

**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

Heb. 1: 10-2:3

March 4, 2018

Mark 2: 1-12

John 10: 9-16

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: A Parastas was served by Fr. Timothy before Divine Liturgy at 8:50 a.m. for the repose soul of: *John Stasik*, on the 33rd anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Dale & Lavonne Martin and family. Memory Eternal!

REMEMBERED AT LITURGY: Today during Divine Liturgy, Fr. Timothy prayed for the repose soul of: *John Stasik*, on the 33rd Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord. Memory Eternal!

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, March 7th - Confession and Absolution

5:30 p.m.

Presanctified Gifts Liturgy

6:00 p.m.

Agape meal to follow in our church cultural center

Saturday, March 10th - Souls Saturday Divine Liturgy

10:00 a.m.

Vespers for the Holy Cross

5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 11th – Cross Veneration Sunday

9:30 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.

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!”**

NEWSLETTER: Friday, March 2nd, the Lenten/Easter Newsletter was mailed. Those people in zip codes beginning 481 and 482 should receive their newsletter in the next few days. Other zip codes may take a little longer. If you do not receive your newsletter, please let Father Timothy know.