

**St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church
Moscow Patriarchate**

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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

Rom 13:11-14:4

February 18, 2018

Matt 6:14-21

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY: TODAY, is forgiveness Sunday, I ask all of you for forgiveness if I have offended you, my brothers and sisters, in any way, whether by my words, deeds, or thoughts. Fr. Timothy

COFFEE HOUR: There is a Coffee Hour after Divine Liturgy. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy Christian fellowship.

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, Chuck Ealovega, Mary Lusko, Jestin Spears, Jacob Ruppert, Barbara Lamendola, Kenneth Chambers, Mildred Cislo, John Vasilco, Anna Hagopian, Michael Kerrigan, Tamara Perri, George Krett, Sister Mary Hickey and Gregory Patrick.

PARASTAS: Today at 8:45 a.m., before Divine Liturgy, Fr. Timothy served a Parastas for the repose soul of: *Olga Jacob* for her 40th day -- offered by daughter Stephanie Henkel and family. Memory Eternal!

DECEASED: *Matushka Protinica Mitana Petrovich*, 95, (mother of Zlatko Petrovich and Grandmother of Stefan of Stefan's Catering) fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, February 12th, 2018. Please pray for the repose soul of Matushka Mitana. Our deepest sympathy to Zlatko & Stefan and their family in this time of their great sorrow and loss of Matushka Mitana. Memory Eternal!

GREAT LENT: Great Lent begins **TOMORROW, Monday, February 19th**. Now is the time to start preparing for Holy PASCHA by attending more church services, praying during Great Lent, giving to others, helping the needy, visiting the sick, and cleansing our souls through the Holy Sacrament of Holy Confession and Holy Communion.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, February 21st - Confession and Absolution

5:30 p.m.

Presanctified Gifts Liturgy

6:00 p.m.

Agape meal to follow in our church cultural center

Friday, February 23rd – Akathist to our Lord Jesus Christ

7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 24th - Souls Saturday Divine Liturgy

10:00 a.m.

MEMORIAL SOULS SATURDAYS: As in previous years, Fr. Timothy will pray for the repose souls of families and friends of our parish at Divine Liturgy on these Memorial Saturdays, please list the names on the "Souls Saturday" envelopes found in the church vestibule and bring them into church or give them to Fr. Timothy before this Saturday's service. The first service will be served **THIS Saturday, February 24th at 10:00 a.m.**

PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS LITURGY: During Great Lent we do not celebrate the Divine Liturgy on weekdays, except for the Holy Feast Day of the Annunciation of the Theotokos on March 25th. This is because the Divine Liturgy is a joyous celebration and great Lent is a time for repentance of our sins. So that the faithful are not left without Holy Communion, the Presanctified Liturgy is usually celebrated on Wednesday (and Friday). "Presanctified" means "already consecrated" because the bread and wine of Holy Communion were consecrated on the preceding Sunday. The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts will be served on Wednesday of each week during Great Lent at 6:00 p.m. (except the Wednesday of Holy Week). Fasting before the Liturgy should start at 12:00 noon (6 hours before receiving the Holy Sacraments). Confessions will be heard before Liturgy, or after, or by appointment.

FASTING AND RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION AT PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY: If you would like to take communion at the Presanctified Liturgies during Great Lent, you must fast by taking no food from 12:00 noon until you receive Holy Communion. Confession must be taken before Liturgy. If you have taken private confession or General Confession during a given month (or 4 weeks), then you may receive Absolution at the Presanctified Liturgy and Sunday Liturgies in that four (4) week period. We pray that many of our members will partake of Holy Communion more than once during Great Lent!

'AGAPE MEAL' - Each Wednesday, after Presanctified Liturgy, there will be a gathering of our members in St. Michael's Cultural Center to partake of an evening meal. All who are at the Presanctified Liturgy, are invited to join in this fellowship meal. We only ask that each family bring a Lenten Dish (casserole, dessert, salad, bread). There is no fee. Our agape meals have always been enjoyed by all.

PROSTRATION: This is the act of getting down on one's knees and touching the forehead to the floor in a great reverence. During Great Lent, and at all Lenten services, our Orthodox Faithful are reminded to prostrate (bow) to the floor before venerating the icon on the Tetrapod (at the center of church) upon entering church. This has been the tradition in our Orthodox Churches for centuries. At the end of most services during Lent, the people prostrate (3) times while the choir sings **"Suffering Passions of our Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us!"**

PROCESSION WITH ICONS: NEXT SUNDAY, February 25th, is ORTHODOXY SUNDAY. Following Divine Liturgy, we will again have a short service with the Procession of Icons with the Sunday School Children. Each child will carry an Icon in the procession symbolizing the returning of the Icons into the church in 843 a.d.