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

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e-mail: [stmichael@stmichaelcapecod.org](mailto:stmichael@stmichaelcapecod.org)

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**Sunday, August 4, 2024**

**Tone 5 / Eothinon 6;**

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**& Sixth Sunday of Matthew**

**The Holy Seven Sleeping Youths of Ephesus;  
Recovery of the relics of Martyr Eudokia of Persia**

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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 FIVE: Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

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 TRANSFIGURATION IN TONE SEVEN: Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

### 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***

**SCHEDULE:**

**\*\*\* DORMITION FAST BEGAN AUGUST 1 \*\*\***

- **Saturday, August 3**
  - **No Vespers**
- **Sunday, August 4**
  - 8:30 AM Orthros
  - 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
  - Marriage Blessing of Christian and Sophia Moeck
- **August 5 - August 9**
  - 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Vacation Church School at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Centerville
- **Tuesday, August 6**
  - 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy for the Transfiguration of Christ
- **Saturday, August 10**
  - 7:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, August 11**
  - 8:30 AM Orthros
  - 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
  - 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 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Thou, O Lord, wilt preserve us and keep us from this generation.*

*Save me, O Lord, for the Godly man hath disappeared.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (12:6-14)**

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, and serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

## THE GOSPEL

(For Sixth Sunday of Matthew)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:1-8)**

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He then said to the paralytic—"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they marveled, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.

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## ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE  
ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

### **BACKPACK BLESSINGS**

It's BACK-TO-SCHOOL time of year again! Cataumet Village, a transitional housing facility in Falmouth, supports families coming out of homelessness. These clients, mostly mothers and children, are getting ready for back to school and need our help. We are filling **backpacks for 15 children** this year and collecting items and monetary donations to be brought to St. Michael by August 18. Add your name for the items you would like to purchase to the list

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1puIRZ4H4ldQ8h4wn9VApQJ6XgaQtS2em/edit?usp=sharing&oid=105026730219340043777&rtpof=true&sd=true>. The bin for the school supplies is next to the bookstore.

We will purchase what's left. Please help to fill the backpacks on August 24 before Vespers. We will deliver the backpacks on August 25. If you're not able to purchase the supplies, please consider making a monetary donation to St. Michael Outreach with Backpack Blessings in the memo. As always, thank you for your generosity as we care for those in need. If you have any questions, please see Anastasia or Soraya.



### **COFFEE HOUR SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP**

Thanks to all for bringing a great variety of foods for us to share. COFFEE HOUR IS POT LUCK. We appreciate all the effort that you make to bring an item to share so we can all enjoy a beautiful morning of fellowship!

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With our increased number of visitors over the summer, please consider increasing the quantity so everyone can enjoy an abundant gathering. Our challenge during coffee hour seems to be set up and clean up. Please consider coming in a little early or staying a little late so we all get a chance to be part of fellowship. As it is, we always find the same people in the kitchen. Please sign up for dates that work for you and your family. The names are "per family" - you don't need to register for each family member who will be there to help.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44A5AD2FA4FCC52-coffee1/124663452#/> When you sign up please include your phone number. If you can't make the dates you signed up for please reach out to your teammates on that day so they can plan to find other volunteers to help. We appreciate all that people do for our flourishing community!

### **VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL 2024**

Please keep our Vacation Church School in your prayers as we prepare and host approximately 30 children in August and share with them God's love and teach them more about the path to holiness. And please consider volunteering as well. See Macrina for details.

### **Save the Date!**

- August 21: Men's Group Meeting
  - August 22-25: Ancient Faith Men's Retreat at Antiochian Village
  - September 8: Parish Cookout hosted by Parish Council after Coffee Hour
  - September 14: Parish Clean Up day after Liturgy for Feast of the Elevation of the Cross
  - **November 3: Bishop John visiting us for the Feast of St. Michael and our Anniversary Luncheon**
  - November 7-10: Ancient Faith Women's Retreat at Antiochian Village
  - July 20-27, 2025: Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Convention, Chicago
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# Antiochian Charities

[www.childrenrelieffund.org](http://www.childrenrelieffund.org)

email: [childrenrelieffund@gmail.com](mailto:childrenrelieffund@gmail.com)

*"Whoever receives one little child like this in my name receives me." (Matthew 18:5)*

August 1, 2024

## ***TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL PARISHIONERS***

For over forty years the Children's Relief Fund has provided financial support to help defray the cost of education for children in Lebanon and Palestine. Requests for such support have increased significantly in recent years. As a result of dire circumstances in Lebanon, many parents have become unable to pay tuition to send their children to Orthodox Christian schools. Our Orthodox schools are at risk of closing, and consequently many of our children will now have to attend a public school or to discontinue their schooling altogether.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, we are seeking your help. We have approximately thirty Lebanese children from the Archdioceses of Beirut, Koura, Tripoli, and Zahle who need assistance to continue their education at an Orthodox Christian school this coming school year. The tuition cost per student varies from \$750 to \$1200 per school year, depending on the school and the student's grade level.

Donated funds will be wired directly to the Orthodox school in the child's name. The child and their family will receive a notice of your support, and you will receive contact information so that you can communicate directly with the child if you wish. Children receiving a tuition scholarship will not receive any other funding from the Children's Relief Fund. Sponsorship in any amount will be appreciated.

School begins in a few weeks, so if you can help, please contact CFR Administrator Amy Stiffler at [childrenrelieffund@gmail.com](mailto:childrenrelieffund@gmail.com).

**Children's Relief Fund**  
**Scholarship Program**  
Antiochian Village  
140 Church Camp Trail  
Bolinar, PA 15923

God bless you for your consideration of this urgent request.

In Christ's work,

Amy Stiffler, CRF Administrator & Executive Director  
Anne Bourjaily Thomas, Charitable Outreach Chair

cc: His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

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*A charity of the* ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Mailing Address: PO Box 90072, Brooklyn, NY 11209  
447 95<sup>th</sup> Street #2D, Brooklyn, NY 11209 · (917) 991-7192

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## THE SYNAXARION

On August 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Holy Seven Sleeping Youths of Ephesus: Maximilian, Exacustodian, Jamblichus, Martinian, Dionysius, John and Constantine, who rose from the sleep of death.

### **Verses**

*I honor the seven-numbered choir of Martyrs, Which showed the world that the dead are resurrected. On the fourth the seven dead risers died together.*

The Roman Emperor Decius came to Ephesus in 250 and arranged a boisterous celebration in honor of the lifeless idols, as well as a terrible slaughter of Christians. Seven young men, soldiers and sons of influential elders, refrained from the impure offering of sacrifices and they earnestly prayed to the one true God to save the Christian people. When they were accused before the emperor, they retreated to a hill outside Ephesus called Celion and hid in a cave, which Decius commanded to be sealed. However, God, according to His far-reaching Providence, caused a miraculous and long-lasting sleep to fall upon the young men. The imperial courtiers, Theodore and Rufinus, secret Christians, built in that wall a copper sarcophagus with lead plaques on which were written the names of these young men and their martyric deaths. After 184 years, during the reign of Emperor Theodosius the Younger, there was a great dispute about the resurrection. Emperor Theodosius prayed to God that He, in some way, would reveal the truth to mankind. At that time of turmoil some shepherders of Adolius, who owned the hill Celion, removed stone after stone from that cave. The youths then awakened from their sleep young and healthy. The news of this miracle was spread abroad on all sides so that even Theodosius himself came with a great entourage and with delight conversed with the youths. After a week, they again fell into the sleep of death to await the universal resurrection.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Eudokia of Persia. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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**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.**

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