

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

Sunday, September 20, 2020 Epistle Gal 2:16-20

2 Cor 4: 6-15

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

Matt 22:35-46

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, Nancy Hawkins, Jim Fisher, and Mark Sudia.

PRAYER: 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, as mandated by the governor. Also, follow safe distancing practices and sanitize your hands.

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.

FLOWERS FOR THE HOLY PRECIOUS CROSS: Elevation of the Holy Precious Cross was on *Monday September 14th*. Flowers continue to decorate the cross today, *Sunday, September 20th*. If you would like to donate towards flowers for the cross, place your donation in a "Supplementary Envelope" found in the pews, and mark it FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS, *put your name and envelope # on the envelope*, and place it in the offering basket.

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

ACHIEVING THE UTIMATE "VICTORY"

During the reign of the Emperor Constantine the Great, Christianity began to spread to regions where the Gospel of Christ had not yet taken root. Missionaries in the early 4th Century encountered great difficulties in taking the Lord's message to the barbaric tribes living in the Northern sections of the Empire, with the Goths being particularly hostile towards their preaching.

Still, some "seed" managed to fall on "good soil" among the uncivilized Goths. Through the efforts of the saintly Bishop Theophilos, who had been a participant in the *First Ecumenical Council in 325 a.d.*, converts began to embrace the Christian faith. Foremost among them was the MARTYR NICETAS, whose name itself means "*one who conquers*." After being baptized by Bishop Theophilos, Nicetas became instrumental in turning many of his countrymen from their pagan ways. He assisted in translating the New Testament and other sacred writings into the language of the Goths, which greatly aided the establishment of Christian communities in the Danube River area.

The success of Christianity among the Goths incurred the wrath of their pagan ruler, Prince Athanaric, who ruthlessly began to persecute those who now professed their belief in Jesus. Although subjected to terrible torture, Nicetas refused to pay homage to the pagan gods. He ultimately suffered martyrdom in 372 A. D. when he was put to death by fire. He died knowing that by giving up his life for Christ, he had won the greatest of "victories": achieving eternal life in God's heavenly kingdom.

CHURCH DONATION/LANDSCAPING

Munaco Family (landscaping Church & Cultural Center grounds) \$2400.00

CHURCH DONATION:

Nicholas Obrizok (for the health of Emily, Mae, & Johnathan on their Birthdays and Angela & Claire Woytowich) \$ 100.00

FLOWERS FOR THE HOLY CROSS:

Pat Dominick, Tammie Colling Kerrigan, Stephanie Henkel, Fr. Timothy & Mat. Sherry Barna \$ 75.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

DAILY BIBLE DEVOTION - TODAY'S BIBLE HUMOR:

What did Elijah sing on Mount Carmel after he had set up an altar to the Lord?
"Light my fire!"