

**ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH
AUGUST, 2022, 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.stmattrovalton.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 SERVICES

**TRANSFIGURATION DAY IS SATURDAY, AUGUST 6. OUR
SCHEDULE---**

---Friday, August 5: Vespers with Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.

---Saturday, August 6: Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m. It is customary to
bless grapes at the end of the liturgy, so bring some if you wish. Potluck
lunch after the liturgy—Lenten food except that it is a fish day.

**THE DORMITION (Falling Asleep) OF THE THEOTOKOS IS MONDAY,
AUGUST 15.** There is a 2 week fasting period leading up to it. Our
schedule for the fasting time and the Feast:

---Paraklesis services: Monday, August 1; Wednesday, August 3; Monday,
August 8; Wednesday, August 10---6:30 p.m.

---On the holy day: Monday, August 15---Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10
a.m. Potluck lunch afterwards---the Fast will be over, back to
meat..... Please note that there will not be Vespers for the holy day on
Sunday, August 14.

More on next page....

THE BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IS COMMEMORATED ON MONDAY, AUGUST 29TH. OUR SCHEDULE:

---Vespers, Sunday, August 28, 3 p.m. (Please note unusually early time--- to coordinate with ending of annual parish picnic that day)

---Monday, August 29---Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m. No potluck lunch---this day is a very strict one day fast.

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC—AFTER LITURGY, SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

HOSTED BY THE BROTHERHOOD—NO CHARGE, OF COURSE!

Good food, fun, and fellowship.....

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.

NORTH BIBLE STUDY---Wednesday, August 24, at Parker’s, 1350 Elmwood Ct., Rocky River, 6:30. Studying Isaiah.

WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP—Friday, August 19, 1 pm. All women welcome! The location is at Tara Reidy’s, 274 Elmwood, Berea. For more info, call Sandy Tolbert, 440-773-9162.

WEST BIBLE STUDY—Saturday, August 20, 6 pm at the church. Studying I Corinthians.

SOUTH BIBLE STUDY—Tuesdays, August 2 & 16, 6:30 p.m. at Craig & Cindy George’s, 9451 Sherwood Trail, Brecksville. All are welcome. The study will be on the book of Ephesians.

NEXT TEEN CLUB MEETING---August activities to be announced.

ST. HERMAN’S MINISTRY TEAM—Sunday, August 21, is our parish’s next monthly turn to provide a meal to the poor at St. Herman Orthodox Homeless Shelter in Cleveland. If you can help with either the providing or cooking or serving of the meal, please contact Deacon Basil, 440-665-3591. Thank you to Jon Scordos for cooking the June meal and to the Blazek family for serving it.

MONTHLY DELIVERY OF FOOD, CLOTHING, ETC. TO HOMELESS ON STREETS OF DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND---Sunday, August 21. This ministry is done together with Cleveland St. George Church. August is our turn to make the sack lunches. Can you help? It is a simple and not huge thing to do---just a few folks needed. Expenses covered by our parish's fund for this purpose. Please let Father Andrew know if you can and he will put you in touch for the details with ministry coordinator Josie Katzbach.

HOMESCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP---Resumes on August 26 after summer break.

BROTHERHOOD MEETING---After liturgy, Sunday, August 7

SISTERHOOD MEETING---After liturgy, Sunday, August 14.

CHESS CLUB---After liturgy, Sunday, August 14.

A New Parish Directory

Note: On 3 upcoming Sundays—August 14, 21 & 28, we will be having high-resolution photographs (of matching shape and style) taken of parishioners after Divine Liturgy, so please be prepared as you see fit. The photos will be used in our online directory, and therefore can be updated as needed. The directory can be downloaded or printed out. This directory will be of benefit to all our parishioners, and especially to those who are new or forgetful while looking to match names with faces, as well as those seeking to reach out to the other members of our parish family. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation with this effort! After Liturgy, please come to the library with your family members to have your photo taken.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Ronnie & Rita Haddad
Alexander
5380 Brookhaven Drive
N. Royalton, OH 44133
(225) 772-3941
Ronniehaddad@icloud.com

James Georgiades
5690 Tilling Street
New Albany OH 43054
(330) 949-9029
Jimmy.georgiades@gmail.com

Victoria Shaker (by chrismation)
3021 S.R. 590 #510
Clearwater, FL 33759 (starting medical school)
(440) 503-7374
Victoria.shaker@gmail.com

Michael Palmer (by chrismation)
523 Front Street #108
Berea, OH 44017
Mpalmer0924@hotmail.com

Please welcome them to our parish family and add them to your phone list.

OUR CONDOLENCES---

---to Craig George on the falling asleep in Christ of his aunt, Ramona Darmour.
May her memory be eternal!

CONGRATULATIONS---

- to George & Dima Kash on the birth of their son, Joseph George.
- to Caleb Blazek for receiving the Metropolitan Anthony Bashir college scholarship from our diocese
- to Victoria Shaker for entering the Orthodox Faith by Holy Chrismation on July 2
- to Michael Palmer for entering the Orthodox Faith by Holy Chrismation on June 5.
- to Gino & Jessica Karim on the baptism of their son, Luca, on June 5.
- to Eli & Michelle Jamal on the baptism of their daughter, Rose, on June 25
- to Derek & Maya Childress on the baptism of their daughter, Corina, on June 2.
- to Dima Kash and her son, Joseph, on their Churching on July 31
- to those who recently received the blessing to become Catechumens in preparation to entering the Orthodox Church at a later date: Victoria Rodgers, Lena McCoy, Mikaela Cihon
- to Patrick & Laura Allen on the birth of their son, Leonidas
- to Constantine & Lindsey Katsaros on the birth of their son, Peter.
- to Colton & Veronica Bose on their wedding on July 9.
- to Nikolai & Rose Almalas on their wedding on June 2.
- to Christopher & Yun Harmon on their wedding on July 16

OUR CURRENT CATECHUMEN LIST We pray for them at each liturgy. Please pray for them during the week as well as they prepare to enter the Orthodox Church---

Mariya Butt	Victoria Rodgers
Jamie & Lucas Domonkos	Lena McCoy
Mikaela Cihon	
Lindsey Katsaros	

THANK YOU----

---those who gave gifts to the parish in memory of Ramona Darmour: Deacon Macarius & Sandy Tolbert, John & Linda Fadel, Jack & Lisa Palivoda

ST. MATTHEW'S MESSAGE BOARD

Contact Bonnie Harmon if you wish to submit a message.

THE VAZQUEZ FAMILY has a baby crib to give away. We also have a baby walker and bathtub. Please call Joanne if you are interested in any of these items. 440-382-2687.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY MEET-UP

When you walk into the Heatwole home on Jacqueline Street in Berea, you get the feeling that an artist lives there. It's not only the art work that decorates it, but also the interesting architecture. From what David was told, the architect of the house was the one who built it and also lived in it. The house seems perfect for David and his family.

David Heatwole was born on November 20, 1969, in Falls Church, Virginia. Because his parents were splitting up and there was a custody battle, David spent his first two years in a foster home. His father eventually won and shared custody with David's maternal grandfather and so David began living with his father and his new wife. The family settled in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. David was able to spend time with his mother until she moved to the west coast. When David was 7-years-old and every year thereafter, he would fly to California in the summer and stay with his mother and her new husband.

David was the 11th generation of a family of artisans. There were a number of creative professions including potters, silversmiths, cobblers, and cabinet makers. David's father was a professional wood sculptor of fantasy and folklore. David grew up surrounded by art and famous artists from around the world, of the fantasy and science fiction genres. When he was 18, he attended Northern Virginia Community College which had a very reputable art program at that time. The school had excellent teachers who were very involved and talented in the world of art. After college, David's first two fulltime jobs that lasted 7 years were for Navy and Army contractors as a technical illustrator—a far cry from how he saw himself as an artist. After these jobs, he had various blue-collar jobs, making time to chase his dream of being a fine artist.

David says, "Arts are the most important earthly profession because art is everywhere and you cannot communicate anything without it. They are directly tied to how we see, perceive, and imagine."

From an early age, David felt that visual arts could and should have more of a purpose in society than just illustrating or creating art for art's sake. It wasn't until he was in his 20's that he really felt like it was time to test his theory. His vision involved promoting artists by going into the communities to pitch an idea and see how the idea would take off and how it would unite the people. These community collaborations started with the youth in schools, but then touch nearly every part of the community. The results were large art by the acre installations; the final imagery captured via aerial photography. The final presentations of these projects were open to the public and the admission from visitors went to local charities. He said the projects were successful and his theory was proven correct, but it was exhausting especially as a newlywed husband with plans to be a parent. David said that the one real take away from these artistic experiments was that magic happens. He said that he had a new perspective on reality because things happened throughout the community collaborative art making process that were frankly "unexplainable without there being a God."

David says he grew up in a home with wonderful Christian-like parents who were very generous and kind to everyone, but seemed almost anti-Christian to him as a child. This was due to their bad experiences growing up in different denominations. When he visited his mother in California, he would attend a Protestant church and go to vacation bible school, which made him feel uncomfortable because of a lack of any organized religious upbringing in his parents' home.. As a child he wondered why there were so many Christian denominations and then later why there are so many different religions, so he began researching the world religions. At the time he concluded that if there is a god and he is perfect, then the church would have to be perfect too.

Throughout his 20's, David kept searching. He prayed, "If You are real, God, show me the truth in a perfect way so that I won't be able to deny you."

Meanwhile, Dawn Ambrose was working in Virginia as a nanny. One day she went to a coffee shop and there she met David who worked there. At first David thought he would introduce her to his Christian roommate, but then changed his mind and started seeing her himself. He pretty much knew right away that she was the one for him. As he got to know Dawn, he found out that she was a Baptist from North Royalton, Ohio, but had been researching the Orthodox Church for the past six years. She asked David if he would like to go to an Orthodox church with her on the next Sunday. He was not a Christian yet—more of a Taoist—but he consented to go with her. The church Dawn took him to was St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church in Falls Church, Virginia. This church was an hour's drive and just "happened" to be in the city where he had been born.

When David walked into that Orthodox church for the first time, he was bombarded with things he knew in his heart should be there in the worship of God—the incense, the chanting the candles, the icons. He was overwhelmed that day with the Truth. He says he was born the first time in Falls Church, Virginia, and then the second time in Falls Church, Virginia.

David became a catechumen from that day on, passing up Dawn in her journey to Orthodoxy. Dawn moved back to Ohio and that's when she entered St. Matthew's church community. She soon became a catechumen too and the amazing thing is both David and Dawn got chrismated on the same day without planning it that way. He got chrismated in Falls Church and she at St. Matthew's. David reflected on this "coincidence" by saying, "This is how perfect and loving that our God is."

Shortly after both were chrismated, they got married and moved to West Virginia. They decided they wanted to adopt children, especially those who were older and harder to place. They ended up with five children: April (25), Pavel (23), Adam (17), Ethan (17), and Asa (16).

Dawn's parents live in North Royalton and we have seen the Heatwoles at least once a year when they visited her family on the holidays. About a year or two ago, because Dawn's parents were in need of help, they decided to move here to Ohio. Recently, they became members of St. Matthew's.

David works at Amazon and Dawn works as a mental health therapist at Westlake Counseling and an early childhood behavioral consultant for Applewood Center, Inc. This summer David is teaching an art class to some of our St. Matthew's homeschool students, which has been a blessing for the kids and for David, as well.

One of David's goals in life is to try to promote artists that he knows. Another goal is to write a book on the topic of non-coincidences/Divine Perfection. He wants to share his stories and the stories of other people. He feels this would be a way to share Christ and Orthodoxy to others.

I will finish by telling you one of David's non-coincidence stories. Three years ago, David received a total stranger's message on Facebook. She was from Alaska and said she found his birth certificate in a used book someone had given her. He recognized the title and was sure it was on his bedside table. It was not. Somehow it was now in Alaska with his birth certificate that he did not know was missing. The only thing he could figure out was that he must have dropped the book into a local recycling center's book box in Virginia and must have tucked his birth certificate in it when he renewed his driver's license. However, the fact that his birth certificate ended up in Alaska was really what amazed him for he had always had the urge to visit there. In 1998, David was given an antique photo as a gift from the man who introduced

Dawn to him in the coffee shop. This photo was of an Orthodox church he knew was in Alaska. However, he did not know which church it was and desperately wanted to know. In 2015 he showed it to the Metropolitan of the OCA and asked him if he could help identify it. That didn't work out. Then several years later he found someone who identified the church as St. Michael Orthodox Church in Sitka, Alaska. This church just happened to be completed on November 20, 1848, exactly 121 years on the same day David was born.

David strongly feels that the miracle of his birth certificate traveling all the way from West Virginia to Alaska prior to receiving the answer to the photo of the Orthodox Cathedral. was far from being a "coincidence." David believes strongly that this story of Alaska is not over as he awaits God's lead for the next part of the story.

If this doesn't whet your appetite to get to know the Heatwoles better.....



NEW MINISTRY BEGINNING AT ST. MATTHEW'S

St. Matthew's is now officially affiliated with OCLife, a "non-profit organization dedicated to equipping the Orthodox Christian community to strengthen its commitment to the sacredness of human life from conception to death, illuminating the Church's teaching on life issues through education and engagement." If you would like to get involved in this new ministry, please contact Lisa Palivoda at ldpal1703@outlook.com or Cindy George at cindygeorge127@gmail.com.

SPECIAL TEACHING EVENING----SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 6 P.M.

What does our Orthodox Faith concerning the currently very controversial topic of abortion? A teaching evening to explain it all will be led by Paul Finley, the director of St. Herman FOCUS Orthodox Homeless Shelter in Cleveland. Teaching, discussion, refreshments, and fellowship..... Please come and invite your friends!

PHASE 1 OF TEMPLE ICONOGRAPHY NOW COMPLETE!

Thank you very much to our iconographer Nicholas Papas for the beautiful and holy work he has done---the apse (altar area) of the temple is done! And it's wonderful..... Also, many thanks to all who helped in so many ways---donating, helping Nick in many different ways, assisting in numerous capacities: your help was essential. Now the planning for Phase 2 is under way!

Here is a link to a collection of photos while the artwork was in progress---

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set?vanity=Nick.Papas.Studio&set=a.423331373127741>

Sunday School Information 2022/23

Important dates: September 11- Open house/Visit classrooms/Meet the teachers

September 18- Classes begin

Parents/ grandparents: Please respond to Gail Malaniak if your child/grandchild will be attending Sunday School so we can be sure to have enough materials. Include full names, ages, and birth dates. (Ages 3-18 are welcome!)

Send the information to gailmeen@gmail.com by September 1. *Thank you!*

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NORTH ROYALTON, OH 44133

SEPTEMBER MISSION TO THE HOMELESS

We will have our 4th large-scale one-day parish mission to the homeless on Saturday, September 3. It will involve the distribution of lunches (*many! Hundreds were given out last time!*), clothes, and Bibles. Obviously, much help is needed!

VOLUNTEERS---To assemble sack lunches in church kitchen at 9 a.m., Sat., Sept. 3

---or to help deliver and distribute on streets and at shelters

---to help with purchasing and pick-up of food ahead of time.

DONORS----of items needed for the lunches (details on that later....)

----clothing in bags

----Bibles

MONEY FOR FOOD---please contribute through St. Matthew's treasury.

A FEW OTHER THINGS----There is no room for clothes storage at the church, but there will be lots.....can you store some somewhere before distribution day?

----One van already promised for delivery, but another one is needed.

----Some of the homeless ask for haircuts! Is there anyone who can help with that?

More details as the time gets closer. For more info & to volunteer, contact Jon Scordos, 216-618-8007, joninchrist888@gmail.com

ADULT ED. CLASS ON AMERICAN HISTORY TAUGHT BY FATHER ANDREW---in case you're interested.....

Father Andrew will be teaching a class this fall through the Baldwin Wallace University Learning In Retirement adult education program. (No age requirements!) The title is "The Presidential Campaign of 1968" It will meet in Middleburg Heights from 2:40-4 p.m. on 6 Mondays in a row---September 12 through October 17. Go to www.ilrbw.org for more info and to join ILR and register for the class-----the deadline is approaching...

Here is the program's course description----

THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN OF 1968

This class will examine perhaps the wildest presidential campaign in American history---1968. In the middle of the Vietnam War and all the cultural upheaval of the '60s, this was not a typical campaign year. We will look at all the unusual things about the campaign: The Eugene McCarthy surge, the dropping out of LBJ, the assassination of Bobby Kennedy on the night it looked like he could be the Democratic nominee, the assassination of Rev. Martin Luther King, the riots at the Democratic Convention, the George Wallace phenomenon..... And then, of course, the extremely close race between Hubert Humphrey and Richard Nixon, leading to Nixon's controversial victory in November. There was never a dull moment in 1968! We will look at it all.