

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

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY – INDEPENDENCE DAY!

God Bless America! Freedom, Freedom, Freedom!

Epistle Rom 6: 18-23

Sunday, July 5, 2020 Gospel: Matt 8: 5-13

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, Frances Munaco, Sonia Kurtyka and Nancy Hawkins.

Please continue to pray for those who are afflicted with the Covid 19 virus, 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 personnel, fireman, government officials, and those working to provide necessities for us.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR MASK CORRECTLY WHILE ATTENDING CHURCH.

SPECIAL THANKS: To members and friends for your continuing support of St. Michael’s Church through your generous offerings sent in during this difficult time of the Covid 19 virus. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

FROM THE ORTHODOX WEEKLY BULLETIN . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey

“THOSE WHO DIED FOR THEIR FAITH”

It has often been said that **“the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church.”** That is to say, the killing of believers, in Christ has not destroyed the Faith, but in fact has nurtured it to greater growth. The example of those valiant men and women who have suffered and given up their lives for Christ has inspired faithful throughout the ages and continues to do so today.

We often think that the age of *martyrdom* has long since passed. Certainly the Calendar of Saints records the amazing stories of the *martyrs* of the early centuries of the Christian Church. History records the persecutions by the Roman emperors of the era. But there have been *martyrs* in every age, and certainly there have been in our times.

Many *martyrs* are commemorated during the course of the year. Some of these are termed **“Great Martyrs”** for their outstanding witness for Christ. Other saints who were not killed but who suffered much for their faith are called **“Confessors.”** Normally, saints are remembered on the day of their falling-asleep in Christ, since that day is looked upon as their **“birthday into eternal life.”**

The icon of our bulletin depicts the **GREAT MARTYR KIRIANKIA**, born to a pious Christian family of Asia Minor in the 3rd century. When her parents were arrested for their faith and sent to prison, Kiriakia carried on missionary work. She then was arrested and sentenced to death by the authorities of Emperor Diocletian. She fell asleep in the Lord at the age of 21.

FOURTH OF JULY – As we celebrate the birth of our nation, please give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this country. Inspirational quotes:

“America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and *lose our freedoms*, it will be because we *destroyed ourselves.*” Abraham Lincoln

“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.”

John F. Kennedy

“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.” Ronald Reagan

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER by Francis Scott Key



Oh, say can you see, by the dawns’ early light,
What so proudly we hailed, at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming,
and the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave,
O’er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.