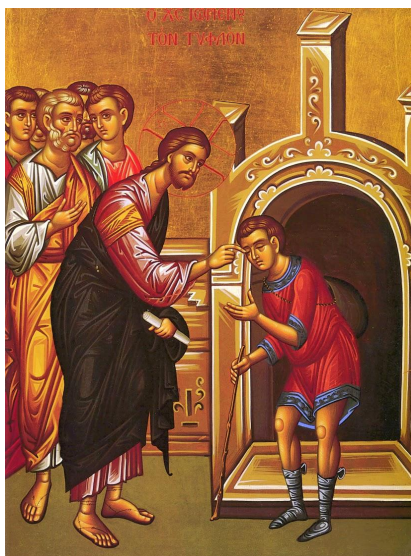

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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

e-mail: stmichael@stmichaelcapecod.org



Sunday, December 03, 2023

**Tone 1 / Eothinon 4; Twenty-sixth Sunday after
Pentecost & Fourteenth Sunday of Luke**

**The Holy Prophet Zephaniah; Martyrs Agapios, Seleukos and
Mamas; Venerable Theodoulos, Eparch of Constantinople;
Venerable Theodoulos of Cyprus**

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 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 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, 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 with Memorial Service for Capobianco / Bardine families
 - Teen SOYO Meeting
 - Church Decorating for the Nativity
- **Saturday, December 9**
 - **No Vespers**
- **Sunday, December 10**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School/ 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy with Memorial Service for Kh. Euphoria "Effie" Manikas
 - Men's Group Pancake Breakfast
 - Women's Group Meeting

*****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-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light—for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true—and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.” Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” And he cried, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me receive my sight.” And Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE

ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

WOMEN'S MEETING & GROUP PICTURE FOR PARISH DIRECTORY

We will be decorating the church for Nativity on December 3. Please join us after liturgy for a fun afternoon. We will have a Women's meeting in the church after Liturgy on Dec 10. Please grab a quick snack and come upstairs. We will also be updating our picture for the upcoming Parish Directory.

Remember that ALL WOMEN of the parish are members of Antiochian Women so please join us for this historic picture!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

As we approach the Nativity of our Lord, let us be mindful that we are celebrating the birth of our Savior. Let us be thankful for our blessings and mindful of all those less fortunate. I pray that we, as Antiochian Women, reach out to minister to those in need and keep them in our prayers. God bless you and enjoy this holy season.

Mary Lou Catelli,

President,

Antiochian Women DOWNE

DECEMBER OUTREACH - HELP OUR VETERANS!

During December, with your help, the Outreach Team is supporting Falmouth Veterans Council. They currently assist 42 veteran families.

Your monetary donation would be appreciated by December 17 so we can deliver everything in time to The Falmouth Veterans Council for distribution! 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

ST. MICHAEL'S MEN'S GROUP PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The St. Michael's Men's group will be holding a pancake breakfast on Sunday, December 10, 2023. All proceeds to benefit the 2024 Parish Life Conference (PLC). Donation \$5 per person or \$10 per family.



AVAILABLE BOARD POSITIONS

The Ladies of St. Michael and the Parish Council will have open leadership positions soon. You can support St. Michaels Church by serving as a member of the council or as an officer in the Ladies of St. Michael. Please see Fr. James, a member of the Ladies Group, or a Parish Council member for more details.

BOOK CLUB

We will soon be ordering our new book "Pearl of Great Price" by Sergel Hackel. Please let Father James know if you will be attending if you haven't done so already. We will be meeting to discuss the book before Vespers on Saturday or after liturgy on Sunday.

dnjamesirving@gmail.com

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 POSTPONED

Camp at home and the seminarian-led discussion are being postponed. The event will be on January 12th & 13th. Sorry for the inconvenience.

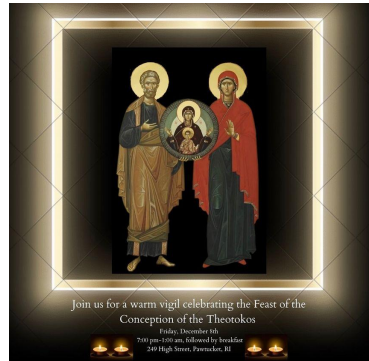
CHARTER BUS TO ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE SESSION 2 CAMP

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 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. 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).

December is The Order of Saint Ignatius' month in our Archdiocese. Each week information about this important organization will be in the bulletin to allow us to gain a better understanding of The Order of Saint Ignatius.



**December 8, 2023: Vigil @ St. Mary
Pawtucket, RI from 7:00 pm to 1:00
am, followed by a breakfast**



THE SYNAXARION

On December 3 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Holy Prophet Zephaniah.

Verses

He that aforetime cried to Zion:

Rejoice greatly, Rejoiceth in God's presence, even Zephaniah.

On the third, illustrious Zephaniah gave up the spirit.

A native of Mount Sarabatha, from the tribe of Simeon, Zephaniah lived and prophesied in the seventh century before Christ, at the time of Josiah the pious king of Judah. Zephaniah was a contemporary of the Prophet Jeremiah. Having great humility and a pure mind raised to God, he was found worthy of discerning the future. He prophesied the day of the wrath of God and the punishment of Gaza, Ashkalon, Ashdod, Ekron, Nineveh, Jerusalem and Egypt. He saw Jerusalem as a "filthy and polluted... oppressing city. Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; her prophets are light and treacherous persons; her priests have polluted the sanctuary; they have done violence to the Law (Zeph. 3:1-4). Foreseeing the advent of the Messiah, he enthusiastically exclaimed: Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem (Zeph. 3:14). This seer of mysteries entered into rest at his birthplace to await the General Resurrection and his reward from God.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyrs Agapios, Seleukos and Mamas; Venerable Theodoulos, Eparch of Constantinople; and Venerable Theodoulos of Cyprus. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ our 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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