

**ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH
OCTOBER, 2022, NEWSLETTER**

**10383 ALBION ROAD, N. ROYALTON, OH 44133
P.O. Box 33183, N. Royalton, OH 44133**

Father Andrew's Contact Info: fatherharmon@outlook.com

cell: 440-539-1116 home: 440-826-0662 church: 440-582-5673

Website: www.stmattroyalton.org

SATURDAY VESPERS—5 p.m.

SUNDAY MATINS—8:50 a.m. SUNDAY LITURGY—10 a.m.

CONFESSION—after Vespers and during Sunday Matins & by appointment.

EXTRA SERVICES IN OCTOBER

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25—Matins, 9 a.m.; Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Deacon John Will Vazquez, the son of Deacon Basil & Joanne, will be ordained as priest in Indianapolis on Sunday, October 23. In accord with the custom of a new priest serving liturgy on several days following ordination, he will preside at this liturgy at St. Matthew's 2 days after his ordination. Please come to worship the Lord and congratulate the new Father John!

VISIT FROM BISHOP ANTHONY THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 30

Our Father in Christ, Bishop ANTHONY, will be with us October 28-31. The full detailed schedule won't be known for a few days yet—you will be informed! Please keep these days open!

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS, STUDY GROUPS, MINISTRY TEAMS

PATHWAYS TO PEACE—BOTH IN PERSON AT CHURCH AND BY ZOOM—Each Monday, 7:15 pm. "A gathering place for those who are broken from hurts, hang-ups, or habits. Join us as we renew our minds and encourage each other through the love of Christ." Call Deacon Basil, 440-665-3591, for Zoom information.

NORTH BIBLE STUDY—Tuesday, October 25, at Elle Parker's, 1350 Elmwood Ct., Rocky River, 6:30. Studying the book of Jude.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP—Friday, October 7, 1 pm. All women welcome! The location is at Tara Reidy's, 274 Elmwood, Berea. For more info, call Sandy Tolbert, 440-773-9162.

WEST BIBLE STUDY—Saturday, October 22, 6 pm at the church. Studying I Corinthians.

SOUTH BIBLE STUDY—Tuesday, October 4, 6:30 p.m. at Craig & Cindy George's, 9451 Sherwood Trail, Brecksville. All are welcome. The study will be on the book of Ephesians. Just 1 meeting this month...

TEEN CLUB—Meeting and lunch right after liturgy on Sunday, October 23. By the teens' request we will do some "apologetics". The topic this day will be "Is There a God?" Fr. Andrew will lead the meeting.

YOUNG ADULT BONFIRE—At the church on Saturday, October 8, at 6 p.m. (after 5 p.m. vespers). Come and enjoy fire, food, and fellowship—and some discussion about future activities for our many young adults. There will be hot dogs, etc. and anyone who wishes may bring a side dish or dessert. For more info—call Colton or Veronica Bose, 567-6101, 440-657-8904.

ST. HERMAN'S MINISTRY TEAM—Sunday, October 16, is our parish's next monthly turn to provide a meal to the poor at St. Herman Orthodox Homeless Shelter in Cleveland. If you can help with either the providing or cooking or serving of the meal, please contact Dn. Basil, 440-665-3591. Thank you to Matt & Ann Roach for cooking the September meal and to the Blazeks for serving it.

MONTHLY DELIVERY OF FOOD, CLOTHING, ETC. TO HOMELESS ON STREETS OF DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND—Sunday, October 23. Alms box to help this outreach is near hall entrance. If you wish to help with making sack lunches, call Matt Roach, 216-773-1892.

HOMESCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP—October 14 & 28, 9 a.m.

CHESS CLUB—After liturgy, Sunday, October 16.

MEN'S MEAT FEST—Big meat cookout, Saturday, October 1, 6 p.m., right after 5 p.m. vespers. All men welcome. For details, contact Jack Palivoda, 216-235-2990.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RIGHT AFTER LITURGY EACH WEEK

For ages 3-19—please bring your child! For more information, call Superintendent Gail Malaniak, 440-552-4586 or gailmeen@gmail.com.

Our campers had a great time at camp and they appreciate your support. Here are some letters they wrote to show their appreciation.

Dear St. Matthew's,

Thank you for helping send us to camp. I had a very great time and I can't wait to go back next year!

Love, Marina Amer

Dear St. Matthew's,

Thank you very much for sending me to camp this year because I loved it and I really want to go back next year.

Love, Julianna Amer

Dear St. Matthew's,
Thank you for sending me to camp. I really enjoyed it.
Love, Xenia Amer

Antiochian village was a super fun experience and I'm so glad I got to go. It totally made my summer and I will definitely come back next year, and hopefully every year after that. Thank you to everybody who helped pay for me to go.
Lily Scanlon

Dear St. Matthew parishioners,
On behalf of our entire family, we would like to thank you for your generosity, which helped send our sons, Miles and Cosby, to the Antiochian Village camp last summer. Cosby, age 10, was a first year camper. He went for one week during Session 1. His favorite memory from camp is decades night. He also enjoyed being able to bless the camp as part of Session 1. He wants to go back next year for 2 weeks! Thanks be to God!

Miles (15) also loved his camp experience this summer. He went for two weeks for session 2, where he reunited with former camp and church friends. He maintains contact with his camp friends throughout the year, via calls, texts, and video games. They even pray together on the phone some evenings.

Camp has been a special blessing for our family. Your support is greatly appreciated!

In Christ's love, The Hunter Family

PARISHIONER PUBLISHES BOOK

St. Theophan the Recluse says, "Of all holy works, the education of children is the most holy." As Orthodox Christians we should be very interested in raising and educating our children in the faith. Lisa Amer (under the pen name Lisa Rose) has co-authored a book on this topic which explores what it means to educate our children, who are made in God's image. Written from the perspective of Orthodox homeschoolers, it is not only for those who are Orthodox or those who homeschool, but is for every parent, god-parent, grandparent, teacher, and adult interested in thinking about how to pass our faith on to our children and raise them in the way they should go. (*Bookstore will soon have copies.*)

NEWS FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH—

Midwest Diocese Family Fall Gathering---October 21-23, St. George Church, Indianapolis, Indiana. Go to www.stgindy.org for all the info.

Free Public Lecture Series on "Get To Know the Original" (referring to Orthodoxy as the original Church) At St. Luke Antiochian Church in Bainbridge, 7 p.m. 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10. Taught by Father Matthew Thurman. For all the info, email info@stluke.us or call 440-384-3285

ASK THE PRIEST

THIS (SOME MONTHS!) SECTION OF THE NEWSLETTER IS FOR QUESTIONS TO FR. ANDREW CONCERNING OUR ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FAITH----ANYTHING YOU HAVE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT CONCERNING OUR BELIEFS. NO NAMES USED AND YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR ? "ANONYMOUSLY". JUST PUT IN ENVELOPE AND LEAVE FOR FATHER ANDREW----OR JUST ASK HIM YOUR QUESTION.....

WHAT DOES THE TERM "BORN AGAIN" MEAN AND WHAT ARE "BORN AGAIN CHRISTIANS"? All Christians are born again Christians because if you are not born again, you are not a Christian. As our Lord Jesus Christ said in John 3:3---"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." The term "born again" means to become a Christian. The way this happens, according to the Bible, is in Holy Baptism. Some Christians use the term to refer to other spiritual references, but in the Bible the term clearly refers to being reborn into the kingdom of God through Baptism into Jesus Christ.

Here's what the Bible actually says—after Christ in the passage quoted in the first paragraph above (a statement He made to Nicodemus), the Lord went on to describe how this rebirth takes place. As the Lord said in John 3:5----"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of *water* and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." The way this verse was interpreted by the ancient Church (and so the way we, as Orthodox Christians, still interpret it today) is that being born of water and the Spirit refers to Baptism.

St. Paul confirms this interpretation in his epistle to Titus in chapter 3, verse 5---"He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His own mercy, by the *washing of regeneration* and renewal in the Holy Spirit." The word "regeneration", of course, means "rebirth" or "being born again" And St. Paul uses the word "washing", thus referring to the waters of Baptism, where He says we are saved. So, not surprisingly, the Apostle agrees with Jesus' teaching in John 3.

Therefore, if you, as an Orthodox Christian, are asked by someone if you are born again, you may answer with the Bible to back you up, "Yes, I am a born again Christian." And if you next asked when you were born again, you may answer, again with the Bible to back you up, "when I was baptized."

Of course, knowing the true meaning of the term and having been baptized is not enough---as Orthodox Christians we must live out our baptisms by obedience to God throughout our lives. If we make a mockery of our baptisms by how we live, we won't make it into heaven, baptized or not. St. Paul wrote in Hebrews 10:26-29---"For if we sin deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remain a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful prospect of judgment..."

In conclusion, we are born again when we are baptized. That is when we become Christians and receive God's saving grace. However, although we should be confident of what God has done for us through Baptism, we should not become lackadaisical about our Christian life and figure that, once we are baptized, we can live any way we want and still "make it". For that is most definitely not true! Consider how two baptized persons in the 20th century turned out!----Joseph Stalin (baptized Orthodox) and Adolf Hitler (baptized Roman Catholic). Baptism is not a guarantee of salvation, for we retain our free will. But our baptisms should instead be the beginning of a life lived fully for God leading to life forever in God's Kingdom.

Special Teaching Evening

with
Paul Finley

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.

**Topic: The Pro-Life Christian:
"Fighting Without and Fear Within"**

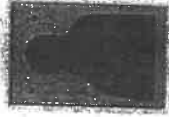
(2 Cor. 7:5)



Where: St. Matthew the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church
10383 Albion Rd, North Royalton

When: Sunday, October 23, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Sponsored by:



Theology of Vladimir

EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD
BY OUR FAITH, OUR LOVE, AND
UNITY Through Participation

Thursday, October 13, 2022
60th Diamond Anniversary Celebration
Eastern Orthodox Women's Guild



St. Sava Cathedral Main Hall
6306 Broadway Road
Parma, OH 44134

- Enjoy appetizers at social hour with friends and family - All invited
- Catered dinner prepared by St. Sava Caterer
- Delicious Pastry
- Program to celebrate our past, present and futures

- Doors open at 6:00 PM / Dinner at 7:00 PM
- Tickets: Adults - \$25 / Children 6-12 \$12.50 / Under 6 - FREE
- For tickets see parish website: www.eparhys.org or call: 330.821.5643
- Reservations must be made by Monday, October 3, 2022
- All proceeds will go to Orthodox Charities see list compiled by EOWG - <https://www.eowgcle.org>

NEW PARISHIONERS

Paul Blazek
1442 Andrea Drive
Brunswick, OH 44212
330-741-9462
Blazek.paul.l@gmail.com

Adriana Ivkovic
327 W. Tremont Avenue
#336
Charlotte, NC 28203
440-829-3543
adrianaivko@gmail.com

Please welcome them to our parish and add them to your directory!

CONGRATULATIONS---

--to Samer & Samantha Eadeh on the baptism of their children, Yasmeen and Elias, on September 4.

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

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

ST. MATTHEW'S MESSAGE BOARD

Contact Bonnie Harmon if you wish to submit a message.

St Matthew's Homeschool Group is seeking monetary donations to help fund its programs. One of our goals is to foster intergenerational relationships within the parish by inviting adult members to share their knowledge on various skills and topics. Donated money may be used as stipends for teachers, scholarships for tuition, and to buy materials. If you are interested in making an investment, of any amount, in the education of our children, please mark your tax deductible donation to the parish with Homeschool in the memo line.

MARTHA MINISTRIES IS NOW UNDERWAY-- This is a ministry to provide meals for families in need of some help-----new babies, illness, grieving, etc. If you can help, see/email/call Erin Musarra at 440-799-0838

NEW MINISTRY BEGINNING AT ST. MATTHEW'S

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



Dear St. Matthew Parishioners and Friends:

It is once again time to subscribe to our annual Christmas card. The card has become a project of the St. Matthew's Antiochian Women's Sisterhood and we need your support now more than ever to make it a successful endeavor. The parish council generously turned the project over to us a few years ago to help us help others. Between now and the end of the year, we will be making contributions to the Children's Relief Fund for our adopted child (\$400), to Gifts for Jesus (\$500), to Christmas Gifts for the needy (\$250), to our Midwest Antiochian Women's dues (\$200), and to St. Matthew's phase 2 of the icon project (\$1000). So, please, submit the Christmas card form on the back of this letter before the November 13th deadline.

Continuing a tradition for this year...We are looking for about ten people who would like to sponsor a Christmas card for one of our shut-ins. If you know of a particular shut-in you would like to sponsor, just complete the form on the back of this letter and submit it as directed with your donation. However, if you are unsure of whom to sponsor, see Camille Patrick or ask Fr. Andrew for a recommendation.

If you have any questions about the card itself, please see or call Camille Patrick. I handle the subscriptions and Laura handles the design, layout and printing. We hope you will help us make 2022 the most successful Christmas card project EVER! May God bless you for all the support you have given us in the past. You have been most generous.

Yours in Christ,

Camille Patrick and Laura Gasbarro

The Antiochian Women's Sisterhood Christmas Card Committee

DEAR FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS:

Christmas is just around the corner and a special time to join us in extending a holiday greeting through our St. Matthew Community Christmas Card and to support the ministries of our Antiochian Women's Sisterhood.

Please complete the form below and return it with your \$15.00 donation to: St. Matthew Sisterhood 10383 Albion Rd. North Royalton, OH. 44133-1408.

You can also give your form to Camille Patrick or Laura Gasbarro, co-chairs.

Each subscriber will receive a card with the names of every participant, sending their Christmas greeting of love and friendship at this holy season!

(Please print your name(s) as you wish it to be printed.)

(address)

(city)

(state)

(9 digit zip)

(phone)

(email)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. MATTHEW ORTHODOX CHURCH, PLEASE.

DEADLINE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2022

\$15.00 donation enclosed (please check) _____ cash OR check # _____

IF YOU ARE SPONSORING A CARD FOR A SHUT-IN, PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE FORM.

Wine Tasting

TO BENEFIT IOCC

Monday, October 24, 2022

Dinner 6:00 pm



Enjoy a four-course dinner w/ wine pairings, baskets raffle, and cash bar, & learn how your gifts help families in need around the world.

St. Michael's Woodside Event Center

5025 Mill Road | Broadview Heights, OH 44147

TICKETS \$60 For tickets, see your parish representative or visit ioccc.org/Cleveland

Or, mail checks for IOCC to Julie Hall, PO Box 560185 | Macedonia, OH 44056

St. Matthew Orthodox Church

10383 Albion Road

North Royalton, OH 44133

More and more people are needing food lately---and so St. Mary of Egypt Mission needs more volunteers to help with various aspects of distributing food to the poor at their mission center. The Mission Director, Tara Reidy, is part of our parish and so we have a good connection to find out how we can help. See details below..... To volunteer or get more info, please go to www.saintmaryofegypt.org or call 440-473-3885 or 216-351-3533. Or speak to Tara at church. God will bless you as you bless the poor with your help!

Dear Father Andrew - your expression of interest on behalf of St. Matthew Church is at a very good time! We are experiencing a great increase in the number of families/individuals coming for food. Our regular volunteer list is short. Because of covid we changed from an indoor distribution to drive-through with some walkers lining up by our entrance. Our normal distribution is on the third Saturday of each month with volunteers encouraged to be there by noon to prepare for 1 to 3 open hours. Preparation is essential - dividing big bags of produce when necessary and setting up carts with prepared allocation for large, medium and small families. At 3 we complete cleaning and sanitizing our tables.

- Needs:**
- A: Monday before the 3rd Saturday - People who will join our bagging crew at 7 pm or who can be called on if the regular crew is short-handed - prepare the canned and dry foods bags that will be put in carts on Saturday
 - B: Friday (day before) the 3rd Saturday - The Cleveland Foodbank truck arrives sometime between 11 AM and 1 PM. Need able bodied helpers to move the food from skids into place in the warehouse.
 - C: 3rd Saturday - Need men to help with street sign in of clients, organizing and directing movement of cars and walkers outside. Able to be firm when questions raised re who was first.