

THE MANTLE

Saint Michael's Orthodox Church

7313 N. Waukegan Road Niles, Illinois 60714-4321

October 8, 2017
18th Sunday after Pentecost

Very Rev. Protopresbyter Samuel J. Sherry, Pastor ~ E-mail: FrSam@juno.com
Rev. Deacon Peter E. Sodini

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Schedule of Events

Today:

- **9:00 A.M.** Confessions heard by appointment!
- **9:15 A.M.** Adult Religious Education class.
- **10:00 A.M.** Divine Liturgy begins!
- Last Sunday was **College Student Sunday**. Thank you to all who donated toward this worthy cause. For those of you not in church last Sunday, a second special collection will be taken during the announcements today in support of the good work of Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF). Please make all checks payable to ACROD with OCF in the memo line.
- The Coffee Social will be held and is sponsored by the **Sodini Family**. All of our faithful and guests are invited to attend and join in fellowship!
- Let us remember **Father Deacon Peter** in our prayers. He is being deployed this week to Afghanistan and will return after Pascha. Deacon Peter will be serving as an Air Force Chaplain Assistant.

Tuesday:

- **7:00 P.M.** The monthly meeting of our Church Board is scheduled to be held.

Sunday, October 15:

- **10:00 A.M. READER SERVICE begins!** (Please note that there is no Holy Communion with a Reader Service.) *Father Sam will be attending the 60th Parish Anniversary Celebration at our Christ the Savior Orthodox Church in Rockford.*
- **No Church School Classes** will be held!
- A sponsor is needed for the **Coffee Social** to be held. Please note: Sponsors are needed for the remainder of October! Please sign up!

Today's Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 9:6-11. Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Today's Gospel Reading

Gospel Reading: Saint Luke 7:11-16. At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

Today's Rubrics

Hardbound Divine Liturgy Book found in your Pew:

- (Page 81) Resurrection Tropar - Tone 1
- (Page 81) Resurrection Kondak - Tone 1
- (Page 114) O Unashamed Intercessor - Tone 6
- (Page 83) Prokimen - Tone 1
- (Page 83) Alleluia Verses

Saints and Feasts

Pelagia the Righteous. Saint Pelagia was converted to Christianity by Saint Nonnus, Bishop of Edessa (Saturday of Cheesefare Week). Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity and prostitution. One day Pelagia, elegantly dressed, was making her way past a church where Saint Nonnus was preaching a sermon. Believers turned their faces away from the sinner, but the bishop glanced after her. Struck by the outer beauty of Pelagia and having foreseen the spiritual greatness within her, the saint prayed in his cell for a long time to the Lord for the sinner. He told his fellow bishops that the prostitute put them all to shame. He explained that she took great care to adorn her body in order to appear beautiful in the eyes of men. "We... take no thought for the adornment of our wretched souls," he said. On the following day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression upon her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her. By night the devil appeared to Pelagia, urging her to return to her former life. The saint prayed, signed herself with the Sign of the Cross, and the devil vanished. Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor saying, "Let this be wisely dispersed, so that these riches gained by sin may become a wealth of righteousness." After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. She lived there in a cell, disguised as the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. When she died, she was buried in her cell.

Pelagia the Virgin-martyr of Antioch. The holy Virgin Martyr Pelagia was a fifteen-year-old girl when she suffered martyrdom in Antioch during the Diocletian persecution. When soldiers came to her home to seize her, Saint Pelagia jumped out the window in order to avoid defilement.

Taisia the Harlot of Egypt. Saint Thais of Egypt, raised by her mother in a spirit far removed from Christian piety, led a depraved and dissolute life. She was famed for her beauty, leading many on the path to perdition. The account about the prodigal Thais spread throughout all Egypt and reached even Saint Paphnutius, a strict ascetic who had converted many to salvation. Paphnutius dressed himself in worldly attire and went to Thais, giving her money as though he wished to pay for her favors. He pretended to be afraid that someone would see them, so he asked her if there were a place they would not be discovered. Thais said

that they could lock the door and enjoy complete privacy. "But if you fear God," she said, "there is no place where you can hide from Him." Seeing that she knew about God and the punishment of the wicked, the Elder asked why she led a sinful life and enticed others to ruin their souls. He told her about the eternal punishment she would have to face for her own sins, and for the people who had been corrupted and destroyed by her. The words of Saint Paphnutius so affected the sinner that she gathered up all her riches acquired through her shameful life, then set them afire in the city square. Then Saint Paphnutius shut her up in a small cell, where for three years she dwelt in seclusion. Turning toward the East, Thais constantly repeated the short prayer, "My Creator, have mercy on me!" "From the moment I entered into the cell," said Thais to the Elder before her death, "all my sins constantly were before my eyes, and I wept when I remembered them." Saint Paphnutius replied "It is for your tears, and not for the austerity of your seclusion, that the Lord has granted you mercy." Saint Thais was ill for three days, then fell asleep in the Lord. So this woman, who had been a harlot and a sinner, has entered the Kingdom of God before us (Mt. 21:31). Saint Paul the Simple (October 4) saw in a vision the place prepared for the penitent Thais in Paradise.

Phillip, Bishop of Gortyna

A Cheerful Giver

Have you ever given something to somebody ... but you didn't really want to? Maybe your parents made you share something that you wanted to keep to yourself, or you gave away something that you would have rather had instead. It doesn't feel like giving when we don't want to give, does it?

In today's epistle reading, Saint Paul tells some of the early Christians that they should give to others because they want to (not because somebody made them do it!). He says, "For God loves a cheerful giver." That's right! God wants us to be cheerful and happy about giving to others, and about helping others too. Our Lord never forces us to give to others or to help others.

Did you know that when God asks us to do something, He shows us the way first? God was the most cheerful giver of all! He gives us help with things every day. But even more, He gave His whole life for us. He gives us a place in heaven with Him. God gives ... and He is a cheerful giver! In another part of the Bible, we read, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." God is a cheerful giver!

If our Lord can give so much and be happy about it, do you think we can give to others too, and be happy and cheerful about it too? Let's try!

By [Presvytera Alexandra Houck](#) in *The Children's Word*

Pirohi Making:

October-2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
November-2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
December-2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

The pirohi making schedule, that has been forwarded by Anne Laduzinsky, for this Advent season is as follows:

- October 27**
- November 10**
- November 18 (Saturday)**
- December 1**
- December 8**
- December 15**

Mark your calendars! Workers are needed throughout each morning. All of the pirohi profits go toward our Saint Michael's Church! This is a very much appreciated and necessary fundraiser!

BISHOP GREGORY'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY

Monday Evening, November 27, 2017, Johnstown, PA

Our Diocese will celebrate Bishop Gregory's 5th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination! Our Faithful are invited to attend. Reservation forms are available on the Church Officer Counter that contain additional details. Reservations for the banquet and hotel must be made no later than November 6th.

New Sunday Theosis

A new Sunday Theosis is available at the side door with the parish bulletins. In it, we learn that a Christian is not somebody who believes in God in general ... but rather someone living in the loving embrace of the Holy Trinity!

2017 A.C.R.Y. Annual

Please support the Yearbook of our Diocese by seeing Jean Stinich to submit your contributions. Ads are: Full Page \$100.00, Half Page \$65.00, Quarter Page \$40.00, Patron/Memorial \$6.00, Boosters \$3. Last day to donate will be Sunday, November 5, 2017. *Please make checks payable to Saint Michael's A.C.R.Y.*

Mark your Calendars! Anniversary Photographs

Photos of 2017 wedding anniversary couples (25th, 30th, etc.) will be taken following the Liturgy on Sunday, October 22nd.

*From Father Jonathan Bannon
60th Parish Anniversary*

18th Annual Dinner Dance and Fundraiser
Christ the Savior Orthodox Church
60th Anniversary Celebration
Special Guest Bishop Gregory of Nyssa,
Saturday, October 14th, 2017

VESPERS 3:00PM - Reception of Relics at Church

Midway Village Museum
6799 Guilford Road, Rockford, IL 61107
Social Hour 5:30PM; Dinner 6:30PM
Dance 7:30-10:30PM
Adults \$40.00
Students 20.00
under Age 5 Free

RSVP to Fr. Jonathan Bannon jsbannon@gmail.com

DIVINE LITURGY

10:00AM October 15th Sunday Morning
ALL ARE WELCOME and invited
to celebrate this Divine Liturgy
with His Grace Bishop Gregory of Nyssa!

\$\$ Recent Expenses \$\$

The cost to replace the church kitchen sink piping, faucet, and grease trap was **\$2,295.56**. The cost to repair the air conditioning for the sacristy and choir loft totaled **\$982.62**. A new temperature control gauge was installed in the church kitchen refrigerator at a cost of **\$589.22**. Replacement of the air conditioning condenser/coil at the rectory was **\$3,068**, and the cost to replace the air handler to accommodate the new condenser will be **\$2,380**. And, these are just the expenses for the past month!

Maintenance Mania is designed to pay for these types of expenses. Sign-up is posted on the bulletin board downstairs. Donation is \$250/square. Your SUPPORT is needed!

REMEMBER ... this is a **Matching Funds** campaign. If all 60 squares are paid for by December 1st, our parish will receive a matching grant of \$15,000 from the John C. Kulis Charitable Foundation. If not ... we basically lose a lot of income!

BONUS! Four lucky squares will be chosen to receive a prize!

Young Adult Fall Retreat at Camp Nazareth!

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh and the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese are pleased to announce their second co-sponsored Young Adult Retreat entitled "Trusting the Process". The Retreat, crafted for young adults ages 18-35, will take place **Friday, October 27 – Sunday, October 29, 2017** at Camp Nazareth located in Mercer, PA. The weekend event will feature Keynote addresses given by Mr. Jacob Saylor, the Pastoral Assistant at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Scottsdale, AZ. Mr. Saylor has worked extensively in the field of Orthodox Youth and Young Adult Ministry and will offer a unique perspective on the cosmic process of salvation. The weekend event will be filled with learning, fun, fellowship, worship, and time for reflection and rejuvenation!
<http://www.acrod.org/news/2017/fall-yar-2017>

Upcoming Events:

Friday, October 20: Engaging Orthodoxy Series (Religious Freedom in the Culture War) at North Park University. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/religious-freedom-in-the-culture-wars-tickets-37425263972>

Saturday, October 21: Synergy Symposium at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church. <http://chicagosynergy.org/>

Sunday, October 22: A.C.R.Y. Annual Photos.

Sunday, October 29: DDD Dinner at Allgauer's Restaurant in Northbrook. *Donor forms available on the Officer Counter.*

Thank You Archons



We express our appreciation to the Archons who visited with us on September 24th to share a presentation on **Religious Freedom**. For more information or ways to help, go to: <http://www.archons.org/takeaction/>.

In Memory

Thank you to Helen Losacco and Family for their donation to our Saint Michael's parish in memory of Helen's brother **George Sproch**.

Vigil Candles at the Iconostas

In Memory of **Mary Sprincz** (10/4/1990)
offered by Children,
Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren

Repose of the Soul of **George Sproch**
offered by the Micklewright Family

For the Good Health of **Gerald Charnota**
offered by Kathleen Holyk and Family

In Memory of **George Sproch**
offered by his sister, Helen Losacco & Family

For the Good Health of Beloved Nieces
Darlene Ann (Hebel) Waters
and **Marlene Helen (Hebel) Doukas**
on the occasion of their Birthday (10/2)
offered by Nicholas Pavlik, Helen Janowiak & her Family

The MANTLE is sponsored by

Wesley A. Stinich, Funeral Director

Call direct 773-844-3032 or 708-222-8669
Chapels throughout Chicago and the Suburbs

Follow Our Diocese On-Line

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>
Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>
You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>



Thank you to those who walked the "Walk the Walk for IOCC" yesterday!