



FROM THE AMBIVON

ST MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Priest Michael Shepherd (frmichael@stmichaelof.org)

Chair - Tammy Wytovich (chair@stmichaelof.org)

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

Secretary - Vitaliy Rakovsky (office@stmichaelof.org)

Treasurer - Maura Elko (treasurer@stmichaelof.org)

November 24th, 2024 22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5. Afterfeast of the Entry Into the Temple. Great Martyr Catherine of Alexandria (305-313). Great Martyr Mercurius of Caesarea in Cappadocia (3rd c.). Martyr Merkúry of Smolensk (1238). Ven. Mercurius, Faster, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—14th c.). Empress Augusta, Porphyrius the General, the 50 philosophers and the 200 Soldiers martyred with the Great Martyr Catherine (305-313). Virgin Mastridia of Alexandria. Ven. Simon, Abbot of Soiga Monastery (Vologdá—1562).

Birthdays & Anniversaries for November

Birthdays: Kelly Cigna (11/2); Emily Krenitsky (11/5); Joe Cigna (11/9); Beverly Elko (11/19)

Nameday: Michael Keklak (11/8); +Michael Jadick (11/8); Fr Michael Shepherd (11/8); Rodion Shepherd (11/10);

Baptism:

Anniversary:

Travelers:

Prospora Schedule: PLEASE 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”.

Dec 1st

Dec 8th

Counting: HELP! Please sign up to help us count weekly donations! We need help counting today. Thank you Tammy for helping today.

Dec 1st

Dec 8th

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, Nov 30th @ 5:00 PM Great Vespers

SUN, Dec 1st: Hours @ 9:10 AM Hours, 23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6.

FRI, Dec 6th Hierarchical Liturgy at St Nicholas, Olyphant, Patronal Feast Day

SAT, Dec 7th @ 5:00 PM Great Vespers

SUN, Dec 8th: Hours @ 9:10 AM Hours, 24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7.

Parish Prayer List

NEWLY DEPARTED: *Nathan Cheffers (10/14);*

Archpriest Peter Telencio (10/15); Eileen Dance (10/16) Mary Brzuchalski (10/17); Archpriest Michael Evans (11/14);

DEPARTED: *Leo Howanetz (11/6); Archpriest Joseph Martin (11/9); Joseph Elko (11/10); Helen Chesniak 11/14; Alexander Horek (11/14); John Wansacz (11/15); Mary Krenitsky (11/16); Harold Krenitsky (11/22); Archbishop David Mahaffey (11/27); Evelyn Bunevitch (11/27)*

Please remember in your prayers LIVING:

Ill-afflicted *Archpriest(s) 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, Margaret Pregmon, Daniel Jones, Michael Sokol; Michael Krenitsky; Bernie Elko; Nadia Macheska; The child of God Abigail.*

Servants of God: *Mark Bezhuly, David Barsigian, Patricia Jones, Anne Buday, Emily Krenitsky, Gregory Krenitsky, Barbara Sevensky, Beverly Elko, Sandra Condon, Marie Pasternak, Nicole Earl, Anna Tyrpak, Sandy & Danny Pregmon, Walter Pritchuk, Michael & Euphemia Keklak, Justin & Elisabeth Kane, Maria & Vitaliy Rakovsky, Ekaterina & Anna, Joe & Kelly Cigna, George, Natasha, Rosa, & Lucia Coyoy, Mat. Emilia, Reader Blaise, Maximus, Rodion, Savina Shepherd, Joseph, Emilia, Judah, Nadezda, & Silas Hart, Eli & Paula Stavisky, Helen Wytovich, Tammy Wytovich, Paulette Ezbiansky, Jason Vo & Maura Elko, Mary Krevko, Elisabeth & Jacob Hallford*

Seekers: *Eugene, Gabriel, & Mike*

Catechumens: *Paul Dunay, George McCandless, Christopher & Neva Yeisley*

Treasury

"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. Jesus Christ



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.

Nov Income: \$15,114.02 (\$5519 deposited from pasta dinner)

Nov Expense: \$9,465.62

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

Average 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 before/after Vespers. Or you can make an appt for confession.

Monthly Panikhida: Dec 28th, 4PM prior to Vespers

Catechumen Classes: Every Sunday after Liturgy. All are welcome to sit in the classes.

Church Work Day: Every Day is Church Maintenance day! A lot of cleaning can be done! If you have a day you would like to work in the church or even just of couple of hours please get with Fr Michael for what can be done. Sweeping, vacuuming, polishing.....

Parish Council Meeting: Dec 7th, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM - All are invited. January we will start preparing for the Annual Parish Meeting February 9th and the Diocesan Meeting 23rd & 24th of January (Diocesan Delegates - Primary: Maura Elko - Alternate Tammy Wytovich) any motions to change the Parish By-laws must be submitted to Parish Council for discussion by mid January in order for His Eminence to bless off on the change prior to the Annual meeting. Reminder, in order to submit changes or to be a voting member, a parishioner will submit a signed "Statement of Intent" along with donation of Time, Talent, and Treasure.

Choir practice: Saturday's @ 4pm prior to vespers. Reminder, to sing in the choir; practice is mandatory. If you are unable to make it please talk to Fr Michael about your circumstances to sing without going to practice.

St. Michael's Greeters Ministry please sign up! Thank you Maura!

ChurchTrac Registration Please register and/or sign in to ChurchTrac and update your information. I am in the process of putting a church directory and this program will allow us to do so very easily. Please add your photo so when we use this directory for proskomide there will be a picture alongside your name.

<https://stmichaeloldforgepa.churchtrac.com/sign-in>

Attendance: While this is not mandatory, I will be taking attendance every Sunday as we head into 2025. And every month I will be making a monthly report on trends of services, attendance (Feast days/Sundays), donations, and monthly summary events e.g. visitations, ministry work, outreach, catechesis etc., to the diocese. This will help me for our end of year report for the diocesan council. You also can check in on ChurchTrac for your own attendance.

We have been invited to the **Feast Day of St Nicholas at St Nicholas Church** in Olyphant by Fr Nathan and his parish. It will be a hierarchical liturgy with His Eminence presiding. There is a sign up sheet on the Board to fill out if you would like to go. They will need your RSVP by Monday so please call them in order for them to prepare the food for the banquet.

Christmas Tree - There will be a Christmas Tree in the Narthex with tags on them. The tags will have a gift you can buy for a needy family. Please pull a tag to sponsor a gift for a family/child in need.



Epistles: (215) Galatians 6:11-18

Gospels: (71) Luke 13:10-17

EPISTLE

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 5th Tone, a Psalm of David: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Choir: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Choir: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us

Choir: and preserve us from this generation forever.

Deacon: Wisdom!

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

[(215) Galatians 6:11-18] Brethren: See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. * It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the Cross of Christ. * For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. * But far be it from me to glory except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. * For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. * Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. * Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. * The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto thee, Reader.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

ALLELUIA

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Alleluia in the 5th Tone: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Reader: For Thou hast said: Mercy shall be established forever; Thy truth shall be prepared in the heavens

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GOSPELS

[(71) Luke 13:10-17] At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. * And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. * And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, thou art freed from thine infirmity." * And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. * But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There

are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." * Then the Lord answered him, "Ye hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? * And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" * As He said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

13:10–17 THE SECOND SABBATH CONTROVERSY

OVERVIEW: Jesus releases a woman who had a “spirit of weakness” for eighteen years from this chain of bondage to Satan and to sin, that she might change to a better course (CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA). Here Jesus teaches about the release he brings by announcing absolution to her, for she is like a vine the Lord has cultivated and freed to bear fruit (AMBROSE). Here is Jesus, the Word made flesh, the agent of creation coming to God’s creation and working on the sabbath his new creation (CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA).

In the ensuing discussion, the chief of the synagogue stands as one who does not understand the meaning of the sabbath, for he takes it literally but not spiritually (AUGUSTINE). If the sabbath could be used to free animals from bondage, the sabbath could be used to free people from the bondage of sin and sickness (AMBROSE). The chief of the synagogue is not able to read the signs of this present, critical time in light of the ministry of Jesus and is consumed with jealousy and envy that Jesus is honored and worshiped as God. He and those of his ilk were being put to shame by Jesus’ words, whereas the multitudes rejoiced at the glorious things Jesus was doing (CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA).

Just, A. A., ed. (2005). [Luke](#) (pp. 224–225). InterVarsity Press.