

November 8, 2009 – 22nd Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5. SYNAXIS (GATHERING) OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS: Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel. **Epistle:** Hebrews 2:2-10. **Gospel:** Luke 10:16-21.

Next Sunday, Nov. 15 – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, beginning of the Nativity Fast – Tone 6. **Epistle:** Eph. 2:4-10. **Gospel:** Luke 10:25-37.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S (Nov. 8, 2009)

TODAY

11:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class
12:00 PM Christmas Program Practice
6:00 PM St. John's Society (for teens)

TUESDAY

6:00 PM Vespers
6:30 PM Parish Council

WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: reading from Prologue
11:00 AM Reading Group (at Borders Café)

THURSDAY

6:30 AM Matins

SATURDAY

6:00 PM Great Vespers

SUNDAY (November 15)

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: Advent begins
11:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class
12:00 PM Christmas Program Practice
6:00 PM Akathist Service (at St. Nicholas)

+ To purchase/provide candles in Church, see the list at the counter in the Narthex of the Church.

+ We will be making **sausage** again on **November 20**, beginning at 8 AM (all helpers are appreciated). Order forms are available on the candlestand. See Jim Stan for more details.

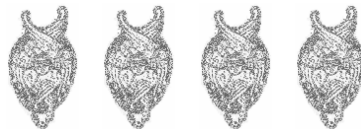
ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

“And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon...” (Rev. 12:7). St. Michael is called “the archangel” (Jude 9), “the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people” (Dan. 12:1). Just as Satan, a fallen angel, or demon, is the leader of the hosts of evil, so St. Michael, a holy archangel, is the leader of the bodiless powers of heaven. St. Michael and the holy angels are protectors of the people of God.

Holy Scripture mentions nine ranks of angels: angels, archangels, thrones, dominions, principalities, powers, rulers, cherubim, and seraphim (Col. 1:16; Eph. 6:12; Isa. 6:2; Ez. 10:1; *et al.*). Angels are creatures, made from nothing by God at the beginning of creation (“heaven,” Gen. 1:1; Job. 38:7). They are *bodiless* powers, not of a fleshly substance, but more like spirit, or fire (Ps. 103/104:4).

The holy angels are members of the Church of God. God made the angels to share in His divine life, to praise God, and to serve with us in our life in Christ. Pre-eminently, angels are ministers of the worship of God. “Are they not all ministering (lit., *liturgical*) spirits sent forth to minister to those who will inherit salvation?” (Heb. 1:14). The angels, assigned to us at our Baptism (see Matt. 18:10), guard us from the forces of evil and guide us in the way of truth. Thus Orthodox Christians include petitions to their Guardian Angel as a part of daily prayers.

Angels have names (e.g., Michael, Gabriel, etc.) as they are personal beings, not just abstract powers. Though they are awesome when they appear in bodily form, the angels are our “fellow servant(s)” (Rev. 19:10). In fact, the title *angel* simply means “messenger,” one sent to announce the message of God’s will. Surrounded by such a great crowd of heavenly host, let us also praise God in this angelic service.



The Friend of the Bridegroom

“He Must Increase and I Must Decrease” (John 3:29-30)

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church
Orthodox Church in America

2220 Reeves Road NE Warren, Ohio 44483
Church Phone: 330-372-3895 www.stjohnswarren.com
General Office Hours: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (TThF)

Fr. Jonathan H. Cholcher, Rector...330-980-0134 (Cell)
Pastoral Emergencies 10 PM - 7 AM ... 330-469-2907

Judy Reed, Sisterhood/Repasts...Home: 330-793-5145

Cell: 330-519-5730

John Tutoki, Hall Coordinator.....330-469-9531

Saturday: Vespers at 6:00 PM Sunday: Liturgy at 9:30 AM

Feast Day Liturgy - 9:30 AM Sunday School (after Liturgy)

GENERAL INFORMATION

11-01-09: 110 (attendance); **\$2,920.00** (collection).

11-08-09: candle commemorations – Theotokos: blessed memory of Andy Ferko; **Altar:** birthday of Christian Cholcher; **Christ:** birthday of Moriah Cholcher

Please Pray for:

Living: the child **Taylor** (Nelson); **Vera** (Campbell, at Hillside Hospital); **Mary** (Wainwright, aunt of Norman and Karen George); **Linda** (Keriotis); **Chariessa** (Stitchik, sister of Mark Malacky); **Lillian** (Motil, cousin of Pauline Struble); **Charles & Ed** (co-workers of Diane Cholcher); **Kerya** (Brisbine, surgery at Cleveland Clinic); **Mary Ann** (Zevorich, Marge Petty's neice); **Melanie** (Smith, cousin of Vera Campbell); **Michael** (Nuzzo, father of Cathy Stehnach); **Archpriest Thomas** (Succarote, Madison, IL); **Tatiana** ("Tillie" Csehill, Shepherd of the Valley, Howland); **Adrian** (Puz, friend of Clarks); **Geraldine** (Nicholson, mother of Michelle Thomas).

Departed: Dn. Nicholas (Fedak, brother of Vera Campbell; d. 10/6/09); **Stephan** (Beskid; d. 10/25/09)

This Month's Charity – November 2009:

[charity envelope or baskets after Liturgy]

Archpriest Michael and Janet Mihalick

COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

Nov. 15 Akathist to the Theotokos (at St. Nicholas Church) – *Advent begins*

Nov. 21 Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Nov. 25 6 PM Vespersal Liturgy for Thanksgiving

Dec. 5 4 PM Vespers at St. Nicholas Church



SPIRITUAL FORMATION:

1) Church (Sunday) School & Bible Class:

for all ages, following Divine Liturgy – adults are studying the Divine Liturgy.

2) Path to Salvation Class:

Tuesdays following Vespers (about 6:30 PM) – currently studying the Life and Feasts of the Theotokos;

3) Classic Literature Reading Group:

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM, at Borders Café (near the Eastwood Mall) – currently reading *Siddhartha*, by Hermann Hesse; engaging the culture with the Faith!

4) St. John's Society (for teens):

most Sundays at 6:00 PM, for fellowship, mutual education, service, and encouragement!

+ Holy Trinity Academy and Preschool – Aussie Quiz Night:

When? – Friday, November 20, at 7:00 PM

Where? – St. Mark Orthodox Church (Liberty)

[Vespers for the Feast of the Entrance of the

Theotokos into the Temple will be served that evening at St. Mark's, at 6:00 PM.]

Call the School at 330-399-7642 for more information.

+ In lieu of our past Festival of Icons, the Parish Council recently discussed two (or both) future possibilities:

1) a two-day St. John's Festival of food, music, and Church tours/lectures; and 2) a one-day spiritual Advent Retreat. Your feedback is most welcome.

+ Charity of the Month for November: Archpriest Michael and Janet Mihalick. Janet is the daughter of our own Protodeacon Vladimir and Mary Maksimoff, and her husband, Fr. Michael, continues to struggle with muscular dystrophy.



AKATHIST TO THE THEOTOKOS
Sunday, November 15, at 6:00 PM
at St. Nicholas Church (on North Rd.)

Come and join in prayer with our Orthodox Community in Warren to begin the Nativity Fast, the season of Advent.

+ **Fish Dinner News:** our organizing committee consists of *Denise Higgins, Paula Kapp, and Carol Nicholl*, who are in the process of securing persons for key positions in Dinner operations. If you plan on serving as you have in the past, please notify one or all of the committee members, as they may not know what you did, especially if you did not sign up on the list! Once again, we plan to resume our Fish Dinners in January 2010.

+ **Christmas Program Practice** continues each Sunday after Liturgy and Sunday School. There will be no practice Thanksgiving Weekend, November 29. The Program is scheduled for performance on Sunday, December 20, Christine DiGiacobbe directing.

+ Next Sunday, November 15, we begin the **Nativity Fast**, or **Advent** season. For 40 days, we are to strive together in preparation for the Feast of the Birth of Christ in the Flesh. This preparation includes self-control in eating, prayer, and works of mercy.

+ **Stand at Eastwood Mall** (aka Mall Kiosk): if you can volunteer to work at the Mall Stand – even if you're just interested and don't want to commit right now – speak with Tammy Krafft or Fr. Jonathan. We plan on running the Mall Stand in March 2010. This project is funded by a grant awarded to the parish from our Midwest Diocese Parish Health Department.