

**SAINTS OF THE DAY:
OUR HOLY MOTHER THEODORA**

St. Theodora, whose memory we celebrate today, was a Christian woman in Egypt in the 400's A.D. She fell into adultery and believed God was calling her to a monastic life to save her soul. She thought that in order to be safe from harassment from judgmental nuns she had best enter a male monastery, masquerading as a man. She successfully did this by living in almost total solitude, and thus achieving great holiness through intense prayer and fasting. Her sincere holiness is shown by another bizarre event in a generally bizarre story. A woman in the area bore a child out of wedlock. To avoid shame, she accused Theodora (thinking her a man!) of being the father. Theodora did not dispute this or reveal who she really was but became, in a strange sense, the "stepfather" for the child. After her death, of course, it was discovered that this monk, who was not thought very highly of because of supposedly fathering a child, was actually a very holy woman! St. Theodora fell asleep in Christ on September 11, 490 A.D.

THE HOLY CONFESSOR PAPHNUTY

St. Paphnuty, whose memory we celebrate today, suffered greatly in the persecution of the Church in the early 300's A.D. An eye was gouged out and one leg greatly damaged by torture. He became a disciple of St. Anthony the Great and then a bishop. He was at the First Ecumenical Council at Nicea at 325 A.D. Some bishops there proposed that all priests should be celibate. St. Paphnuty (celibate himself) stood up and loudly proclaimed--"Lay not this heavy yoke on the clergy. Marriage is honorable above all, as the Apostle Paul said. By exaggerated strictness you will do the Church more harm than good. All cannot bear such an ascetic rule. Marriage itself is continence. It is enough for a man to be forbidden marriage after ordination according to the ancient custom." His emotional speech convinced the bishops to not pursue this innovation--and, thus, most priests have been married ever since. St. Paphnuty peacefully fell asleep in Christ on September 11, some years after the council of 325 A.D.

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

10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH

September 11, 2022

After-feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

**His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH
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 Mark Katzbach
Sub-Deacon Richard Sahley • Sub-Deacon George Simon
Reader Anthony Harmon**

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

Email: fatherharmon@outlook.com

Website: stmatroyalton.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

GREETINGS TO FATHER BASIL SHAHEEN from St. George Church in Akron who is serving here today while Fr. Andrew is gone---great to have you back, Father!

FATHER ANDREW & KHOURIE BONNIE ARE ON VACATION---they will be back tomorrow. In case of an emergency need for a priest please call Father Matthew Thurman of St. Luke Church in Bainbridge, 440-591-1030 ----and you may contact our deacons.

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 Musarra family for the health & salvation of Rowan on her Saint's Day (Nativity of Theotokos); and is offered by Craig & Cindy George in thanksgiving to God on their wedding anniversary; and is offered by Daniel & Maria Simescu for the health & salvation of their grandchildren, Brian, Zack, & Emma.

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

Josephine Katzbach	Jean Caldaroni	Ron Hakaim
Justin Mosier	Paraschiva Blaz	Norman Fadil
Tony Burhen	Phyllis Simmons	Mary Malaniak
Lucy Kinkaid	Nancy Yanik	Bob & Adrienne Andrews
Marc Balke	Dolores Kaleal	Charles & Judy Burhen
Christopher Samuel	William	Joe Cacciacarne
Peter George	Donna Teaman	Constantine & Maria Kornea
Pauline Hanna	Jerry Morrison	Linda Spevock
Frank Popovich	Iliana Radivoj	Ed Haddad
Issa Zaboura	Lena Batina	Oldemar Chinchilla
Argie Katsaros	Danielle	Michael Francu
Archdeacon Joseph Harb	Ruth Zheltov	Courtney & Maia Welch
Joseph Watson	James Padzerski	David

And for the newly departed servants of God: Luis Sandoval, Ralph Parker

EPISTLE LESSON: Galatians 6: 11-18

GOSPEL LESSON: John 3: 13-17

EPISTLE READER: Reader Anthony Harmon

HOMILY: Father Basil Shaheen

USHERS: Tony Latina & Anthony Yanik

PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEETIME RIGHT AFTER THE LITURGY

It is being hosted by our Sunday School----thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE AFTER LITURGY TODAY---You are all welcome to visit the classrooms & meet the teachers! Classes begin next Sunday---Sunday School is held right after liturgy.

CHESS CLUB MEETING AFTER LITURGY TODAY

WOMEN'S "NO SEW" SCARVES FOR THE HOMELESS PROJECT---
DEMONSTRATION AFTER LITURGY TODAY---TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE THEM!

Coffee Hour Hosts Information
St. Matthew Orthodox Church

Thank you for offering to host coffee hour. It's a vital part of our parish life, and we appreciate all the work you have done to serve our church.

Please keep in mind that our church hall is used multiple times during the week. It's important to leave the hall ready for the next event.

We ask that you complete the following tasks before you leave:

- Check to be sure all of the tables and chairs are back in original positions. (See diagram on the wall by the counter.) Tables should be cleared of food, plates, cups, etc. **Please make sure there is no food left on any of the tables as we have an ongoing issue with ants.**
- Empty and clean any of the coffee pots that were used.
- Be sure all food is removed from the hall and kitchen. There should be no food on the kitchen or hall counters. Please do not store any leftovers in the kitchen or refrigerator unless you have cleared it with someone on the hall committee. If you used the refrigerator, please wipe up any spills.
- *Please follow posted dishwashing instructions to clean any dishes or utensils used from the kitchen. These should be left to air dry on drying racks.*
- All coffee cups, drink cups, plastic ware, napkins, sugar, creamers, and stir sticks, should be returned to the cabinet.
- All trash needs to be taken out to the dumpster at the back of the parking lot. Be sure to close the latch on the dumpster door. Put clean bags in the trash cans. They are located in the large cabinet in the kitchen.

NOTE: Before you leave, please check the large calendar on the back wall. If there is a hall rental scheduled for that Sunday afternoon, you will need to do the following tasks in addition to the above list:

- Wash all the tables, and wipe down the counters, and the hall sink.
- Sweep the tiled area by the counter.
- Vacuum the entire hall. (Vacuum cleaners are located in the storage room at the back of the hall.)

Thank you for your cooperation.
The St. Matthew Hall Committee

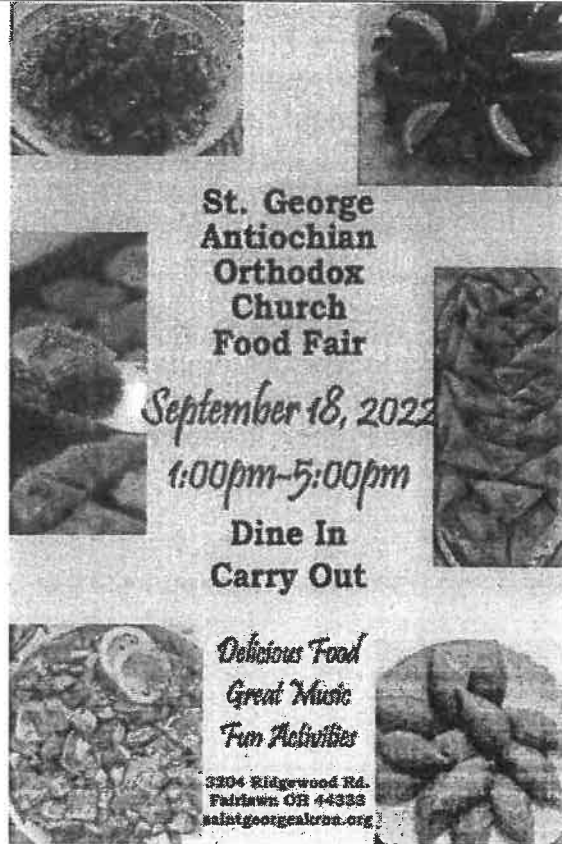
Fred Bourjaily, Electra Floasiu, Mike Lieberman, Gail Malaniak

The Eastern Orthodox Women's Guild Membership Drive

Dear Ladies of St. Matthew,

September is the EOWG's annual Membership Drive for the New Church Year. EOWG is a Pan-Orthodox organization that joins women together from the Greater Cleveland area Orthodox Churches not only to socialize but also foster fellowship, propagation of our Faith and present a United Orthodox front when called upon.

Members who joined in previous years should receive their renewal reminder in the mail. For women who would like to join as a new member or those who want more information, please see Gloria Zabala.



St. George
Antiochian
Orthodox
Church
Food Fair

September 18, 2022
1:00pm-5:00pm

Dine In
Carry Out

Delicious Food
Great Music
Fun Activities

3304 Ridgewood Rd.
Fairlawn, OH 44325
saintgeorgeortho.org

WEDDING INVITATION:

Cathy Snyder-Sage and Bob Snyder are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of their son, **Sam Snyder, to Lena McCoy** Church friends are invited to join them:

Saturday, November 12, 2022 1:30 pm

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
2187 West 14th Street, Cleveland, OH

Please visit www.theknot.com/samandlenawedding to RSVP for the wedding and cocktail reception by **October 14th**! If you prefer to avoid the internet, call, or text Sam at 330.495.6532

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY; SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

TONE 4 / EOTHINON 2

SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

After-feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Venerable Theodora of Alexandria; Righteous Euphrosynos the Cook

VERSES OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. Lo, we have heard 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 Nativity of the Theotokos)*

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR (p. 13)

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

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.

Today for the Trisagion Hymn we will use Alt. #1 (p. 20).

THE EPISTLE

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

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 Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see how large a letter I have written to you with my own hand. As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not be persecuted for the Cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised do themselves keep the Law; but they desire to have you circumcised, that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast, except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. Henceforth, let no one trouble me; for I bear in my body the brand-marks of the Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

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."

The St. Matthew Antiochian Women's Membership Drive 2023

Dear Ladies of St. Matthew.....

The Antiochian Women will be holding their annual Membership Drive for 2023 in September. *You can mail your \$3.00 dues donation to church or give it to Electra Floasiu, Georgette Dye or Camille Patrick anytime you see them at church.* You will then be added to the roster and receive emails on all the Women's activities which we hope you will all participate in!! *Make sure we have your email address and phone number, too!!*

Also, we will have a Coffee Hour to "wrap-up" the Membership Drive and to express our thanks on Sunday, September 25th!!

2022 Blessed us with 44 members, but Ladies...there are still more of you out there and we have plenty of room for you!! *We would LOVE for you to join us!!* Please give it some thought...Your bright new faces and ideas are most welcome!!!

Checks should be made out to: St. Matthew Sisterhood.

(Because our new name hasn't been put on our bank account just yet!!)

Please send your dues donation to: St. Matthew Orthodox Church

10383 Albion Road

—OR—

P.O.Box 33183

North Royalton, OH. 44133

North Royalton, OH. 44133

ATTEN: SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP

We are so looking forward to a successful Membership Drive!! Sincerely,
The Antiochian Women Membership Team, Electra Floasiu, Membership Chairman
Georgette Dye, President Camille Patrick, Treasurer

St Luke the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church

Bainbridge, OH

20th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, September 25, 2022

5:00-7:30 p.m.



With His Grace Bishop ANTHONY

Diocese of Toledo & the Midwest

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

The Bertram Inn & Conference Center

600 N. Aurora Rd

Aurora, OH 44202

Hayes Prefunction and Hayes Ballroom AB

Cost \$40 per person

Ticket includes beverage station, hors d'oeuvres, salad, plated dinner, and dessert (Vegetarian and Kids' Meal Options are available)

For reservations email John Dumot at jdumot@gmail.com

Please RSVP by Monday, September 19, 2022

UPCOMING SERVICES

THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS is Wednesday, September 14. Our service schedule:

Tuesday, September 13---*Vespers with Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.*

Wednesday, September 14---*Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy with Procession of Cross, 10 a.m.* This is an especially strict fast day, so no regular potluck. You can bring in some nuts and fruit to have a bit to eat in the hall afterwards and have a chance to visit.

SAT, SEPT 17---*Vespers, 5pm*

SUN, SEPT 18---*Matins, 8:50 am, Divine Liturgy, 10am;* The Holy Bread of Oblation will be offered by Subdeacon Mark & Josephine Katzbach for Mark's mother, Eleanor, on her 93rd birthday; and will be offered by Matthew & Ann Roach on their wedding anniversary; and will be offered by Marcella Simescu for her grandchildren; and will be offered by Elle Parker in memory of her husband, Ralph; and is offered by the Blazeks in memory of Susan's mother, Kathleen Metzger. And the 40 day memorial will be held for Ralph Parker.



Sunday School Scoop:

Today is our second annual open house! Everyone is invited to tour our beautiful classrooms. No food in the rooms, please!

September 18 is the first day of classes, immediately after Liturgy. Father will bless the students and teachers before they are dismissed. If you aren't sure what class your student is in, please see Gail Malaniak or Peggy Latina.

September 25 is the first day of choir, during regular Sunday School time. Choir meets in Room 3.

"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness." Genesis 1:26

THE PROCESSION OF THE CROSS will take place at the Sept 14 Elevation of the Cross liturgy. Please see Subdeacon Richard Sahley if you would like to donate flowers for the procession.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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

What does our Orthodox Faith teach 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, fellowship....please come and invite your friends.

PLEASE MARK THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 30 ON YOUR CALENDARS-----Bishop ANTHONY will be visiting our parish that weekend.

MEETINGS

PATHWAYS TO PEACE—Mondays at 7:15pm at church & by Zoom. “A gathering place for those who are broken from hurts, hangups, or habits. Join us as we renew our minds and encourage each other through the love of Christ.” Call Dcn Basil, 440-665-3591, for zoom info. See flier in this bulletin.

SOUTH BIBLE STUDY--- Tues, Sept 20 at 6:30pm at Craig & Cindy George’s, 9451 Sherwood Trl, Brecksville. Regularly meets the 1st & 3rd Tues of the month. The topic is the book of Ephesians.

WEST BIBLE STUDY--- Sat, Sept 24, 6pm (meets at church one Sat a month after 5pm Vespers) Studying I Corinthians.

NORTH BIBLE STUDY--- Wed, Sept 21, 6:30pm. Meets monthly at the Elle Parkers’ house, 1350 Elmwood Court Rocky River. Continuing with the book of Isaiah.

WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP— Fri, Sept 23, 1pm. Meets monthly at Tara Reidy’s 274 Elmwood, Berea; For more info, call Sandy Tolbert, 440-773-9162.

HOMESCHOOL GROUP—Sept 23 at 9am, meeting in the morning on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at the church. Contact Olivia Harmon for more information.

TEEN GROUP---Teens and almost teens:

Come join us for some good FREE Fall fun. We’ll get together after liturgy on Sun, Sept 25 and head over for a nice 45 min walk on the beautiful Princess Ledges Nature Reserve trail (4361 Spruce Ave in Brunswick) followed by tasty cider, hot chocolate, and donuts at Mapleside Farms right next door. Sponsored by the illustrious St. Matthew Teen Club. Please RSVP to Mr. or Mrs. Blazek, and feel free to ask them any questions. We hope to see you there. Bring a friend!

MINISTRY NEWS

CURRENT NEEDS FOR ST. HERMAN

ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER

18” heavy duty foil

3 section styrofoam take out trays for meals

Coffee creamer powder

Bottled water

Bus passes

Hygiene wipes

Toilet paper

Cheap rain ponchos

10-12 oz. paper coffee cups (not styrofoam)

Kool-aid or ice tea

Please see or contact Deacon Basil, 440-665-3591
MEAL SERVING AT ST. HERMAN ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER--- Sun, Sept 18 is our monthly day to serve the evening meal to the poor at St. Herman Orthodox Food Pantry in Cleveland. Our usual coordinator, Deacon Basil, has to be out of town. Jon Scordos is filling in...please contact Jon to help with cooking and/or serving---216-618-8007

St. John Chrysostom compares the church to a hospital... a place of healing.

Come and Experience

"Pathway to Peace"

A gathering place for those who are broken from hurt, hangups or habits

Pathway to Peace is a group of Orthodox Christians that meets for support in seeking practical solutions for problems and healthy spiritual fellowship.

Join us as we renew our minds and encourage each other through the love of Christ

Mondays, 7:15 PM
10383 Albion Rd, N Royalton
For more information, Deacon Basil williams@stjohnsbasil.net or 440-665-3591

FOOD PANTRY--- As of right now, the pantry is well-stocked.... **BUT WE ARE AGAIN IN NEED OF GROCERY GIFT CARDS....YOU CAN EITHER BRING OR MAIL TO THE CHURCH.**

MARTHA MINISTRIES---seeking parishioners who like to cook or would be willing to deliver some meals to families in time of need (new babies, recovering from illness or surgery, those grieving a loss...). Everyone could use a little help sometimes. Can you help by cooking or delivering a freezer meal? Do you have other ideas for how we can concretely help each other as a parish family? Please see/email/call Erin Musarra at 440-799-0838 or Erin.musarra@gmail.com.

STREET DELIVERY TO THE HOMELESS--- After liturgy Sunday, September 18...parishioners delivering food, clothing, etc. to homeless in downtown Cleveland. The alms box to help fund the lunches is near main hall entry doors.

OCLife ST. MATTHEW CHURCH--- officially affiliated with the national group 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 wish to get involved in this new ministry, please contact Lisa Palivoda at LDPAL1703@outlook.com or Cindy George at cindygeorge127@gmail.com.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEETIME HOSTING---Coffeetime after Sunday liturgy is a hugely important part of our parish life! We rely on parishioners to volunteer to take a turn to host. The sign-up sheet is on the wall on the north side of the hall. Lots of empty spots in the weeks ahead! It does not need to be a meal! Just light refreshments is fine. You can either sign up by yourself, or together with some one else, or as part of one of our coffeetime host groups. If you have questions, you can either speak to, or call, coffeetime coordinator, Electra Floasiu---216-671-0743

HOLY BREAD OBLATIONS SIGN-UP for 2022 is in the hall to the right of the sink area. Please sign up for what Sundays you wish to offer an oblation.

CHURCH VACUUMING--- We do not hire cleaning for the nave (the temple) part of the building, so we need to have a volunteer or volunteers who can sign up for a Sunday to vacuum either after Sunday liturgy or early in the week. There is a sign up sheet on a little table in the narthex/entryway. There are lots of openings coming up! For details, you can contact Subdeacon Fred Bourjaily, 216-219-4656.

SEEKING WORK--- Michael Palmer is seeking work. He has 15 years experience in customer service, most recently as a **health** screener at Cleveland Clinic. He is seeking a job of 20-25 hours per week in Berea/Middleburg Heights area. If you know of anything, please call him---216-212-7436.

POSSIBILITY OF YOUNG ADULT ACTIVITIES--- We now have many young adults in our parish. We have had some good young adult activities in the past but nothing recently, so...If you are interested in participating in or leading some activities, please let Father Andrew know.

MEN’S MEAT FEST---Sat, Oct 1, 6pm (after 5pm Vespers) at our picnic pavilion. Bon fire, lots of meat! Horseshoes, cornhole, and a general good time. Young men especially welcome!

LADIES’ NIGHT--- Attention all Ladies: We are having a Ladies’ night on Oct 1. Sound like a familiar date? Join in the fun immediately after Vespers at Augies in North Royalton (14084 State Rd) for dinner, laughs, and maybe some games. Please contact Gail Malaniak at 440-552-4586 with questions and reservations. Hope to see you on the 1st!