

*St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church*

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**Sunday, June 25, 2023**

**Third Sunday after Pentecost**

**Apodosis (Leave-Taking) of the Forerunner's Nativity**

**Venerable Martyr Febronia of Nisibis;**

**Venerable Prokopios of the Iviron skete on Athos**

**Clergy:**

**Bishop JOHN**

**Fr. Benjamin Kjendal**

**Fr. Joseph Butts**

**Dn. James Irving**

## **LITTLE ENTRANCE WEEKLY VARIABLES**

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN): Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we shall praise and sing of Thy mighty acts. Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO: When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN TONE FOUR: O prophet and Forerunner of Christ God's coming to us, all we who with longing now extol thee are at a loss to honor thee worthily. For thy mother's barrenness and father's long silence, by thine all-renowned and hallowed birth, were both ended, and the Incarnation of the Son of God is preached unto all the world.

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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO: O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

### 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

*Slavonic* 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, June 24**
  - 7:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, June 25**
  - 8:30 AM Orthros
  - 9:30 AM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
  - Luncheon
- **Wednesday, June 28**
  - 7:00 PM Vespers
- **Thursday, June 29**
  - 8:00 AM Orthros
  - 9:00 AM Liturgy for the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul
- **Saturday, July 1**
  - 7:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, July 2**
  - 8:30 AM Orthros
  - 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

**We need help with clean up on Jun 25 after the luncheon.  
It's such a joy to host our bishop and to celebrate our priests and their families. Thank you for your time!!!**

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

**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 Third Sunday after Pentecost)

*The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me sorely.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (5:1-10)**

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.

## THE GOSPEL

(For Third Sunday of Matthew)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (6:22-33)**

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."



## **ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS**

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

### **Books for A Baby Center**

Throughout the months of June and July we will be collecting NEW or VERY GENTLY USED children's books (appropriate for newborns through age 4) to donate to A Baby Center in Hyannis. Please consider donating Orthodox Christian children's books and help plant seeds of faith in our community! Please see Kh. Alyssa with any questions. Thank you!

### **Clothing and Diapers for ZOE House**

From now until July 9, we will be collecting new or gently used and clean items that will be delivered by some of our youth to ZOE House in Ohio. Please see Kh. Alyssa with any questions. Items being collected include:

- Baby clothes (up to 2T)
- Diapers (sizes newborn to 6)
- Blankets
- Maternity clothes

### **Donations for Bethany Community of the Resurrection of Christ**

On July 5th, Tatiana Koster will be going with a group of 22 Orthodox Christians and a priest to Bethany Community of the Resurrection of Christ, a boarding school serving Christian and Muslim Arab girls, to do some much needed work. In addition to baby clothes we are already collecting, the head mistress, Mother Maria, has shared a need for the following:

- black crew socks
- Voltaren arthritis cream (this is an ask from a specific sister, so we don't need to bring a ton)
- Gardening/work gloves

To learn more about the school, here is a link to their web site  
Orthodox School of Bethany <https://bethany-community.org/aboutus>

If you would like to contribute any of these items and/or monetary donations, please contact Tatiana Koster [247leapoffaith@gmail.com](mailto:247leapoffaith@gmail.com), 928-830-2593. Thank you.

### **PLEASE SAVE THE DATE JUNE 25!**

On Sunday June 25th, Bishop John will join us for Orthros service and a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. This will be a special occasion to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Fr. Ben's ordination and his elevation to Archpriest, with the blessing of Metropolitan Sava and Bishop John. We are also taking this opportunity to thank Fr. Joseph and his family for the amazing service to us over the past three years. Fr. Joseph has been re-assigned thru the Navy to Camp Lejeune. Following services, the Parish Council and Women's Group will host a luncheon in celebration.

### **PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE IN HYANNIS, JUL 7-9**

This year's PLC is being hosted by St John of Damascus and they are holding it at the Cape Codder in Hyannis! It couldn't be more convenient for us! And it will give us a taste of what we will be offering as we host PLC 2024!

The weekend will be filled with activities for families and kids of all ages. It is also a time to grow spiritually by attending the seminars being held. Also join the Bible Bowl teams that will compete and cheer St Michael's two teams! Yes, TWO teams from St. Michael are competing! Take advantage of the fun activities being offered and to being with our Bishop John and our larger community from over the bridge! Register:

<https://www.antiochianevents.org/events/diocese-of-worcester-and-new-england-2/>

### **Upcoming Events**

- July 7-9 – Parish Life Conference (PLC) at Cape Codder Hotel
- July 12-16 – 2023 Summer Sacred Music Institute at Antiochian Village, PA
- July 23-30 – Archdiocesan Convention, Arizona

### THE SYNAXARION

On June 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we take leave of the commemoration of the Nativity of the Forerunner and Baptist John; and we commemorate the holy Venerable Martyr and muchsuffering Febronia of Nisibis.

#### **Verses**

*A dowry for Febronia, fair among women, is her severed head.*

*How fair thy dowry, O woman!*

*On the twenty-fifth Febronia gave her neck to the sword.*

Febronia betrothed herself to Christ and was tonsured a nun in Assyria, in a convent where her aunt Bryaena was abbess. Lysimachus, the son of a nobleman, desired to wed Febronia, but since Emperor Diocletian suspected him to be a secret Christian, he sent Lysimachus to the east with his uncle Silenus to apprehend and kill Christians. Silenus did this everywhere without mercy. Lysimachus, on the contrary, spared the Christians wherever he could and hid them from his beastlike uncle. Silenus came to Nisibis and Febronia's convent. Hearing about her great wisdom and meekness, Silenus ordered that Febronia be brought to him. When the holy virgin refused to deny Christ, Silenus ordered her to be cruelly beaten and killed. However, a horrible punishment and death from God befell Silenus the same day. Lysimachus ordered that Febronia's miracle-working body be honorably buried and he, with many other soldiers, were baptized. Febronia suffered and took up habitation in eternal blessedness in 302.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Prokopios of the Iviron skete on Athos. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.