St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church
Moscow Patriarchate
26355 West Chicago Rd.
Redford, MI 48239
Telephone (313) 937-2120
Web Site – http://saintmichaelredford.org
Rt. Rev. Mitred Archpriest 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

February 11, 2024

Epistle: 1 Tim 1:15-17
Gospel: Matt 15: 21-28

COFFEE HOUR: There is Coffee Hour today. Come and enjoy Christian Fellowship.

THE HEALTH: Please pray for the following: Stephanie Kennedy, Drake Kennedy, Wellington Kennedy, Conrad Kennedy, Gloria Wheeler, Doris Sprague, Judy Wadysz, Anna Hagopian, Reader Gary (Paul) Repella, Michael Gaujanian, Marion Kurtyka, Sonia Kurtyka, Bradley Webster, Jestin Spears, Roger Wodkowski, Daniel Moran, Marge Wade, Mary Varchola, Zlatko Petrovich, Thomas Barkulis, Ronald Miller, Ronald Buck, David Tomchuck, Joanne Kowalenok, Tamara Perri, Helen Woytowich, and Wyatt Alexander Jankowski.

PARASTAS: A Parastas is scheduled for Fr. Daneil Shirak (1year Anniversary/Memorial of his repose) for next Saturday, February 17th at 3:00 p.m.   Memory Eternal!

THANK YOU: A special thank you for all your prayers, vigil lights lit, cards, phone calls during my recent illness. Again, it was very soothing to me for your thoughtfulness.   Helen Woytowich

BOOK CLUB: The next meeting of the book club will take place on *Saturday, February 24, 2024, at 1:00 PM* in the church library. Discussed will be <u>Still Life</u> by Lousie Penny. All are invited to attend.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY:
   St. Valentine was a kindly priest who lived in Rome in the early days of Christianity. He had a special sympathy for young people who loved each other. Soldiers in the Roman army were forbidden to marry, but Valentine would sometimes secretly marry them. He was also very fond of the flowers he grew in his garden.
   Because he was Christian, Valentine was arrested and thrown into a prison. When the children of his neighborhood learned this, they gathered flowers in his garden and threw them through the window into the cell where St. Valentine was kept.
   The memory of St. Valentine began to be celebrated on the day of a much older Roman feast when there was a lot of dancing and partners were chosen by drawing lots.
      (See more information on St. Valentine attached to this bulletin.)

IS GOD THE FIRST "LINE ITEM" IN YOUR BUDGET?

Each month, Orthodox Christians who practice good stewardship sit down with their budget to put aside saving for their future and pay expenses that are due, such as housing, automobiles, and groceries, etc..
However, giving to God through their parish comes first on their list of obligations.

As stewards of our Church, **we are obliged to give back to God the "first fruits" of our labors.** Indeed all that we are, and all that we have, comes from God. Through sacrificial giving, we acknowledge and give thanks for what we have received.

Giving back to God a portion of our income and assets is **only one fundamental aspect of being a Christian steward.** As stewards, we should also:

*Pray to God with grateful hearts, read scripture and **participate in the Eucharist** and other sacraments
*Nurture our family with time and love. The home is the domestic church, where we are to nurture relationships, offer forgiveness and reconciliation**, and share our Christ-centered values –** especially when pressured to conform to an oftentimes hostile, secular society.
*Share ourselves with our parish. Our talents and skills are meant to be cultivated and shared. We are obliged to share ourselves with our parish family – and beyond.

As stewards of God's gifts and members of the Church, we are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Disciples experience conversion, or *life-sharing changes of mind and heart, and commit themselves to the Lord.* Mature disciples consciously decided to follow Christ, no matter what the cost.   (borrowed)

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY