

**St. Mary's Orthodox Church**  
**217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602**  
**Phone.....570-645-2772**  
**OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org**

**Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic**  
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky  
Choir Director: Wash King

**Sunday, November 8, 2020**  
22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Synaxis of Archangel Michael and other Bodiless Powers

***Glory Be To Jesus Christ!***

***Glory Be Forever!***

Liturgical Services continue, although with 'preventative measures'! Please see May 31, 2020 bulletin for the full procedures. We are blessed to have the services with restrictions, and we continue with these conditions!

Sun...November 8...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Archangel Michael) followed by Coffee Hour in church hall  
**Nominations for potential Church Council Members ends**

Sat...November 14...4:00 PM – Vespers – in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun...November 15...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in church hall

Wed...November 18...3:00 PM – **Church Council Meeting** in church hall

Sat... November 21...4:00 PM – Vespers – in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun... **November 22**...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Parastas and coffee hour

Sat... November 28...4:00 PM – Vespers in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun... **November 29**...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour and Annual Parish Meeting  
in church hall – First announcement

Sat... December 5...4:00 PM – Vespers in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun... **December 6**...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Parastas and **FISH DINNER – \$10.00**  
**Take outs only – See Helen King for tickets – 570-645-9484**

**Prayer List: HEAVENLY FATHER ... Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent your only begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit us and heal us, Your servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments through the grace of Your Son Jesus Christ; grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body and spirit, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your word to pray for each other that we may be healed. You are the source of healing and to You, we give glory; to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Archbishop David, Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Michael Birosik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Jane Bubernak, Cecil Buchanan, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Edward Conarty, Irene David, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, Peter Holoviak, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Alexandra Miller, Britney Miller, Courtney Miller, Isaac Miller, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Eleanor Sidoriak, Helen Suda, Martha

Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Richard York.

**November Birthdays:** 1-Nicholas Teno, Jr., 2- Justin Babinetz, 4-Lena Marie Berezniak, 11- Nancy King, 17-Irene Puschak, 17-Victoria Weremedic, 26- Helen King, 26- Barbara Birosik, 27- Chris King, 27- Walter Rosahac, 29- Matushka Lovey Ropitsky

**November Wedding Anniversaries:** 13- Walter & Louise Rosahac

If anyone is in need of a priest please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772. Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

Financials 11/1/20: *Operating Acct:* - Candles 48 – Offerings 410 – Non-Env 150 – Holy Days 5 – Altar Candles 0 – Donations 60 = Total \$673.00 Building Fund 20 – Cemetery 0 – Charity 0 – Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. – Thank you!

Please support St. Mary's Orthodox Church by shopping at Amazon Smile  
When you shop at Amazon Smile, Amazon will make a donation to St. Mary's Orthodox Church. See St. Mary's Facebook page for details

**Nominations for council members will end on November 8.** See Father James, Matushka Lisa, or Claire Remington if you are interested in being on council.

Candles (November 8):

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the health of **all Shut-ins** offered by the Good Samaritans

Altar Candles... For the health of **Aunt Olga Hebda** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Anna Fedora** offered by Olga Hebda

Vigil Crosses ... In memory of **Mary & Andrew Yelsh** offered by William Yelsh

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Marion Pickenheim** offered by William Yelsh

**Decorated Candles/Tetrapod...In memory of all Deceased Veterans & For the health of all the Living Veterans offered by a Veteran**

If you do not feel comfortable coming to church yet, you may continue to watch On-line Services:  
Go to the Diocese of Eastern PA website at the bottom of our church website.

At the top of the page – Click on Live Streaming – Scroll down to church services

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church – Mogadore, OH – You Tube

Services every day of the week – Mon. to Fri. at 8:00 PM

Saturday Vespers – 5:00 PM; Sunday Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

❖ ❖ ❖ *A LIGHT FROM THE PAST* ❖ ❖ ❖

**Y**oung and old alike need models whom they can emulate in life. Fortunately, our Christian faith provides us with a host of marvelous people, of every conceivable rank in life, who have been proclaimed saints of Christ. They can inspire us in our Christian living.

ST. JOHN THE MERCIFUL is one such great figure. A person does not attain the title of "The Merciful," easily in Christian history. Born in Cyprus in the year 555, John received a fine education and seemed destined for a full and happy family life. But a violent disease claimed the lives of his dear parents and wife, and he then turned himself totally to the service of Christ.

He became a Patriarch of Alexandria and was known as a leader of infinite mercy. With his organizational skills he was able to found hospitals for the sick, orphanages for the homeless, food kitchens for the hungry and agencies for the refugees. His philanthropy and energy knew no bounds.

John devoted his life to the fulfillment of God's commandments and the care of the less fortunate. As he lay dying, this is what John prayed: "I thank Thee, O Lord my God, because Thou hast permitted me to return to Thee what is Thine and I am left with no earthly possessions. When I was made Bishop of Alexandria, I found eight thousand pounds of gold in the Patriarchate's treasury. I collected much more, which was brought in offering by those who love God. All this I have given to Thee, O Christ, unto Whom I now commit my spirit."

**22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5.**

**SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS: Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel. Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenaries.**

**Troparion — Tone 4**

Commanders of the heavenly hosts, / we who are unworthy beseech you, / by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory, / and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry to you: / "Deliver us from all harm, for you are the commanders of the powers on high!"

**Kontakion — Tone 2**

Commanders of God's armies and ministers of the divine glory, / princes of the bodiless angels and guides of mankind, / ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy, / supreme commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

**Galatians 6:11-18 (Epistle)**

See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

**Luke 8:41-56 (Gospel)**

And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him. Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace." While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well." When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat. And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.



*The Orthodox Church in America*  
**DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA**  
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

### *The Nativity Fast*

Dear to God,

Christ is in our midst! The verses of the psalmist which we hear every week should be our point of reference in life. Currently, there is much division, anger, frustration, anxiety, depression and fear over the election, politics and mitigation measures for the virus. Perhaps, we listen to the news to a greater degree than we listen to the Lord.

*Regardless of one's view point, earthly and temporal political affiliation, our lives are in God's hands. They always have been, but now we sense a loss of control. Control we never really had.*

Our Faith clearly teaches us that in life, we have little to no control over our external situation. What we do have is the ability, through prayer, fasting, Confession and Communion is to choose *how* we respond to the things going on around us. Early on in life, I found it *counterproductive* to make choices based upon coercion, pressure or fear. Those decisions were often based upon raw emotion, *not* reason or even faith.

Let us seek the Lord! Pour out our hearts to Him! The psalms are full of mankind expressing the full range of human emotion. Trust me, the Lord can handle it. The reality is we cannot handle keeping these things bottled up! That will only make us ill and perhaps, even toxic. Nor is it productive or helpful to dump all of our raw emotions on some poor unsuspecting soul who has nothing to do with it and is unable to change anything. All the raw visceral emotions expressed over the last several months through postings, verbal disputes or body language have accomplished nothing positive. In fact, it has only lead to greater harm, division and isolation.

Let us pray! Let us fast! Let us pour out our hearts to the Lord and seek His Divine Presence and Assistance. He does not need our direction or advice on how to address the ills of our world. We have the Nativity Fast ahead of us. Sadly, for many, they seek to gain control over the world around them, yet have little to no control over themselves. They seek for answers or help from the political or the medical spheres, but perhaps not entreated the Lord, Who gives man wisdom. The Nativity Fast is an opportunity to correct our vision, regain some measure of inner peace and stillness.

Let us not only keep the Traditional Fasting Guidelines, but fast from Social Media, TV, radio and frivolous or divisive conversation. If you must watch the news, keep it to a minimum. Absolutely *do not keep listening to the same thing from secular sources repetitively* as it will disturb inner peace and stillness. As St John Chrysostom would say, let us fast with our eyes, ears, hands and feet as well. Let us devote ourselves to the reading of Holy Scripture and know salvation comes from the Lord.

### **PSALM 146**

### **PRAISE FOR GOD'S HELP**

Have a Blessed Nativity Fast! Be at peace within yourself and with one another.

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

**The Synaxis of the Chief of the Heavenly Hosts, Archangel Michael and the Other Heavenly Bodiless Powers:** Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jehudiel, Barachiel, and Jeremiel was established at the beginning of the fourth century at the Council of Laodicea, which met several years before the First Ecumenical Council. The 35th Canon of the Council of Laodicea condemned and denounced as heretical the worship of angels as gods and rulers of the world, but affirmed their proper veneration.

A Feastday was established in November, the ninth month after March (with which the year began in ancient times) since there are Nine Ranks of Angels. The eighth day of the month was chosen for the Synaxis of all the Bodiless Powers of Heaven since the Day of the Dread Last Judgment is called the Eighth Day by the holy Fathers. After the end of this age (characterized by its seven days of Creation) will come the Eighth Day, and then “the Son of Man shall come in His Glory and all the holy Angels with Him” (Mt. 25:31).

The Angelic Ranks are divided into three Hierarchies: highest, middle, and lowest. The Highest Hierarchy includes: the Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones.

The six-winged SERAPHIM (Flaming, Fiery) (Is 6:12) stand closest of all to the Most Holy Trinity. They blaze with love for God and kindle such love in others.

The many-eyed CHERUBIM (outpouring of wisdom, enlightenment) (Gen 3:24) stand before the Lord after the Seraphim. They are radiant with the light of knowledge of God, and knowledge of the mysteries of God. Through them wisdom is poured forth, and people’s minds are enlightened so they may know God and behold His glory.

The THRONES (Col 1:16) stand after the Cherubim, mysteriously and incomprehensibly bearing God through the grace given them for their service. They are ministers of God’s justice, giving to tribunals, kings, etc. the capacity for righteous judgment.

The Middle Angelic Hierarchy consists of three Ranks: Dominions, Powers, and Authorities:

DOMINIONS (Col 1:16) hold dominion over the angels subject to them. They instruct the earthly authorities, established by God, to rule wisely, and to govern their lands well. The Dominions teach us to subdue sinful impulses, to subject the flesh to the spirit, to master our will, and to conquer temptation.

POWERS (1 Pet 3:22) fulfill the will of God without hesitation. They work great miracles and give the grace of wonderworking and clairvoyance to saints pleasing to God. The Powers assist people in fulfilling obediences. They also encourage them to be patient, and give them spiritual strength and fortitude.

AUTHORITIES (1 Pet 3:22, Col 1:16) have authority over the devil. They protect people from demonic temptations, and prevent demons from harming people as they would wish. They also uphold ascetics and guard them, helping people in the struggle with evil thoughts.

The Lowest Hierarchy includes the three Ranks: Principalities, Archangels, and Angels:

PRINCIPALITIES (Col 1:16) have command over the lower angels, instructing them in the fulfilling of God's commands. They watch over the world and protect lands, nations and peoples. Principalities instruct people to render proper honor to those in authority, as befits their station. They teach those in authority to use their position, not for personal glory and gain, but to honor God, and to spread word of Him, for the benefit of those under them.

ARCHANGELS (1 Thess 4:16) are messengers of great and wondrous tidings. They reveal prophecies and the mysteries of the faith. They enlighten people to know and understand the will of God, they spread faith in God among the people, illuminating their minds with the light of the Holy Gospel.

ANGELS (1 Pet 3:22) are in the lowest rank of the heavenly hierarchy, and closest to people. They reveal the lesser mysteries of God and His intentions, guiding people to virtuous and holy life. They support those who remain steadfast, and they raise up the fallen. They never abandon us and they are always prepared to help us, if we desire it.

All the Ranks of the Heavenly Powers are called angels, although each has its own name and position by virtue of their service. The Lord reveals His will to the highest ranks of the angels, and they in turn inform the others.

Over all the Nine Ranks, the Lord appointed the Holy Archangel Michael (his name in Hebrew means "who is like unto God"), the faithful servitor of God, as Chief Commander. He cast down from Heaven the arrogantly proud Lucifer and the other fallen spirits when they rebelled against God. Michael summoned the ranks of angels and cried out, "Let us attend! Let us stand aright before our Creator and do not consider doing what is displeasing unto God!"

According to Church Tradition, and in the church services to the Archangel Michael, he participated in many other Old Testament events.

During the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt he went before them in the form of a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Through him the power of the Lord was made manifest, annihilating the Egyptians and Pharaoh who were in pursuit of the Israelites. The Archangel Michael defended Israel in all its misfortunes.

He appeared to Joshua Son of Navi and revealed the will of the Lord at the taking of Jericho (Josh 5:13-16). The power of the great Chief Commander of God was manifest in the annihilation of the 185,000 soldiers of the Assyrian emperor Sennacherib (4/2 Kings 19:35); also in the smiting of the impious leader Heliodorus (2 Macc. 3: 24-26); and in the protection of the Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias and Misail, thrown into the fiery furnace for their refusal to worship an idol (Dan 3:22-25).

Through the will of God, the Chief Commander Michael transported the Prophet Habbakuk (December 2) from Judea to Babylon, to give food to Daniel in the lions' den (Dan. 14:33-37).

The Archangel Michael disputed with the devil over the body of the holy Prophet Moses (Jude 1:9).

The holy Archangel Michael showed his power when he miraculously saved a young man, cast into the sea by robbers with a stone about his neck on the shores of Mt Athos. This story is found in the Athonite Paterikon, and in the Life of Saint Neophytus of Docheiariou (November 9).

From ancient times the Archangel Michael was famed for his miracles in Rus. In the Volokolamsk Paterikon is a narrative of Saint Paphnutius of Borov with an account of Tatar tax-gatherers concerning the miraculous saving of Novgorod the Great: "Therefore Great Novgorod was never taken by the Hagarenes... when... for our sins the godless Hagarene emperor Batu devoured and set the Russian land aflame and came to Novgorod, and God and the Most Holy Theotokos shielded it with an appearance of Michael the Archangel, who forbade him to enter into it. He [Batu] was come to the Lithuanian city and came toward Kiev and saw the stone church, over the doors of which the great Archangel Michael had written and spoken to the prince his allotted fate, 'By this we have forbidden you entry into Great Novgorod'."

Intercession for Russian cities by the Most Holy Queen of Heaven always involved Her appearances with the Heavenly Hosts, under the leadership of the Archangel Michael. Grateful Rus acclaimed the Most Pure Mother of God and the Archangel Michael in church hymns. Many monasteries, cathedrals, court and merchant churches are dedicated to the Chief Commander Michael.

In old Kiev at the time of the accepting of Christianity, a cathedral of the Archangel was built, and a monastery also was named for him. Archangel cathedrals are found at Smolensk, Nizhni Novgorod, Staritsa, at Great Ustiug (beginning of the thirteenth century), and a cathedral at Sviyazhsk. In Rus there was not a city where there was not a church or chapel dedicated to the Archangel Michael.

One of the chief temples of the city of Moscow, the burial church in the Kremlin, is dedicated to him. Numerous and beautiful icons of the Chief Commander of the Heavenly Hosts are also in his Cathedral. One of these, the Icon "Blessed Soldiery," was painted in the Dormition Cathedral of the Moscow Kremlin. The saintly soldiers, Russian princes, are depicted under the leadership of the Archangel Michael.

We invoke Saint Michael for protection from invasion by enemies and from civil war, and for the defeat of adversaries on the field of battle. He conquers all spiritual enemies.

Holy Scripture and Tradition give us the names of the Archangels:



Gabriel: strength (power) of God, herald and servitor of Divine omnipotence (Dan 8:16, Luke 1:26). He announces the mysteries of God.

Raphael: the healing of God, the curer of human infirmities (Tobit 3:16, 12:15)

Uriel: the fire or light of God, enlightener (3 Ezdras 5:20). We pray for him to enlighten those with darkened minds.

Selaphiel: the prayer of God, impelling to prayer (3 Ezdras 5:16). He prays to God for mankind.

Jehudiel: the glorifying of God, encouraging exertion for the glory of the Lord and interceding for the reward of efforts.

Barachiel: distributor of the blessings of God for good deeds, entreats the mercy of God for people.

Jeremiel: the raising up to God (3 Ezdras 4:36)

On icons the Archangels are depicted in according to the character of their service:

Michael tramples the devil underfoot, and in his left hand holds a green date-tree branch, and in his right hand a spear with a white banner on which is outlined a scarlet cross, or sometimes a fiery sword.

Gabriel with a branch from Paradise, presented by him to the Most Holy Virgin, or with a shining lantern in his right hand and with a mirror made of jasper in his left.

Raphael holds a vessel with healing medications in his left hand, and with his right hand leads Tobias, carrying a fish for healing (Tobit 5-8).

Uriel in his raised right hand holds a naked sword at the level of his chest, and in his lowered left hand "a fiery flame."

Selaphiel in a prayerful posture, gazing downwards, hands folded on the chest.

Jehudiel holds a golden crown in his right hand, in his left, a whip of three red (or black) thongs.

Barachiel is shown with a white rose on his breast.

Jeremiel holds balance-scales in his hand.

Each person has a guardian angel, and every nation also receives its own guardian angel from God (Dan. 10:13). When a church is consecrated, it also receives a guardian angel (Palladius, Dial. Ch. 10).