

St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

**Moscow Patriarchate**

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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

Epistle Act 5: 12-20

**Sunday, April 26, 2020**

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

**CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!**

**XPNECTOC BOCKPECE!**

**St. Thomas Sunday – Do You Believe?**

**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, Judy Wadysz, Barbara Sapick, Paul Sapick, Mildred Cislo, Anna Hagopian, Reader Gary (Paul) Repella, Michael Gaujanian, Marion Kurtyka, Alice Caddy, William Harvey, Daniel Moran, Brian Kurtyka, Ryan Kerrigan, and Frances Munaco.

Father Timothy and Matushka are continuing with services. If you can, pray with them at the time the services are scheduled. Please continue to pray for those who are afflicted with this disease, as well as those who put their lives on the line administering to the sick, and also for those who serve our communities – police, emergency personel, fireman, government officials, and those working to provide necessities for us.

**CHURCH MEMORAL DONATION:**

Thomas & Olga Moeller

\$150.00

**THANK YOU:** I wish to thank our parishioners for their continued support of St. Michael's. We will come through this uncertain time with your love and support.

**I also wish to thank Chris Muzzin and his son Matthew** for their technical support in getting St. Michael's on line to live-stream services during Holy Week. There are many parishioners who took advantage of this service. We thank Chris and Matt for volunteering their hard work to make this possible. *View services at:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?V=W8w6TBOvxNE> or **Saint Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church Redford**

**From The ORTHODOX WEEKLY BULLETIN ...Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey**

**THE LIFE-GIVING FOUNTAIN**

In Greek Orthodox communities, the week after Pascha is called "The Week of Renewal." We are reminded that just as the Spring season brings a renewal of nature, Christ's Resurrection brings with it a "new creation."

The Sixth Ecumenical Council offered some specific guidelines for how this week was to be spent. It was decreed that: "From Pascha to St. Thomas Sunday, the faithful are required to spend time in a state of leisure, attending church and rejoicing in Christ's Resurrection. They are to listen attentively to the readings of the Holy Scriptures, for in this way, we shall rise with Christ and be glorified with Him."

Friday of Renewal Week has a special significance for us. This day is dedicated to the Holy Virgin, extolling her as the **LIFE-GIVING FOUNTAIN**. This commemoration dated back to the 5<sup>th</sup> century, when a church was built by the Emperor Leo the Thracian, in Constantinople, near a spring where a great number of healings were attributed to the intercession of the Theotokos. When the Byzantine Empire fell, the magnificent edifice was destroyed and replaced by a mosque. Somehow, the spring managed to survive the devastation around it, and the site continued to be a source of comfort and consolation for the faithful in the surrounding area. When the ruins of the church were completely demolished in 1821, the spring mysteriously sank into the gound and disappeared!

In 1834, permission was given by the government to rebuild a church on the original foundation of the former one. A large crowd gathered for its consecration, joyfully singing the Kontakion for the day: *"I beseech you, O Life-Giving Fountain, to moisten me with the dew of your grace, so that I may cry to you: Rejoice, O water of Salvation!"*

**7 DAY VIGIL LIGHTS:** *St. Michael's had 168 vigil lights lit on Holy Friday and for all of Pascha week. These candles were lit for various occassions. I want to thank you all for your support in beautifying the church with all these candles.*

**SPECIAL THANK YOU:** Because of the Covid 19 situation we were unable to get flowers from our usual source. We thank *Patric Hermes* for being able to find and pick up 18 beautiful lillies that were surrounding the Grave of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and also beautifying the church for Pascha!

**RED CROSS DRIVE:** This past Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> - St. Michael's opened our Church Cultural Center to the Red Cross for a blood drive. They collected 37 units of blood to help those in need of blood. Thank you Red Cross and those of the community who came and supported the Red Cross blood drive!!!