



# Saint Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

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Pastor: Very Reverend Nicholas Ferencz, PhD  
Cantor: Professor Jerry Jumba  
Parish President : Carole Bushak



Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!  
Slava Isusu Christu! Slava vo v'iki!

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## JANUARY 26, 2020

### SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD

- Sun., Jan. 26** *Sunday after Theophany.* Bishop Hilary of Poitiers. Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus.  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy  
*Panachida:* January Perpetuals: Sveton Simonoff (Jan 4). Michael Lesko, Jr. (Jan 10). Joseph Zeok (Jan 11). Mary Palovscik (Jan 14). Michael Beresh (Jan 17). Steve Stegena (Jan 25). Michael Hritz and Peter Belinsky (Jan 31).  
*Annual Parish Meeting*
- Sun., Feb. 2** *Sunday of Zacchaeus*  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy.  
*Oath of Office of Newly Elected Parish Council*
- Sat., Feb. 8 Monk Xenophon and his wife Mary. Translation of the Relics of the Holy Monk Theodore the Studite.  
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM **Annual IOCC Soup Sampling Fund Raiser and Emergency Health Kit Drive & Assembly Project** Holy Cross Orthodox Church, Mount Lebanon (across from the Galleria).
- Sun., Feb. 9** *Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee*  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy  
*Panachida:* 40 day memorials for Edward Pehanich, Sr., Stelian Popescu and John Kobasa.  
**No Fasting This Week!**

**Holy Mystery of Confession:** Before Divine Liturgy and other services. We can also meet other times (after Liturgy, or by appointment). Just let me know.

## PEOPLE STUFF

**Prayer List:** *Deceased:* Elizabeth Beck. John Bonga.

*Living:* Fr. Joseph Cervo. Pañi Dorothy Hutnyan. Pañi Eleanor Pribish. Dana Andrade. Gloria Andrade. Gregory Michael Aurilio. Walter Bolbat. Donald Bodnar. Charlene Borsic. Jaime Budesca. Barbara Chappie. Steve Bournius. Rebecca, David & Bradley Noah Cozad. Mary Ann Crouse. Martha Danchak. George & Margaret Dorogy. Patty Ferrence. Breanne Glass. Dorothy Glass. Eddie Gombos. Jennifer Hartrick. Joseph Hlavac. Shirley Hrubic. Kevin Ianni. Gary Ingelido. Andrea Kerkentzes. Jeanne Lesko. Bobby Malackany. Joan Martell. Sharon Mascilak. Bill and Barbara McCauley. Jake McLaughlin. Helen Mihalik. Frank Palmieri. Diane Phillips. Millie and Edward Phillips. Anna Senich. Peter Simonoff. Bernice Sindak. Terry Slezak. Milton and Thelma Supak. Diana Terezis. Bobby and Dee Triffanoff. Josh Walendziewicz. Paul Worst. Paul & Valerie Yednak. Jim Zajac.  
*Prospora Bakers:* Trudy Trifanoff. Delores Cubakovic, and their intentions.

**Blessed Repose!** John Bonga fell asleep in the Lord last Sunday after 98 years of joyful living. We celebrated his funeral this past week. Please pray for the repose of John's soul. Also, please pray for his children, his family and his loved ones as they go through this time of mourning and loss. We will celebrate the 40-day Memorial on Sunday, Feb. 23. *Eternal memory!*

**Welcome!** We welcome to our church this morning all visitors, guests, relatives, and friends of Saint Michael Church. We invite *everyone* present today to chant the Liturgy along with the cantor.

### F(E)ASTING

**NEXT SUNDAY (Believe it or not) IS ALREADY THE SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS**, which kicks off the **Pre-Lenten Season** – that time of year which is intended to get us prepared to celebrate the **Great Lenten Fast**, which of course is given to us to prepare ourselves to properly celebrate the Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. (*No one can say the Church does not give us fair warning about what is coming up!*) As part of that Pre-preparation time, we are called to *not fast* during the week of the **Publican and the Pharisee** – Feb. 9 – 16. More about all of this in future bulletins (of course).

**Newly Blessed Holy Water** – All are encouraged to bring your Holy Water container to receive some of the newly blessed water (or get a container from Carole Bushak). We have the font in the front of the church today. This week we will move it, but the New Water will still be available *all year* in the Holy Water Font in the vestibule!

### DIOCESE, DEANERY AND ADDITIONAL STUFF

**IOCC Pittsburgh News:** *To participate* in any or all of the events below, see [ioccc.org/pgh](http://ioccc.org/pgh).

- Annual **Soup Sampling Fund Raiser Saturday**, February 8, 11 AM to 2 PM, at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Road, Mount Lebanon (across from the Galleria). Details on flyer in hall.
- **Emergency Health Kit Drive & Assembly Project** - same time and place as the Soup Sampling. Flyer in hall.
- Team IOCC at the **Pittsburgh Marathon Weekend** - May 2, 2020

### PARISH STUFF

**Reminder!** **“Sandwiches for the Homeless”**, otherwise known as the **“Pittsburgh Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood Lunch Program,”** is a charitable work that the Orthodox Churches of the Pittsburgh area have been doing for, literally, decades. Currently, it provides 120 lunches every Saturday of the year for those who are in need. Many years ago, our parish was involved in this good work, but it has been a while since we have been engaged.

At this month's Parish Council meeting, we decided to commit our parish to helping out with this great work. We have a confirmed date of Saturday, June 20, 2020. We will be discussing this program at the Annual Meeting next Sunday, where you will learn further details, and learn how you can support and be involved with this program. We hope to have active involvement by a lot of us, so please come to the meeting to learn more.

**Reminder! Home Blessings** I very much would like to bless everyone's home with the New Jordan Water this year. I also realize that that is not always possible. If you would like to have your home blessed, please fill in the

### Our Gifts to God and our Church

January 19, 2019

Attendance	25
Communions	17

#### Collections

Monthly	220.00
Sunday	720.00
<b>Theophany</b>	<b>195.00</b>
All Votive Candles	123.00
Diocesan Membership	<u>216.00</u>

**Total Offerings: 1474.00**

*Building and Repairs Donations which are available for upcoming repairs to date are \$2441! God bless your generosity!*

little form in the vestibule, or email or text me that you would like to have me come this year. I will contact you to make arrangements!

*In case you hadn't heard:* **The Annual Parish Meeting** will be held today after the Divine Liturgy. Sustenance will be provided to help get us through it.

*Update! Agape Offerings:* Today: Annual Meeting Brunch. Next Sunday:

**Reminder! Birthday Sundays!** Once a month we are going to remember all those who were born in that month both upstairs (in prayer) and downstairs (at the Agape). The Birthday Sundays for February and March are already spoken for. If you would like to be a part of this way of honoring each other on your birthday, just sign up on the Agape sheet in the hall.

**Parish "Library."** It has been sitting there in the hall for at least a year now, with no real explanation, so I thought one would be a good idea. We are slowly putting together a small library of theological, religious and spiritual writings for everyone's use and benefit. The small bookcase we have is slowly filling up with books that we hope will be interesting and valuable to anyone. You are free to browse the library and, if you find anything of interest, take it with you, read it, enjoy it, absorb it. If you want to talk about anything you have read, or have any questions, I will be happy sit with you. If you think you have a book you would like to donate, please see Fr. Nik for requirements, etc.

*Update! Church Repairs:* we have available at this time **\$2441 in donations** towards repairs in the church and rectory. 2019 – 2020 donations have totaled so far **\$5855**, some of it already used.

## SAINT HILARY, BISHOP OF POITIERS

January 13/26, *from oca.org*

Saint Hilary, the great opponent of Arianism, was born around 320. He was raised as a pagan, but converted to Christianity as an adult. He became Bishop of Poitiers in 350. When the emperor Constantius II attempted to impose Arianism on the western Church, Saint Hilary led a vigorous opposition to his efforts. Because of his outspoken criticism, he was exiled to Phrygia in 356. There he became such a defender and champion of Orthodoxy that the emperor decided it would be less trouble to allow him to return to his diocese.

Saint Hilary continued to fight against Arianism until his death in 368. His holy relics still rest in the cathedral bearing his name at Poitiers in France.

He has lent his name to the "Hilary term" of English law courts and universities, which begin on or near his Feast Day.

## THE SYMBOLIC MEANING OF THE LITURGY

*(Excerpts)* by Archbishop Seraphim



The Liturgy is the most important Divine Service in our Orthodox Church, because during it is accomplished the great Mystery of the Eucharist, which was established by our Lord Jesus Christ at the Mystical Supper...

The first part of the Liturgy is called the Proskomedie. This word is Greek and means "offering," because in the first centuries of Christianity, people did not bake prosphora, but rather brought bread and wine. The Proskomedie symbolically represents the Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Table of Oblation represents the cave where the Infant Jesus was born. At the Proskomedie five prosphora are used: the first is called the Lamb, from which is cut a large square with a seal divided into 4 parts; the second, is called the Mother of God; the third is called the prosphoron of the nine,

**Figure 1** a diagram of the diskos at Proskomedie

because from it are cut out nine particles as a sign of the nine ranks of divine service; from the fourth proskomon particles are taken out for the living, and from the fifth, a particle for the departed. The taking out of the



**Figure 2** An actual diskos at Proskomedie

Lamb...signifies the Nativity of the Infant Jesus from the Mother of God. The priest places the Lamb on the paten, or diskos, which represents the manger where the Mother of God laid the Infant Jesus. Then the priest places the star-cover on the diskos, which represents the star that showed the way to the wise men. The priest covers the diskos with the veil, which symbolizes the swaddling clothes in which the Infant Christ was wrapped.

When the Proskomedie is finished, the priest censes the as yet unsanctified gifts. The censuring and the censor represent the gifts brought by the wise men to the Holy Family. After the birth of the Infant Jesus, the Holy Family had to flee into Egypt, where they stayed until the death of Herod. When Herod died, the Holy Family returned to Palestine and settled in Nazareth where the child Jesus lived in obedience to the Mother of God and

the elderly Joseph. When the Lord Jesus Christ was thirty years old, He went to John the Baptist and was baptized in the Jordan and afterwards went up the mountain where He prayed and fasted forty days and forty nights, after which He went out to preach and fulfill His mission of saving mankind.

Christ's going out to preach is represented by the Small Entrance, when the priest takes the Book of the Gospels from the Holy Table and gives it to the deacon. They go around the Holy Table and exit through the northern doors of the sanctuary to the ambo and stand before the Royal Doors. The priest blesses the Entrance and the deacon makes the sign of the Cross with the Holy Gospel and says, "Wisdom, attend." They enter the sanctuary and put the Holy Gospel in its place on the Holy Table. After the going out to preach comes the preaching at the Liturgy—the Epistle and Gospel are read.

...The triumphal Entry into Jerusalem at the Liturgy is represented by the Great Entrance, when the clergy take from the table of oblation the chalice and diskos, with the still unsanctified gifts, exit through the northern doors from the sanctuary onto the ambo, take them into the sanctuary and place them on the Holy Table. After the triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, on Great Thursday at the Mystical Supper, the Savior instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist,...and He commanded His disciples: this do in remembrance of Me. And the Orthodox Church performs this Sacrament of the Eucharist and will continue to perform it till the end of the ages.

...in the altar, the clergy partake of Holy Communion. On the third day the Savior rose. An angel came down from heaven and rolled away the stone from the Sepulchre. At the Liturgy this is represented... The clergy, with the chalice, come out onto the ambo with the words, "With the fear of God and faith draw near." This signifies the Lord's first appearance after His Resurrection. At this time the faithful partake of Holy Communion.

After the faithful receive Communion, the priest returns the chalice to the Holy Table where he submerges all the particles left on the diskos with the words, "Cleanse, O Lord, the sins of those remembered here, with Thy honorable Blood, by the prayers of Thy saints."

The priest once again brings out the chalice and blesses the people: "Always now and ever, and unto the ages of ages." This represents the last appearance of the Savior before His Ascension.

Then the priest voices the Dismissal, concluding the Liturgy.