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## **St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church**

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

**Tone 8 / Eothinon 11; Twenty-ninth Sunday after  
Pentecost & Twelfth Sunday of Luke**

**Venerable Maximos the Confessor**

**Martyr Neophytos of Nicaea;**

**Venerable Zosimas, Bishop of Syracuse in Sicily**

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**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**

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## 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. MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR IN TONE EIGHT: Thou hast shown thyself, O God-inspired Maximos, as a guide to the Orthodox Faith, a teacher of true worship and purity; O star of the universe and companion of the bishops, O wise one. Through thy light thou hast enlightened all, O harp of the spirit. Therefore, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

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 PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE: Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

### 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.**

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**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](mailto:dnjamesirving@gmail.com).**

**Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.**

**SCHEDULE:**

- **Sunday, January 21**
  - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School/ 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
  - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
- **Saturday, January 27**
  - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, January 28**
  - 9:00 AM Orthros / Church School/ 9:15 AM Bible Study for Kids 10+
  - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
  - Outreach Committee Meeting
  - Choir Rehearsal

**\*\*\*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!***

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## THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-ninth 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 Colossians. (3:4-11)**

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Twelfth Sunday of Luke—"Ten Lepers")

### **The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (17:12-19)**

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

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## 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!

### **HOUSE BLESSINGS**

Our Orthodox Church teaches that we need to bless our homes once a year following the Feast of the Theophany to sanctify them and all the members of our family. This is a short visit with the Priest and a great opportunity to bring the blessing of the Church into our homes.

If you would like your house blessed please contact Fr. James to schedule a visit, 781-468-8709, [dnjamesirving@gmail.com](mailto:dnjamesirving@gmail.com).

**The MEN'S GROUP** has organized an icon tour on Tuesday February 6th at 6pm at St George Greek Orthodox Church (1130 Falmouth Road, Centerville, MA 02632). We hope to see you there.

### **KNITTING GROUP**

Anyone with or without experience is encouraged to join us every Saturday 10-12:30 at St. Michael's Archangel. You will need:

- Knitting needles - circular needles, double-pointed or straight.
- If you are an advanced knitter and have your own project please join us to knit along.
- Bring your snacks/ lunch.

We have some yarn you may pick for your project.

We hope to spread the knowledge of this ancient handcraft to our community and the next generation. With any questions please reach out to Olga DiSavino via text message 774-236-9492.

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## **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.

## **SAVE THE DATE: POST SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 18**

The Men’s Group will be offering soup at the coffee hour. The funds raised will be used for the PLC 2024. More details as we get closer to the date.

## **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 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](mailto:stmarycambridgeawc@gmail.com)

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## HOLY UNCTION SERVICE

Healing and prayer offered by the  
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Diocese of New England

*"They followed Him, and He received them  
and spoke to them about the kingdom of God,  
and healed those who had need of healing."*

*-Luke 9:11*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9th at NOON**

Presented at  
St. Stephen Orthodox Church  
44 Sewall St. Ludlow, MA  
[www.stsoc.org](http://www.stsoc.org) 413- 474-1415

*All are welcome!*

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## THE SYNAXARION

On January 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous Father Maximos the Confessor.

### **Verses**

*Being handless and tongueless, hand and tongue thou acquirest;  
And into God's hands, O Maximos, thy soul thou givest. On the  
twenty-first, mortal destiny covered Maximos his voice.*

Maximos was born in Constantinople. First, he was a high-ranking courtier for Emperor Heraclius and, after that, a monk and abbot of a monastery not too far from the capitol. He was the greatest defender of Orthodoxy against the so-called Monothelite heresy which proceeded from the heresy of Eutyches. He claimed that there is only one nature in Christ (Monophysitism), so the Monothelites claimed that there is only one will in Christ (Monothelitism). Maximos opposed that claim and found himself as an opponent of the emperor and the patriarch. Maximos did not frighten easily but endured to the end in proving that there were two wills as well as two natures in Christ. Because of his efforts, a council was held in Carthage and another in Rome. Both councils anathematized the teachings of the Monothelites. Maximos suffered greatly for Orthodoxy: he was tortured by princes, deceived by prelates, spat upon by the masses of the people, beaten by soldiers, exiled, imprisoned, until finally, with a severed tongue and hand, he was condemned to exile for life in the land of Skhemaris (near Batum on the Black Sea) where he spent three years in prison and gave up his soul to God in the mid-seventh century.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Neophytos of Nicaea; and Venerable Zosimas, Bishop of Syracuse in Sicily. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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