

**ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH

November 19, 2023

Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA
Archbishop of New York and Antiochian Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY
Auxiliary Bishop of the Antiochian Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest

V. Rev. Father Andrew Harmon
Rev. Deacon Macarius Tolbert • Rev. Deacon Basil Vazquez
Sub-Deacon Fred N. Bourjaily • Sub-Deacon Samuel Harmon
Sub-Deacon Mark Katzbach • Sub-Deacon Richard Sahley
Sub-Deacon George Simon • Sub-Deacon Samuel Snyder
Reader Anthony Harmon

Church contacts:

Hall rentals: Gail Malaniak [440-552-4586](tel:440-552-4586)

Coffee hour: Electra Floasiu [216-671-0743](tel:216-671-0743)

Kitchen use: Fred Bourjaily [216-219-4656](tel:216-219-4656)

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 33183, North Royalton, OH 44133-3183

Saturday Vespers 5:00 PM

Saturday Confessions 5:30 PM

Sunday Confessions during Matins

Sunday Matins 8:50 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Sunday School 11:15 AM

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS! We are glad to have you praying with us. *The reception of the Sacrament of Holy Communion* is limited to members of the Orthodox Church who are in good sacramental standing & have made proper preparation to receive. All are welcome to receive the blessed antidoron bread at the end of the service.

THE HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION is offered by George & Florentina Popa for the health & salvation of their goddaughter, Aglaïs Harmon, on her birthday and in memory of Florentina's father, Mitica Gherghe (9 months); and is offered by Father Andrew & Khourie Bonnie for the health & salvation of their daughter, Susanna, and their granddaughter, Aglaïs, on their birthdays; and is offered by Maria Simescu for the health & salvation of her brothers Ioan and Mihail; and is offered by the Roach family for Matthew and Phillip on their Saints' Days; and is offered by Jack & Lisa Palivoda in memory of Jack's father, John (10 years); and is offered by Chadi & Marie-Therese Abouhaider in memory of Chadi's father, George, and Marie-Therese's father, Elias; and is offered by Subdeacon George Simon in memory of his nephew, Joseph Crompton (1 year); and by Cindy George in memory of her uncle, Jerry Burns (1 year).

During today's liturgy we will pray for the health & safety of:

Justin Mosier	Paraschiva Blaz	Jean Fadil	Danielle
Tony Burhen	Nancy Yanik	Dolores Kaleal	Victoria Thorp
Lucy Kinkaid	Jerry Morrison	Erin Musarra & child	Eleni Indres
Marc Balke	Iliana Radivoj	Veronica & child	Mary Violanti
Christopher Samuel	James Padzerski	Father Basil Caldaroni	Josephine Katzbach
Peter George	Mary Malaniak	Charles & Judy Burhen	Geraldine
Pauline Hanna	Julie Dunn	Constantine & Maria Kornea	Ann Roach
Frank Popovich	Ed Haddad	Christine Simon	Emile Nassar
Issa Zaboura	Michael Francu	Anthony Yanik	George Tabanji
Argie Katsaros	Faye Farris	Adrienne Andrews	Father John Henry
Corrine George	Ken Tekavec	Val & Al	

And for the newly departed servants of God: Ana Halata, Charles Cunningham, Richard Courey (Lucy Courey-Kincaid's brother), Lily Shucofsky, Joan Haddad (Ed Haddad's aunt), Paul (Anthony Yanik's brother-in-law), Mary Ameen (Christine Simon's mother)

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 2: 14-22 **EPISTLE READER:** Reader Anthony Harmon

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 12: 16-21 **USHERS:** Louise Bouhasin & Gail Malaniak

HOMILY: Deacon Macarius

ALTAR BOY TEAM 2: Samir Amer, capt., Sebastian Blazek, Miles Hunter, Isaac Kash

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES---for ages 3 through 19 right after communion. **PARENTS- PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILDREN READY FOR THE DISMISSAL FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL AS SOON AS THE CHALICE RETURNS TO THE ALTAR.**

NEW CATECHUMEN- Michael Asta will receive the blessing today to become a Catechumen in preparation for later entering the Orthodox Faith.

THE MEMORIAL SERVICE is being offered today by:

- George & Florentina Popa for Florentina's father, Mitica Gherghe (9 months)
- Jack & Lisa Palivoda for Jack's father, John Palivoda (10 years)
- Subdeacon George Simon for his nephew, Joseph Crompton (1 year)
- Cindy George for her uncle, Jerry Burns (1 year)

PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEETIME RIGHT AFTER THE LITURGY!

Thank you to the Palivoda family for hosting today.

A coffeetime list correction: Dorel Radivoj was accidentally left off the list of last week's coffeetime hosts. Thanks for hosting, Dorel!

THE PARISH CHESS CLUB will meet after today's liturgy. Don't know how to play? They will teach you!

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

TONE 7 / EOTHINON 2; 24TH SUN AFTER PENTECOST & 9TH SUN OF LUKE

The Holy Prophet Obadiah; Martyr Barlaam of Antioch;

Martyr Azi the wonderworker of Isauria in Asia Minor and 150 soldiers with him

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN (p. 15)

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 ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST IN TONE THREE (p. 16)

With zeal you followed Christ the Master, Who in His goodness appeared to men on earth. He called you from the custom house, revealing you to be a chosen apostle, a trumpet proclaiming the Gospel to the whole world! Therefore, divinely eloquent Matthew, we honor your precious memory. Entreat the merciful God, that He may grant us remission of our sins.

KONTAKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

(Special melody "Thou Who wast raised up")

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.

THE EPISTLE (For the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:14-22)

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

THE GOSPEL (For the Ninth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (12:16-21)

The Lord spoke this parable: “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” As He said this, Jesus called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

THE ADVENT FAST- Advent is the season of preparation for the celebration of the Lord’s birth on December 25th. The season runs from November 15th through December 24th. The fast is very similar to that of Great Lent, but a bit lighter. Different Orthodox nations have slightly differing ways of following it. Here is a summary of the practice of the Antiochian Patriarchate---

In general, it involves the giving up of meat, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, and oil. Shell fish are allowed. And fish, wine, and oil are eaten on all Saturdays and Sundays as well as on November 21st (The Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos). Also, there are a fair amount of other days (some Saints’ Days) when wine and oil are not fasted from. To find those dates, go to the Antiochian Orthodox website and go through day by day the liturgical listings for each day of the Advent season.

Also, it is customary in our archdiocese to not fast on Thanksgiving. As with all fasting, allowances need to be made for health reasons, for pregnant women, for small children, and for those new to fasting who may need to make gradual adjustments. It’s always fine to consult Father Andrew with any questions. We should be careful that meals, etc. at church follow the fasting guidelines.

UPCOMING SERVICES

AKATHIST TO THE MOTHER OF GOD, NURTURER OF CHILDREN----Monday, November 20th, 11 a.m. A lay service especially for mothers, godmothers, and grandmothers of children who have fallen away from the Church.

THE GREAT FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE INTO THE TEMPLE OF THE THEOTOKOS IS NOVEMBER 21ST----Our schedule:

MONDAY, NOV. 20---Vespers with Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOV. 21----Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy 10 a.m. Potluck lunch afterwards—fasting food, please, due to Advent Fast.

THANKSGIVING EVE AKATHIST OF THANKSGIVING TO CHRIST---Wednesday, Nov. 22, 6:30pm. Begin the holiday with what it’s all about---thanking God...

SAT, NOV 25- 5pm Vespers

SUN, NOV 26- 8:50am Matins, 10am Liturgy. The Holy Bread of Oblation will be offered by Florentina Popa in memory of her departed relatives; by Lucy Kincaid-Courey in memory of her brother, Rick (40 days); by David & Rudylin Glaser for their wedding anniversary and for their son, Daniel on his birthday; and will be offered by the Roach family for Matthew’s birthday.

AKATHIST OF ST. ANDREW---Thurs, Nov. 30, 6:30pm. A service of veneration for the First-Called of the 12 Disciples.

AKATHIST OF ST. PORPHYRIUS--- Sat, Dec. 2, 5pm in conjunction with regular Vespers. A service of veneration for the great modern Saint of Greece.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Today- regular classes

Nov 26- choir and play practice

Dec 3- no classes, play practice only

Dec 10- regular classes followed by play practice

Dec 17- no classes, play practice only

“All things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)



Practice schedule for Nativity program

November 19- Practice after class (Script and music)

November 26- Practice during choir (No classes) (Musical portion only)

December 2-4:00 Practice (Script and music)

December 9- 4:00 practice

December 10- Practice after class (Script only)

December 16- 3:30- Dress rehearsal

December 17-after Liturgy-Dress rehearsal (No classes)

December 17-5:00- Nativity program

MEETINGS

PATHWAYS TO PEACE—WILL NOT MEET THIS WEEK BECAUSE OF VESPERS.

Mondays at 7:15pm, at church & by Zoom. “A gathering place of Orthodox Christians who seek to live in the fullness of life as promised by Jesus Christ.” Call Dcn Basil, [440-665-3591](tel:440-665-3591), for zoom info.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Dec date to be announced, 6pm. Meets one Sat a month, 6pm at the church. Now beginning the Gospel of Mark. For more info, contact: Sbdcn Samuel Harmon, 216-598-9230, samuelharmon15@gmail.com or Colton Bose, 440-567-6101

WEST BIBLE STUDY--- Sat, Nov 25, 6pm (Meets one Sat a month at church after 5pm Vespers) Studying I Corinthians

SOUTH BIBLE STUDY--- Next meeting Tues, Nov 21st, 6:30pm; Regularly meets at 6:30pm on the 1st & 3rd Tues of the month at Craig & Cindy George’s, 9451 Sherwood Trl, Brecksville. Studying Creation and the Fall in Genesis.

WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP— Tues. Dec 5, 10:30am. Meets monthly at Tara Reidy’s (274 Elmwood, Berea). For info, call Sandy Tolbert, [440-773-9162](tel:440-773-9162).

HOMESCHOOL ENRICHMENT GROUP--- Every Fri from 9:30-1:30 (Aug-May) here at St. Matthew’s! Includes special classes for preschoolers and social time for moms and tots. For more info contact Olivia: oharmon15@gmail.com, [440-220-2624](tel:440-220-2624)

KNIT/CROCHET GROUP---Sat, Dec 16, 3:30pm. Meets monthly at the church. Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? Please join us! Contact Lisa Bowden at [440-667-2767](tel:440-667-2767) for info.

CHESS CLUB--- today after liturgy

TEEN CLUB---Sun, Nov 26 after liturgy

MINISTRY NEWS

FOOD PANTRY NEEDING MORE FOOD! Please help the needy by bringing non-perishable food and household items for our **food pantry**---in marked cabinets in kitchen. Please check expiration dates! Also, we are in need of **grocery gift cards** to distribute to those in need---you can either bring to church or mail! *God will bless you for remembering His children in need!*

STREET DELIVERY TO THE HOMELESS----- Nov 26 is the next monthly Sunday that parishioners deliver food, clothing, etc. to homeless in downtown Cleveland. The alms box to help fund the lunches is near main hall doors. **WHITE SOCKS NEEDED**—box is by main hall entry doors. Call Josie Katzbach, [440-668-9831](tel:440-668-9831), for information.

MEAL SERVING AT ST. HERMAN ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER--- Sunday, November 26th, is our next monthly date to serve a meal to the poor at St. Herman Orthodox Homeless Shelter in Cleveland. If you can help by providing food, cooking, or serving the meal, please contact Deacon Basil, 440-665-3591.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS- are being collected in the big wooden box under the coat rack. They will go to St. Herman's Homeless Shelter for the month of Nov.
A SPECIAL NEED AS WINTER APPROACHES—WINTER GLOVES & HATS

MARTHA MINISTRIES--- We are a group of parishioners who cook or deliver some freezer meals to families in time of need (new babies, recovering from illness/surgery, grieving a loss...). Can you help by cooking or delivering? Please see/email/call Erin Musarra: [440-799-0838](tel:440-799-0838) Erin.musarra@gmail.com.

OCLife ST. MATTHEW CHURCH--- Every year thousands of pro-life advocates descend on Washington, D.C. to march in demonstration of their strongly held belief that life is sacred and that it begins at conception. This march is always held on Jan 19, the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision regarding Roe v. Wade. This year is no exception, and may be even more important given what just happened in Ohio's elections. Our OCLife chapter is willing to organize a group from our parish to participate in this march. Please contact Cindy George at cindygeorge127@gmail.com if you are interested in going.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY BREAD OBLATIONS SIGN-UP for 2023 is in the hall to the right of the sink area. Please sign up for what Sundays you wish to offer an oblation.

PHOTOS FOR NEW PARISH DIRECTORY---A new parish directory is nearing completion..to have your photo in it, please stay after liturgy on either Dec 3 or 10. Catherine Morton will be taking pictures on those 2 days.

Volunteers Needed:

COFFETIME HOSTING---Coffetime after liturgy is an important part of our parish life! We rely on parishioners to volunteer to take a turn to host. A chart is in hall on east side. Light refreshments is fine. Sign up by yourself, together with some one else, or as part of a coffetime host group. Questions? Speak to or call, coordinator, Electra Floasiu---[216-671-0743](tel:216-671-0743)

St. Nicholas Workshop for Children

ages 10 and under with parent supervision

Saturday, December 9, 10am-noon at St. Matthew's \$3 per child
Please RSVP by Nov 26th

Coloring, crafts, cookie decorating and a surprise visit from St. Nick!
Hosted by the St. Matthew's Antiochian Women's Sisterhood

Dima Kash dima.hanania@gmail.com 440-444-8446

Georgette Dye georgette.dye@gmail.com 440-429-5398

Please give payment and children's names & ages to Dima Kash, Georgette Dye, or the parish office.

Name & Age

Please support
our

Antiochian Women's Sisterhood

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Right After Liturgy!!

We are asking everyone in our Parish Family
to please donate to our Bake Sale!!!

You can bring anything you like!!!
It can be any of your favorite and/or signature
Christmas specialties....sweet or savory!!!

Anyone can donate and if you prefer, you can also price your bakery.

*We do ask that your donation is wrapped, labeled and ready
to be placed on the table!!*

And remember.... Many items can be frozen for the season!!

Please help us make this Bake Sale a great success!!

~~~ **THANK YOU!!!** ~~~



## **Middle/Senior HS girls fellowship and devotional group**

*Woven: An Interactive Book for the  
Modern Teenage Girl on Orthodox  
Christianity*

By the Metropolis of Atlanta's Family Life  
Ministry, available through Ancient Faith

1<sup>st</sup> sessions Nov 13 & 27, 6:30-7:30pm  
Remaining dates TBD

Location: Holy Trinity Orthodox Church  
6822 Broadview Rd, Parma, OH

Contact Mat Jen Moore

[Jenlewis82@hotmail.com](mailto:Jenlewis82@hotmail.com)

765 480 8801

It requires \$750/day to operate our Church. Through your commitment and generosity, we *almost* meet that requirement. But we find ourselves with a budget shortfall of \$100/day. We ask that you consider adopting a day (or more) to help relieve this deficit.

Payments can be spread out over weeks or months.

If you are willing to do this, just cross through the day (or days) you wish to sponsor on the calendar in the hall, so we can begin to get an idea of our progress.

We have always been such a generous and giving Parish. Thank you for your continued generosity

# Hall Use Calendar:

(The hall and kitchen will be unavailable on the shaded days)

IF YOU ARE GOING TO USE THE HALL OR KITCHEN for any purpose...  
you must first contact a Hall Committee member to make sure it is still available.

**Electra Floasiu** [216-671-0743](tel:216-671-0743) **Gail Malaniak** [440-552-4586](tel:440-552-4586)

|           |    |                  |                    |
|-----------|----|------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday    | 19 |                  |                    |
| Monday    | 20 |                  |                    |
| Tuesday   | 21 |                  |                    |
| Wednesday | 22 |                  |                    |
| Thursday  | 23 |                  |                    |
| Friday    | 24 |                  | Hall not available |
| Saturday  | 25 | Kash baptism 1-4 |                    |
| Sunday    | 26 |                  |                    |
| Monday    | 27 |                  |                    |
| Tuesday   | 28 |                  |                    |
| Wednesday | 29 |                  |                    |
| Thursday  | 30 |                  |                    |

## December 2023

|    | Morning        | Afternoon                                                 | Evening               |
|----|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1  | Homeschool 9-2 |                                                           |                       |
| 2  |                | Abdelkarim Party 12-4/ Nativity Practice 4:00             |                       |
| 3  |                |                                                           |                       |
| 4  |                |                                                           |                       |
| 5  |                |                                                           |                       |
| 6  |                |                                                           |                       |
| 7  |                |                                                           |                       |
| 8  | Homeschool 9-2 |                                                           |                       |
| 9  |                | Sisterhood St. Nicholas Party 10-3/Nativity practice 4:00 |                       |
| 10 |                |                                                           |                       |
| 11 |                |                                                           |                       |
| 12 |                |                                                           |                       |
| 13 |                |                                                           |                       |
| 14 |                |                                                           |                       |
| 15 | Homeschool 9-2 |                                                           |                       |
| 16 |                | Nativity practice-dress rehearsal 3:30                    |                       |
| 17 |                |                                                           | Nativity Program 5:00 |
| 18 |                |                                                           |                       |

## The Holy Prophet Obadiah

St. Obadiah, whose memory we celebrate today, is one of the 12 Minor Prophets who wrote shorter prophetic books than some of the other prophets. Obadiah lived and wrote his little book around the time of the conquest of Jerusalem by the Babylonians in 587 AD. At that time, the neighboring nation of Edom (descended from Esau, St. Jacob’s twin brother) assisted the Babylonians in the destruction of their Jewish “relatives”. In this book, God proclaims through Obadiah that Edom will suffer greatly for their wickedness. And it is predicted that God’s people will one day come under the rule of the true God. Orthodoxy interprets this prophecy to mean that one day Edom would be “conquered” by coming under Christ---which took place when the area became Christian in ancient times. And which will come true in a deeper way when, after Christ returns in the future, the whole world will be covered with the glory of God. How typical of our loving God! Through Obadiah he proclaimed destruction upon Edom but eventually He brought the Edomite people into salvation in His Holy Church!