

St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

Moscow Patriarchate

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Redford, MI 48239

Telephone (313) 937-2120

Web Site – <http://saintmichaelredford.org>

Rt. Rev. Mitred Archbishop Timothy M. Barna, Rector

Fr. Deacon Daniel Woytowich

Matushka Sherry Barna, Choir Director

Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. – Weekdays Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

General Confession 1st Sunday of month

Private Confession every Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. or upon request

January 6, 2019

Epistle Titus: 2-11-14; 3:4-7

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

COFFEE HOUR: There is a coffee hour following Divine Liturgy. Everyone is invited to attend.

PRAYERS FOR THE HEALTH: Please pray for the following: Stephanie Kennedy, Drake Kennedy, Wellington Kennedy, Conrad Kennedy, Pat Federonko, Gloria Wheeler, Doris Sprague, Gregory Harvilla, Ann Telep, Judy Wadysz, Barbara Sapick, Paul Sapick, Mary Lusko, Jacob Ruppert, Barbara Lamendola, Kenneth Chambers, Mildred Cislo, John Vasilco, Anna Hagopian, Tamara Perri, George Krett, Sister Mary Hickey, Gregory Patrick, Reader Gary (Paul) Repella, Thomas Cherup and Michael Gaujanian.

PARASTAS: NEXT SUNDAY, January 13th - Fr. Timothy will serve a Parastas at 8:45 a.m. before Divine Liturgy for the repose soul of: Matushka Jane Barna (8 year anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord on January 15, 2011) offered by Fr. Timothy and family. Memory Eternal!

BLESSING OF HOMES – Fr. Timothy will be blessing homes at your convenience. Please call the rectory at 313-937-2120 or see Fr. Timothy in church if you want your home blessed.

BLESSING HOMES

The Feast of Theophany commemorates the Baptism of our Lord in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. The church commemorates this with the Great Blessing of Water, and the Church is blessed with this sanctified water. Since our homes cannot be brought to the Church, the Church – through the priest – goes to the home. Traditionally, in most Orthodox parishes, the priest personally visits his parishioners each year to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the newly sanctified water of Theophany. It has been the practice of Orthodox Christians for centuries to have their dwellings blessed. By sanctifying our living quarters, our private place, we extend the grace of God to our individual dwellings. All the rooms are sprinkled with holy water (New dwellings are anointed with the sign of the Cross with holy oil on each of the four outer walls). At the conclusion of the blessing, the inhabitants are blessed with the holy water.

When the priest comes to bless our homes, he asks God to have mercy on the house, to rid it of every evil and to fill it with every blessing. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year!

ANNUAL MEETING: This is the *first announcement* of St. Michael's Annual Yearly Meeting, which is scheduled for **Sunday, February 3, 2019**. Everyone, please mark this date on your calendar and come and participate. We need more people involved in the life of the church.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR ANNUAL MEETING – If you would like to run for office on the church council, please call Bill Harvey or Fr. Timothy (Bill Harvey at home 734-464-7225 or Fr. Timothy at 313-937-2120) or see them in church. To be eligible to hold office on the church council, you must be an Orthodox Christian, a dues-paying member, and a communicant of the church. All officer positions on the church council and one trustee position will be voted on at the annual meeting on Sunday, February 3, 2019. There will be a sign up sheet, for offices available, at the candle stand. If you are interested in serving St. Michael's as a Trustee on the Council, please sign up or see Bill Harvey or Father Timothy.

DUES! - A REMINDER, dues for the year 2018 are due. If anyone has not paid their dues in full, please do so before the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 3rd, 2019. Dr. Nancy needs to calculate a quorum for the annual meeting, which is based on the percentage of dues-paying members. Therefore, it is important and helpful to pay your dues and SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH NOW,-- if you haven't done so. This also allows you to vote at the Annual Meeting. YOU MAY ALSO START PAYING YOUR DUES FOR THE NEW YEAR of 2019. THANK YOU!

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER:

Think about this. Our life is short. How are we going to live it? How shall we prove our love of God and neighbor? How can we intercede for those who die and were indifferent to Christ and His Church? Let us find the answers to these questions and amend our life in a hurry, before it is too late. Remember that belonging to the Body of Christ opens Paradise for us. Therefore, O lovers of God, let us come and activate our faith and all her virtues, which we have received as gifts from God at our Baptism. When we submit an annual financial pledge or offer regular donations, that only reflects what is in our heart; and as the Gospel says, "Where your treasure is, there is your heart also." Christ is lovingly waiting for each of us. Will you respond to Him? (borrowed)