

# Let My Prayer Arise

## “Our Nation’s Weakest Export”

A Message from Fr. Gabriel

One of my favorite stories to share with others when speaking about their role as a Christian, is about a young farm boy who found a large eagle egg in the desert. He brought it home and put it in the chicken coup, where one of the chickens took care of it and hatched it.

As the eagle grew, it was obviously different than the other chickens... but it still acted like the rest. It pecked at the corncobs and scratched in the dust for grain. When the farmhands would come, it would watch as it’s fellow chickens were taken from the coup, never to be seen again. This was life. Despite being born for so much more, the eagle could see nothing else than the four walls of the coup which it had grown up in.

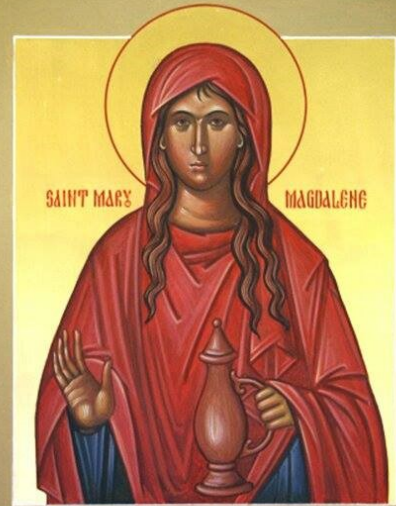
After some time, the farmer’s son saw how sad it was to see this proud monarch of the skies, scratching and pecking around like a lowly chicken. One day, he urged the bird to leave the coup, and led it out of the farm, and up onto a high mountain top.

Away from the dirty coup that the eagle had lived it’s whole life in, it saw the majesty of the skies and the world above it. Instinctively and without hesitation, the eagle hurled itself off the mountain, spread his wings wide, and began to glide through the air currents...feeling what

Continued Pg 3

### May in Review:

- We saw the completion of our 3 month journey with Christ, through His Crucifixion and Resurrection, to His Ascension into heaven, and the coming of the Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
- We got to experience all of those wonderful realities in one beautiful day, when we welcomed our newest sister in Christ, Alexandra Cooley, to the Christian faith with Baptism and Chrismation.
- The Metanoia course has really taken off with a wonderful group of 15 current parishioners, catechumens and seekers who have nearly completed the 8 week class on the basics of the Ancient Christian Faith.
- The grounds have been prepared and cleaned for the upcoming Diocesan Conference.



June 2018

### Inside this Issue

- Prayer Life
- Monthly Forecast
- Matthew 25
- Education

### Important Dates to Remember

- 



*This Month's Scripture Readings*

**June 3rd:**

Isaiah 43:9-14

Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9; 5:15-6:3

Matthew 28: 16-20; 10:32-33,37-38; 19:27-30

Hebrews 11:33-12:2

**June 10th:**

Mark 16:1-8

Matthew 4:25-5:12

Romans 2:10-16

Matthew 4:18-23

**June 17th:**

Genesis 14: 14-20

Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17; 10:14-21

Mark 16:9-20

Hebrews 13:7-16

John 17:1-13

Romans 5:1-10

Matthew 6:22-33

**June 24th:**

Luke 24:1-12 1:1-25, 57-68, 27, 80

Romans 13:11-14:4

Matthew 8:5-13

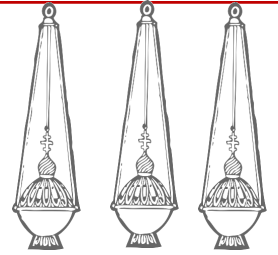


# Prayer Life

Pray for our sick and suffering brothers and sisters.

His Beatitude Metropolitan  
Theodosius  
His Beatitude Metropolitan  
Herman  
Archpriest Dimitri Vincent  
Subdeacon Paul  
Susan  
Vinnie  
Autumn  
Katherine  
John  
Anne  
Katherine  
Anastasia  
Alex  
Elaine  
Solome  
Bill  
Carol  
Anne  
Carolyn  
Barbara  
Manuela  
Frankie  
John

Stacie  
Bryan  
Doug  
Megan  
Duncan  
Eva  
Perpetua  
Pat  
Jan  
Kyle  
Aiden  
Lon  
Lon  
James  
Joanna  
Sandy  
Finn  
Michael  
Theodora  
Damian  
Ella



Armed Forces	Recently Departed this Life	Catechumens	Mother's Child
Matthew Beck - Air Force Michael Oginsky - U.S. Marines Patrick Tejkl - U.S. Marines Lindsey Cazatt - U.S. Navy Stephanie Bishop - U.S. Navy Jason Wilburn - Army Rangers Alex Suriano - Air National Guard Dallas Watson - U.S. Air Force Seraphim Lazar- Watson - U.S. Air Force	Chris Millard Flora Olga	Robert Forsyth	Christine Suriano Rachael Welch Kristen Jakubus Amanda Kothamdapani Shannon Solome



**“Our Nation’s Weakest Export?” Cont.**

freedom was like for the first time. It didn’t take long for this monarch of the skies to roget about the coup that it had left behind..

I share this story with you, not because I am a bird lover (in fact, birds despise me), but because in the grand scheme of creation...mankind is no different than that eagle living amongst the chickens. Instead of fighting over the last bit of corn, we battle over property, possession, influence, popularity, and power. Rather than looking to the skies and realizing our potential as adopted sons and daughters of God, we stare at the ground, knowing nothing of the greater existence surrounding us, and waiting with no purpose for the farm hand to come and take us away.

We were not created in the image and likeness of God to live like animals! We were made to soar! Mankind is meant to be a participant in the very Life of God Himself in the eternal kingdom! Just like the eagle had the farmhand in the story, we have our Lord to show us that there is a life above the chicken coup! And after He had ascended into the heavens, the Holy Spirit descended, giving us the greatest gift mankind has ever received: The Church. And it is there that we dedicate our lives to learning how to soar once again. I once heard a wonderful analogy from another priest, who described the Church as a “Saint Making Factory”. This is a beautiful image of what the Church’s purpose is: to make Saints! But where we have fallen short in our beloved country, is relying or outsourcing the greatest work of our lives...the work of making Saints. Our factories...the Churches here in America, have been running dry when compared to the other Orthodox Churches in the world. Yes, we have a lot of wonderful saints, many of whom we commemorate on the Sunday of All Saints of North America (June 10th), but even they are all imports! Why is that?! We are blessed to live in a country where, contrary to popular belief, there is a lot of enthusiasm for religion. Everyone wants to know, learn, and study truth! We have a drive for trying to have the correct ideas about God, but where we fall short, is that we as a country have less American will power for DOING the Gospel. This is something that has to change. We have to be continually searching for ways to roll up our sleeves, and do the work of the Christian life. This is how Saints are made!

God has given us all that we need to succeed. He has entrusted the wonderful gift of the Church to mankind, and now the task falls to us to not be satisfied

like the lowly chickens, but to ascend to heights that we never thought possible. So as we continue our journey towards salvation together, may God give us the strength to lift up one another, to guide one another, to pray for one another, and to soar with one another, as we continue to work on manufacturing Saints for the kingdom of Heaven.



# Monthly Forecast

**Metanoia:**

Our weekly Metanoia classes will be finishing up this month! On Wednesday, June 6th, we will be discussing what we believe about the Church and Mary. On our final class on June 13th, the topic will be "The Holy Spirit and the Jesus Prayer". Don't miss out!

**Diocesan Conference:**

Mark your calendars now! St. Mary Magdalene will be hosting the Diocesan Conference from June 29–July 1st. The Weeping Iveron Icon of the Mother of God will be here during the conference. We will also be hosting an ethnic Dinner Dance. Details to follow later this month.

**Vespers-Divine Liturgy for St. Peter and Paul:**

There will be a combined Vespers Liturgy on Thursday, June 28th, at 6:00PM, at St. George in Flint for the feast day of Sts. Peter and Paul.

**Mother & Father's Day Celebration:**

On Sunday, June 3rd, we will be having our combined Mother's and Father's Day Luncheon. The main course is steak with potatoes and salad. Please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share!

**Silent Auction Items:**

If you have volunteered to go and secure items for the Silent Auction to benefit the Church Mortgage Initiative, please bring those items to the Church by Sunday, June 24th, so that we can have them ready to go for the weekend!

**Choir Rehearsal:**

Choir rehearsals will continue to take place on Sunday mornings at 9:20 AM. We have a lot to prepare for this month, so please plan on being in attendance!

**All Hands on Deck!:**

Please mark your calendars for the last weekend in June! We need everyone present at the services, and helping with the events for the weekend, in order for it to be a success!

**Parish Council Meeting:**

Please note that the parish council meeting will be a week earlier than normal, on Tuesday, June 5th, at 7:00 PM

**Lamb Roast Following Divine Liturgy on July 1st:**

On the Farewell Sunday of the last weekend in June, we will be having a Lamb Roast with His Eminence Archbishop Alexander and guests. Please plan on bringing a side dish to the agape meal to share!

**Fr. Gabriel Vacation:**

Fr. Gabriel will not be in the office from Friday, June 8th through Saturday, June 16th. If there is an emergency, Fr. Matthew of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Flint is available at (810) 247-4265

**Dinner Dance Tickets:**

There are still Dinner Dance tickets available! if you are unable to attend yourselves, please consider donating a ticket to offset the cost for some of our larger families! In order to make this fundraiser and silent auction a success for the mortgage, we need everyone's support

**Mortgage Initiative:**

The balloon payment for our Church Mortgage is coming due this Summer, and we are in the process of refinancing for the last time (God willing!) Please support our big fundraiser coming up at the end of the month



"For I was hungry and you gave me food,  
 I was thirsty and you gave me drink,  
 I was a stranger and you took me in,  
 I was in prison and you came to me,  
 I was sick and you visited me, I  
 was naked and you clothed me."

JOIN US on Sunday, June 17th to help support FOCUS Detroit in their summer feeding efforts. We will be working with them from St. Clement Church in Inkster.

Look for the sign-up in the back of the church. The flyer with more information is below.

Please contact David Schutt, Roland Drummond, Bob Forsyth or Rebekah Humphreys if you would like any more information about upcoming projects or would like to donate to the works of The Fellowship of St. Photini.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>STS. PETER &amp; PAUL FAST:</b> FOCUS Summer Feeding Program June 17th	<b>AUGUST:</b> School Supply Drive	<b>DECMEBER:</b> Seminarian Gift Cards
<b>JULY:</b> First Responders Blessing	<b>DORMITION FAST:</b> Habitat for Humanity	<b>ADVENT FAST:</b> FOCUS Backpack Feeding
	<b>OCTOBER:</b> Cancer Blankets	



"And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' "



# Fellowship of St. Photini Summer Time Feeding Program

"Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, *'let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven'* And he laid His hands on them and departed from there." Matthew 19: 13-15



Working with FOCUS Detroit, we will team up, to provide food over the summer to at risk youth in the Greater Detroit Area.

Sunday, June 17th

4:00-6:00pm

Leaving the Church at 2:45pm

St. Clemens Episcopal Church

4300 Harrison Street

Inkster, MI 48141

See David Schutt if you would like more information regarding the summer feeding program.

There will be a sign up sheet, please be sure to sign up soon!



FELLOWSHIP  
of ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIANS  
UNITED  
to SERVE



## **St. Mary Magdalene's 3rd Annual First Responders Blessing and BBQ!**

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church

2439 S. Long Lake Rd. Fenton, MI 48430

Sunday, July 29th, 2018, After the Divine Liturgy (Approx 11:20 AM)

Mark your calendars for our Third Annual First Responder Blessing and BBQ, as we welcome all of our local heroes to the Church for a special prayer service following the Divine Liturgy, where we will pray not only for those who have lost their lives in the line of duty, but also for the strength and protection of all of our those who put themselves in harms way to protect each and every one of us.

After the blessing, in honor of the feast of St. Elijah the Prophet, who left the world on a fiery chariot, we will have the traditional blessing of vehicles, including our local fire trucks, police cars, motorcycles, and ambulances. All of our heroes are then invited with their families, to a special cookout held in their honor on our outdoor patio

**Please contact Fr. Gabriel at (810) 750-1401, or by email at [frgabrielismm@gmail.com](mailto:frgabrielismm@gmail.com) for any further questions!**

## **Tips and Tricks for Struggling Parents in Church** **Taken from an Article on “Orthodox Motherhood”**

### **Practice Hymns at Home**

Try to incorporate hymns of the Church in your Morning or Evening Prayers. We sing the Lord’s prayer twice a day. We also sing “Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal” in the morning and “Come Let us Worship and Bow Down” in the evening. You could also sing the Hymn to the Theotokos, Christ is Risen from the Dead, or other festal hymns.

Children love being able to sing along with the adults when they know the hymns. This helps them focus and participate. The more hymns they know, the more they can participate!

### **Use the Whole Body**

I don’t know about your children, but mine have a little, (ahem) a lot of energy. They need to move, and a two-hour liturgy can get a bit long. That’s why I love the movement that is naturally part of the Liturgy. If you teach your children the sign of the cross when they are young (my kids learned at age two), they have ample opportunity to move their bodies during church. Model prostrations and help children make them when appropriate.



### **Venerate Icons**

Children are drawn to icons. In my experience, they are somehow able to understand and draw spiritual focus from them. If you have a squirming toddler who is fussy, try walking around the back or perimeter of the church to look at the icons. Stop before each and quietly explain who it is and have the child kiss the icon. At every church I have attended or visited, this has been completely acceptable. I have seen many older parishioners smile at us as we go by, happy to see a child venerating an icon. (Note from Fr. Gabriel: This is completely acceptable here!)

### **Use Liturgy Books Strategically**

There are several fantastic books for children that walk them through the Divine Liturgy. For younger children I recommend *The Child’s Guide to Divine Liturgy*. It has excellent illustrations that help kids follow along with and mark the key parts of the Divine Liturgy. By knowing what is coming up and what to look for, younger children can participate more fully. Any teacher will tell you that the more involved a child is, the less likely he or she is to misbehave!

Older children who can read will be able to follow along in your church’s liturgy book. My son (the same one who almost tripped our priest!) is now six-years-old. We require him to follow along in the book, reading and singing, for the first part of the Liturgy. After the homily he can either continue following along or read his



children's Bible.

### **Give Children Jobs**

Most young children love helping. Try to use this desire to involve the children in Liturgy. Let young children learn how to light candles carefully. I ask my daughter to "let Mommy know" whenever it is time for Communion. At three-years-old, she has learned all of the cues! ("Mommy, Father just closed the curtain." "Mommy, we just said the prayer." "Mommy, he opened the curtain. It's time for Communion!")

In some churches, children can join the choir or sing at the chanter's stand. Our church allows children to help the greeters in welcoming people in and helping newcomers find the Liturgy books and candles. When my son was four, our treasurer let him help count and sort the money from the offering. He took his "job" very seriously and loved the responsibility! When your son is old enough, talk with your priest about having him become an altar server.

### **Realize that They are Children**

If you have a toddler with limitless energy and a very limited attention span, these tips may seem absolutely impossible. My child pay attention and sing, yeah right, lady! And, I get that. Completely. My children are 6, 3, and 1, and my husband serves at the altar many Sundays. That means I have three little ones by myself. Whew. At the end of Liturgy, I am completely wiped out.

- It can be easy to become frustrated with your children.
  - To resent them for distracting you during Liturgy.
  - To long for a time when you can worship without distraction.
- To feel that there must be something wrong with you as a parent because your children decide to yell at the top of their lungs while sprinting toward the altar. (Also true story.)

Remember, however, that they are children. They will make mistakes. They will make noise (gasp!). They will act like children.

But, they are God's children. And He wants them in his Church. He welcomes them—and you—to His house.





**Pan-Orthodox Churches of Genesee County  
2018**

**V**acation

Church

School

**Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00pm – 8:30pm**

Hosted at:

**St. George Orthodox Church  
5191 Lennon Road  
Flint, MI 48507**

*Registration opens in June*

For more information, to volunteer, or donate,  
please contact Kh. Leslee Abud,  
[laabud@aol.com](mailto:laabud@aol.com) or 810-695-2177





# "METANOIA"

LEARNING TO CHANGE ONE'S HEART FOR GOD



St. Vladimir the Great, a prince of Kievan Rus in the 10th century, sent envoys to all of the civilized world, looking at the various religions that were being practiced at the time. The response that impressed him the most, was the group that returned from an Orthodox Christian service in Constantinople, where his servants marveled at this ancient Christian service saying: *"We knew not whether we were in heaven, or still on earth."*

In a Christian World now littered with various denominations, each teaching a different version of the same Gospel, have you ever wondered or thought about what the earliest Christians taught, how they worshiped, and what believed? Now is your opportunity to come and experience what those emissaries saw over 1000 years ago!

Fr. Gabriel will be offering a 14 week introductory course on the Eastern Orthodox Faith, whose worship and teachings have not changed since the time of Christ and the Apostles.

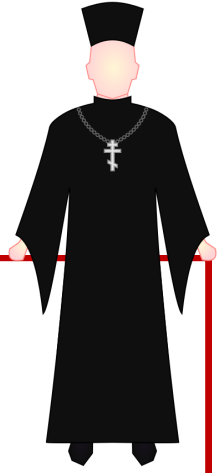
**When: Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM Starting April 25th**

**Where: St. Mary Magdalene Education Center, Fenton, MI (810) 750-1401**

*Adult Education*

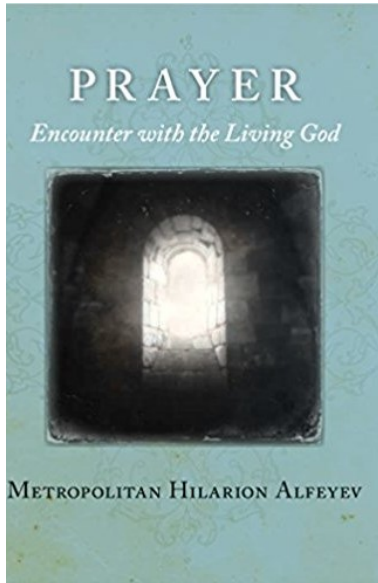


# Recommended Reading



## Prayer: Encounter with the Living God

By: Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev



In this deceptively simple set of talks, Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev explains with grace and clarity the Orthodox understanding of prayer. Beginning with conception of prayer as creating a space of encounter with God, we are guided through the Orthodox ethos of prayer and its irreplaceable role in our Christian lives.

With his usual lucidity, Metropolitan Hilarion reminds us of what lies at the very heart of prayer to the Living God:

God does not need words; He needs men's hearts. Words are secondary; of paramount importance are the feeling and disposition with which we approach God.

The thirty-two part series on prayer was transcribed and translated from television episodes presented on Russian television in the spring of 1999 by Igumen (now Metropolitan) Hilarion (Alfeyev) with the blessing of His Holiness, the late Patriarch Alexei II of Moscow and All Russia.



**Our Library is growing!  
Don't forget to  
donate and checkout!**

# THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY!

## Coffee Hour Volunteers

**June 3rd:**  
Steve & Elizabeth Kekel  
**June 10th:**  
Pat Matts  
**June 17th:**  
Joe & Jenni Otis  
**June 24th:**  
Terri Oginsky

## Parish Greeters

**June 3rd:**  
Steve & Sue Walton  
**June 10th:**  
Scott & Tina Shephard  
**June 17th:**  
Elaine Boucher  
**June 24th:**  
David & Cindy Welch

## Epistle Readers

**June 3rd:** Rdr Nathan Auxier  
& Rdr John Auxier  
**June 10th:** Jenni Otis & Sbdn.  
Andrew Durand  
**June 17th:** Sue Walton & Rdr  
Nathan Auxier  
**June 24th:** Sbdn. Andrew Du-  
rand & Jenni Otis

## Wishing you many blessed years!

### Happy Birthday

- 5– Freida Owens
- 7– Dennis Kemp
- 8– Melissa Auxier
- 12– Stephan Owens
- 14– Lucas Oslin
- 20– Andy Humphreys
- 21– Kurt Schutt
- 24– Ethan Durand
- 27– Rebekah Humphreys
- 28– Pat Smith
- 30– Francis Senter

### Happy Anniversary

- 7– Terry & Freida Owens
- 8– Brian & Tamara Arnes
- 11– John & Renee Auxier
- 17– Doug & Joyce Ballnik
- 18– David & Cindy Welch
- 19– Dbdn. Paul & Jeanette Hildreth
- 20– Mark & Julie Yonan



MOTHER'S  
& FATHER'S



Day



Luncheon

MENU:

Steak & Potato Dinner

Salad

Hot Dogs for the Kids

\* Look for the sign up sheet and sign up to bring an appetizer, dessert or a beverage\*

Sunday, June 3rd

following Divine Liturgy



We warmly invite you to join us for a

# Summer Dinner Dance

**Saturday, June 30, 2018**



A Delicious Greek chicken dinner will be served along side an open bar followed by ethnic desserts, music and dancing.

#### Evening Events

5:00pm Vespers

6:00pm Cocktails

6:30pm Dinner

6:00pm—10:00pm Music and Dancing

6:00pm—9:00pm Silent Auction

9:15pm Results of the Silent Auction

#### Location

Assumption Orthodox Church Hall

2245 E. Baldwin Rd

Grand Blanc, MI 48439

#### Tickets

Adults \$50

Children 12 and under \$20



Hosted by St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church,  
Fenton, MI



# The Weeping Iveron Icon of The Mother of God



Our Parish Community in Fenton is extremely excited to announce, that we will be welcoming the miracle working weeping icon of the Mother of God in late June! Join us for a truly spiritual and unforgettable visit, which will remove any doubts about the Glory of God!

**When:** Friday June 29th: Afternoon Visitation with Service and Anointing at 7:00 PM

Saturday, June 30th: Divine Liturgy at 8:30 AM

**Where:** St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church  
2439 S. Long Lake Rd. Fenton, MI 48451

Call (810) 750-1401 for More Information!



# Orthodox Christian Women of Michigan

## 2018 SPEAKER SERIES

<p><b>Saturday, March 10 at 10AM</b>  <b>MARY &amp; THE ORTHODOX WOMAN</b>                  Fr. Joshua Genig, Speaker                  St. Thomas Orthodox Church                  29150 Ten Mile Rd., Farmington Hills</p>	<p><b>Saturday, July 14 at 9AM</b>  <b>ANNUAL RETREAT</b>  <b>THE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR/FATHER CONFESSOR: What role does he play in my life?</b>                  Fr. Dusan Koprivica, Speaker                  Holy Dormition Orthodox Monastery                  3389 Rives Eaton Rd., Rives Junction</p>
<p><b>Monday, April 16 at 7PM</b>  <b>ORTHODOX SAINTHOOD: How is it established? Who are some of our Modern/ American Saints?</b>                  Fr. John Artemas, Speaker                  St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church                  760 W. Wattles Rd., Troy</p>	<p><b>Monday, September 17 at 7PM</b>  <b>MUSICAL RESPONSES IN THE ORTHODOX CHURCH: Chant, Choir, Congregational Singing</b>                  Petra Koprivica, Panel Leader                  Basilica of St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church                  18100 Merriman Rd., Livonia</p>
<p><b>Monday, May 21 at 7PM</b>  <b>ORTHODOX MEDIA MINISTRIES: In Detroit &amp; Beyond!</b>                  John E. Lazar, Speaker                  St. Lazarus Ravanica Serbian Orthodox Cathedral                  4575 E Outer Dr. (@ Van Dyke), Detroit</p>	<p><b>Monday, October 15 at 7PM</b>  <b>FASTING: Why? When? How? Who, me?</b>                  Fr. Lev Kopistiansky, Speaker                  Assumption Greek Orthodox Church                  21800 Marter Rd., St. Clair Shores</p>
<p><b>Monday, June 18 at 7PM</b>  <b>CARING FOR OUR ELDERLY: Individually &amp; as a Church Community</b>                  Karen Todorov, Speaker                  Holy Ghost Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church                  38500 Ryan Rd., Sterling Heights</p>	<p><b>Monday, November 12 at 7PM</b>  <b>GATHERING THE 'LOST SHEEP': How can I help my family/friends actively return to the Church/faith?</b>                  Fr. Gabriel Bilas, Speaker                  St. George Greek Orthodox Church                  43816 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills</p>

**The mission of the Orthodox Christian Women of Michigan is to serve God, the faithful of His Orthodox Church and the world. This purpose shall be fulfilled through programs and charitable works that promote Orthodox unity, fellowship, and witness, Orthodox Christian values, lay leadership and education, spiritual growth and renewal and interpersonal support.**

### 2018 OCW Board of Directors

Mary Ann Dadich – President	Mary Stanesa – Programming
Helen Martin – Vice President	Grace Kovacevic – Trustee
Effie Iwankowski – Secretary	Mary Lafter – Trustee
Loretta Gates – Treasurer	Nora Wojciechowski – Trustee
Fr. Laurence Lazar – Spiritual Advisor	

For more information, contact Mary Ann Dadich, mdadich811@gmail.com or 586-775-4799. Like our Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/Orthodox-Christian-Women-of-Michigan-OCW-440819592966158/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/Orthodox-Christian-Women-of-Michigan-OCW-440819592966158/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)



# Referral Program To Benefit The St. Mary Magdalene Mortgage Initiative



**Conne Terova**  
**Real Estate One**  
**Cell: (248) 318-7342**  
**Email:**  
**[cterova@gmail.com](mailto:cterova@gmail.com)**  
**[teamterova.com](http://teamterova.com)**

Know anyone who is looking to buy or sell a home in the state of Michigan? Conne Terova of Real Estate One is offering an incentive program to benefit the St. Mary Magdalene Mortgage Initiative, by offering a \$500.00 donation to the Church's Mortgage Balance for every referral that results in a closed transaction! The referral program runs from now until December 31, 2018!