

## **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 25<sup>th</sup>*. 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/or Friday. “Presanctified” means “already consecrated” because the bread and wine (Body and Blood of Jesus Christ) 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 PM (except the Wednesday of Holy Week). Fasting before the Liturgy should start at 12:00 Noon (6 hours before receiving the Holy Sacrament). 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 Liturgy 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.

## **ORTHODOXY SUNDAY – PROCESSION WITH ICONS – NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Following Divine Liturgy, we will again have a short service with the Procession of Icons with everyone in church. All will carry an Icon in the procession symbolizing the returning of the Icons into the church in the year 843 AD.

**MEMBERS:** Just a reminder: To be a member of St. Michael’s it is your obligation to pay your annual membership dues and also to partake of holy communion, at least on a yearly basis. If you have not paid your dues for 2023 – we ask you to please do so now. **Dues are \$75.00 for a family and \$50.00 for a single person.** It is important that you be sure to meet both of these obligations of St. Michael’s so we may consider you a member. You may also pay your dues for 2024 now. Thank You!

**FLOWERS FOR THE HOLY PRECIOUS CROSS:** Anyone who would like to donate towards flowers to beautify the *Holy Precious Cross* for the *Third Sunday of Lent - The Veneration of the Cross, April 7<sup>th</sup>*, please fill out an envelope found in the pews and mark it “*Flowers for the Cross*”! Thank You.

**COMMUNION BREAKFAST – 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT – APRIL 21ST --** We will have our annual Communion Breakfast, which we will celebrate with our church family and friends. As in the past, I’m sure we will have a good turnout for this breakfast. The donation will be \$10, and a sign-up sheet will be in the vestibule to help us get a count. Please mark this day on your calendar.

**1 TIMOTHY 4: vs 8:** For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

## **CHURCH DONATION:**

Rev. Deacon David & Mat. Karen Rehn (baptism candles for baptism of River Michael )

\$40.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!**

**JESUS SAID: “A new Commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you; that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if you have love one to another.” (John 13: 34-35).**