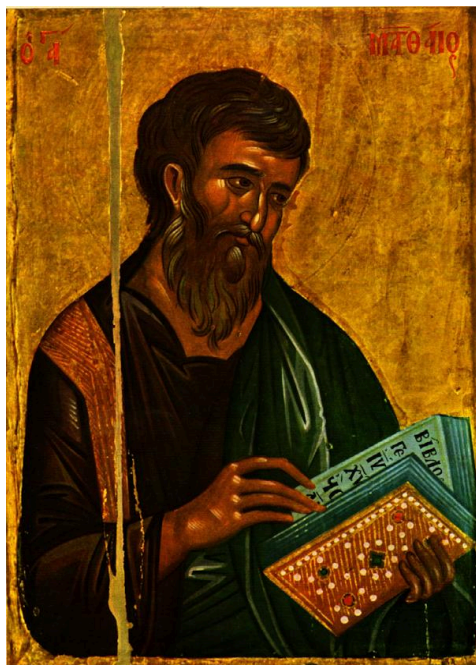

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

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Sunday, November 16, 2025

Tone 6 / Eothinon 1

The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew

Martyr Ephygenia of Ethiopia, disciple of St. Matthew;

Fulvian, prince of Ethiopia

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 ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST IN TONE THREE: O holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, intercede with the merciful God, to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

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 ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR: The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

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.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) FOR THE APOSTLE IN TONE EIGHT

His sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and his words unto the ends of the world. Alleluia.

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.*

SCHEDULE:

- **Saturday, November 15**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, November 16**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 AM Bible Study (kids 10+)
 - 10:00 AM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
 - Church School
 - Luncheon
- **Thursday, November 20**
 - 5:00 PM Divine Liturgy for the The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple
- **Saturday, November 22**
 - 5:00 PM Vespers
- **Sunday, November 23**
 - 9:00 AM Orthros / 9:15 AM Bible Study (kids 10+)
 - 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 - Church School
 - Choir Rehearsal

*****In case of emergency, there are emergency numbers posted next to the telephones in the coat room and in the kitchen*****

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

His voice has gone out into all the earth.

The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:9-16)

Brethren, God has exhibited us Apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the Gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:9-13)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he rose and followed Him. And as He sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when Jesus heard it, He said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

****SPECIAL NOTE ON THE NATIVITY FAST****

On November 15, we began, with God's help, the forty-day Nativity Fast in preparation for the great feast of the Nativity of Christ on December 25. Throughout this period, we abstain from meat, poultry, eggs and dairy. According to the Patriarchate of Antioch, it is not necessary to fast from oil, but people may choose to do so. Please consult your spiritual father for guidance.

From November 15-December 11, fish, wine and oil are allowed every day, except Wednesdays and Fridays. But fish, wine and oil are allowed on November 21, the Entrance of the Theotokos, regardless on which day of the week it falls. From December 12-24, we observe a strict fast with katalysis (relaxation) for wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays, on commemorations of vigil-rank and intermediate-rank saints such as Nicholas and Ignatius, and for church patronal saints.



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

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

YOUTH GAME NIGHT

The SOYO will be hosting a game night on November 22 after Vespers. The youth of St. George will also be joining us. Dinner will be served. Please bring your favorite party/card/board games. All ages are welcome.

GET YOUR THANKSGIVING BAKED GOODS!

Saint Michael Sisterhood is holding a bake sale the Sunday before Thanksgiving (November 23rd). Mark your calendars!!!

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THOSE IN NEED

As we do every Fall, St. Michael is helping to collect food and donations for those in need. This year there are two ways to participate - Thanksgiving meals for Independence House is one. The other is bringing food items to church for the food pantry in Mashpee.

THANKSGIVING MEALS FOR INDEPENDENCE HOUSE (10 MEALS NEEDED)

A Sign-Up request has been sent out via email to parish members and friends to help provide 10 Thanksgiving Meals to Independence House in Hyannis, which provides services to battered women and their children. Ways to participate include:

- Register to pick up a few items the next time you are at the grocery store
- Donate your time to help package the items and to help with delivery
- If can't shop for any of the items, please consider donating funds to help us with the purchase the items on the list

Please bring any items to the hall downstairs and put in the boxes labeled Independence House. The sign-up request covers all these requests. If you don't have access to a computer, please reach out to the Outreach committee to let us know how you can help: Michelle, Olga and Emma If you don't receive the Sign-up request in your email, please

see Soraya so your name can be added to our distribution list. Thank you for your support of St. Michael outreach and its programs. The deadline is November 23rd.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR CHRIST THE KING FOOD PANTRY IN MASHPEE

Canned goods, non-perishable items, grocery store gift certificates etc. are welcome. *There will be boxes placed by the back door labelled FOOD PANTRY, and food items can be left on the bench there.* For gift certificate and cash donations, or if you want to donate a frozen or fresh item like turkeys etc., please see one of the Council members (including Stephen Winters) or Father James. Thank you!

THE SYNAXARION

On November 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew.

Verses

Matthew from the midst of the fire cried: My Jesus!

I thank Thee, for even publicans Thou savest.

Indefatigable fire on the sixteenth slew Matthew.

He was the son of Alphaeus, and a tax collector when the Lord saw him in Capernaum and said: "Follow Me. And he arose, and followed Him (Matthew 9:9)." After that, Matthew received the Lord in his home and thus provided the occasion for the Lord to express several great truths about His coming to earth. After receiving the Holy Spirit, Matthew preached the Gospel to the Parthians, Medes and Ethiopians. Matthew baptized the wife and the son of the prince of Ethiopia, at which the prince became greatly enraged and dispatched a guard to bring Matthew to him for trial. The soldiers returned to the prince saying that they had heard Matthew's voice, but could not see him with their eyes. The prince then sent a second guard. When this guard approached the apostle, he shone with a heavenly light so powerful that the soldiers could not look at him; filled with fear, they threw down their weapons and returned. The prince then went himself. Matthew radiated such light that the prince was instantly blinded. However, the holy apostle had a compassionate heart; he prayed to God, and the prince was given back his sight. Unfortunately, he arrested Matthew and subjected him to cruel tortures. Eventually, after Matthew's death, the prince repented, was baptized, taking the name "Matthew," and served as a priest, giving up his princely wealth. Matthew the Apostle wrote his Gospel in the Aramaic language. It was soon translated into Greek and the Greek text has come down to us, while the Aramaic text has been lost.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Ephygenia of Ethiopia, disciple of St. Matthew; and Fulvian, prince of Ethiopia. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

SAVE THE DATE!

- November 22: Youth Game Night
- November 23: Thanksgiving Bake Sale

If you 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 djamesirving@gmail.com. Fr. James is available for confession by appointment.
