

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

10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton, OH

***April 21, 2024***

*Fifth 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:

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)

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

**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 Christina Nassif in beloved memory of her mother, Phyllis Simmons, and of her best friend, Lidia Sistick.

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

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

**And for the newly departed servants of God:** Father Andrew Short, Margaret Sabrey, Jean Browne (Sandy Tolbert's cousin), Nikki Bober, Livia Coconocu (Mark Monalache's grandmother), George Spevoc (Marianne Feuerstein's brother-in-law), Eric Ghianni (Ginger Defilippo's brother-in-law), Iliana Radivoj, Betty Christianson (Father Andrew's Cousin), Tony Mlakar (grandfather of David Mlakar)

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**EPISTLE LESSON:** Hebrews 9: 11-14

**EPISTLE READER:** Reader Anthony Harmon

**GOSPEL LESSON:** Mark 10: 32-45

**HOMILY:** "Servants of God"

**USHERS:** Marianne Nader & Richard Sahley

**ALTAR BOY TEAM 3**—Josiah Blazek, captain; Gabriel Amer, Gregory Blazek, Adam Heatwole

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES will be dismissed after communion---for ages 3- 19**

**PARENTS---PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILDREN ATTEND TODAY!**

**PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEETIME RIGHT AFTER THE LITURGY!**

*It is a memorial lunch for Ileana Radivoj, Diyana Bokjanc's mother. All are welcome!*

**NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>—PALM SUNDAY!** The holy bread of oblation will be offered by Al & Susan Blazek for their 23<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary; and by Cindy George for Craig's birthday; and by the Amer family for Joanne Vazquez's birthday; and by Marcella Simescu for her brothers, Ioan & Mikail; The 40-Day Churching for Lindsey Katsaros and her son, James, will take place at the end of liturgy. And the outdoor Palm Sunday procession will take place at the end of the liturgy.

The Sisterhood will offer their Bake Sale during coffee hour---see their flyer elsewhere in this bulletin. And directly following the Bake Sale, at approximately 1:15pm, a meal will be served. The Lenten fast is relaxed a bit- we're permitted fish and oil! A family has already signed up to provide the fish. Please bring a small side dish to share with others if you plan to attend. Sign up sheet available in the fellowship hall to let us know how much fish to prepare.

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 21, 2024**

### **TONE 5 / EOTHINON 2; FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT**

#### **Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt**

Hieromartyr Januarios, bishop of Benevento & companions; Martyr Alexandra the Queen & companions

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

#### 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 ST. MARY OF EGYPT IN TONE EIGHT

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. Wherefore, O righteous Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

#### 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.

#### ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO (p. 17)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

#### THE EPISTLE

*Thou, O Lord, shalt preserve us and keep us from this generation.*

*Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.*

#### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:11-14)**

Brethren, Christ having appeared a High Priest of the good things to come, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; neither through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having found eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of bulls and goats and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (10:32-45)**

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

## 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.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

**Today-** regular classes    **Apr 28-** no classes (Palm Sunday)

**May 5-** no classes (Pascha)    **May 12-** special last day activity and egg hunt    **May 19-** first confessions

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**GREAT COMPLINE**---Monday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.

**PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY**—Wednesday, April 24, 6:30 p.m. Followed by potluck meal afterwards (strict fasting, please)

*This Friday night is the official beginning of Holy Week---*

**LITTLE COMPLINE WITH CANON OF RAISING OF ST. LAZARUS**---Friday, April 26, 6:30 p.m.

**LAZARUS SATURDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>---**Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m. Followed by potluck brunch—strict fasting food, please. **Grave blessings start right after lunch**—on this day, Father Andrew will bless graves at Brooklyn Hts. Cemetery and Holy Cross Cemetery (other cemeteries on later dates---see elsewhere in bulletin). **Great Vespers For Palm Sunday Eve with Artoklasia---5 p.m.** *Help needed right after Vespers for Palm Sunday decorating.*

## ***FULL HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:***

### **OUR 2024 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 26---**Little Compline with Canon of Raising of St. Lazarus, 6:30 p.m.

**LAZARUS SATURDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>----**Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m.; Potluck brunch, 11:30 a.m.

----GRAVE BLESSINGS START AT NOON (see elsewhere in newsletter for info on this);

----Vespers, 5 p.m.

**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>—**Matins, 8:45 a.m.; Liturgy with Palm Procession, 10 a.m.;

----First Bridegroom Service, 6:30 p.m.

**HOLY MONDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>—**Second Bridegroom Service, 6:30 p.m.

**HOLY TUESDAY, APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>---**Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 10 a.m.;

----Third Bridegroom Service, 6:30 p.m.

**HOLY WEDNESDAY, MAY 1---**Unction Healing Service, 6:30 p.m.

**HOLY THURSDAY, May 2---**Matins, 8:30 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m.; Potluck brunch after liturgy.

---Service of the 12 Passion Gospel Readings, 6:30 p.m.

**GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY, May 3---**

---Royal Hours, 7 a.m., 9 a.m., noon, 3 p.m.

---Great Vespers (Taking Down From Cross)---4 p.m.

---Lamentations Matins, 7 p.m.

**GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY, May 4-----**Harrowing of Hell Liturgy, 10 a.m.

**GREAT & HOLY PASCHA, May 5----**

--Rush, Outdoor Procession, Matins, Liturgy service----10:30 p.m. (*Saturday night*) **THIS IS THE MAIN**

**PASCHA SERVICE**

Followed by Parish Pascha Feast, approximately 1:15 a.m.

---Agape Vespers, noon, on Pascha Day

### **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.....

## **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.

## **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)**

**ALL-NIGHT PRAYER VIGIL AT THE TOMB OF CHRIST---**starts about 9:15 pm after the Holy Friday evening service on May 3..and continues until Holy Saturday liturgy starts at 10am. You can sign up for one or more small time periods and do not have to stay all night. There now is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Michael Musarra is coordinating the schedule. Contact him at 216-559-7203 if you have questions!

## **MEETINGS**

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY**—Apr meeting already held. 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**--- Tuesday, May 21st, 6:30 p.m., at Craig & Cindy George's, 9451 Sherwood Trail, Brecksville. Beginning a study on the Servant Songs in book of Isaiah---all are welcome!

**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 on Fridays at the church. Our last meeting of the year is this Friday, Apr 26. Next year we plan to meet Aug-Oct 9:30-noon on Fridays. We will offer chemistry, math, music, and catechism courses. Infants through Elementary School children are welcome to participate. Contact Olivia Harmon for more information: [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---** May date to be announced. *If you don't know how to play, you are welcome to come and they will teach you!*

**TEEN CLUB—** Next meeting: After liturgy Sun, May 26<sup>th</sup>. And they will be participating in Holy Friday overnight Vigil and will be in charge of Children's Egg Hunt on May 12.

**ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S SISTERHOOD—**Next meeting: Sun, June 2.

**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-----** TODAY, is the monthly Sunday 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** TODAY is the 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 Dcn 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-** 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!

**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/>

### **SOME HOLY WEEK NOTES-----**

---If enough altar boys (or other male!) are available for the Holy Thursday, May 2, 10 a.m. liturgy, we will have the **foot washing ceremony**. If you can be present, please let Fr. Andrew or one of the deacons know ahead of time. If a letter to a school is needed, let Fr. Andrew know.

---During the day on Great & Holy Friday, May 3, we will **decorate the tomb and dye eggs in between the short Hours services**. Please come and help---and enjoy some "holy day fellowship".

---**Blessing of baskets:** Pascha baskets will be blessed at the end of our midnight Pascha service. It is traditional to include in the baskets food that you didn't eat during Lent---meat, eggs, cheese, wine, candy, etc.--plus anything else you like.... There will be tables in the church to put the baskets on.

**PASCHA PARISH POTLUCK FEAST** After the Midnite Pascha Service (which starts at 10:30 p.m., Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>). Please stay after the liturgy for the Potluck of Potlucks as break the Lenten Fast and celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ! If you can help that night, please contact our committee---Susan Blazek, Electra Floasiu, Tony Latina, Sondra Palivoda. Or just let Fr. Andrew know.....

**ANNUAL CHILDREN'S EGG HUNT---AFTER LITURGY ON ST. THOMAS SUNDAY, MAY 12.** If you can help, please bring in ahead of time candy or money for candy or those little plastic eggs..... The Teen Club is running the hunt.

*Dear Parishioners,*

*The Sisterhood would like to THANK all of you who were so generous with your donations for the NAB Fundraiser held on Apr 7!!*

*We collected \$943.00 and the Sisterhood is adding to that amount to bring it up to \$1,000.00 to send to the NAB.*

*We are so grateful for your generosity to this worthy cause!!! THANK YOU!!!!*

*Most sincerely,  
The St. Matthew Sisterhood*



## **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.***

**GRAVE BLESSINGS---**There are two traditional days for the blessing of loved one's graves in our Orthodox Faith—Lazarus Saturday and St. Thomas Sunday.

**ON LAZARUS SATURDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>**, Father Andrew will bless graves beginning approximately at 12:15 after morning liturgy and parish lunch. The two cemeteries that day will be Brooklyn Heights Cemetery and Holy Cross Cemetery.

**ON ST. THOMAS SUNDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup>**, Father Andrew will bless graves beginning approximately at 1pm. The two cemeteries that day will be St. Theodosius Cemetery and Riverside Cemetery.

**BLESSINGS AT OTHER CEMETERIES WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR LATER DATES**

**CONTACT FATHER ANDREW AHEAD OF TIME TO SCHEDULE FOR ANY OF THESE CEMETERIES.....**

# 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!

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!!! ~~~**



# SAVE THE DATE

FOR A WEEKEND RETREAT  
WITH

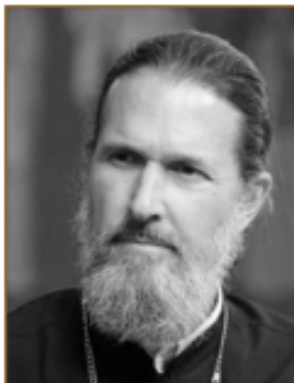
FATHER JOSIAH  
TRENHAM, PH.D.

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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)



## RECRUITING SUNDAY GREETERS

Every Sunday morning, we have new first-time attenders at St. Matthew's. Truly a wonderful thing! But because of our having many new parishioners and high attendance lately, it is very common that first-time visitors "get lost in the shuffle". Quite often, they don't get greeted or spoken to and they leave as unknown to us as when they walked in.

It's important that visitors get greeted and especially wonderful if they come to coffee-time where they will get to know lots of friendly St. Matthew's folks. And it is a problem problem if no one makes any significant contact with them--then it's impossible for me to follow up with them.....

So we need to have very friendly and assertive (nicely assertive!) greeters each Sunday. We would set up a rotation schedule so no one would serve as greeter more than once a month (less than that if enough volunteer). The main priorities of a greeter on that person's assigned Sunday would be to be "on the watch" for visitors and make a priority of speaking to them before they leave; to introduce them to other people, to invite them to coffee-time, etc. A very serious task; perhaps not always easy. It may be a rather draining Sunday morning for a greeter--but you will know it was well worth it if that person enters the Faith by Holy Baptism a year later!

If you can do this or just need more info, please let me know. As soon as we have enough volunteers (at least 4 or 5) we will meet to get ready. This is an important service to Christ---please pray and consider it!

Thank you!

---Father Andrew

## Xenia Amer

### Camper Spotlight



**How many years have you been to camp?**

This will be my fifth year.

**What is your favorite camp memory?**

Playing checkers with my friend Elena.

**What is your favorite camp activity?**

Going on the ropes course.

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

Seeing my friends.



# 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



# 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
Sunday	21		Kitchen in use-George and Christine Nassif 1-4	
Monday	22	EOWG meeting 10:00- Gloria Z		
Tuesday	23			
Wednesday	24	Kitchen in use-Sisterhood 8:30-4:00	Kitchen in use-Sisterhood 8:30-4:00	
Thursday	25			
Friday	26	Homeschool 9-2		
Saturday	27			
Sunday	28			
Monday	29			
Tuesday	30			
May 2024				
		Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Wednesday	1			
Thursday	2			
Friday	3			
Saturday	4			
Sunday	5		Kirsch Family Pascha Celebration 1:30-6:00	
Monday	6			
Tuesday	7			
Wednesday	8			
Thursday	9			
Friday	10			
Saturday	11			
Sunday	12			
Monday	13			
Tuesday	14			
Wednesday	15			
Thursday	16			
Friday	17			
Saturday	18			
Sunday	19			
Monday	20			
Tuesday	21			
Wednesday	22			
Thursday	23			
Friday	24			Kitchen in use-6-9 St. John Mission
Saturday	25	Kitchen in use 9-3 St. John Mission	Kitchen in use 9-3 St. John Mission	
Sunday	26		Hall Rental Bonnie Harmon 3-7	
Monday	27			
Tuesday	28			
Wednesday	29			
Thursday	30			
Friday	31			



**THE MARTYR BISHOP JANUARIUS AND HIS COMPANIONS IN MARTYRDOM,  
DEACON SOSIUS & PROCLUS**

St. Januarius, whose memory we celebrate today, was born in Naples, Italy and became the bishop of Benevento, Italy. During the fierce Roman persecutions of Christianity in the early 300's A.D. he was arrested while on a visit to the congregation in the town of Pozzuoli. He and that congregation's Deacon Sosius and a layman named Proclus were arrested, tried, and killed. Their martyrdoms took place on April 21, 305 A.D.

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

## ST MATTHEW'S SUMMER DAY CAMP

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

**2024 Theme: ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

*Join us as we explore the lives of saints,  
Iconography, woodworking, prayer rope weaving, and candle making,  
Soccer, martial arts, basketball, Serbian dance,  
and international foods*

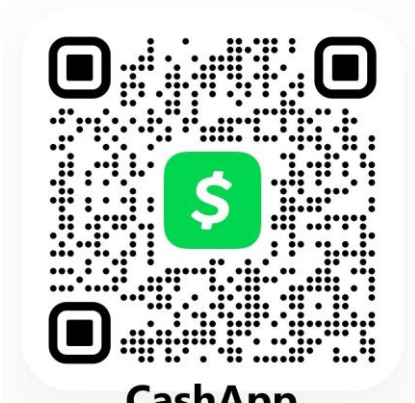
Free! (Donations Accepted)

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 Matthew Church can now accept donations with these online services:**

[https://cash.app/\\$stmattroyalton](https://cash.app/$stmattroyalton)

<https://venmo.com/u/stmattroyalton>



**CashApp**

\$stmattroyalton



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