples. Peter asks the question, not so that you may have doubts if you learn it from Peter (for he was still imperfect and as yet unfilled by the Spirit) but so that you may hear the word from Peter's Master and so believe. When we dispute on behalf of others, we often make their concerns our own. That is what the apostle did when he offered this question to the Master on behalf of the wider world of the poor. **The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 64.1.**

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.

June Income: \$8,690.00

June Expense: \$14,997.78

Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$3,740.85

Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$14,963.58

Announcements - Upcoming Parish & Diocesan Events



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

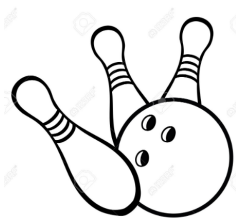
Church Work Day: Every Friday is Church Maintenance day. We need help pulling weeds. Everyone can do this!

Parish Council Meeting: 6 July 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM - All are invited.

Choir practice: Saturday's @ 4pm prior to vespers. If you would like to sing in the choir please make every effort to be at the practice.

Bulletin Boards: Community and Administration Boards. Please, you can post on the community board as long as the post/event does not contradict our faith.

YOUTH BOWLING!!! Please confirm if your children will be coming. Open to all of our youth!



What: Youth Bowling Party
 When: Saturday, July 13th from 1pm - 3pm
 Where: Idle Hours North (Dickson City)
 Who: Youth of St. Michael's (Ages 5 and up)
 Pizza and Drinks Provided!

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR CHICKEN BBQ! GLORY TO GOD! Please extend our heartfelt gratitude to those outside the church who assisted. It was a sold out event!

PROSPHORA BAKING: I would like to hold another prospora baking class this week for all who would like to learn the valuable and God pleasing ministry. Remember the offering of bread is “for the people and by the people.”

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: We are in the midst of planning an Ice Cream Social! This is to be like a town council to chit chat about life, the church, where the church is headed in regards to ministries etc.....but to have a lot of ice cream! This will more than likely be the first week of August.

RETAINING WALL: We have several bids to fix the retaining wall on Church Street. The company will donate capstones and replace the paved sidewalk with a cement sidewalk. The company will tear down the wall, replace/install drainage pipes, and reuse the existing block stones to reduce the cost. 14K is the best bid and the lowest by almost 30K and will be done by Ceminaro Construction. This is our Summer Campaign drive. We would like to get this finished before winter and if you would like to donate to this campaign; please add it to your envelopes or you can donate by paypal on our website: <https://www.stmichaelof.org/donate>

Parish Prayer List

Newly Departed: *John Pritchyk (6/16); Matushka Paula Soucek (6/23); Jean Staviski Mori (5/6);*

Departed: *Irene Pritchyk (6/5); George Krenitsky (6/7); Mary Peregrim (6/10); Maxie Wozniak, Sr. (6/14);*

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: *David Lezinsky, John Pritchyk, Christine Sevensky, Mike Jadick, Margaret Pregmon, Daniel Jones, Michael Sokol; Michael Krenitsky; Bernie Elko; The children of God Abigail and Nathan.*

Servants of God *Mark Bezhuly, David Barsigian, Patricia Jones, Anne Buday, Mary Krevko, Gregory Krevko, Emily Krenitsky, Gregory Krenitsky, Barbara Sevensky, Beverly Elko, Sandra Condon, Marie Pasternak, Nicole Earl, Anna 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 & MaryAnn Newmeyer, Mat. Emilia, Blaise, Maximus, Rodion, Savina Shepherd, Joseph, Emilia, Judah, Nadezda, & Silas Hart, Eli & Paula Stavisky, Helen Wytovich, Tammy Wytovich, Sharissa & Debra, Nadia Macheska, Paulette Ezbiansky, Jason Vo & Maura Elko, Santo Joseph Cerminaro, Mikayla Brown*

Seekers - *Christopher, Eugene, Mike, Brayden, Barbara*

Catechumens - *JoAnne Snopek & Paul Dunay*