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November 5, 2006

SUNDAY/NOV. 5th
21st Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 4);
Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenary Healers
9:10a.m. 3rd and 6th Hours
9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy; Coffee Hour

TUESDAY/NOV. 7th
7:00p.m. Compline and Akathist to the
Archangel Michael

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 8th
Archangel Michael and All the Bodiless
Powers of Heaven
9:10a.m. 3rd and 6th Hours
9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
6:15p.m. Compline and Akathist to
St. Nectarios of Aegina (Nov. 9th)
7-8:30p.m. Adult Study Class: "Salvation in
Jesus Christ"

THURSDAY/NOV. 9th
5:00p.m. to 7:30p.m. Pirohi Dinner at the
Parish Hall

SATURDAY/NOV. 11th
9:30a.m. Akathist; Confession
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

SUNDAY/NOV. 12th
22nd Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5);
St. John the Merciful of Alexandria
9:10a.m. 3rd and 6th Hours
9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy; Coffee Hour;
Church School – Young Class;
Teen Discussion at Coffee Hour

Fasting Days
Wednesday, Nov. 8th (Fish, wine & oil permitted)
Friday, Nov. 10th

Nativity 40 Day Lent
Begins on Nov. 15th and ends Dec. 25th. We should
begin our preparations for this Lent.



**Hymn of Praise to Archangel Michael
and all the Bodiless Powers**

Heavenly Commanders,
Who watch over us with great care,
Cover us with your wings,
And shield us with your power.

Armed with the power of God,
Crowned by His glory,
You wield flaming swords,
To cut the demons down.

Swift, swift as rays of light
You soar on the clouds –
The clouds of the air –
Where you do battle for God.

Without fatigue and without sleep
You hover ceaselessly
Over men and created things,
And over countless worlds.

Behold, yours are mighty armies,
Legions virtuous,
And gentle battalions of angels:
And, according to the Creator, our brothers.

Commanders of the might of heaven,
Lead us where we need to go –
To the throne of the Most High
Who created us from nothing.



Select Commentary on Verses of Psalm 118 by St. Theophan the Recluse

v. 3: For they that work no iniquity, walk in His ways.

To walk in God's ways is a consequence of doing no wrong. Ways, are God's commandments in general or the pleasure of His Providence about men. Not to sin is to please God, yet there is no person who does not sin. There is however a state, when man guarded by God's grace, does not sin.

v. 4: Thou hast enjoined Thy commandments, that we should keep them most diligently.

What has been diligently enjoined ought to be kept diligently. Zeal is the moving power in man. Yet it can cool off, what keeps it going is our constant effort and God's grace, attracted by our efforts.

v. 5: That my ways were corrected to keep Thy statutes.

If only my ways could be straightened! They will be if commandments are kept. Despite all his zeal man needs God's help, and here he prays for it. Salvation is accomplished by an alliance of freedom and grace. God won't help without our own free efforts, not shall our own doings bring us anywhere without God's grace.

v. 6: Then shall I not be ashamed, when I look on all Thy commandments.

The precondition of every success is collected attention. The matter of spiritual life like anything else done for the first time is done with interest; afterwards the involvement of the heart decreases and things are done mechanically. Lack of interest, as well as forgetfulness are our main enemies. To avoid being ashamed before God and our conscience for having started something and not completed it, let us always pay attention, what is done with attention is done well.

The Clever Miracle wrought by St. Menas of Egypt, the Great-Martyr (+296), Who is commemorated on November 11th

At one time, a certain lame man and a mute woman came on pilgrimage to the Church of St. Menas, to venerate his grace-filled relics and ask for his help. They settled in the church at night with many others, waiting for the early morning church service.

At midnight, while all the infirm were sleeping, Saint Menas appeared to the lame man and said: "Now that it is quiet, go and take hold of the cloak of the mute woman, and you shall be healed." The lame man, deeming the action immodest and provoking, did not wish to obey. When the saint chided him twice and thrice, and told him that lest he should do this he would not be healed, the lame man did as he was told. He approached the mute woman and took hold of her cloak. She, in her terror, forthwith began screaming. She rebuked the lame man, and in this marvelous manner, her tongue was loosed and she gained the power of speech. The cripple, in the meantime, ashamed before the people at the words of the woman, quickly rose to his feet and began fleeing. The two of them then understood that what had taken place between them was wrought by the favor of Saint Menas. Thus, they were both glorifying God for the clever miracle worked by the Saint.

Question: If I see the faults of another person, is it good for me to say something?

Answer: In that hour we cover up the sins of our brother; God covers our own sins; in that hour we expose and broadcast our brother's shame, God shall betray our own.

Question: How does one form a spiritual life?

Answer: By attending to three essential factors:
1) Obedience to Christ and His Church;
2) Individual efforts in exercising all the virtues;
3) Receiving of God's grace through the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) or special inspirations.



The Mystery of Holy Confession

Is offered every Saturday evening after Vigil (7:30p.m.) and most Saturday mornings after the Akathist (10:00a.m.). You may also make arrangement with Fr. James for Confession at another time; simply call, speak with or email.

Pirohi Dinner – Nov. 9th, Thursday

This dinner will be held from 5-7:30p.m. Tickets at the door are \$10. Advanced tickets are \$8. Call Susan at 908-722-7849 for tickets and more information.

The Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Nov. 05, 1972 Helen Lopatka
Nov. 05, 1980 Joseph Lazorisak
Nov. 06, 1963 Helen Bogush
Nov. 08, 1928 Anna Barna
Nov. 08, 2005 Anna Albanese
Nov. 09, 1916 Matthew Mukevich
Nov. 09, 1977 Philip Bukraba
Nov. 10, 1918 Maria Ishchuk
Nov. 10, 1921 Julia Bushinsky
Nov. 10, 1960 Alexandria Kulina
Nov. 10, 1969 John Buday
Nov. 12, 1916 Peter Kliaga
Nov. 12, 2004 Olga Skopak

Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 16th at 7:00p.m.

Two Nov. Offering Envelopes Deleted

The Church Restoration Envelope and the feast day Envelope for Nov. 21st, Entrance into the Temple. Please use Sunday Envelopes.

A very warm welcome!

To Father Sergius and Matushka Faith Kuharsky on their visitation today.

The OCA Charities Offering Envelope

Is taken up every November. The distribution of this collection will be made by the Parish Council, as difficulties persist in the Central Church administration. As this offering is taken during the Nativity Lent, we should be especially mindful that charity – that is to say, love – benefits both the giver and receiver.

Remember in Prayer

Archbishop Jovan of Ochrid (imprisoned); Lydia Seman (former parishioner); Jovanka Nestojko (former parishioner); Tatiana Onuschak (home); Mother Christophora (Ellwood City Monastery); Natalie Gripp (parishioner).

Adult Study Class – A four week series

A class will be offered on the theme: “*To Be a True Human Being Means To Become A God.*” How exactly does this take place? What does Jesus Christ do? What is our part?

Wednesdays, 7-8:30p.m. in the Conference Room.

Nov. 8th: Salvation in Christ

Nov. 15th: Christification of the Human Being

Nov. 29th: Christification of the World by the Church

Dec. 6th: The Cosmic Body of Christ

Namesday Greetings

Archangel Michael/Nov. 8th: Michael Warin, Michael Redmond, Michael Chabra, Michael Turri, Jerry Michael Cirka.

St. Nectarios/Nov. 9th: Nectarios Parsells.

St. Martin/Nov. 11th: Martin Rafla.

St. Vincent/Nov. 11th: Vincent Asaro;

Many Blessed Years!

Offerings for the Week for November 5th

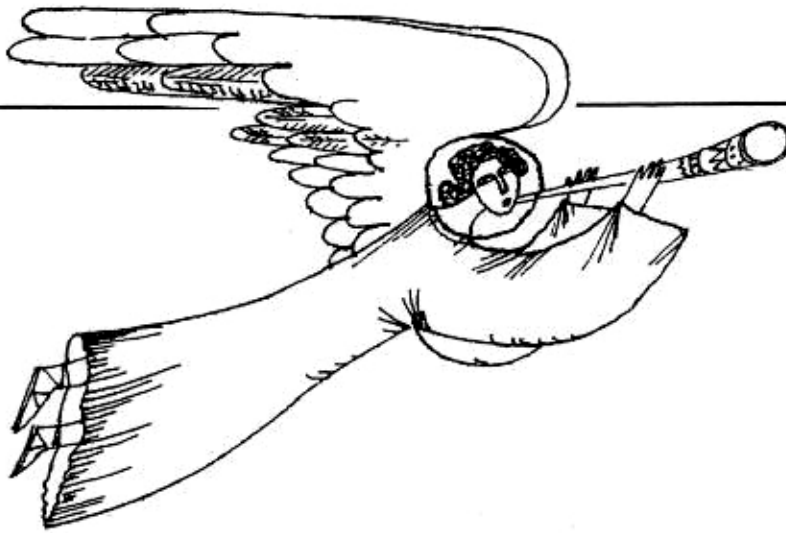
Olive Oil - in memory of Emilia; in memory of Michael; in memory of Joan; for the Health and salvation of Vera and John; in memory of Ion.

Wine - for the health of Mother Gabriella.

Archangel Michael

In the Hebrew language means, “Who is like unto God?” or “Who is equal to God?” Archangel Michael has been depicted from earliest Christian times as a commander, who holds in his right hand a spear with which he attacks Lucifer, Satan, and in his left hand a green palm branch. At the top of the spear is a linen ribbon with a red cross. The Archangel Michael is especially considered to be the Guardian of the Orthodox Faith a fighter against heresies.





Ranks of Angels

In the Bible we find different titles given to Angels. But their classification occurs only during the era of the Church Fathers. St. Dionysios the Areopagite wrote about this, along with St. John of Damascus, and others. St. Basil the Great even mentions it in the eucharistic prayer of his Liturgy.

There are three ranks of Angels:

The higher order are those who stand before God's throne and ceaselessly proclaim his glory. They include:

1. Six winged **Seraphim**, who constantly adore God.

The prophet Isaiah writes: "Above God's throne stood the seraphim, each one had six wings, with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet and with two he did fly." (Is. 6:1-3)

2. Many eyed **Cherubim** - who contemplate God.

3. **Thrones** on whom God rests.

The second order are those that govern space and the stars. They include:

4. **Dominions**
5. **Virtues**
6. **Powers**

The third order are God's messengers. We know of them more through their visits in the old and new testaments. They include:

7. **Principalities**
8. **Archangels**
9. **Angels.**

Angels were created in God's image and likeness. They are higher than the material world and made to live forever. But they do not have bodies. They are invisible, except when they choose to take on a physical form.

There are many things we can not see. We cannot see "love," or "happiness,:" or "unhappiness," but we know very well that these things are real, just as God's invisible world.