

# ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH

***April 7, 2024***

*Third Sunday of Great Lent*

**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:

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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 the Palivoda family for the health & salvation on Johnny, Sondra, Jack, & Lisa on their birthdays; and is being offered by Maria Simescu for the health & salvation of her brothers, Ioan & Mihael; and is being offered by Deacon Basil & Joanne for the health & salvation of their granddaughter, Nadeema Gazal, on her birthday; and is being offered by Father Andrew for the health & salvation of Khourie Bonnie on her birthday; and is being offered by Subdeacon Samuel & Anya Harmon and Father Andrew & Khouria Bonnie in beloved memory of Bud Linder and Ivan Davyduk (father of Anya Harmon).

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

Justin Mosier	Mary Malaniak	James Padzerski	Corrine George
Tony Burhen	Julie Dunn	Judy Yanik	Danielle
Lucy Kinkaid	Ed Haddad	Father Basil Caldaroni	Christine Simon
Marc Balke	Michael Francu	Charles & Judy Burhen	Joseph Hollis
Christopher Samuel	Jean Fadil	Constantine & Maria Kornea	David Thorpe
Peter George	Victoria Thorp	Deacon Macarius Tolbert	Harold Tolbert, Sr.
Pauline Hanna	Paraschiva Blaz	Christopher Bokjanc	Ginger DeFilippo
Frank Popovich	Dolores Kaleal	Alice Marantides	Eleanor Parker
Issa Zaboura	Josephine Katzbach	Becca Aboumrad & child	Alice Weckwerth
Argie Katsaros	Father John Henry	Gina DeFilippo	
Nancy Yanik	Theodore Bunevich	Nancy Brown	
Jerry Morriston	Mary Violanti	Elias Karam	

**And for the newly departed servants of God:** Jean Browne (Sandy Tolbert's cousin), Nikki Bober, Livia Coconocu (Mark Monalache's grandmother), George Spevoc (brother-in-law of Marianne Feuerstein), Eric Ghianni (brother-in-law of Ginger Defilippo), Iliana Radivoj, Betty Christianson (Father Andrew's Cousin), Tony Mlakar (grandfather of David Mlakar), Teodor Stroie (Father-in-law of Fr. Petru at Buna Vestire Church), George Tabanji

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**EPISTLE LESSON:** Hebrews 4:14-5:6      **EPISTLE READER:** Reader Anthony Harmon

**GOSPEL LESSON:** Mark 8:34-9:1      **HOMILY:** "The Cross of Christ"

**USHERS:** Theresa Popovich & Gloria Zabala

**ALTAR BOY TEAM 1---**Caleb Blazek, captain; Christos Allen, Cosby Hunter, Phillip Roach

**TODAY IS THE SUNDAY OF THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS----**The Procession of the Cross will take place at the end of the liturgy.

**THE 40-DAY CHURCHING** for Laura Oluich Allen & her daughter, Zoe, will be at the end of liturgy.

**THE 40-DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR BUD LINDER AND 10 YEAR MEMORIAL FOR IVAN DAVYDUK** (Anya Harmon's father) is being offered by Subdeacon Samuel & Anya Harmon and Father Andrew & Khourie Bonnie.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** will be dismissed after the procession of the cross---for ages 3- 19  
**PARENTS---PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILDREN ATTEND TODAY!**

**PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEETIME RIGHT AFTER THE LITURGY!** *Thank you to our Sisterhood for hosting! There will be a free-will basket the proceeds of which go to the archdiocese Antiochian Women 2024 Project: the Endowment for Widowed Clergy Wives.*

On Lenten Sundays, we use the St. Basil Liturgy. Some hymns and prayers are different. They are boxed in the liturgy book.

## **DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024**

### **TONE 3 / EOTHINON 11; THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT**

#### **Veneration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross**

Martyr Kalliopios of Cilicia;

repose of Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America

**\*\*Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great\*\***

#### VERSES OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

The light of Thy countenance, O Lord, has been signed upon us. Thou hast given to those that fear thee a sign, to flee from the bow.

Thou hast ascended on high, Thou hast led captivity captive. Thou hast given an inheritance to those that fear Thy Name, O Lord.

Glory... Both now...

#### VERSES OF THE SECOND ANTIPHON (*Normal Sunday Refrain*)

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Let us worship at the place where His feet have stood.

God is our King before the ages; He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.

*Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...*

#### THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool. O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Feed them, and lift them up forever. (*now sing the Apolytikion of the Cross*)

#### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE (p. 12)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

#### APOLYTIKION FOR THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; and to Thy faithful rulers grant victory over the barbarians. And by the power of Thy Cross, protect all those who follow Thee.

#### 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 THE AKATHIST/ANNUNCIATION IN TONE EIGHT (p. 80)

Verily I, thy servant, O Theotokos, inscribe unto thee the banners of conquest, O Defending Soldier; I offer thanks to thee as a deliverer from tribulation. And since thine is the might unconquerable, deliver me, O deliver me from oppression, that I may sing unto thee: Rejoice, O Bride without bridegroom.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN FOR THE CROSS (p. 82)

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, O Lord, and Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify. (THRICE)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

And Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify.

Dhynamis! Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, O Lord, and Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify.

THE EPISTLE (For the Third Sunday of Great Lent)

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.*

*Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God!*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (4:14-5:6)**

Brethren, since we have a great High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our infirmities, but one Who has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest, being taken from among the people, is appointed on behalf of the people in things pertaining to God, that he may offer up both gifts and sacrifices for sins; who can have compassion on the ignorant and on those who are erring, since he himself also is encompassed with infirmity. Because of this he is bound, as for the people so also for himself, to offer up for sins. And no one takes the honor upon himself, but as being called by God, as was Aaron. So Christ also did not glorify Himself to become a High Priest, but it was by the One saying to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee." As He says also in another place, "Thou art a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

THE GOSPEL (For the Third Sunday of Great Lent)

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)**

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

## ST. BASIL LITURGY MEGALYNARION

All creation rejoiceth in thee, O thou who art full of grace: the angelic hosts and the race of men. O hallowed temple and spiritual paradise, glory of virgins, of whom God was incarnate and became a little child, even our God who is before all the ages; for he made thy womb a throne, and thy body more spacious than the heavens. All creation rejoiceth in thee, O thou who art full of grace. Glory to thee.

### KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) FOR THE CROSS (*Psalm 4*)

The light of Thy countenance, O Lord, hath been signed upon us. Alleluia.

- *Post-Communion Hymn: Instead of “We have seen the true light”, sing the Apolytikion of the Holy Cross.*

## **PROCESSION OF THE HOLY CROSS**

- *After “Blessed Be the Name of the Lord”, the clergy and altar servers process from the sanctuary and around the interior of the church, while the choir sings as many times as necessary:*

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

- *Once the procession concludes in the center of the church, the deacon says:*  
Wisdom. Stand upright.

- *Then, the clergy sing the apolytikion of the Holy Cross once, followed by the choir twice.*

### APOLYTIKION FOR THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; and to Thy faithful rulers grant victory over the barbarians. And by the power of Thy Cross, protect all those who follow Thee.

- *Then, the clergy sing “Before Thy Cross” once, followed by the choir twice.*

### “BEFORE THY CROSS”

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, O Lord, and Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify.

- *Then, the clergy and altar servers return to the sanctuary as the chanters offer this hymn in Tone Two:*

Come, ye faithful, and let us venerate the life-giving Wood, on which Christ, the King of Glory, stretched out His hands of His own will. To the ancient blessedness He raised us up, whom the enemy despoiled of old through pleasure, making us exiles far from God. Come, ye faithful, and let us venerate the Wood whereby we have been counted worthy to crush the heads of our invisible enemies. Come, all ye kindred of the nations, and let us honor in hymns the Cross of the Lord. Rejoice, O Cross, perfect redemption of fallen Adam. Glorifying in thee, our faithful kings laid low by thy might the people of Ishmael. We Christians kiss thee now with awe, and glorifying God who was nailed on thee, we cry aloud: O Lord, who on the Cross wast crucified, have mercy upon us, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

- *Then the priest gives the dismissal, and distributes the flowers and basil leaves after the Divine Liturgy.*

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:**

**Today**-regular classes will be dismissed at the end of liturgy after the procession of the Holy Cross. Creative festivals raffle drawing will be during coffee hour.

**Apr 14-** regular classes      **Apr 21-** regular classes      **Apr 28-** no classes (Palm Sunday)

**May 5-** no classes (Pascha)      **May 12-** last day of classes      **May 19-** first confessions

## **UPCOMING SERVICES**

### **OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR THE FOURTH WEEK OF LENT**

**GREAT COMPLINE**---Monday, April 8, 6:30 p.m.

**PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY**---Wednesday, April 3, 6:30 p.m. Followed by potluck meal—strict fasting food, please.

**AKATHIST FOR THE THEOTOKOS**---Friday, April 12, 7 p.m. Preceded by potluck meal, 6 p.m. Coordinated by the Women's Sisterhood. Strict fasting food, please. The service will be followed by Saints Alive! class in the hall by 8 p.m. Teacher--- Vincent DeFilippo    Topic—St. Joseph the Hesychast.

**SAT, APR 13-5pm Vespers**

**SUN, APR 14- 8:50am Matins, 10am Divine Liturgy;** The Holy Bread of Oblation will be offered by David & Rudylin Glaser for Adam, Stevi, & Liv on the day of their baptisms; and will be offered by Maria Simescu in memory of her aunt, Maria, and her grandfather, Teodor, and her grandmother, Ana.

### **THE SCHEDULE FOR THE 5<sup>TH</sup> WEEK OF LENT IS UNIQUE---HERE IT IS-----**

**Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**---Great Compline, 6:30

**Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**---6:30: Little Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and the reading of the Life of St. Mary of Egypt

**Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**---Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6:30 p.m. Meal afterwards

**Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**---Akathist service, 7 p.m. ....and normal Lenten Friday schedule

**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**—Liturgy for the Saturday of the Akathist Hymn, 10am (Matins at 9am) This is not a Soul Saturday service, but a Saturday commemorating the miracle in the 600'sAD that led to the writing of the Akathist service that we pray on Lenten Friday evenings.

**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**---Vespers, 5 p.m,

### **THE PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY**

Canon law does not permit celebration of the liturgy on weekdays in Lent due those days being so solemn and the liturgy being so joyful. However, due to increased spiritual struggle in Lent, Holy Communion is more needed than usual! Therefore, our Orthodox Tradition allows the receiving of Communion from the reserved host from the Sunday before. This beautiful and ornate service can be held on Wednesdays and Fridays.

The most common Antiochian practice is to have it on Wednesdays only due to the Friday Akathist services. We will be having at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. In order to receive Holy Communion, the minimal preparation is to fast after a light Lenten lunch if one is not able to fast from after breakfast or all day. After each of these services, there will be a strictly Lenten potluck meal.

### **THE AKATHIST SERVICE FOR THE HOLY THEOTOKOS**

The Little Compline with the Akathist Hymn originated in Constantinople in the 600's A.D. The city was besieged by the non-Christian Avar barbarians. The people put their hope in the Protectress of the city, St. Mary. Through her prayers to God, the city was saved. The Akathist hymn of thanks to

God and the Holy Virgin was written and the people gathered to sing it. It was customary, as a sign of joy, to stand for the whole service---“akathist” is Greek for “not sitting”. Antiochian practice is to have it on the first five Friday nights of Lent. St. Matthew’s will have it at 7 p.m. those 5 evenings. It will be preceded by a Lenten community potluck meal at 6. And after the service at 8, we will have our Saints Alive! classes in the hall.

### **LENTEN CONFESSIONS**

All Orthodox Christians should go to the Sacrament of Confession during Lent or Holy Week. Confessions at St. Matthew are held at 5:45 p.m. most Saturdays (after 5 p.m. Vespers); during part of the 8:50 Matins service on Sundays; and sometimes (not always) before or after other worship services. And it is fine to make an appointment to come for Confession at other times. If you have questions about the sacrament, just contact Father Andrew.....

### **MEETINGS**

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY**—Sat, Apr 13, 6pm. Meets one Sat a month, 6pm at the church. Studying the Gospel of St. Mark. Bible, fellowship, food.....For more info, contact: Sbdcn Samuel Harmon, 216-598-9230, [samuelharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:samuelharmon15@gmail.com) or Colton Bose, 440-567-6101

**WEST BIBLE STUDY**---Sat, May 12. Meets at the church one Sat a month at 6pm (after 5pm Vespers). We are studying the book of Revelation.

**SOUTH BIBLE STUDY**--- *Will not meet during Lent.. They will resume meeting on May 21.*

**WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP**— Tues, Apr 23, 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**--- Meets at the church on Fridays from 9:30-1:30 (Aug-May). Includes classes for preschoolers & social time for moms. Contact Olivia: [oharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:oharmon15@gmail.com),

**KNIT/CROCHET GROUP**---Next date to be announced. Meets quarterly 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**--- Next Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, after church. *If you don’t know how to play, you are welcome to come and they will teach you!*

**TEEN CLUB MEETING**—After liturgy Sun, May 26.

**ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN’S SISTERHOOD**—After liturgy next Sun, April 14.

**MUSIC PRACTICES**- We will be restarting regular monthly singing practices after vespers, both to learn new music and to refine what we already know. Practices will be held Apr 20 and 27 immediately after vespers. Please join us as we “make a joyful noise unto the Lord”! All ages welcome, no experience necessary! Please contact Lisa Amer with any questions.

### **MINISTRY NEWS**

**STREET DELIVERY TO THE HOMELESS**----- SUNDAY, APRIL 21, is the next monthly day 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.

**NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS-** are being collected in the big wooden box under the coat rack. They will go to St. Mary of Egypt Food Pantry this month.

**MEAL SERVING AT ST. HERMAN ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER** Sunday, April 21 is next monthly date to serve a meal to the poor at St. Herman Orthodox Homeless Shelter in Cleveland. If you can help by serving the 5:30 meal, please see Deacon Basil or call him at 440-665-3591.

**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](mailto:Erin.musarra@gmail.com).

**ST. MATTHEW'S PRISON MINISTRY--**This new ministry is beginning in conjunction with the national Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry. If you wish to get involved or just want more info for now, please attend! It is possible to help with prison ministry even without ever going inside a prison. For more info, contact our local prison ministry leader, Vincent Defilippo, 330-352-6678  
[vdefilippo@neo.rr.com](mailto:vdefilippo@neo.rr.com)

## **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE ANNUAL LENTEN ALMS BOXES** for our Archdiocese's out reach to the poor around the world are on a table in the narthex. Please take a box home and fill it with money during Lent--then bring it back to church and Holy Week. We will send the money to the Archdiocese which will distribute around the world. God will bless you for being a blessing to His needy ones!

**BREAD OBLATION SIGN-UP**—Please use the chart in the hall (chart is on the right wall by the counter) to sign up for which Sundays you wish to offer the oblation for the liturgy. *If you are not sure how oblations work, just check with Father Andrew.*

**HOSTING COFFEETIME AFTER SUNDAY LITURGY- THE NEXT AVAILABLE DATE IS APR 14-fasting food please.** If you can bring food for Mar 31 or another date please sign up on the chart to the left of the counter in the hall! Contact Electra Floasiu with questions, 216-671-0743.

**VACUUMING VOLUNTEERS-**Sign-up sheet is in the narthex to vacuum the nave after liturgy!

**ANCIENT FAITH MEN'S RETREAT-** at Antiochian Village in Bolivar, PA Aug 22-25, 2024; Forge enduring connections with Orthodox brothers, strengthen your faith, be encouraged, and challenge yourself at the first ever Ancient Faith Men's Retreat. Join us for engaging speakers, daily services, and fellowship with like-minded Orthodox men! Get more info and register at: <https://store.ancientfaith.com/2024-ancient-faith-mens-retreat/>

## **HOLY WEEK NEEDS**

**VARIOUS ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA**  
*Lilies; palms; flowers & greenery for the tomb; large Paschal candles;  
smaller brown candles; olive oil; eggs for dying*

If you can help with any of the things below, please contact Subdeacon  
Richard Sahley ---216-513-9738, [richardsahley@yahoo.com](mailto:richardsahley@yahoo.com)

Or Lisa Amer---216- 415-9126, [lisa.amer@att.net](mailto:lisa.amer@att.net)



## **THE LENTEN FAST**

Great Lent is a time to especially work on spiritual disciplines to help us grow in Christ. These disciplines include such things as extra worship services, beginning or strengthening the habit of daily prayer, Confession, more Bible reading, almsgiving, and fasting.

Fasting is a discipline meant to help us in several ways: learning self-denial, gaining self-control, helping us to focus more on God and less on food, allowing us to spend less on food and, thus, give more to the poor.

The Lenten fast involves both eating less and giving up certain types of food. Throughout Lent, we should eat less and avoid snacks, in addition to abstaining from some types of food.

Lent this year is from March 18 through April 26. During Lent, Orthodox give up meat and animal foods (such as eggs, dairy, & fish) plus wine and olive oil. Shellfish are eaten. On Annunciation Day, March 25, wine, oil, and fish are consumed. And wine and oil are used on all Saturdays and Sundays in Lent. During Holy Week, April 27- May 4, the fast is the same as in Lent itself except that wine, olive oil, and fish are used on Palm Sunday. Also, Holy & Great Friday and Holy & Great Saturday, May 3rd and 4th, are to be observed as especially strict fast days, with as little eating & drinking as possible.

As with all fasting, the Church's Lenten fasts allows for adjustments for children, pregnant mothers, nursing mothers, and those with health problems that require certain foods. Also, those who are new to fasting may need to begin with a less a strict fast and then "tighten up" year by year---on the other hand some new folks do just fine with diving right in. We should always remember that unless we fast strictly enough to make it hard, it will be of little value to us. One should always feel free to speak to one's spiritual father about how to personally observe, & make the best spiritual use, of the Lenten fast.

The Bible and the Saints are clear that fasting is not a way to earn salvation, but is a tool to help us grow. We must guard against pride when we fast and concentrate most on fasting from sin---gossip, pride, lust, etc.

The prescribed Lenten Fast is sometimes called "the black fast" to distinguish it from less strict fasting. How strictly each person follows the recommended fast is not anyone else's business. We should only be concerned with our own fasting, not judge what others eat. ***A good rule of thumb: fast yourself as strictly as you can; and pay no attention to what anyone else eats.***

***However, when we gather together at church during Lent at coffeetime and meals, we should all abide by the full Lenten fast.***

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*Dear Parishioners,*

*The Sisterhood will be hosting coffee hour today to raise funds for the NAB 2024 Project which is creating an Endowment Fund for our Widowed Clergy-Wives. A free-will basket will be placed on the buffet table for this purpose. Please support this worthy cause for the North American Board of the Antiochian Women. Thank you!!*

*The St. Matthew Sisterhood*

*Please see the flyer on the following page...*



# Pascha Food Box Ministry 2024

## Can you help?

We are in need of about 20 Pascha boxes for needy homes!

If you are able to help us with this very important ministry, please bring your filled box to the church on Palm Sunday, April 28th. (Actually, we figured out that it's easier if you could put the food into reusable grocery bags - they are easier for the deliverers to carry).

Have fun packing and thank you so much! It is a great help!

Here are some suggestions, please feel free to add anything else you like!

Sugar  
Easter chocolate/candy  
Peanut butter  
Jelly/jam  
Canned tuna  
Canned beans, soup...  
Rice  
Potatoes (fresh or boxed)  
Pasta  
Pasta sauce  
Tea  
Toilet paper  
Dish soap  
Laundry detergent

We will also need 20 hams and grocery gift cards!

This year we'd also like to offer the opportunity to help us fill a box — but you don't have to do the shopping! You give a cash donation (any \$\$ amount is appreciated!!) and we will do the shopping for you! (Please bring your donation to church by April 21.)

Contact Louise Bouhasin 216-544-2319 or Lisa Bowden 440-667-2767 to let us know you are filling a box/ donation, bringing a ham and/or grocery gift cards.

Please put hams in church freezer or refrigerator. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out! We usually need around 20 filled boxes.

We also need several people who can deliver a box - please let us know if you can help with that!

Thank you SO much for your kindness!

# SUMMER ENRICHMENT DAY CAMP

**2024 Theme: ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**



Join us as we explore the lives of saints,  
sacred arts, sports, and international foods!



**June 3-7, 2024 9:30am-12:30pm**

*Monday:* Romania, Kolyva, Iconography, Soccer

*Tuesday:* Russia/China/OCA,

Prospora, Woodworking, Martial Arts

*Wednesday:* Antioch, Prayer Rope Weaving, Basketball

*Thursday:* Serbia, Slava Bread, Candle Making, Dance

*Friday:* Greece, Icon Corners, Olympic Games

At St. Matthew's Antiochian Church

10383 Albion Rd., North Royalton, OH

Free! (Donations Accepted)

To register children ages 3-12 or to volunteer:

call, text, or email Olivia Harmon

440-220-2624, [oharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:oharmon15@gmail.com)

By May 20th

**+St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church**

**1118 Cherry Ave. NE Canton, Ohio**

**Lenten Retreat - Saturday, April 13**

**“Ascending the Ladder of Virtues”**

**His Grace Bishop ANTHONY**



**10am: Arrival**

**10:30-11:30am: Session 1**

**11:30am-12:30pm: Lunch**

**12:30-1:30pm: Session 2**

**1:30-2:00pm: Q and A**

***(Held in Church Lower Level)***

Register via QR code for the Saturday Retreat or call/email the church office (330-455-8482/stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net)



Antiochian Village Summer Camp

# Rowan McKinney

## Camper Spotlight



**What session will you attend?**

Session 1 (this is my 4th year)

**What is your favorite camp memory?**

The last Vespers service at camp.

**What is a favorite activity at camp?**

Evening program, which means being able to dress up and spending time with everyone.

**What are you looking forward to about camp?**

Seeing my friends and seeing the church there again.

# IT TAKES A VILLAGE

## Adopt a Camper

### Here's how:

- CHOOSE A CAMPER YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR. (SEE KENDRA HUNTER OR GAIL MALANIAK FOR A LIST OF CAMPERS.)
- COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND TURN IT IN TO THE DONATION BOX WITH YOUR CHECK, IN AN ENVELOPE.

### When:

- FROM NOW UNTIL APRIL 15, 2024.

### Cost:

- TUITION IS \$1,100 BUT ANY AMOUNT TOWARDS THAT IS APPRECIATED.
- CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO "ST. MATTHEW CHURCH" WITH "CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND" IN THE MEMO.

*ON A RECENT SURVEY DONE BY OUR ARCHDIOCESE, ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE CAMP WAS FOUND TO BE THE LARGEST FACTOR THAT IMPACTED THE FAITH OF OUR YOUTH.*

*Thank you for your generosity!*

.....

• CAMPER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

• AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

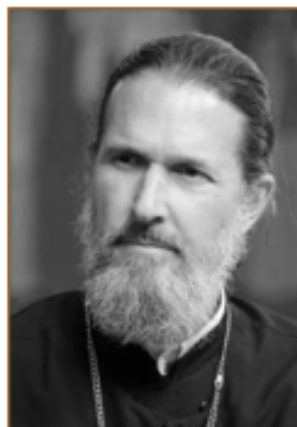
• SPONSOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

• DO YOU WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS? \_\_\_\_\_

# SAVE THE DATE

FOR A WEEKEND RETREAT  
WITH

FATHER JOSIAH  
TRENHAM, PH.D.



DATE: SEPTEMBER 20 – 22, 2024

TIME AND SCHEDULE: TBA

LOCATION:

St. Matthew the Evangelist  
Orthodox Church  
10383 Albion Road  
North Royalton, OH 44133

A native Southern Californian, Father Josiah attended Westminster Seminary California, receiving his M.Div. in 1992 while studying under some of the most influential teachers in the Reformed tradition.

In 1993, he was ordained to the Holy Priesthood of the Orthodox Church and in 2004 he was awarded a Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Durham, England.

Father Josiah has published numerous articles and two books and is also the founder of Patristic Nectar Publication, a non-profit ministry. His weekly homilies are entitled "The Arena Podcasts", and are available on Patristic Nectar Publications, Apple Podcasts, Spotify and Google Podcast.

You can find links to his homilies at <https://www.saintandrew.net/arenapodcast>. His video reflections are available on YouTube under Patristic Nectar Films.

New to the Orthodox Faith or want to learn more? This is a great opportunity to learn what the Orthodox Church teaches.

Come with your questions and learn what our ancient Church Fathers have taught us. Father Josiah will inspire with his wealth of knowledge and understanding of our church teachings.

For more information or to get the latest schedule with Father Josiah, contact Cindy George at [cindygeorge127@gmail.com](mailto:cindygeorge127@gmail.com)







# SAVE THE DATE

## 2024 DIOCESE OF TOLEDO PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

All Saints and Holy Transfiguration invite you to join us for a few days of Christian fellowship, prayer, and fun for all ages. Whether you are new to the Diocese or have been attending PLCs for many years, we welcome each of you and your families.

We look forward to seeing you and getting to know you at the Toledo Diocese Parish Life Conference in Chicago-Land in June 2024!

### DATE

June 26-29  
Wednesday - Saturday

### LOCATION

Chicago Marriott Oak Brook  
1401 W 22nd St, Oak Brook, IL 60523



# ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN PRESENTS

**ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT  
SATURDAY APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>  
9:30AM – 3PM  
ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH  
755 S. CLEVELAND AVE.  
MOGADORE, OH 44260**



**FR. BARNABAS POWELL  
AUTHOR AND SPEAKER  
“BE WATCHFUL – BE SOBER,  
ST. PAUL’S WISDOM FOR  
SPIRITUAL MATURITY”**

Fr. Barnabas Powell was born and raised in Atlanta, GA. His journey to Orthodoxy came as a result of many years searching for a “lifestyle” that would be truly Christian. After years in Evangelical Protestant ministry and serving in Christian media, both radio and television, he launched Faith Encouraged Ministries to use what he learned in sharing faith through media for the Orthodox Faith. Fr. Barnabas is an author, pastor, podcaster, and teacher committed to offering a credible witness of the timeless Orthodox faith for this culture.

**\$20 TICKETS INCLUDE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST,  
MORNING SESSION, LENTEN LUNCH, AND AFTERNOON  
SESSION**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO OCW AND REMIT TO:  
SUSAN EVANOFF  
404 19<sup>TH</sup> STREET NE. MASSILLON, OHIO 44646  
RSVP BY FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:  
SANDY GRAHAM 330-988-8107 OR NANCY STUDEBAKER  
330-655-9638**

# 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)

		April 2024		
		Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	1			
Tuesday	2			
Wednesday	3			
Thursday	4			
Friday	5	Homeschool 9-2		
Saturday	6			
Sunday	7			
Monday	8			
Tuesday	9			
Wednesday	10			
Thursday	11			
Friday	12	Homeschool 9-2		
Saturday	13			
Sunday	14			
Monday	15			
Tuesday	16			
Wednesday	17			
Thursday	18			
Friday	19	Homeschool 9-2		
Saturday	20			
Sunday	21		Kitchen in use-George and Christine Nassif 1-4	
Monday	22			
Tuesday	23			
Wednesday	24			
Thursday	25			
Friday	26	Homeschool 9-2		
Saturday	27			
Sunday	28			
Monday	29			
Tuesday	30			

## PASCHA THIS YEAR IS MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

### ST. TIKHON, ENLIGHTENER OF NORTH AMERICA

St. Tikhon was born in 1865 near Pskov, Russia. He became a monk and then a priest and then a bishop at age 32. Soon he was assigned to America. He was the bishop for all Orthodox of all national origins in the United States (including Alaska) and Canada. He traveled extensively for 9 years, establishing and strengthening parishes. He began St. Tikhon Monastery in Pennsylvania. Then in 1907 he was called back to Russia to serve as a bishop there. In early 1917 he was elected as Metropolitan of Moscow, the highest position in the country ever since Tsar Peter the Great abolished the Russian Patriarchate in the 1700s. Then in April Tsar Nicholas was overthrown. Soon Tikhon presided over the Church Council of 1917 which re-established the Patriarchate---and then elected Tikhon as Patriarch. Meanwhile the second revolution of the year took place and the Bolsheviks seized control. And the Communist persecution of the Orthodox Church began. Patriarch Tikhon stood firm against them and told them to repent and turn to Christ. He was eventually put under house arrest and greatly harassed. His health failed and he died, perhaps of an intentional overdose of medicine given by the Bolsheviks, on April 7, 1925. Being it is not certain he was intentionally killed he is not listed as a Martyr but as a Confessor (someone who suffers for Christ but is not actually put to death).

The St. Matthew Antiochian Women's Sisterhood's

## Palm Sunday Bake Sale

Sunday, April 28, 2024

(Right after Liturgy)

Please help to make our Bake Sale a great success by baking,  
bringing and/or buying!!!

Bring in your springtime sweet or savory specialties.

(We LOVE our wonderful bakers!!!)

Please have your bakery ready to place on the table!!

And feel free to price your donations, if you prefer...

which would help us a lot!!!

So, mark your calendars....

(It's coming up sooner than you think!!)

~~~ Thank you!!! ~~~

