

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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



Sunday, December 11, 2022

Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

Venerable Daniel the Stylite; Luke the New Stylite of Chalcedon

Celebrant: Fr. Ben Kjendal

LITTLE ENTRANCE WEEKLY VARIABLES

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN): Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. 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 THE FOREFATHERS IN TONE TWO: Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, 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, 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:

- **Saturday, December 10**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, December 11**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - **Annual Parish Meeting - your participation at the meeting is very important**
- **Wednesday, December 14**
 - 7:00 PM Paraklesis Service
- **Saturday, December 17**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, December 18**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

There is a new ecclesiastical calendar for 2023 at the back of the church. The suggested donation is \$10 for each calendar.

*****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.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Forefathers)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

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

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Holy Forefathers)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE
ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

Nativity Gift Ideas

Please support Women's Group with your purchase of our Cookbooks that include our family memories and pictures (\$30 each or 2 for \$50). We also have Angel Greeting Cards - a pack of 8 Holy Archangels as drawn by our own iconographer, Zarina Sheglov, for only \$10 a set!



Also, thanks to the generous donation of Mr Bob Hazelton in memory of his late Babuskha, Lydia Petrovna, we have some beautiful porcelain plates depicting Russian Orthodox images, still in their original shipping boxes and with narrative descriptions of the images. Only \$15 each for these rare, beautiful plates to be displayed in your home or as a hostess gift! We have a collection with varying images.



Come look thru and see what you like. These are collector items!

Please also check out a great assortment of religious gifts, incense, icons, books as offered by our SOYO group and support their efforts and projects with your purchase. Our youth group works tirelessly to support different community and parish events and proceeds from bookstore sales supports those efforts. Thank you for your continued and loving support of St Michael. A blessed Nativity season to all!

CHRISTMAS MEALS Now that Thanksgiving meals have been delivered, it is time to start working on our Christmas meal delivery! We will be donating hams, a grocery store gift card, and a tin of (HOMEMADE!) cookies to families in need this Christmas. Please consider making a monetary donation to help cover the cost of the hams and the grocery store gift cards. Also, we need about 250 DOZEN cookies to fill the cookie tins. That might sound like a lot, but each year we have managed to fill the tins to overflowing. Please bring all cookie donations to church by Sunday, December 18. We will be packaging the cookies during coffee hour. Thank you, in advance, for helping to bring the Light of Christ to struggling families this Christmas!

SOYO Adopt a Family SOYO is collecting donations to purchase Christmas gifts for a local family in need. Please consider contributing to help in this effort. The family SOYO is supporting recently moved on Cape after a tough year of transitions. One of the children is struggling with high and anxiety and depression as a result of the changes. The mom has been very proactive in making sure the kids don't feel the transitions as harshly as they could — while making hard choices for the family and raising three kids on her own. She would benefit a gift card for groceries and clothes for the kids. The 13 year old boy loves Lego's, art supplies, and soccer. The 11 year old boy loves Lego's, art supplies, Pokémon, and football. The 14 year old girl likes journals and wishes for a Walmart or 5 and Below gift card. Thank you for your help!

THE SYNAXARION

On December 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our Venerable Fathers Daniel the Stylite; and Luke the New Stylite of Chalcedon.

On this day we celebrate the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of our Lord Jesus.

Verses

*Receive joy, O Forefathers which lived aforetime,
As now ye behold at hand Christ the Messiah.*

*Be glad, O Abraham, for thou art shown to be the forefather of
Christ.*

We remember all the holy Patriarchs of the Old Testament who prefigured or foretold Christ: Adam the first Father, Enoch, Melchizedek, Abraham, the friend of God, Isaac, the fruit of the Promise, Jacob and the twelve patriarchs. We then commemorate those who lived under the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel, David, and the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel; the twelve minor prophets; Elijah, Elisha, Zachariah, and John the Baptist; and finally the Virgin Mary, the intermediary between mankind and her divine Son. Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity which bemoaned the weight of evil since Adam; to realize the promise made to Abraham; to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love; and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy upon us. Amen.
