

**THE HOLY MARTYRS
MENODORA, METRODORA, & NYMPHODORA**

These three Saints that we commemorate today were three Christian virgin sisters in Bithynia (now part of Turkey). During a pagan persecution of the Church in 305 A.D. the Roman governor Fronto at first tried gently to get them to worship false gods. When they refused, he had them horribly tortured in an effort to force them to deny Christ. Menodora was first----she was beaten badly and would not give in. Finally, the beatings became so bad that she died. Metrodora was hung from a tree and burned with torches----but refused to give in and bravely died. Nymphodora had her flesh torn with iron hooks, but would not give in. She was finally killed by being beaten with clubs. Their deaths took place over a few days----they are commemorated together on September 10th.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR BRINGING KIDS TO CHURCH:

Find out what your child is most interested in (the priest, the cross, the censer, etc.) and look for that at different times in the liturgy.

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

10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH

September 10, 2023

Sunday Before the Elevation of the Cross

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

Coffee hour: Electra Floasiu 216-671-0743

Kitchen use: Fred Bourjaily 216-219-4656

Phone: Fr. Andrew (h) (440) 826-0662; (c) (440) 539-1116

Email: fatherharmon@outlook.com

Website: smattroyalton.org

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

FATHER ANDREW & KHOURIE BONNIE will be on vacation in Wisconsin for a family wedding Wednesday, Sept. 13 through Tuesday, Sept. 19. Father John Adamcio will serve here next Sunday. There will be a Deacon's Typica service the morning of September 14th (see below) and Vespers at normal time on Saturday. In case of an emergency need for a priest while Father Andrew is gone, please call Father Matthew Thurman of St. Luke Church in Bainbridge at 440-591-1030.

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 Craig & Cindy George in thanksgiving to God on their wedding anniversary; and is offered by the Roach family for the health & salvation of Emmelia on her birthday; and is offered by Maria Simescu for the health of her brother, Valentin.

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

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Josephine Katzbach | Jerry Morrison | Erin Musarra & child |
| Justin Mosier | Iliana Radivoj | Julie Dunn |
| Tony Burhen | James Padzinski | Corrine George |
| Lucy Kinkaid | Mary Malaniak | Veronica & child |
| Marc Balke | Bob & Adrienne Andrews | Christian |
| Christopher Samuel | Charles & Judy Burhen | Father Basil Caldaroni |
| Peter George | Ed Haddad | Barb Carlin |
| Pauline Hanna | Michael Francu | Lola |
| Frank Popovich | Jean Fadil | Gerald Rodgers |
| Issa Zaboura | Dolores Kaleal | Jerry Soukal |
| Argie Katsaros | Danielle | Christian Mavros |
| Joseph Watson | Victoria Thorp | Nadia Shami Joubran |
| Faye Farris | Constantine & Maria Kornea | Victor Davydyuk |
| Paraschiva Blaz | Deacon Macarius | Marilyn Frank |
| Nancy Yanik | Val & Al | |

And for the newly departed servants of God: Lena Batina, Danyella, Rodrigo Bacus (Rudylin Glaser's father), Emile Aramouni (father of Roger & Mitri Aramouni), Evelyn Johnson (Fr Andrew's aunt), Johan Aramouni (Roger Aramouni's cousin), Robert Suchy (Dan Patrick's brother-in-law)

EPISTLE LESSON: Galatians 6: 11-18 **EPISTLE READER:** Reader Anthony Harmon
GOSPEL LESSON: John 3: 13-17 **USHERS:** Tony Latina, Anthony Yanik

HOMILY: "Glorying In Christ's Cross---Galatians 6"

ALTAR BOY TEAM ONE—Caleb Blazek, captn; Christos Allen, Cosby Hunter, Phillip Roach

THE WEDDING CROWN REMOVAL CEREMONY WILL BE DONE FOR THE NEWLY-WED JEB & IRENE BROOKS at the end of today's liturgy.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND TEACHERS will receive a blessing at the end of today's liturgy because Sunday School classes start next Sunday.

PLEASE STAY FOR OUR COFFEETIME LUNCH IN THE HALL RIGHT AFTER LITURGY TO CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR-

Thank you to the Sunday School parents and the Palivodas for hosting!

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
Gail Malaniak 440-552-4586

September 2023			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Friday	1: Homeschool 9-1		
Saturday	2: Brooks wedding 11am		Jeb Brooks rehearsal dinner
Sunday	3		
Monday	4		
Tuesday	5		
Wednesday	6		
Thursday	7		
Friday	8		
Saturday	9	Malaniak family reunion 12-4	
Sunday	10	Lolma cake reception 1-2/ Roach birthday party 2:30-6:30	
Monday	11		
Tuesday	12		
Wednesday	13		
Thursday	14		
Friday	15: Homeschool 9-1		
Saturday	16: EOWG- Gloria 10-1	EOWG- Gloria 10-1	
Sunday	17	Nassif use of kitchen 1-5	
Monday	18		
Tuesday	19		
Wednesday	20		
Thursday	21		
Friday	22: Homeschool 9-1		
Saturday	23: St. John The Apostle 8-11		St. John The Apostle 5-8
Sunday	24	Epoumasin Family reunion 2-6	
Monday	25		
Tuesday	26		
Wednesday	27		
Thursday	28		
Friday	29: Homeschool 9-1		
Saturday	30: Diner baptism		



Theotokos of Vladimir

Eastern orthodox women's guild
Of greater cleveland
Unity Through Participation

Isaiah 43:18-19

"Forget what happened long ago!

Do not think about the past.

I am creating something new.

There it is! Do you see it?

I have put roads in deserts,

streams in thirsty lands."

BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW CHURCH YEAR

Saturday, September 16, 2023
10:00 A.M.

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

- Welcome to new members and visitors
- Fellowship and refreshments
- October Fundraising Dinner - update
- Assembly of IOCC School Bags – Service Project



SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE TODAY RIGHT AFTER COFFEETIME IN PREPARATION FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF CLASSES NEXT SUNDAY---A good chance to see the classrooms, meet the teachers, and get your children signed up!
THE TEEN CLUB MONTHLY MEETING IS TODAY AFTER LITURGY.
ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S SISTERHOOD GROUP will meet in the boardroom today after coffeetime.
ALL ARE INVITED! Tony and Peggy Latina will have an Orthodox wedding ceremony after coffeetime today. There will be cake in the hall after the ceremony.

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
TONE 5 / EOTHINON 3;

SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

After-feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora and Nymphodora of Bithynia; Empress Pulcheria;
Peter, bishop of Nicaea

Today we will use alternate musical settings for the following hymns:

- Entrance Hymn "Come let us worship": *Alt. #2 (p. 10)*
- Trisagion Hymn: *Alt. #1 (p. 20)*

VERSES OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. Lo, we heard of it at Ephratha. We have found it in the plains of the wood.

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be shaken; God shall help her right early in the morning.

Glory... Both now...

VERSES OF THE SECOND ANTIPHON (Normal Sunday Refrain)

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; and He will not annul it. Of the fruit of thy loins will I set upon thy throne.

There will I make to spring forth a horn for David. I have prepared a lamp for My Christ.

For the Lord hath elected Zion; He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself.

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

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Here will I dwell, for I have chosen her. The Most High hath hallowed His tabernacle. Holy is Thy temple, wonderful in righteousness. *(now sing the Apolytikion of the Feast)*

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE (p. 13)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole world; for from thee hath dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

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 NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death, O immaculate one, by thy holy Nativity, which thy people, redeemed from the guilt of offenses, celebrate by crying to thee: The barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life.

THE EPISTLE (For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

To Thee, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

To all the Ladies of St. Matthew..... Please join us!!

September is our annual Membership Drive!! We would love for you all to become a member of the St. Matthew Antiochian Women's Sisterhood. The Membership Drive will be held every Sunday in September and the yearly dues donation is still at only \$3.00 per year!!

Being a member of our organization promote's fellowship among our Ladies and helps our church in many different ways through our fundraisers. You can give your \$3.00 to Electra Floasiu, (Membership Chairman) Camille Patrick, (Treasurer) or Georgette Dye, (President) and we will put your name on our roster along with your email address so you can receive reminder emails of all our meetings and activities. We would also LOVE to see some new faces at our meetings which are held periodically on Sunday's after Liturgy. Please consider joining!!

Thank you!!!

Electra, Camille and Georgette

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

**FUNDRAISER for our
Homeschool Enrichment Group-**

They will be selling oranges and other citrus fresh from Florida during the month of Sept. They will have a table in the hall at coffeetime for their fundraiser.

You may also order directly online at

<https://shop.floridaindianrivergrove.com/ecommerce/1033058>

Cash donations also accepted.

All proceeds will go toward subsidizing student tuition.

The Eastern Orthodox Women's Guild of Greater Clevelans (EOWG) is inviting all Orthodox women over the age of 18 to join us and become a member. Friendships with women from all the Orthodox Churches in the Greater Cleveland area is just one of the benefits. There are social events, mini retreats, and fundraisers to support a variety of local and nationwide Orthodox charities and organizations. For more information or to join, there is a membership form located in the narthex or Contact Gloria Zabala.

SEEKING ODD JOBS- Michael Hutendre has just moved here from Virginia to become a catechumen in order to join Orthodoxy and become a member of our parish. While looking for more permanent work, he is looking for work projects to tide him over. Work such as lawn mowing, painting, cleaning, moving, car detailing, etc. It will need to be no farther than about 7 miles from the church (he is temporarily living near the church). To contact him, email him at dixiesaintsva1861@gmail.com or talk to him at St. Matthew's.

Volunteers Needed:

COFFEETIME HOSTING---Coffeetime 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 coffeetime host group. Questions? Speak to or call, coordinator, Electra Floasiu---216-671-0743

VACUUMING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED---
A SIGN-UP SHEET FOR VACUUMING THE CHURCH IS IN THE NARTHEX. CAN YOU TAKE A SUNDAY?

A sincere thank you goes out to Hani Saddic for donating the new display cases with lights for our St. Matthew's Gift Store. And a huge sincere thank you goes out to Council President David Glaser for all of the work he did setting up the new cases and getting rid of the old ones. Thank you Hani and David, and I hope you know just how appreciative I am to both of you.

Please visit the Gift Store everyone. I try to keep it stocked with nice gift items and icons, and prayerful things- at good prices. That's getting harder and harder to do in this market, but I'll keep at it, as it's a ministry that I enjoy.

I ask one more thing of all of you: Let's keep our new display cases looking as nice as they do now. Please refrain from putting food and drinks and other things on top of the cases. Thank you so much!

In Christ,
Susan Joseph

THE GOSPEL (For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.



SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS TODAY!

OPEN HOUSE- The students and staff will be blessed at the end of the liturgy. Families are encouraged to visit the classrooms during coffeetime. **Classes begin**—next Sun, Sept 17.

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

UPCOMING SERVICES

THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14. We will have a Deacon Typica service with Pre-Sanctified Holy Communion at 10 a.m. because Father Andrew will be gone. Matins at 9 a.m. No lunch afterwards. *This is a very strict fast day.*

SAT, SEP 16- 5pm Vespers

SUN, SEP 17- 8:50am Matins, 10am Liturgy. The Holy Bread of Oblation will be offered by Ron & Georgette Dye for their 50th wedding anniversary; and will be offered by Richard & Catherine Morton for their 35th wedding anniversary; and will be offered by Subdeacon Mark & Josephine Katzbach for Mark's mother Eleanore's 94th birthday; and will be offered by Maria Simescu for her brother, Valentin.

MEETINGS

PATHWAYS TO PEACE—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, for zoom info.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Will not have their regular meeting in Sept instead they will join in a Pan Orthodox Young Adult Social in Akron on Sat, Sept 16, 5pm at 376 Hallandale Dr, Akron, OH 44333. Burgers and dogs provided, please bring a side. For more info, contact: Sbdcn Samuel Harmon, 216-598-9230, samuelharmon15@gmail.com or Colton Bose, 440-567-6101 or contact the priest who is hosting the event:



Fr. Nick Manuel
Assistant Priest

church - 330-434-0000
cell - 804-874-4011

129 South Union Street
Akron, Ohio 44304
nmanuel@annunciationakron.org

WEST BIBLE STUDY--- Sep meeting already held. Oct date to be announced (meets monthly at church after Vespers) Studying I Corinthians

SOUTH BIBLE STUDY--- Tues, Sept 19, at 6:30pm at Craig & Cindy George’s, 9451 Sherwood Trl, Brecksville. Regularly meets the 1st & 3rd Tues of the month. Studying Creation and the Fall in Genesis.

WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP— Tues, Sept 12, 1pm. Meets monthly at Tara Reidy’s (274 Elmwood, Berea). For info, call Sandy Tolbert, 440-773-9162.

TEEN CLUB--- Helping with parish landscaping day on Sun, Sep 24.

HOMESCHOOL ENRICHMENT GROUP--- Every Fri from 9:30-1:30 (Aug-May) here at St. Matthew’s! Includes special classes for preschoolers and a social hour for *Moms and Tots* at 10:45am. For more info contact Olivia: oharmon15@gmail.com, 440-220-2624

KNIT/CROCHET GROUP---Will not meet in Sept. Contact Lisa Bowden at 440-667-2767 for info.

CHESS CLUB---Sept 17 after liturgy

MINISTRY NEWS

STREET DELIVERY TO THE HOMELESS----- Sunday, Sept 17 ---parishioners delivering food, clothing, etc. to homeless in downtown Cleveland once a month. 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, for information. *(The August meal handed out was barbecued chicken!)*

MEAL SERVING AT ST. HERMAN ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER--- Sunday, September 17, is our next monthly meal. Cooks are already lined up. If you can help with serving the meal--- please see Deacon Basil after the liturgy or call him at 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. Especially needed are canned goods, cereal, toilet paper, and kitchen supplies.

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 at 440-799-0838 or Erin.musarra@gmail.com.

OCLife ST. MATTHEW CHURCH--- OCLife St Matthews is planning on taking as many vehicles as necessary to the March for Life in Columbus on Oct. 6. We will leave the Church parking lot at 8:30 am and return by 3-3:30 pm. If you are interested in participating in this important event or have questions about it, please contact Lisa Palivoda (ldpal1703@outlook.com) or Colton Bose (coltonmichaelbose@gmail.com)

ST JOHN THE ALMS GIVER MISSION- Formerly the “Quarterly Giant Homeless Mission” aims to provide 250 lunches and 250 hygiene bags for the Norma Herr’s Woman’s Shelter in downtown Cleveland on Sat, Sept, 23. Help is needed to assemble lunches and hygiene bags during the time slots: **Fri 9/22 5-7pm & 7-9pm, Sat 9/23 8-11am** **There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board, but even if you don’t sign up, please come and help!** For more info contact Mike Musarra, Jack Palivoda, Jim Sage, or Cathy Sage

ST. MARY OF EGYPT FOOD DISTRIBUTION- will be on the 3rd Sat, Sept 16. We need able bodied volunteers especially on Fri, Sept 15 11am to 1:30pm to help unload our delivery from The Cleveland Food Bank. Help on Sat 12:00-3:30 is also welcome!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP NEEDED: Colton & Veronica Bose are moving into the church’s rental house at the beginning of October. Can you help them move? If so, please check with them for details.	
TREES BEING GIVEN AWAY -Parishioner Hani Saddic has 3 loquat trees he wishes to give to whoever would like one. The larger one is in a pot just outside the hall entrance. The other two are somewhat smaller. Call Hani at 216-712-9591	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.
PARISH WORK DAY --- SEPT 24. Meet outside between noon and 12:30 by the prayer garden. A Landscape Committee leader will be there to divvy out work. We will have an assortment of tools to borrow, however we highly encourage all volunteers to bring whatever tools they have. Text or Call Sondra Palivoda (216) 973-7537 for info	TRIP TO TRANSFIGURATION MONASTERY - for ladies over 50. Oct 11, We will arrive in time for 9:15am liturgy. Following which there will be a light coffee hour, a tour, talk with Mother Christophora, shopping, lunch, and then departure. Hope you can join us! To register or as questions contact Lisa Bowden 440-667-2767.