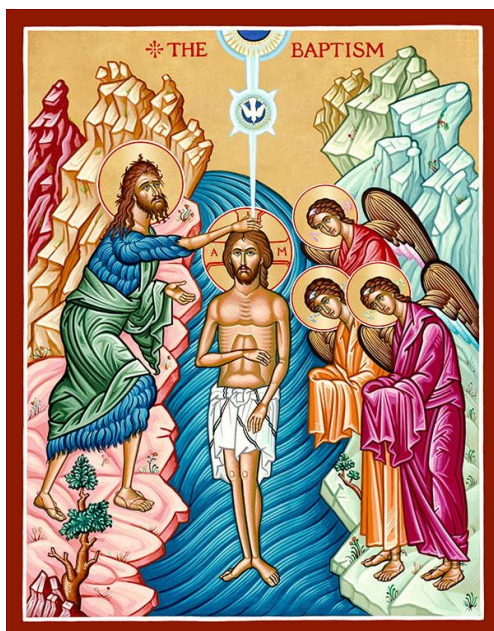

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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

e-mail: stmichael@stmichaelcapecod.org



Sunday, January 07, 2024

Synaxis of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner & Baptist John

New-martyr Athanasios of Attalia;

Venerable Brannock of Braunton

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 SIX: When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE THEOPHANY IN TONE ONE: When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF SYNAXIS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST IN TONE TWO: The memory of the righteous is celebrated with songs of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner. Thou wast shown indeed to be the most honorable of the prophets, for in the waters thou didst baptize Him Who had been proclaimed. After suffering with joy in behalf of the truth, thou didst proclaim even to those in Hades the God Who appeared in the flesh, Who taketh away the sin of the world, and granteth us the Great Mercy.

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 THE THEOPHANY IN TONE FOUR: On this day Thou hast appeared unto the whole world, and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, is signed on us who sing Thy praise and chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come, Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN (Sung in place of "Holy God")

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (*thrice*)

MEGALYNARION OF THE SYNAXIS IN TONE TWO

Magnify, O my soul, the Maiden who delivered us from the curse.

O the wonder of thy super-intelligent birth-giving, thou all-pure bride, the blessed Mother through whom we have received perfect salvation, we indite a fitting song, offering as a gift the song of gratitude.

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.

SCHEDULE:

- **Sunday, January 7**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School/ 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy with **Blessing of the Waters**
 - Teen SOYO Meeting
- **Saturday, January 13**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, January 14**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School/ 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
 - 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 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 Synaxis)

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. O God, hear my prayer.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (19:1-8)

In those days, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the One Who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve of them in all. And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the Kingdom of God.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Synaxis)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (1:29-34)

At that time, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of Whom I said, 'After me comes a man Who ranks before me, for He was before me.' I myself did not know Him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that He might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on Him. I myself did not know Him; but He Who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on Whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is He Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE

ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

STEWARDSHIP FORM 2024

The Stewardship form 2024 has been mailed out. Please fill it out and return before January 15, 2024. Also, you can find the forms at the back.

DIOCESE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MEETING SAT, JAN 20, 2024 at ST. GEORGE, NORWOOD

On Saturday, January 20 at 10:00 AM, Antiochian women from our Diocese will gather for a meeting at St. George Church in Norwood. The meeting will be focused on putting together homeless care packages to be completed and taken back with us for distribution where needed. The agenda will be

- 10:00 am - Prayers
- 10:30 - Coffee
- 10:45 - Meeting to discuss
 - Lenten Retreat
 - PLC (we will be hosting brunch on Friday, Jun 21 in Plymouth, so please be a part of meetings)
 - Put together homeless packages

The icon project has been put on hold due to a short turnaround time after Nativity. Hopefully it will be rescheduled for later this year.

Please try to come to meet the Diocesan Ladies and form bonds that will last a lifetime. Carpools are a great idea. Norwood is only about an hour away so it's an easy drive.

OUTREACH: Scarf Tying

In anticipation of the storm on Sunday, the Homeschooling Families will be out and about on Saturday January 6 to tie scarves around Main St. Hyannis.

Thanks to Macrina and Michelle for organization the distribution and for spreading love and warmth to those who need it!

Many thanks to Vicky Abodeely for knitting 27 scarves!

We are looking for people to join the Outreach Committee to plan our February and future project. Please see Soraya if you are able to help develop these important projects.

God bless you!

USHERS NEEDED

We need ushers to serve one Sunday per month. Please see Soraya if you are interested in greeting guests as they enter church and helping with the flow of the liturgy. This is a fun way to serve and meet people.

AVAILABLE BOARD POSITIONS

The Ladies of St. Michael and the Parish Council have open leadership positions. You can support St. Michael's 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.

The Women's Club is hosting New Year's Retreat on January 27 / "Joy Comes In The Mourning" at St. Mary, Cambridge

The Women's Club is hosting a New Year's Retreat for the Diocese of Worcester & New England Women's Clubs on Saturday, January 27th from 10am to 2pm. "Joy Comes In The Mourning" is our Guest Speaker, Dr. Sarah Byrne-Martelli's Retreat theme. The doors will open at 10am and the Retreat will begin at 10:30am. A light lunch will be served at 11:45am followed by a Q & A session with Dr. Byrne-Martelli. All women of our Parish are invited to attend. RSVP by January 19th to stmarycambridgeawc@gmail.com

CAMP AT HOME, Jan 12-13 at St. George West Roxbury

Camp at Home

What's camp at home?

Camp at home reflects a day in the life of a camper at one of the Archdiocese's various sleep-away camps. Orthodox Camps offer youth a mix of fellowship and worship while creating life-long friendships rooted in Christ



Registration Link

Dates:

**January 12 and
January 13**

Last day to register: Sunday, January 7

Cost: \$25

**(\$15 before
January 1st for
overnight
teens, \$10 for
Saturday
campers
only!)**

Where?

**55 Emmonsedale Rd,
West Roxbury, MA
02132 (St George
Boston)**



Stay tuned for the schedule!!

Email Questions to downeyouthdirector@gmail.com

THE SYNAXARION

On January 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Synaxis (Gathering) of the holy and glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John. On the same day is also commemorated the translation of his most precious and holy right hand unto the city of Constantinople.

Verses

*How shall this tongue of mine now praise thee, O Preacher,
Whom Christ's tongue calleth greater than all the earthborn?*

The famous Forerunner's memorial is the lot of the seventh.

Because John's main role in his life was played out on the day of Theophany (Epiphany), the Church from earliest times dedicated the "day after" to his memory. Among the Gospel personalities who surround the Savior, John the Baptist occupies a totally unique place by his roles in baptizing the Messiah and in baptizing people for repentance. John prepared himself in the wilderness of the desert for 30 years for his great service by a strict life, by fasting, prayer and sympathy for the fate of God's people. John was of such moral purity that, in truth, he could be called an angel (messenger) as Holy Scripture calls him rather than a mortal man. He appeared on the banks of the Jordan, to prepare the people by his preaching to accept the Savior of the world. In church hymnology, the Baptist is called a "bright morning star," whose gleaming outshone the brilliance of all the other stars, announcing the coming dawn of the day of grace, illumined with the light of the spiritual Sun, our Lord Jesus Christ. John differs from all other prophets especially in that he had that privilege of being able, with his hand, to show the world Him about Whom he prophesied. As the holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord—whom the Lord called the greatest of the prophets—John concludes the history of the Old Testament and opens the era of the New Testament. He bore witness to the Only-Begotten Son of God, incarnate in the flesh. John was accounted worthy to baptize Him in the waters of the Jordan, and he was a witness of the Theophany of the Most Holy Trinity at the Savior's Baptism.

On this day, we commemorate the New-martyr Athanasios of Attalia; and Venerable Brannock of Braunton. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.
