

**ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH
JULY/AUGUST, 2023, NEWSLETTER
10383 ALBION ROAD, N. ROYALTON, OH 44133
P.O. Box 33183, N. Royalton, OH 44133**

Father Andrew's contact info: fatherharmon@outlook.com
cell: 440-539-1116 home: 440-826-0662 church: 440-582-5673
Website: www.stmattroyalton.org

**SATURDAY VESPERS—5 p.m.
SUNDAY MATINS—8:50 a.m. SUNDAY LITURGY—10 a.m.
CONFESSION—after Vespers and during Sunday Matins & by
appointment.**

EXTRA WORSHIP SERVICES IN JULY AND AUGUST

ST. ELIAS (ST. ELIJAH) DAY IS JULY 20. On this day we especially venerate one of the greatest of the Holy Prophets.

OUR SCHEDULE: Wednesday, July 19---Vespers with Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 20---Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10, followed by blessing of cars in parking lot. Potluck after the service.

THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS IS AUGUST 15. On this day, we celebrate the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos and the Lord's assuming her into heaven.

OUR SCHEDULE FOR THE CELEBRATION: Monday, August 14, Vespers with Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.;

Tuesday, August 15: Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy 10 a.m. Potluck lunch in the hall afterwards (back to meat.....)

OUR SCHEDULE FOR PARAKLESIS SERVICES DURING THE 2-WEEK FAST BEFORE

DORMITION: 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 2; Friday, August 4; Wednesday, August 9; Friday, August 11

THE FEAST OF THE BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IS AUGUST 29TH. On this day, we commemorate the man that Orthodox believe to be the greatest Saint other than the Theotokos.

OUR SCHEDULE: Monday, August 28th—Vespers with Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.;

--Tuesday, August 29th—Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m.; Potluck lunch afterwards---strict fasting food, only, please

EXTRA SERVICES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE---

AND---NOT REALLY AN EXTRA SERVICE (because it falls on a Sunday this year) but one of our 12 Great Feast Days is August 6—**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

OUR SCHEDULE---Saturday, August 5th—Vespers with Artoklasia, 5 p.m

Sunday, August 6th—Matins, 8:50 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m. The Dormition

Fast is lightened on Transfiguration Day as part of the celebration---fish, wine, and oil are allowed.

FASTING AND FEASTING---In preparation to celebrate the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15, there is a two-week fast from August 1 through August 14. It is just the fast of Great Lent---strict Lenten fasting, wine & oil allowed on Saturdays & Sundays. On Transfiguration Day, August 6 fish is allowed.

August 29th, the Beheading of St. John the Baptist, is a very strict one-day fast.

NEXT QUARTERLY GIANT HOMELESS MISSION---FRI-SAT, AUG 11-12 Hundreds of sack lunches to be given to homeless on the streets and at shelters. All details forthcoming soon-----what to give, how to donate, what to volunteer for, etc. To get some info now, contact one of the coordinators----**Mike Musarra, Jack Palivoda, Jim & Cathy Sage. GOD WILL BLESS YOU FOR BEING A BLESSING TO HIS NEEDY ONES!**

HOME SCHOOL ENRICHMENT GROUP WILL RESUME FOR NEW SCHOOL

YEAR---It will meet every Friday in August from 9:30 to 1:30 at St. Matthew's. For more info, contact Olivia:

oharmon15@gmail 440-220-2624

MOMS AND TOTS GROUP---A new group for moms with babies and toddlers beginning in August. Will meet every Friday around 10:45 a.m. during Homeschool enrichment. Contact Olivia: oharmon15@gmail 440-220-2624

SUNDAY SCHOOL FIELD TRIP---*All parishioners welcome!* Biblewalk Wax Museum, 500 Tingley Ave., Mansfield. Wed. Aug 16, 10:3-2. Adults, \$10.50; Ages 9-18, \$8; 8 & under, free. Parking free. Meet at church at 9 a.m. to carpool or meet at museum at 10:30. Bring picnic lunch. No food available at museum. Contact Gail Malaniak and turn in money by July 30 if plan to attend. Gailmmeen@gmail.com 440-552-4586

KNIT/CROCHET GROUP---. Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? Next meeting---Saturday, August 26, 3:30 p.m.. Call Lisa Bowden, 440-667-2767, if you have any questions.

PARISH LANDSCAPING WORK DAYS---After liturgy on Sundays, July 29th and Sunday, August 27th. Text or call (and leave voicemail) to Sondra Palivoda, 216-973-7537.

FATHER ANDREW IS TEACHING AN ADULT ED. COURSE THROUGH BALDWIN-WALLACE ILR PROGRAM THIS SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER. 6 TUESDAY AFTERNOONS AT 1:30 P.M., IN MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS. COURSE TITLE: "THE LAST THINGS: WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT LIFE AFTER DEATH, HEAVEN & HELL, AND THE END OF THE WORLD". For more details and info on how to sign up, contact Father Andrew....

St. Matthew the Evangelist
Orthodox Church

August 18 & 19, 2023

Father Sergius Bowyer
Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery

Friday, August 18

6:00 - Prayer service with icon of St Anna

7:00-8:30 - First Session

Saturday, August 19

9:30 - Registration, Continental Breakfast

10:30-12:00 - Second Session

12:00 - 1:00 - Lunch Provided

1:00-2:00 - Personal prayer

2:00-3:30 - Third Session

4:30 - Vespers

The miraculous icon of St. Anna,
the Mother of the Holy Virgin Mary
will be at St. Matthew's for
veneration.

***Fr. Bowyer will speak on his book
Acquiring the Mind of Christ.
Embracing the Vision of the Orthodox Church***

**TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE
INFORMATION:**

Email:

cindygeorge127@gmail.com or
cfullermorton@gmail.com

Call or Text:

(440) 220-2623

Free Will Offering Will Be Accepted

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS, STUDY GROUPS, MINISTRY TEAMS
PATHWAYS TO PEACE—BOTH IN PERSON AT CHURCH AND BY ZOOM—Each Monday, 7:15 pm. “A gathering place for those who are broken from hurts, hang-ups, or habits. Join us as we renew our minds and encourage each other through the love of Christ.” Call Deacon Basil, 440-665-3591, for Zoom information.

WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP—Friday, July 21, 1 p.m. August meeting to be announced. All women welcome! The location is at Tara Reidy’s, 274 Elmwood, Berea. For more info, call Sandy Tolbert, 440-773-9162. We’re reading and discussing the book, “The Ascetic of Love.” August date to be announced.

WEST BIBLE STUDY—Saturday, July 15, 6 pm at the church. August meeting to be announced. Studying I Corinthians.

SOUTH BIBLE STUDY—Tuesday, July 18, at Craig & Cindy George’s, 9451 Sherwood Trail, Brecksville. All are welcome. The study will be on the first part of Genesis. August dates to be announced.

TEEN CLUB—Monthly meeting after liturgy, Sunday, July 30. August meeting to be announced....

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY Saturday, July 22, 6 p.m. On the book of Daniel. If you want more info, please contact the study leaders: Subdeacon Samuel Harmon, 216-598-9230, samuelharmon15@gmail.com or Colton Bose, 440-567-6101, coltonmichaelbose@gmail.com August date to be announced.

MARTHA MINISTRIES IS NOW UNDERWAY—This is a ministry to provide meals for families in need of some help—new babies, illness, grieving, etc. If you can help, see/email/call Erin Musarra at 440-799-0838. Cooking session—10 a.m., Friday, June 23.

ST. HERMAN’S MINISTRY TEAM—Contact Deacon Basil, 440-665-3591 to help with our monthly meal serving at the shelter on Sunday, July 16 and August 20.

MONTHLY DELIVERY OF FOOD, CLOTHING, ETC. TO HOMELESS ON STREETS OF DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND---Sunday, July 16 and August 20. Alms box to help this outreach is near hall entrance.

HOMESCHOOL ENRICHMENT GROUP---Meetings resume after summer break.

Fridays in August, 9:30-1:30, at the church. For more info, contact Olivia Harmon: oharmon15@gmail.com 440-220-2624 **ALSO—MOMS AND TOTS GROUP**—For mothers with babies and toddlers starting in August. Friday mornings, 10:45 a.m. during Homeschool Enrichment---contact Olivia.....

CHESS CLUB—After church, Sunday, July 23. August date to be announced.

NEW PARISHIONERS IN JUNE

FAYE FARRIS

Pleasant Valley Care Center
7377 Ridge Road
Parma, Ohio
440-845-0200

LEIGH FRANK

9715 Windfall Court
North Royalton, OH 44133
330-685-1764
loberlinfrank@gmail.com

By Holy Chrismation

TAMMY DEROSSETT

1611 Cumberland Avenue
Sidney, OH 45365
614-769-4744

Akita@122@me.com

By Holy Baptism

PLEASE WELCOME THEM TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!

***AND ALSO WELCOME OUR NEW CATECHUMENS---** Adam, Stevi, & Liv James received the blessing to be Catechumens on June 18th*

OUR CURRENT CATECHUMENS—We pray for them at each liturgy. Please pray for them during the week as they prepare to enter the Orthodox Faith by either Baptism or Chrismation.

Jamie & Lucas Domonokos

Ryan Cobb

Mariya Butt

Kyle McGregor

Adam, Stevi, & Liv James

OUR CHURCH FAMILY MEET-UP

Alice Marantides and her husband, Harry, have been with St. Matthew's for almost the entire history of our church. They even visited us when we were at the Tri-City Senior Citizen's Center in Middleburg Heights. However, it wasn't until 1992 before they decided to join us and raise their family here.

Alice was born on June 7, 1955, to Dick and Betty Oatman at the old Southwest General Hospital in Berea. Betty was a stay-at-home mother and Dick worked for Ohio Bell. Alice was the middle child of 7 girls. The family lived on Usher Road in Olmsted Falls. They attended the very liberal United Church of Christ. Alice's mother was a Christian and so there were prayers said at meals and at bedtime. Alice's father was not a church-goer. He would argue with his wife over the matter of life after death. He believed that when you die, you die. There was nothing afterward.

When Alice was 15, her dad was killed in a car-train accident on his way to work. After Dick had left for work and had been killed and before anyone knew this had happened, Alice's mother heard her husband say to her, "Betty, you were right."

Alice lists this accident as her #1 life trauma. She attributes some of her wild restlessness and out of control behavior over the next years as a result of this trauma.

After graduating from high school, Alice enrolled at Lutheran Medical Center Nursing School in Ohio City. She graduated in 1976 and became a nurse for the newly established Cuyahoga County Jail's psych unit. She met her future husband, Harry Marantides, there. At that time Harry was working there as a corrections officer. Harry and Alice started playing Scrabble together during break time at work. Eventually this led to their dating each other. Early on, Alice told Harry that she would not be unevenly yoked with him (referring to the Bible passage, 2 Corinthians 6:14, that says believers should not marry unbelievers). Well, this led Harry to start attending a Bible study at St. Paul's Orthodox Church. He was a baptized Orthodox as a baby, but was not raised to go to church much and hadn't made a commitment to Christ. They got married in 1978 in Alice's home UCC church, but continued attending Frank Chirakas' Bible Study at St. Paul's. A year later, Alice became Orthodox and she and Harry joined St. Paul's.

Alice had a brief struggle with infertility. She turned to the Theotokos to ask her intercession. Finally, they were blessed with Evangeline (Angie) in 1983, Andrew in 1985, and Katherine (Katie) in 1989.

Alice spent 40 years as a pediatric nurse. While her children were at home, she worked the week-end shift, avoiding the expense of needing babysitters. Harry spent those years in the life insurance business.

Throughout the years of her life, Alice's faith in God was always there, sometimes in a mild way and sometimes in a life-changing way. Her mother was a huge influence on her. Betty had left the UCC church and began attending Christ the King, known as a "spirit-filled church." This awakened Betty's faith and Alice reaped some of the blessings of her mother's changed life.

Alice loved her work as a nurse. She saw it as her ministry and felt honored that God chose her to help people, especially the sick children. Then after all of those years, health issues began to appear in her life. She had foot, back, neck and lung surgeries which she continued working through. But then one day in 2015, she reached a point where she could physically not get out of bed. She slid to the floor in tears. She knew God was telling her it was time to stop working.

After retiring, she struggled with feeling like she was not able to be useful to God any longer. Her physical and mental pain became intolerable, so she started using marijuana. This use became habitual after a while. Her spiritual journey basically came to a halt. She stopped attending church, reading the Bible, and having fellowship with other believers. The church fire happened and then COVID which further kept her away. Then in April of 2020, she developed a severe infection that required emergency surgery. She started out at Parma Hospital, but then a frantic, life flight ambulance ride took her to the main campus of Metro Hospital. She was awake and afraid. And she was all alone. This made her realize that it was just her and Jesus and that she was really sick. While she was waiting for the operating room to open up, she started praying and His presence once again came to Alice. She says, "It was warm. We were reacquainting. I was asking for forgiveness." The next thing she remembers was waking up with a nurse holding her hand and asking if her tears were because she was afraid. Alice answered her, "No. He is with me always." Since that time, she has been eager to be with Him daily, and to commune with her brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. Matthew's again.

We have been benefiting much by having Alice back home with us. She is always warm and friendly and encouraging to everyone she comes in contact with. Despite her physical limitations, she is always eager to help. And... the children love her!



Grandma Alice and her boys

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, AFTER
LITURGY
*ALL ARE WELCOME—FREE OF
CHARGE!*
GREAT FOOD, GAMES & FUN
Hosted by the Brotherhood Club

THANK YOU! --to Dan & Camille Patrick for the gift of our beautiful new wedding crowns in memory of Camille's mother, Khourie Ruth Meena!

ST. MATTHEW'S MESSAGE BOARD

Contact Bonnie Harmon if you wish to submit a message.

TO GIVE AWAY: TENS unit, model 7000, manufactured by Roscoe Medical.
Used for muscle stimulation as recommended by your doctor or physical therapist.
Call Craig George at (440) 915-8033.

CONGRATULATIONS TO---

- Tammy DeRossett who entered the Orthodox Church by Holy Baptism on June 4.
- Leigh Frank who entered the Orthodox Church by Holy Chrismation on June 11.
- Subdeacon Samuel & Anya Harmon on the birth of Solomia Bee on July 5!

OUR CONDOLENCES---

- Linda McPherson (of our parish) and Father Basil Caldaroni whose mother, Jean Caldaroni, fell asleep in Christ on June 29th—
- Lori Fadil and family on the falling asleep of Christ of her husband Norm, on May 1st
May their memories be eternal!

St. Matthew Orthodox Church

10383 Albion Road

North Royalton, OH 44133

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 PARISH GRADUATES—

- Natalie George.** Natalie graduated from Independence High School. She will be attending the University of Cincinnati, majoring in Economics.
- Adam Heatwole.** Adam graduated from Berea High School. He will be attending Polaris in the phlebotomy program and continuing working at Berea Giant Eagle.
- Ethan Heatwole.** Ethan graduated from Berea High School in the Criminal Justice program and will work in a security position until he can begin Police Academy at age 21.
- Fuad Zoghaib.** Fuad graduated from Cleveland State University in Computer Engineering. He is moving in July to work in his field in the St. Louis area.
Congratulations to all of them and God's blessings upon them!