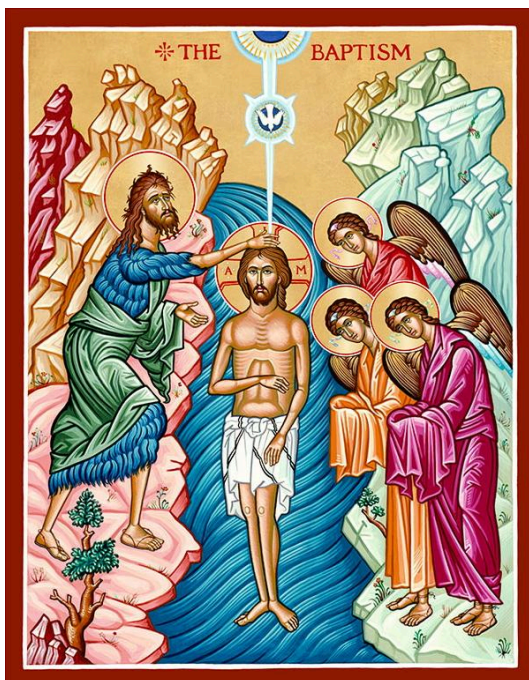

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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

e-mail: stmichael@stmichaelcapecod.org



Sunday, January 14, 2024

Leave-Taking of & Sunday after the Theophany

Holy fathers slain at Sinai and Raithu; Holy Martyr Agnes

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 SEVEN: Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

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 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.

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 Ischiros, Agios Athanatos, Eyleison Imas

Slavonic: Svyatij Bozhe, Svyatij Krepkij, Svatij Bessmertnij pomiluj nas

MEGALYNARION OF THE LEAVE-TAKING OF THEOPHANY 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.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THEOPHANY IN TONE EIGHT

The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Alleluia.

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:

- **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
 - Choir Rehearsal
- **Saturday, January 20**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, January 21**
 - 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 Sunday after Theophany of Christ)

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. (4:7-13)

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, "When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is He who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday after Theophany of Christ)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:12-17)

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulon and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand."



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE

ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

STEWARDSHIP FORMS 2024

2024 Stewardship Pledge Forms should be completed and returned by January 15th. Please send your completed forms to the church via US Mail or drop them in the collection plate passed on Sunday. We appreciate and count on your support. Thank you!

ANNUAL MEETING

Reminder to mark the date. As previously announced in the Bulletin, the Annual Meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Church will be held on **Sunday, February 11, 2024** immediately following Divine Liturgy. We look forward to your attendance!

NEW ICON

A new icon has been added to the nave of St. Michael's church. Many thanks to our own iconographer **Zoya Sheglov**! Zoya presented the icon on January 7, 2024. The icon was blessed with the waters from the feast of Theophany. The icon is of **Saint John Maximovitch Bishop of Shanghai and Archbishop of San Francisco**. May God grant Zoya Many Years.



OUTREACH: Scarf Tying

Thanks to the Stewart and Moeck families for distributing scarves in Main St Hyannis on Saturday, Jan 6 in anticipation of cold and snow. The families were a force !!! Thanks for the efforts of Vicky Abodeely who has been knitting all year!!!

Please join the outreach group on Jan 28 after church for an exploratory discussion about future projects!!! See Macrina or Soraya if you have questions.



WE ARE RESUMING FAMILY NIGHTS! SAVE THE DATE - FEB 10, 2024

“Family night” is not only for families and kids but everyone in the parish! Come spend time and have fun with your church family!

- 3:30pm for games and fellowship (bring a board game to share)
- 5:00pm Vespers
- Potluck dinner to follow (please bring a soup, salad or pre-sliced bread).

Contact Macrina for more info.

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.

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.

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

The Women's Club of St Mary's Cambridge 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

THE SYNAXARION

On January 14 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we take leave of the Feast of Theophany, and we commemorate the holy Forty Fathers that were slain on Mount Sinai in the reign of Diocletian, and those slain in the days of Neilos the Wise.

Verses

*It was swords that have wrought here the many murders,
And the men which suffered were lovers of virtue.
On the fourteenth, bronze killed the Fathers.*

In the fourth century, Ammonios, an Egyptian monk, witnessed the first martyrdom. He tells of how the Saracens attacked his monastery and would have killed all the monks, if God had not intervened. A fire appeared on the summit of the peak, and the whole mountain smoked. The barbarians were terrified, and fled, while the surviving monks thanked God for sparing them. The second massacre occurred nearly one hundred years later, and was also recorded by an eyewitness, St. Neilos the Wise, who miraculously escaped. The attackers permitted some of the monks run for their lives. They also thanked God for sparing them and glorified God for glorifying their departed brethren.

On this day, we commemorate the holy Forty Fathers that were slain at Raithu.
