
St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

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Sunday, November 26, 2023

Tone 8 / Eothinon 3; Twenty-fifth Sunday after

Pentecost & Thirteenth Sunday of Luke

**Venerable Alypios the Stylite of Adrianople; Nikon the preacher
of repentance; Venerable Stylianos of Paphlagonia**

Hierarchs and Parish Clergy:

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA (Isper)

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

His Grace Bishop JOHN (Abdalah)

Bishop of the Diocese of Worcester & New England

Father James Irving, Pastor

Subdeacon Joseph Boruch

LITTLE ENTRANCE WEEKLY VARIABLES

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN): Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT: From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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

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**

If you or your loved ones need to contact a member of the clergy in the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. James Irving, who can be reached by phone or text at (781) 468-8709 or by email at dnjamesirving@gmail.com.

Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.

***** NATIVITY FAST STARTED ON NOVEMBER 15th AND LASTS UNTIL CHRISTMAS *****

Here are some resources on Feasts and Fasting in the Orthodox Church:

ww1.antiochian.org/discover/feasts

SCHEDULE:

- **Saturday, November 25**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, November 26**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School/ 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
- **Tuesday, November 28**
 - 6:30 PM Men's Group Meeting at Asia restaurant in the Mashpee Commons
- **Saturday, December 2**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, December 3**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School/ 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - Teen SOYO Meeting
 - Church Decorating for the Nativity

*****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

It is a great joy to have so many people join us for coffee hour! Please remember that coffee hour is potluck and is successful when we all pitch in by bringing food, serving, helping with set up and clean up or offering donations in the offering box on the counter. Please ask someone in the kitchen how you can help. May God continue to bless our community!

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

THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (4:1-7)

Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, Who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

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

HISTORY OF ST MICHAEL CHURCH

Kh. Valerie is interested in writing a comprehensive history of our church and has already started speaking with some of our founding members and collecting articles and photos. If you are interested in helping, or would like to write something of particular historical interest, please contact Kh.

Valerie if you haven't done so already. She can be

reached by email at valerieirving@verizon.net or by cell phone or text at (781) 727-4621.

WHITE ELEPHANT - THANK YOU

Thanks to all who baked, manned tables for the sale, donated items, purchased items and to those who fed volunteers: Katya, Julia, Anastasia, Galina, Michelle, Colleen, Anya, Chris, Pauline and her sister Martha, Annie, Natalie, Soraya, Hadley, Aubrey, Aurora, Max, Ben, Alli, Rick, Subdeacon Joe, Fr. James & Kh. Valerie. Thanks to Ana Procopeuco who donated a beautiful handmade wool shawl for the raffle – congratulations to Julia Shanghina Petitt who won this item. Thanks to Pauline Rassias who donated an original oil painting by Cape Cod artist Sandra Sedell – congratulations to Soraya Bandeli who won this item.

Special thanks to Pauline, Chris, Mary, Natalie and Soraya for organizing the tables and pricing all the items during the week leading up to the event. Thanks to Eric Ayoub who drove down from Boston to direct traffic in the rain. To Chris Rassias and Eric for getting our signs in from the rain. Thanks to Judy Crocker and Oscar Crocker for creating our flier and advertising.

GREAT thanks to all who stayed Sunday to help pack everything up and get the hall back in order: Pauline, Chris, Alex, Colleen, Max, Aurora, Michelle, Hadley, Olga, Sophia, Jacob, Rick and Soraya. Thanks to Rick & Soraya who filled their cars with lots of boxes. We have a bit to go. If you can grab a few boxes or fill your truck to take to your local donation center or swap shop, we will be back to normal by Sunday Nov 26.

This was an amazing group effort and we are grateful for all your support. May God bless you all.

THANKSGIVING MEALS FOR INDEPENDENCE HOUSE

Thanks to everyone for bringing your food donations on time! Thanks to the following helpers for packaging the food this past Sunday: Alex Stewart, Anthony Williams, Rick Bardine, Emilio & Tatiana Netto.

Joe Rahal and Soraya Bandeli delivered 15 Thanksgiving meals to Independence House in Hyannis on Monday Nov 20. This organization offers services to victims of domestic and sexual violence.



The Outreach team is grateful for your generosity in answering the call to helping those in need. May God continue to bless you!

DECEMBER OUTREACH - HELP OUR VETERANS!

This December, the Outreach Team is working to support Falmouth Veterans Council. Their needs are simple. We will be buying grocery and gas cards for them in bulk. Whatever monetary offering you can make would be greatly appreciated. We know this is a difficult time of year, but it's as simple as skipping your morning latte and donating the money for us to be able to help! The ask isn't too much for us to handle to support these brave men and women who gave up so much for our country! The Falmouth Veterans Council currently supports 42 veterans. Your monetary donation would be appreciated by December 17 so we can deliver everything in time to The Falmouth Veterans Council in Falmouth for distribution in their Christmas mailer! Please make your checks payable St. Michael Outreach with memo "veterans".

May God bless you as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior who requires us to help those in need!

If you would like to be on the Outreach Committee in planning these programs for 2024, please contact Soraya Bandeli : 617-842-8591 // sbandeli@comcast.net

BOOK CLUB

St Michael's will be starting a book club soon. The book we will be reading is "Pearl of Great Price" by Sergei Hackel.

Pearl of Great Price is the moving story of Mother Maria Skobtsova, a nun of the Orthodox Church, who was born into a Russian aristocratic home but who died a martyr's death in one of Hitler's concentration camps. Now canonized by the Orthodox Church as St Maria, she

demonstrates how to love the image of God in each person, even when surrounded by hatred, undiluted evil, and brutality.

Please email Fr James, dnjamesirving@gmail.com, if you would like to join the book club. When we have a count of people we will order the book and get started.

ST. MICHAEL NATIVITY CARD 2023

This year, St. Michael Women will be sending out a Nativity Greeting to all our parish members. A portion of the proceeds of this year's Nativity card will be going to the Clergy Widows Fund. These women who have dedicated their lives and their families to the church will always be our "Khourie" / "Presvitera" / "Matushka" – even after they suffer the loss of their priest-husbands. This fund will cover some of their needs for utilities, food, shelter. The order form for the Nativity Greeting has been mailed out. If you would like your name on the St. Michael Nativity Card, please fill out the form and return it by December 17, 2023. Please make your donations out to St. Michael Women and write 'Nativity Card' in the memo. We thank you for your continued generosity.

CAMP AT HOME Dec 15-16 at St. George Boston, W. Roxbury, MA

This event is meant to imitate a day in life at the Antiochian Village. It is a great way for younger kids and teens to experience the joy of going to camp. Staying overnight is open for grades 7-12, but children ages 7-18 are welcome for the Saturday portion of the event. Email questions to downeyouthdirector@gmail.com.

CHARTER BUS TO ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE SESSION 2 CAMP

In an effort to encourage friendship and unity among the young people of our Diocese, the Diocese Council has chartered a 56 passenger Charter Bus through Bloom Bus charters to bring campers from our Diocese to Session 2 at Antiochian Village (June 30-July 12, 2024). The bus will depart from St. George Cathedral (30 Anna St, Worcester) early morning on Sunday, June 30 to bring campers to the Village, and return on Friday, July 12 in the early evening. Registration for summer camp at Antiochian Village will open some time in January <https://avcamp.org/>. Once your child is registered for AV, we will send out a separate sign up for the bus. The Diocese Council is subsidizing the cost of the bus, and the final cost per camper will depend on how many campers ride the bus. We estimate that the round trip cost will be between \$150-\$200 per camper. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Khalil Samara (khalilsamara@yahoo.com) or Fr. Milad Selim (fr.milad.selim@gmail.com).

THE SYNAXARION

On November 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable Alypios the Stylite of Adrianople.

Verses

An upright column once Alypios supported

As he sought ascent to Heaven, where now he dwelleth.

The twenty-sixth, O Alypios, thou dwellest where no sorrow is.

Alypios served as a deacon with Bishop Theodore in the church in Hadrianopolis. But, desirous of a life of solitude, prayer and meditation, Alypios withdrew to a Greek cemetery outside the city. This was a cemetery from which people fled in terror, because of frequent demonic visions seen there. Alypios set up a cross in the cemetery and built a church in honor of St. Euphemia, who had appeared to him in a dream. Beside the church, he built a tall pillar, climbed to the top of it, and spent 53 years there in fasting and prayer. Neither the mockery of men nor the evil of the demons could drive him away or cause him to waver in his intention. The courageous Alypios protected himself by the sign of the Cross and the Name of Jesus. Two monasteries were built beside his pillar, one for men and the other for women. This God-pleaser had so much grace that he was often illuminated in heavenly light, and a pillar of this light extended to the heavens above him. Alypios was a wonderful and mighty miracle-worker in life and after his repose. He lived for 100 years and entered into rest in 640.

On this day, we also commemorate our righteous Father Nikon Repent-ye. Forsaking his parents and homeland of Armenia, he passed throughout the parts of the East, crying to all, "Repent ye," because of which he received this name. Finally, he came to Lacedaemonia of the Peloponnesus, where he built a church in honor of Christ our Savior. After having dwelt there many years in solitude, and having converted many from paganism, Nikon departed to the Lord about the end of the ninth century.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable Stylianos of Paphlagonia. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Save the Date!

- December 8, 2023: Vigil @ St. Mary Pawtucket, RI from 7:00 pm to 1:00 am, followed by a breakfast
 - June 21-23, 2024: Diocese Parish Life Conference in Plymouth hosted by St. Michael Cotuit
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