

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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



Sunday, January 1, 2023

Feasts of Circumcision of Christ & Basil the Great

New-martyr Peter of the Peloponnesos

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 FOUR: Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE: Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, O greatly-compassionate Master, though being God by nature; fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly receivest circumcision in the flesh, that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away the veil of our sinful passions. Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. Glory be to Thy compassion. Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT IN TONE ONE: Thy sound hath gone forth into all the earth, which hath received thy word. Thereby thou hast divinely taught the Faith; thou hast made manifest the nature of all things that be; thou hast adorned the ways of man. O namesake of the royal priesthood, our righteous Father Basil, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

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 CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST IN TONE THREE: Now the Lord of all that is doth undergo circumcision, in His goodness cutting off the sins and failings of mortals. He this day doth give salvation unto the whole world; and the hierarch and bright daystar of the Creator now rejoiceth in the highest, Basil the wise and divine initiate of Christ.

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 Ischirois, 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 31**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, January 1**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
- **Thursday, January 5**
 - 9:00 AM Royal Hours
 - 5:00 PM Festal Orthros & Divine Liturgy with the Great Blessing of the Waters for Theophany
- **Saturday, January 7**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, January 8**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church school
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

*****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

*My mouth shall speak of wisdom;
and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.
Hear this, all ye people.*

The reading from the Epistle of St. Paul Epistle to the Colossians. (2:8-12)

Brethren, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness of life in Him, Who is the head of all rule and authority. In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, Who raised Him from the dead.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (2:20-21, 40-52)

And it came to pass that the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him. Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing Him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. And when they saw Him they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why hast Thou treated us so? Behold, Thy father and I have been looking for Thee anxiously." And Jesus said to them, "How is it that you sought Me? Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which He spoke to them. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and His mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.



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!

THE SYNAXARION

On January 1 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Circumcision in the Flesh of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ; it being the eighth day after His birth, we commemorate also the giving of the Name of Jesus.

Verses

Christ being circumcised, the Law is cut off; and the Law being cut off, Grace is brought in. He that in six days made the earth and heavens, now upon the eighth taketh the name of Savior.

The Divine Child was presented in the Temple and circumcised according to the Law existing in Israel since the time of Abraham. The Old Testament circumcision was the proto-type of the New Testament baptism. The circumcision of our Lord shows that He received upon Himself the true body of man and not just seemingly, as was later taught of Him by heretics. Our Lord was also circumcised because He wanted to fulfill the entire Law which He Himself gave through the prophets and forefathers. Thus, the Apostle Paul declares: "For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation" (Gal. 6:15).

On this day we also commemorate our Father among the Saints Basil the Great, archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia.

Verses

Though he hath died, Basil in the Lord yet liveth; and he liveth with us, speaking from his writings. On January first thou didst die, O Basil.

While still unbaptized, Basil spent fifteen years in Athens where he studied philosophy, rhetoric, astronomy and all other secular sciences. His colleagues at that time were Gregory the Theologian and Julian, later the apostate emperor. In his mature years he was baptized in the river Jordan. He was Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia for almost ten years. He was a great defender of Orthodoxy, a great light of moral purity, a great theological mind, a great builder and pillar of the Church of God. Basil fully deserved the title "Great." In liturgical services, he is referred to as the "bee of the Church of Christ which brings honey to the faithful and with its stinger pricks the heretics." Numerous works of this Father of the Church are preserved; they include theological, ascetical and canonical writings as well as the Holy and Divine Liturgy named after him, which we will celebrate today. Basil reposed peacefully in 379.

On this day, we also commemorate the new-martyr Peter of the Peloponnesos. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy upon us. Amen.
