
St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

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Sunday November 15 , 2020 23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6. Holy Martyrs and Confessors *Gurias, Samonas, and Abibus, of Edessa* (299-306). Martyrs *Elpidius, Marcellus, and Eustochius, who suffered under Julian the Apostate* (4th c.). Martyr *Dēmétrios of Thrace* (ca. 307). Ven. *Paísii (Paisius) Velichkovsky* (1794). “Fragrant Flower” Icon of the Mother of God.

This Week’s Schedule

Wednesday 11/18 Book Study “Life of Moses” 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 11/19 Study Group 10:00 a.m.

Friday 11/20 Eve of the Entrance of the Theotokos

Great Vespers 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 11/21 Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 11/22 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Reception of Catechumens 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

Please Note Services will also stream Online

Reader Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>3RD HOUR</u>	<u>6th Hour</u>	<u>EPISTLE</u>
Nov-15	RILEY	RILEY	RILEY
Nov-22	No Hours (Reception of Catechumen)		CAREY
Nov-29	PECK	PECK	LEWIS

Hymns and Prayers

Tone 6 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb;
the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Your grave,
seeking Your most pure body.
You captured hell, not being tempted by it.
You came to the Virgin, granting life.
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, //
glory to You.

Tone 5 Troparion *(Martyrs)*

O Christ our God, You have granted us the miracles of Your holy
martyrs
Gúrias, Samónas, and Abfbus,
as a stronghold and protection.
Through their prayers, strengthen those in authority in ev'ry good deed, //
for You alone are merciful and lovest mankind!

Tone 6 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

When Christ God, the Giver of Life,
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,
He bestowed resurrection on the human race. //
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Martyrs)*

You received grace from on high, O all-praised martyrs,
and you intercede for those in the midst of temptations.
Therefore, O saints, you freed a young woman from bitter death, //
and are indeed the glory of Edessa and the joy of the world.

Tone 6 **Prokeimenon** *(Resurrection)*

O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! *(Ps.
27:9a)*

*V. To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!
(Ps. 27:1a)*

Epistle Ephesians 2:4-10

*But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,
even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),
and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,
not of works, lest anyone should boast.
For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

Tone 6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. (Ps. 90:1)

V. He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust." (Ps. 90:2)

Gospel Luke 10:25-37

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'"

And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live."

But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side.

But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion.

So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.'

So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?"

And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This Week's Announcements

Welcome to the Newly Illumined Welcome to the newly illumined Emilia Riley, daughter of Jeremy and Stephanie Riley. Emilia was Baptized and Chrismated Saturday morning. May our Lord grant Emilia and her family Many Blessed Years!

Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple Several feasts are dedicated to the Mother of God commemorating and celebrating her life. This week we will celebrate Her entrance into the Temple. In this feast we encounter the holiness of Mary as a small child separated from the world, brought to live in the Temple a life set apart, consecrated, and in a state of intimacy with God. "A deep mystery covers the earthly life of the Most-Holy Theotokos from her childhood to her repose. Her life in the Jerusalem Temple was concealed. 'If you were to ask me,' said the Blessed Jerome,' how the Most-Holy Virgin passed the time of her youth, I would answer that this is known only to God Himself and the Archangel Gabriel detailed to protect her.'"(TTWH) We will celebrate this feast with Vespers Friday Nov 20th at 7:00p.m. and Divine Liturgy Saturday Nov. 21st at 9:30 a.m.

The Nativity Fast This is just a reminder that the Nativity Fast is now upon us (Nov. 15th). The fast continues until the Nativity of our Lord (Dec. 25th). The celebration of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the Orthodox Church is patterned after the celebration of the feast of the Lord's Resurrection. A fast of forty days precedes the feast, with special preparatory days announcing the approaching birth of the Savior. Thus, on Saint Andrew's Day (November 30) and Saint Nicholas Day (December 6) songs are sung to announce the coming birthday of the Lord: 'Adorn yourself, O Cavern. Make ready, O Manger. O Shepherds and wisemen, bring your gifts and bear witness. For the Virgin is coming bearing Christ in her womb' (Vesperal Hymn of Saint Nicholas Day). Please try and make an effort!

Annual All Parish Meeting will be December 6th, 2020 We will hold our annual parish meeting on Sunday, Dec 6th, 2020. We will have options for both in person and streaming participation. We will email the annual budget and parish reports the week prior to the meeting. We ask continued patience going forward. Please pray for our Parish Council as we navigate the pandemic safely.

Study Group this Week Our Study group will continue this Thursday at 10:00 a.m. with chapter 15 of St. Matthew. Our group will still meet online. All are welcome to join us!

Online Streaming Help We are currently look for help with our live streaming services. Please see Thaddeus (Scott) Lewis if you are willing to help.

Book Study "The Life of Moses" by St. Gregory of Nyssa On Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. during the month of October, Fr. Barnabas will be offering a book study. We will be reading and discussion the book, "The Life of Moses", by St. Gregory of Nyssa. We will meet on Zoom and all are welcome to participate.

Sacraments for Those Staying Home Recognizing the need for many to quarantine due to the deadliness of the pandemic, Fr. Barnabas is available to meet individually on Wednesdays and Fridays to offer Confession and Communion for those still at home. Fr. Barnabas is also willing to meet in other creative ways , like on your porch, to assure everyone remains connected. Please email or call the office to set up a time for the Sacraments.

Questions Everyone Should ask themselves Before coming to In-Person Worship: Do you have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, and or trouble breathing? Persistent pain, pressure or tightness in chest? Any recent loss of taste/smell or gastrointestinal upset? Any contact with anyone with C-19? **If you answer YES to any of these questions you should stay at home.**

The Jefferson Bible Rewrite

(The Theology of America's founding fathers)

The Church remembers many saints who are intimately connected with the Holy Bible. Two of them are the Gospel writer Matthew, and Saint John Chrysostom.

Matthew's Gospel enlightens readers about Jesus Christ as the promised Savior and fulfiller of the Old Testament prophecies. Writing to his fellow Jews, Matthew presents Christ's life as the completion of God's plan for humanity, worked out over the centuries of Israel's history. Saint John Chrysostom loved the Bible, and passionately exhorted Christians to read it. He wrote, "If we are willing to examine the Scriptures in this way, carefully and systematically, we shall be able to obtain our salvation."

Chrysostom was particularly concerned about children: "Never deem it an unnecessary thing that [a child] should be a diligent hearer of the divine Scriptures...Do not imagine that the monk alone stands in need of these lessons from Scripture. Of all others, the children just about to enter the world especially need them."

We might imagine that the brilliant Thomas Jefferson also honored the Scriptures and agreed with Chrysostom that they undergird our salvation. But a small book called "The Jefferson Bible" proves that we would be wrong.

To create his book, Thomas Jefferson cut, rearranged and pasted the Gospels, leaving out the miracles and other parts he deemed useless. Jefferson admired many sayings of Jesus as displays of "fine imagination, correct morality and the most lovely benevolence." But other sayings were full of "so much ignorance, so much absurdity, so much untruth, charlatanism and imposture, as to pronounce it impossible that such contradictions should have proceeded from the same Being." Jefferson blamed the "feeble minds" of the disciples for the problem. They had piled superstitions, fabrications and "things impossible" on top of Jesus' pure moral and ethical teachings. So he removed their additions, leaving the exquisite moral precepts intact.

The resulting book has strange gaps left by Jefferson's editing. One

example is Jesus' encounter with the man born blind. The disciples ask Him who sinned, the man or his parents. Jesus answers, "Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents; but that the works of God should be made manifest in him."

But the very next verse is, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door of the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." The blind man's healing, the exact thing to which Jesus is referring when He says that the works of God should be made manifest in him, is gone. The sheepfold verses don't even logically follow, and the healing miracle which exemplifies Jesus' divine compassion is consigned to the wastebasket.

There are people today who also cut and paste the Bible, and accuse the followers of Jesus Christ of adding to His original teachings. But we are called to take the Bible as the Church has given it to us. Otherwise we are, in Chrysostom's words, merely performing "labors without advantage."

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.

Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

"1. If the highest end of virtue is that which aims at the advancement of most, gentleness is the most lovely of all, which does not hurt even those whom it condemns, and usually renders those whom it condemns worthy of absolution. Moreover, it is the only virtue which has led to the increase of the Church which the Lord sought at the price of His own Blood, imitating the lovingkindness of heaven, and aiming at the redemption of all, seeks this end with a gentleness which the ears of men can endure, in presence of which their hearts do not sink, nor their spirits quail.

2. For he who endeavors to amend the faults of human weakness ought to bear this very weakness on his own shoulders, let it weigh upon himself, not cast it off. For we read that the Shepherd in the Gospel carried the weary sheep, and did not cast it off. And Solomon says: "Be not overmuch righteous;" for restraint should temper righteousness. For how shall he offer himself to you for healing whom you despise, who thinks that he will be an object of contempt, not of compassion, to his physician?"

On Repentance, Book I., Chapter I., St. Ambrose of Milan (337 AD - 397 AD)

Prayers for the Departed: Metropolitan Theodosius, Barbara Hicks,

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Myra Kovalak, Lemlem Resat, Olga Riley, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Mary Anne Farrell, Stephanie Hojnicky, Harry Kutch, Dimitrios Jim Petrides, Albert Shock, Elizabeth Melnik, Alexandra Grishin, Sam Sylvest, Paula Daubert, Elizabeth Clause, Jamie Clause, David Telep

Prayers for Catechmens Kristin Mackenzie, Edward Jones, Shawn & Jennifer Vojasek, Andrew Ashton

Date	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaner</u>
15-Nov	Hojnicki/Najemy	Bunitsky/Finck
22-Nov	Telep/Baldychev	Farrell
29-Nov	Bunitsky/Morjana	Clause/Whalen

Upcoming Dates to Keep in Mind

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple Nov. 21st

Family Promise Nov. 30th

Feast of St. Nicholas Dec. 6th

Annual Parish Meeting Dec. 6th