

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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



Sunday, December 19, 2021

Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy)

**Martyrs Boniface and Aglaïs of Rome; Boniface the merciful,
bishop of Ferentino in Tuscany; Martyrs Eutychios and
Thessalonica and their companions**

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 ONE: While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY IN TONE TWO: Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

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, Qudoos 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:

Sunday, December 19 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Friday, December 24 8:00 AM Royal Hours
9:30 AM Vespers Divine Liturgy
10:30 PM Orthros & Divine Liturgy for
The Nativity of Christ

No services on December 25

Sunday, December 26 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Winter Weather announcement for St Michael Parish In case of inclement weather this winter on Sundays, Fr. Ben will make the decision as to whether Liturgy will take place. Communication to the parish announcing either a delay or a cancellation will be made via: the parish email; announcements on Cape radio stations - WQRC - [99.9 The Q](#), WKPE - [Cape Country 104](#), WFCC - [Classical 107.5](#), WOCN - [Ocean 104.7](#), [CapeCod.com](#); and all Boston TV station.

Be safe during storms.

*****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 Sunday before the Nativity)

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done to us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who 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, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so 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 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.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday before the Nativity: “The Genealogy”)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and

Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.



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

Please consider taking this one extra step to your normal shopping routine on Amazon! You start at smile.amazon.com and do your regular login 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!

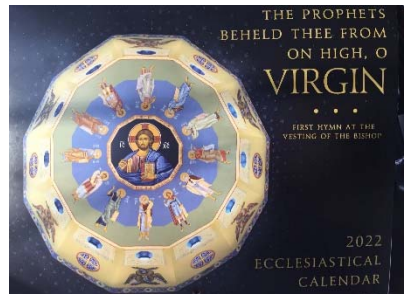
CHRISTMAS COOKIES! We will be delivering 50 Christmas meals to Faith Family Kitchen on Monday 12/20, and each meal will include a tin of (mostly) homemade cookies...which adds up to 200 dozen cookies! Please consider baking a few dozen (or more) cookies! All cookies need to be at the church by Sunday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

CHRISTMAS MEAL DONATIONS: In addition to homemade cookies, we are in need of monetary donations to cover the cost of the grocery store gift cards and the hams that are being given to each family as part of our Christmas meal donation. We are providing 50 families with meals, and your generosity is greatly appreciated! Please give your checks (made out to St. Michael with "Christmas Meals" in the memo) to Kh. Alyssa. Thank you for sharing the light of Christ this Nativity season!

Baby boy announcement! With great joy, we want to let you know that Alyssa gave birth to a healthy baby boy on December 17th, at 2:14 AM. Thank God, mother and son are healthy and doing well. Thank you for your prayers and all the support that you have given us throughout this time.

The Kjendal Family

CALENDARS: There is a new ecclesiastical calendar for 2022 at the back of the church. The suggested donation is \$5 for each calendar.



Nativity Gift Basket Raffle

Thanks to the generosity of Candace Rassias, the Women's group is raffling this beautiful gift basket valued at \$130. An amazing Nativity Gift - or one to share with your guests during your Celebrations.

The basket contains:

- Imported Pinot Grigio
- Imported pasta
- Imported pesto
- Swiss chocolate

Candace is owner of Rue de Saveur, 305 Harvard St., Brookline, MA phone 617-505-5012. She is also the daughter of our own Pauline and Chris! She donated this basket with samples from her gourmet shop. Stop by and thank her in person. Visit her website and like her on Facebook

<https://www.google.com/search?q=vomfass-brookline&ludocid=8951809557310115696&ibp=gwp;0,7&source=g.page.share>

Blessed Nativity to you all. Thanks as always for your support. Good luck!!!

ADOPT A FAMILY Thank you all for your generous donations towards the Christmas gifts for the needy families! With that, we were able to buy the clothing and toys for the children. Now we are looking for gift card donations. The families asked for a stop and shop gift card, a home depot gift card, an amazon gift card, and a target gift card. If you are interested in purchasing a gift card, please speak to Erika. This year, we sponsored two families. One family recently lost their father, so a single mom is struggling to support her two children, a boy aged 16 and a girl aged 13. The other family, the two parents got divorced but are still living together for the sake of their nine year old son. Thank you for all your support as we help these families provide for Christmas!

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.



THE SYNAXARION

On December 19 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Boniface and Aglaïs of Rome; Boniface the merciful, bishop of Ferentino in Tuscany; and Martyrs Eutychios and Thessalonica and their companions.

On this day, the Sunday before the Nativity of Christ, we have been enjoined by our holy and God-bearing Fathers to make commemoration of all them that from the beginning of time have been well-pleasing unto God, from Adam even unto Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, according to genealogy, as Luke the Evangelist hath recounted historically; and likewise for the Prophets and Prophetesses, especially of Daniel the Prophet and the three holy youths.

It is also known as the Sunday of the Holy Genealogy. We remember the aforementioned names, those in the Old Testament who were related to Christ by blood, and those who spoke of His Birth as a man. In the Divine Liturgy, we shall read of Jesus Christ's lineage from the Gospel of Saint Matthew. In this way, the Church shows us that Christ truly became a man, taking on human nature. He was not a ghost, an apparition, a myth, a distant imagined god, or the abstract god of philosophers; such a god does not have a family tree. Our God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He has flesh and blood, human ancestors—many of whom sinned greatly, but like David, also repented greatly. Yet, all of these righteous ones in every age had been wellpleasing to God because they loved Him. By taking on human nature, the Son of God became like us in all ways, in flesh and blood, in mind and soul, and in heart and will. He differed from us in only one way: He could not sin. Since we know that Christ's human nature remained sinless, He is also fully divine, and He shows us the way in which we can avoid sin, and so improve and transform our human nature.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

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.
