

# ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH

**September 8, 2024**

*Nativity of the Theotokos*

**His Eminence Metropolitan SABA**

**Archbishop of New York and Antiochian Metropolitan of all North America**

**Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Jeremy Davis**

**Archepiscopal Vicar for the Diocese of Toledo and Midwest**

**V. Rev. Father Fred Shaheen, Pastor**

**V. Rev. Father Andrew Harmon, Retired**

**Rev. Deacon Macarius Tolbert • Rev. Deacon Basil Vazquez**

**Sub-Deacon Fred N. Bourjaily • Sub-Deacon Samuel Harmon**

**Sub-Deacon Mark Katzbach • Sub-Deacon Richard Sahley**

**Sub-Deacon George Simon • Sub-Deacon Samuel Snyder**

**Reader Anthony Harmon**

**Church contacts:**

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

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

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

**Phone: Fr. Fred (c) [319\) 651-6452](tel:319-651-6452)**

**Email: [shaheenf@hotmail.com](mailto:shaheenf@hotmail.com)**

**Website: [smattroyalton.org](http://smattroyalton.org)**

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

**Saturday Vespers 5:00 PM; Confessions after Saturday Vespers or by appointment**

**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 Maria Simescu for her own health & salvation on the occasion of her birthday & name day and for the health & salvation of her son Cornel; and by Dave and Rudylin Glaser for the health & salvation of their son Paul on his birthday; and by Craig and Cindy George in thanksgiving to God on their wedding anniversary; and by Colton and Veronica Bose for the health & salvation of their daughter, Anna on her name day (Sept 9); and by Rim Alsaifi for the health & salvation of Nawal (Mary), Rim, Miladeh, Manar, and Nawar, and in memory of Haitham, Ibrahim, Edwar, Khaithom, Adel, Essam, and Fouad; and by Leontina Petromaniant in memory of her mother, Paraschiva Blaz (40 days); and is offered in memory of Nijmeh Rafeedie (5years) by her daughters and their families.

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

Justin Mosier	Nancy Yanik	Father John Henry	Jared Johnston
Lucy Kinkaid	Julie Dunn	Charles & Judy Burhen	Christina Bossart
Marc Balke	Ed Haddad	Constantine & Maria Kornea	Ann Ghianni
Christopher Samuel	Jean Fadil	Sara Scordos and baby	Don Heatwole
Peter George	Victoria Thorp	George & Christine Simon	Tony Branson
Pauline Hanna	Argie Katsaros	Michael & Marilyn Francu	Teresa Pye
Frank Popovich	Theodore Bunevich	Tamara Derosset	Jemma Whorley
Issa Zaboura	Donald Glaser	Dana	Metropolitan LONGIN
Corrine George	Mary Violanti	Charlotte Shaheen	Sharon Mack
James Padzerski	Jerry Morrison	Roy	Craig George
Josephine Katzbach	Danielle	Elias Karam	Christian

**And for the newly departed servants of God:** Tom Thomas (Gail Malaniak's uncle), Christos Yannaras, Dmitry, John Zerilla (Larry Malaniak's uncle), Tony Burhen, Igumen Pitirim, Robert Speck

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**EPISTLE LESSON:** Galatians 6:11-18

**EPISTLE READER:** Reader Anthony Harmon

**GOSPEL LESSON:** John 3:13-17

**HOMILY:** Fr. Fred: "From the Heavens"

**USHERS:** Tony Latina & Anthony Yanik

**ALTAR BOY TEAM 2--** Samir Amer, captain; Sebastian Blazek, Miles Hunter, Isaac Kash

**THE 40 DAY MEMORIAL** will be offered at the end of liturgy by Leontina Petromaniant for her mother, Paraschiva Blaz.

**Blessing of Sunday School teachers and students**-at the end of liturgy today. *All families are asked to visit their child's classroom and meet the teachers immediately after liturgy. Be sure to pick up an informational packet from your child's teacher.* Classes begin next Sunday!

**TODAY IS OUR ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC**  
**AND SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE!**

*Please stay and enjoy the picnic which is hosted by the Brotherhood.*

**ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S SISTERHOOD**—Meeting today after liturgy in the board room.

**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**  
**TONE 2 / EOTHINON 11; SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY**  
**CROSS; FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS**

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 Feast*)

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO (*p. 12*)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

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.

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 we will use an alternate musical setting for the following hymn:

- *Trisagion Hymn: 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.*

*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.

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."

MEGALYNARION OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

Virginity is alien to mothers, and childbirth is foreign to virgins; in thee, O Theotokos, both were granted. Wherefore, all we the tribes of the earth bless thee unceasingly.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST

I will take the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**Fri, Sept 13** **Eve of the Elevation of the Holy Cross:**

*6:30 pm Great Vespers with Litya*

**Sat, Sept 14** **Elevation of the Holy Cross:**

*9:00 am Orthros, 10 am Liturgy*

*5pm Great Vespers*

\*This is a strict one-day fast.

**Sun, Sept 15** *8:50am Orthros, 10am Divine Liturgy;* The Holy Bread of Oblation will be offered by Deacon Basil and Joanne Vazquez for their grandchildren Sophia Gazal and Theodore Vazquez on their birthdays; and by Fr Fred & Kh Michelle in memory of Kh Michelle's Yiayia and Papou Eirene & George Samaras and Fr. Fred's Aunt Marina.

## MEETINGS

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY**— Next date to be announced. Meets one Sat a month, 6pm at the church. Studying the Gospel of St. Mark. Bible, fellowship, food.....For more info, contact: Subdeacon Samuel Harmon, 216-598-9230, [samuelfharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:samuelfharmon15@gmail.com) or Colton Bose, 440-567-6101

**SOUTH BIBLE STUDY**--- Tuesday, Sept 17, 6:30pm at Craig & Cindy George's, house---4414 Brookhaven Drive, North Royalton. Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Studying the Servant Songs in book of Isaiah---all are welcome!

**WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP**—Tues, Sept 17, 10:30 am at Tara Reidy's house (274 Elmwood Dr., Berea, OH 44017) For info, call Sandy Tolbert, [440-773-9162](tel:440-773-9162).

**TODDLER STORY TIME AND HOMESCHOOL ENRICHMENT GROUP**--- Meets from 9:30-noon on Fridays for infants through Elementary. Contact Olivia Harmon for more information: [oharmon15@gmail.com](mailto:oharmon15@gmail.com)

**TEEN CLUB**—Upcoming events to be announced.

**CHESS CLUB**--- Sun, Sept 15 after liturgy. If you don't know how to play, they will teach you!

**PATHWAYS TO PEACE**- Sept 23 at 7pm in the church conference room. The meetings will be held monthly on the fourth Monday of each month. "A gathering place of Orthodox Christians who seek to live in the fullness of life as promised by Jesus Christ." Contact Deacon Basil for more information: 440-665-3591

## MINISTRY NEWS

**STREET DELIVERY TO THE HOMELESS**----- Sept 22. One Sunday a month 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. Herman's Homeless Shelter this month.

**MEAL SERVING AT ST. HERMAN ORTHODOX HOMELESS SHELTER** SEPT 15 is our next monthly date to provide, cook, and serve a meal to the poor at St. Herman Orthodox Homeless Shelter in Cleveland. If you can help in any way, please talk with Deacon Basil, 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**---in conjunction with the national Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry. It is possible to help with prison ministry even without ever going inside a prison. *A big focus right now is writing letters to prisoners.* For more info, contact our local leader, Vincent Defilippo, 330-352-6678 [vdefilippo@neo.rr.com](mailto:vdefilippo@neo.rr.com)

## **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RETREAT HELP NEEDED:** We are busy planning our September Retreat with Fr Josiah Trenham. If you have ever asked yourself, “I wonder how I might be able to help with this?” Here is the answer to that question.

The following are specific areas of need and the people you may contact if you can help:

<u>Need</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	
Babysitting	Cindy George	<a href="mailto:cindygeorge127@gmail.com">cindygeorge127@gmail.com</a>
Parking	Sam Harmon	<a href="mailto:samuelharmon15@gmail.com">samuelharmon15@gmail.com</a>
Host/House out-of-towners	Cindy George	<a href="mailto:cindygeorge127@gmail.com">cindygeorge127@gmail.com</a>
Kitchen Help	Gloria Zabala	<a href="mailto:gzabala104@gmail.com">gzabala104@gmail.com</a>

**HELP WITH HOUSING-** If anyone would be willing to provide lodging for out-of-towners attending of the retreat in September (with Fr. Josiah Trenham), please let Cindy George, Leigh Frank or Steve Morgan know.

**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 Fred.*

**HOSTING COFFEETIME AFTER SUNDAY LITURGY-** If you can bring food please sign up on the chart to the left of the counter in the hall! Questions? Contact Electra Floasiu 216-671-0743.

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

**PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE-** Do you have pictures or announcements you’d like to share on our public Facebook page? Contact Steve Morgan at (330) 524-0214, [stevemorgx@pm.me](mailto:stevemorgx@pm.me) or message the account directly.

### **HELP ST. THEODOSIUS REBUILD:**

As you are no doubt aware, St Theodosius Cathedral suffered a catastrophic fire. We are all too familiar with what that is like. We are also very familiar with the blessing experienced when others step forward to help. We would like to be that kind of blessing for the priest and faithful of St Theodosius. If you would like to be part of this, you can donate through St Matthew’s and be part of our gift to them. Just donate to St Matthew and earmark it for St Theodosius. We will then gift them as we were gifted in our time of need.

**FLOWER DONATIONS:** If you would like to donate to the parish flower fund to decorate our church for one of our many feast days, please contact Lisa Amer 216-415-9126 or [lisa.amer@att.net](mailto:lisa.amer@att.net)

**DESK AND SHELVING UNITS NEEDED:** Colton and Veronica Bose are looking for anyone who may be able to donate a desk or shelving to them for their new apartment. You can contact Colton on his cell phone: 440-567-6101

**A REMINDER:** *Do not leave any items* to give away without permission from a Hall Committee Member: **Electra Floasiu** [216-671-0743](tel:216-671-0743) **Gail Malaniak** [440-552-4586](tel:440-552-4586)  
We often have weekday events and hall rentals. Piles and boxes get in the way and are sometimes taken to the dumpster. **Please help us to keep our hall presentable!**

SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP  
DRIVE 2024-25

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

September is our annual Membership Drive for 2025!! 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 \$5.00 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. Plus, we love to see new faces and listen to new ideas!! You can give your \$5.00 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 almost monthly on a Sunday after Liturgy. Please consider joining!! It's a great way to see how we plan and put on our activities and fundraisers!! If you have any questions at all, please let us know!!

Thank you!!!

Electra, Camille and Georgette

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP:

Next Sunday, Sept 15 is the first day of Sunday School classes.

If you are interested in leading the children's choir or Christmas program, please see Dawn Heatwole.

Also, the Sunday School is looking for new or gently used items for our new sensory area. Acceptable items include balls of any size, squishy toys, fidgets, beads, popping toys, etc. No play doh or sand. Thank you!

St. Paul Ladies Philoptochos Society

**Autumn**  
• CRAFT FAIR •

**Saturday, October 12, 2024**  
**9am-4pm, Cash Entry \$2**

**St. Paul Hellenic Center**  
4548 Wallings Road  
North Royalton, Ohio 44133

*A variety of unique vendors and artisans!*

*Authentic Greek Food, Pastries, and Other Treats!*

**Indoor Event!**

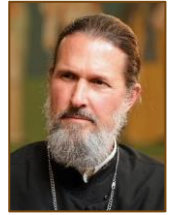
**Proceeds to benefit**  
**St. Paul Ladies Philoptochos Society Charities**

St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church  
North Royalton, Ohio



# SAVE THE DATE FOR A WEEKEND RETREAT WITH

FATHER JOSIAH TRENHAM, PH.D.



“Godly Marriage and Virginity:  
Paths to Holiness”

**DATE: September 20 – 22, 2024**

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

- Friday, 9/20                      7-9:00 pm              1<sup>st</sup> talk with Q & A
- Saturday, 9/21                    9:30 am                check in / continental breakfast  
   10 – 12                2<sup>nd</sup> talk  
   12 – 1                    Lunch  
   1 – 3 pm                3<sup>rd</sup> talk  
   4:00 pm                Vespers
- Sunday, 9/22                      Join us for Sunday Liturgy with Father Josiah  
   8:50 am Sunday Matins  
   10:00 am                Divine Liturgy with homily  
   Luncheon after Liturgy

Father Josiah has published numerous articles and 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. His books will be available at the retreat at a wholesale discount.

There will be a free-will offering to help cover expenses.

**Registration deadline: September 8, 2024 – Register early. Seating is limited.**

**Contact:**

Cindy George at [cindygeorge127@gmail.com](mailto:cindygeorge127@gmail.com)

Steve Morgan at [stevemorgx@pm.me](mailto:stevemorgx@pm.me)

Leigh Frank at [loberlinfrank@gmail.com](mailto:loberlinfrank@gmail.com)



# Benefit Concert for St. Theodosius Orthodox Christian Cathedral

**Sunday, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 at 3 pm**

*at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church*  
6822 Broadview Road, Parma 44134



Presented by the

***Pan-Orthodox Choir of the  
Greater Cleveland Area Churches***

One-hour concert open to the public.  
Free Will Donation to go toward the  
RESTORATION FUND following a fire.  
Light refreshments and fellowship at  
conclusion.

CD available to purchase. Professional  
recording donated by *Spider Studios*.  
15 tracks of familiar hymns and a  
special interview with Fr. Ján Čižmár,  
Cathedral Dean. **\$20**

SAVE THE DATE

October 18-20, 2024  
Clergy: October 17-19

Midwest Diocese  
**FAMILY FALL**  
*Gathering*

ST. NICHOLAS - GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Look for  
Registration  
in Early  
August!



Registration  
\$50 - Adults  
\$30 - Kids 12  
& under



# Highlight of Events

Welcoming our new Archbishopal Vicar, Archimandrite Jeremy Davis

## Clergy Synaxis

John Maddex - "Difficult Conversations"

- Complimentary Outing for Clergy Wives & kids to Frederik Meijer Gardens

## Family Fall Gathering

Speaker: Dn. Gabriel Otte - "Stillness in the Storm: Orthodoxy on Conquering Anxiety"

- Live Music & Pizza Party
- Activities for Teens & Youth
- Offsite Teen Service Project
- Midwest Diocese Information
- "Best Practice" Round Table Breakouts
- Cookout with Trivia & Game Night
- Young Adult Pickleball

## "Best Practice" Round Table Breakouts

*SHARE IDEAS FROM YOUR PARISH  
& LEARN FROM OTHERS IN THE MIDWEST!*

- Priest & Parish Council - Working Towards a Higher Partnership
- Motivating Parish Stewards in the 21st Century
- Surfing the Wave - Evangelism & Welcoming Visitors
- Works of Mercy - Connecting Parishioners to the Least of the Brethren
- Guiding Them In - Organizing a Catechesis Program for Your Parish
- Building a Men's Ministry



**Come & Join  
the FUN!**

2 of 2



# 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)

		September 2024		
		Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Sunday	1		Rachid Zoghaib-graduation party 2-10PM	Zoghaib grad party 2-10
Monday	2			
Tuesday	3			
Wednesday	4			
Thursday	5			
Friday	6	Homeschool Enrichment 9-1		
Saturday	7		EOWG meeting (Gloria Z.) 9-12	
Sunday	8			
Monday	9			
Tuesday	10			
Wednesday	11			
Thursday	12			
Friday	13	Homeschool Enrichment 9-1		
Saturday	14			
Sunday	15			
Monday	16			
Tuesday	17			
Wednesday	18			
Thursday	19			
Friday	20	Homeschool Enrichment 9-1		Retreat
Saturday	21	Retreat	Retreat	Retreat
Sunday	22			
Monday	23			
Tuesday	24			
Wednesday	25			
Thursday	26			
Friday	27	Homeschool Enrichment 9-1		

**St Matthew Church can now accept donations online:**

<https://giving.servantkeeper.com/stmatthewchurch>



**Saint Matthew now has a YouTube channel! Please subscribe to stay on top of our videos**

<https://m.youtube.com/@saintmattheworthodoxchurch>

Additionally, you can subscribe to Fr. Fred's own YouTube channel, *A Light to the Nations* <https://tinyurl.com/ALight2> and his podcast is available to listen to on multiple platforms <https://tinyurl.com/ALightpodcast>