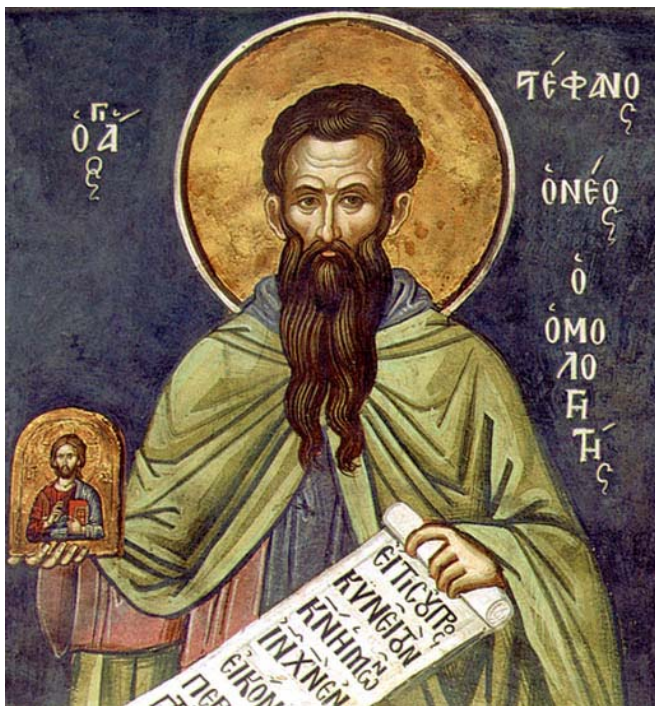


St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

(508) 420-1113, www.stmichaelcapecod.org



Sunday, November 28, 2021

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Venerable-martyr Stephen the New

Martyr Irinarchos of Sebastia and those with him

Celebrant: Fr. Ben Kjendal

LITTLE ENTRANCE WEEKLY VARIABLES

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN): In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX: When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. STEPHEN THE NEW IN TONE FOUR: Trained on the mountain in ascetical-labors, with the whole armor of the Cross thou didst vanquish the spiritual arrays of unseen enemies; and when thou hadst stripped thyself with great courage for contest, thou didst slay Copronymus with the sword of the true Faith. For both these things hast thou been crowned by God, O righteous Martyr, blest Stephen of great renown.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL: O ye foremost of the heavenly host, we beseech thee, though we are unworthy. Pray that we may be encompassed with the shadow of thy unearthly glory. Preserving us who kneel and cry endlessly. Deliver us from oppression since Ye are the princes of the highest power.

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE: On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

TRISAGION PRAYER

English Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have Mercy on us

Arabic Qudoos El Laah, Quodoos El Qawi, Qudoos El Lathi La Yamoot, Urhamnah

Greek Agios O Theos, Agios Ischiros, Agios Athanatos, Eyleison Imas

Russian Svyatij Bozhe, Svyatij Krepkij, Svatij Bessmertnij pomiluj nas

The Mission of St Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church is to love and worship God, to grow closer to Him, and to proclaim and to spread the Good News of the salvation of Jesus Christ to our parishioners, our neighbors and people everywhere.

We worship and pray in English. We experience the beauty and joy of living the Holy Orthodox Christian faith – sharing love and fellowship, teaching and leading by example, growing together through service, education, stewardship and forgiveness.

A NOTE REGARDING HOLY COMMUNION: *Since we understand Communion to mean we have all things in common, sharing an identical Faith, only those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession may participate in Holy Communion. We invite all present to partake of the blessed bread distributed at the end of the service.*

UNLESS YOU ARE INJURED OR UNABLE, PLEASE REMAIN STANDING DURING COMMUNION

SCHEDULE:

<u>Saturday, November 27</u>	5:00 PM Vespers
<u>Sunday, November 28</u>	9:00 AM Orthros / Church School 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
<u>Saturday, December 4</u>	5:00 PM Vespers
<u>Sunday, December 5</u>	9:00 AM Orthros / Church School 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Clarification Notice for the Stewardship letter and form you all recently received.

- We are asking for the stewardship form and pledge to be returned to the Church by December 6, one week prior to the annual meeting on December 12. This pledge is for 2022 and will provide important information as we plan for 2022.
- Should you have any questions, please contact Fr. Ben at the parish office: 508-420-1113
- Thank you all for your understanding and cooperation.

*****In case of emergency, there are emergency numbers posted next to the telephones in the coat room and in the kitchen*****

PLEASE SEE ST MICHAEL HAPPENINGS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS & CHARITABLE NEEDS OVER THE COMING WEEKS. MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU!

***** DON'T FORGET NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS FOR FOOD PANTRY *****

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR

***Our People are our Choir! We love to hear you sing with us! WELCOME!
We are glad to have you worship with us today!***

Father Ben Kjendal is available to visit with you in your home for pastoral care, counseling and inquiries regarding Orthodoxy by appointment. His cell number is (978) 397-3285.

If you need anyone remembered during services (in Memory of or for Good Health of), please let Fr. Ben know **AT LEAST ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE** so they can be included in all the prayers during Vespers, Orthros (Matins) and Liturgy

THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:4-10)

Brethren, God, being rich in mercy, through His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through the trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you are saved—and raised us up together with Him, and made us to sit together with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He would show the exceeding riches of His grace, in kindness toward us, in Christ Jesus. For by grace you are saved through faith, and that is not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Thirteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:18-27)

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.'" And the man said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE

ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

SHOP ON AMAZON AND SUPPORT ST. MICHAEL

As the **Black Friday, Cyber Monday** and **Christmas shopping** is approaching, please consider taking this one extra step to your normal shopping routine on Amazon! You start at smile.amazon.com and do your regular logon it. Designate St Michael The Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church as your charity. That is it! As you shop, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchase to St Michael, it's **no additional cost for you**. If you need help, ask David Easa. Please tell your family and friends about it! Together we can raise some funds for our many programs!

THANKSGIVING MEALS Thank you to everyone who helped make our delivery of 50 Thanksgiving meals possible! Thank you for donating food, donating money, making phone calls, picking up needed items, and helping deliver and pack the meals for each family! Thank you for your generosity and your time!



Coffee Hour During the Nativity Fast While we are each on our own journey this Nativity Fast, we do share in parts of this journey together. Regardless of our individual fasting practices, as a parish, it is important to uphold the teachings of the church and be a support (not a detriment) to the struggles of our church family. During this period of fasting, PLEASE make an effort to bring only fast-friendly foods for coffee hour!

2021 Annual Parish Meeting Your attendance is requested at the 2021 Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday December 12, 2021 immediately following the Divine Liturgy at 11:45. Your participation at the meeting is very important.

CHRISTMAS COOKIES! We will be delivering 50 Christmas meals to Faith Family Kitchen on Monday 12/20, and each meal will include a tin of (mostly) homemade cookies...which adds up to 200 dozen cookies! Please consider baking a few dozen (or more) cookies! All cookies need to be at the church by Sunday 12/19 so we can package them and have them ready for delivery the next day. Please speak to Kh. Alyssa if you plan to bake. Thank you!!!

ADOPT A FAMILY Once again this year, SOYO will "adopt a family" to help a struggling family in our community buy Christmas gifts for themselves and their children. We do this through CCB Media's "Christmas wishes" program. How this works is that SOYO will select a family or two from the list of families CCB Media makes available, and SOYO will shop for the Christmas presents they are asking for. But we need your support in funding this endeavor! Please offer your donations to cover the cost of these gifts and make one family's Christmas a little brighter. More information on the family chosen will come out shortly.

Supply Chain Blues? Shop SOYO bookstore We have your Nativity or any occasion needs covered. Books. Icons. Incense. Crosses. Prayer ropes. So much variety for you. Our bookstore is fully stocked and ready. If you need something specific please speak with one of our teens. All proceed support projects in our local community. Thank you as always for your continued support of St. Michael.

Based on recent reports from various medical experts, the new COVID variants are highly transmissible. In light of this, St. Michael's goal is to be cautious, not only to protect all parishioners but to make all who attend church feel at ease. As a community, it is our obligation to work together to safeguard all.

Consistent with CDC and Massachusetts guidelines that advise people to wear a mask or face covering when indoors, we invite / encourage all parishioners and guests to wear a mask or face covering during services. At same time, we respect those who either choose not to, or for medical reasons are unable to, wear a mask.

We are blessed that our attendance is growing so we will do everything possible, within our very limited space, to accommodate social distancing, including the opening of windows and doors of the church except for extenuating circumstances.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

THE SYNAXARION

On November 28 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable-martyr Stephen the New.

Verses

Wounded, O Stephen, in the head with a cudgel,
A crown which never groweth old thou rightly foundest.
On the twenty-eighth the head of Stephen the New was crushed.

As aforetime Hannah the mother of Samuel, so Anna the mother of Stephen prayed God to give her a son. When Anna had conceived Stephen, she asked the newly-elected Patriarch Germanus to bless the babe in her womb. He said, "May God bless him through the prayers of the holy First Martyr Stephen." At that moment Anna saw a flame of fire issue from the mouth of the holy Patriarch. Stephen struggled in asceticism from his youth in Bithynia at the Monastery of Saint Auxentius, and helped many who came to him. During the reign of Constantine Copronymus, Stephen showed his love of Orthodoxy in contending for the Faith. Besides being a fierce Iconoclast, Constantine raised up a ruthless persecution of monasticism. He held a council in 754 that anathematized the holy icons. Because Stephen rejected this council, the Emperor framed false accusations against him and exiled him. Nevertheless, Stephen performed healings with holy icons and turned many away from Iconoclasm. Later, he was stoned, like Stephen the First Martyr; wherefore he is called Stephen the New. Finally, he was struck with a wooden club on the temple and his head was shattered, and thus he gave up his spirit in the year 767.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Irinarchos of Sebastia and those with him. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.
