

**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

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Epistle: 2 Cor 6: 16-7:1

Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

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.

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

THE TRUE ROLE OF AN ICONOGRAPHER

Icons are visual representations of Christ, the Theotokos, the angels and the saints. While we venerate them and pray before them, it must be noted that our reverence for them is directed towards that which they depict, and not the objects themselves. Icons have long been viewed as a source of education and edification by the Church. *St. John of Damascus* writes: “*if a pagan asks you to show him your faith, take him into your church and place him before the icons.*” Indeed, all of the mysteries and teaching of our Holy Orthodox Faith are vividly brought to life by means of our iconography.

Iconographers, while possessing skills in painting styles and techniques, are much more than “artists.” To be able to properly “write” icons (icons are written, not painted) is indeed a calling from the Lord. Prayer and fasting are an essential “tool” for a true iconographer. Iconographers must be well-versed in the doctrines and dogmas of the Church, which are to be expressed in all their work. They are bound by the holy tradition of the church, and the icons that they write can never reflect their own personal thoughts or interpretations.

The following excerpt from an “Iconographer’s Prayer” shows the depth of the spiritual nature involved with this noble vocation: “Guide the hands of Your unworthy servant so that I may worthily portray Your Icon, that of Your Mother and all the Saints for the glory, joy, and adornment of Your Church. Forgive my sins and the sins of those who will venerate these icons.”

CHURCH FUNERAL DONATION:

Stevan Stefnovich family (in memory of Stevan Stefanovich) by the family with thanks to \$100.00
St. Michael's for letting us use St Michael's church

HOLY HUMOR – Moses had a press agent named Sam. When he and his people got to the Red Sea with the Pharaoh's armies in hot pursuit, he called for Sam and asked: “Where are the boats?”

“Oh, I'm sorry, Moses,” Sam said, “I was so busy with the press releases, newspapers and booking, I forgot to order the boats.”

“You idiot!” Moses exclaimed. “What do you want me to do --- raise my staff and ask God to part the Red Sea?” “Hey, boss,” Sam said, “If you can do that, I could get you two pages in the Old Testament.”

Symbols of the Church:

The Peacock: A symbol of immortality. The peacock was a very popular symbol in early Christian days, representing the soul glorified.

The Lion: Sometimes an emblem of Christ. Usually St. Mark is symbolized by the lion because his Gospel begins with the call to repentance by John the Baptist, a voice crying in the wilderness which is compared to the roar of a lion in the desert.