



ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH "Let My Prayer Arise"

Fr. Gabriel Bilas, Rector

Office: 810-720-1401

Church Email: SMMOCAFenton@gmail.com

Father's Email: frgabrielmm@gmail.com

2439 S. Long Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430

http://www.st-marymagdalene.org

MONTHLY BULLETIN SEPTEMBER, 2019

Important Dates to Remember:

- ✝ 9/8– Opening of Church School
- ✝ 9/9– Parish Council Meeting
- ✝ 9/10– Pet Blessing
- ✝ 9/14– Divine Liturgy for Exaltation of the Cross 10am at St. George
- ✝ 9/15- Chili Cook-off
- ✝ 9/28- Habitat for Humanity with the Fellowship of St. Photini
- ✝ Wednesday Evenings Compline and Metanoia Class beginning at 6pm

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What Would the World Be Like Without the Cross?

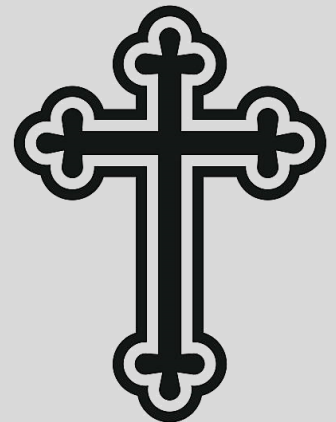
A message from Fr. Gabriel

In just a few short weeks, on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, we will find ourselves once again bowing down at the foot of the cross. We will venerate the instrument of our salvation adorned with flowers, and be reminded that we have a God who has done so much for us, because He **loves** us beyond human comprehension. There is no more appropriate position for us to be in day after day, than to fall down before our Lord to worship, and give thanks to a God...who loves. Gazing in awe at the beauty of that precious wood and all that it represents, one cannot help but think to themselves: *"How can I possibly measure up to the love of the Cross?"*

In order to offer love, we first have to understand what love truly is. There is an amazing chapter in C.S. Lewis's book *"Mere Christianity"*, where he talks about the difference between the **emotion** of love and **unconditional** love. Lewis uses the image of marriage as his example, saying that it is the **emotion** of love that leads couples to a life-long commitment of fidelity. Anyone who has ever been in a serious relationship knows the **emotion** of love quite well. When we come across a person that we are falling for, our stomach gets butterflies, we have a hard time eating and sleeping, and our day to day focus seems clouded as all of our thoughts and energies go towards that one person. While all of these emotions are necessary to start a long relationship, C.S. Lewis would argue that this emotion is most definitely not true love.

The true test is seeing what happens over time when those emotions become less frequent. What happens in a marriage where a couple has a moment where they simply do not like each other, maybe after a blow up or an argument. After the disagreement, is love still there? Is there a longing for repentance after all of the anger subsides? Does it feel unnatural for a married couple to remain apart for too long? C.S. Lewis beautiful stated that part of a Christian Marriage is asking God for the grace to always have

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unconditional love for their spouse, **especially** in the difficult moments when they simply do not like each other.

I bring all of this up during the feast of the Cross not because I am an expert on love, but because understanding **how love works** is exceedingly important for our spiritual life and our relationship with God.

Our Love for God is very similar to that of a marriage. When we start off as new Christians, or when we take part in a beautiful Liturgy or a Confession, we have this **emotion** of love that we offer to God. For those moments, God takes precedent over everything else in our lives. It's easy to pray, the Liturgies are beautiful, we can't wait to be back in the Church and to see His face! Everything in our personal lives seems clear! But over time, those emotions become less frequent, and after a few weeks or months in the same routine,



we become hard hearted. In prayer, we become easily distracted. When that feeling of emptiness sweeps over us, we once again begin to search for the emotional love that caused us to want to pray in the first place.

I was watching a video recently about life at Holy Cross Monastery in West Virginia, and the abbot was talking about how so many men come to the monastery with that **emotional** Love for God. After a time, however, it fades. *"But", he said, "real spiritual growth takes place only when our prayer is dry, when it is difficult to stand in services, and when we can't possibly keep our mind focused. This process is something that affects all of us, but we must learn to fight through it...to continue to get up and say: "no matter how I am feeling today, I'm going to continue to pray, I'm going to continue to get up. I'm going to continue to grow closer to God even when it is hard and dry."*

"This is the life that transforms us".

If we take a deep look at our spiritual lives, we have all failed to be transformed by the **unconditional** love that we have received from God. Each one of us today can point to a time in our own lives where we had fallen away from the Church to some degree. Maybe it was because a tragedy occurred, or maybe it was because there was a time when we felt like we weren't *"getting anything"* from prayer. Anytime we put an emphasis on something in this life **over** reciprocating the Love that God **unconditionally** offers us, we fail in our marriage to the creator.

"Is my love for God emotional...or unconditional?" This is the ques-

tion that we have to ask ourselves every time we enter into the Church. We have to get the point where every time we venerate an icon, every time we cross ourselves, and every time we come up to venerate the cross, we have to enter into a state of mind where our faith is our **entire life**. This faith...this Church...this Love....has to be **EVERYTHING** to us, because it is only through worship where we learn what true and unconditional love for God really is.

Cultivating true love for the Father in our own lives needs to start now, at the foot of the Cross, wrapped in a cloak of humility as we say: *"Without You Lord...I am nothing."* The beauty of our faith is that regardless of what type of Love we have shown God throughout our lives, we are still able to look upon His Precious Cross and see first-hand, the **eternal and unconditional** Love that he has for all of His Creation.

Creating a Vision for our Little Church in the Woods

We were on a conference call with the Architect, Chris Kamages, Friday 8/16/19. He has been in contact with Fenton officials regarding our possible church expansion. At this time the three main items discussed are:

- (1) Potential encroachment on the protected flood plain/wetland area as it would apply to our property on the north (church) side of the Shiawasse River.
- (2) Access to, and restrictions on, the portion of our property on the south side of the river from Torrey Road.
- (3) Challenges that we would face expanding our parking lot to accommodate a larger church family while staying within local ordinances.

The Architect also reviewed a small number of very preliminary sketches regarding what an expansion could look like. The task we have given him is to provide us with a cost effective plan that can be executed in phases, and paid for as we go, without compromising our "little church in the woods" feel.

Yours in Christ,
Kurt Schutt

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

Parish Greeters

September 1st:

Roland & Lori Drummond

September 8th:

Wes & Donna Nakagiri

September 15th:

Seth & Mia Hillaker

September 22nd:

Pat Smith

September 29th:

George & Julie Jonascu

Coffee Hour Volunteers

September 1st:

Sbdn. Paul & Jeanette Hildreth

September 8th:

Kurt & Ann Schutt

September 15th:

Katherine Senter

September 22nd:

Scott & Tina Shephard

September 29th:

Steve & Sue Walton

Epistle Readers

September 1st:

Sbdn. Andrew Durand

September 8th:

Rdr. Brian Walton

September 15th:

Rdr. Chris Ballnik

September 22nd:

Rdr. David Schutt

September 29th:

Janet Wiese

Alternate Readers

September 1st:

Jennifer Otis

September 8th:

Sue Walton

September 15th:

Sbdn. Andrew Duand

September 22nd:

Rdr. Brian Walton

September 29th:

Rdr. Chris Ballnik

WISHING YOU MANY BLESSED YEARS!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- ✝ 10– Harriet Raphael
- ✝ 11– Emma Khoury &
- ✝ 11– Alexandra Cooley
- ✝ 13– Margaret Shipley
- ✝ 19– Jeremiah Becklehamer
- ✝ 20– Trisha Shephard & Abigail Arnes
- ✝ 27– Tatiana Tyrell
- ✝ 29– Jeremy Blohm
- ✝ 30– Robyn Ballnik

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- ✝ 6– Dn. Michael & Susan Schlaack
- ✝ 6– Joseph & Jennifer Otis
- ✝ 14– David & Jaclyn Daugherty
- ✝ 28– John & Patricia Matts

HAVE YOU “liked” and “shared” our parish Facebook page? For announcements, upcoming events, pictures and more visit us at

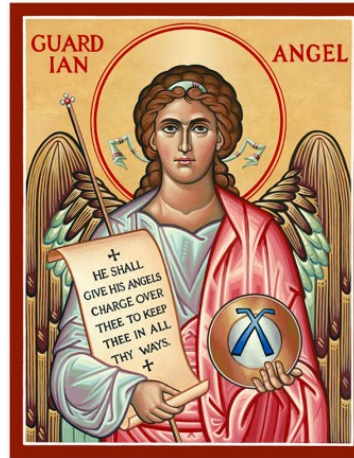
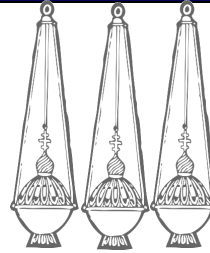
**[https://www.facebook.com/
StMaryMagdaleneOrthodoxChurch/](https://www.facebook.com/StMaryMagdaleneOrthodoxChurch/)**

This is a great way for you, your family and your friends to stay connected with your parish family and Orthodox Christian Community!

Prayer Life

Pray for our sick and suffering brothers and sisters

Metropolitan Theodosius	Lon	Katherine
Metropolitan Herman	Lon	Heidi
Archbishop Melchisedek	Joanna	James
Archpriest Dimitrie Vincent	Ella	Mary
Deacon John Manutes	Elnora	
SubDeacon Paul Hildreth	Peter	
Reader Gregory	Perpetua	
Matushka Vickie	Don	
Vinnie	Sean	
Autumn	James	
John	Michael	
Anastasia	Maryann	
Alex	John	
Elaine	Calvin	
Frankie	Thom	
John	Christine	
Damian	John	
Stacie	David	
Bryan	Katelyn	
Carolyn	Janet	
Aiden	Michael	
Megan	John & Coleen and their 3 sons	
Pat	Paulette	



This Month's Scripture Readings

September 1st:

Luke 4:16-22
Matthew 18:23-35
Matthew 11:27-30

September 8th:

John 3:13-17
Matthew 19:16-26
Luke 10:38-42

September 15th:

Mark 8:34-9:1
Matthew 21:33-42

September 22nd:

Luke 5:1-11

September 29th:

Luke 6:31-36

Armed Forces

Matthew Beck; Air Force
Michael Oginsky; U.S. Marines
Patrick Tejkl; U.S. Marines
Lindsey Cazatt; U.S. Navy
Stephany Bishop; U.S. Navy
Jason Wilburn; Army Rangers
Alex Suriano; Air National
Guard
Dallas Watson; Air Force
Seaphim Lazar-Watson; Air
Force

Recently Departed

Alan

Catechumens

Jay
Tonya
Alyssa
Eliana
Adam

Mother's With Child

Kari

MONTHLY FORECAST

Metanoia Class Begins!

Even though we had our first Metanoia class this past Wednesday, there is still time for you to join us for the rest of the semester! The hope is that everyone in our parish will be able to complete at least one semester of Metanoia, in order to gain a deeper appreciation for the Holy Orthodox Faith!

Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos and the Blessing of Children

On Sunday, September 8th, we celebrate the first major feast day of the Orthodox Liturgical Calendar with the feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos! This day also marks the first day of our 2019-2020 Church School year! All children need to be in attendance for a special blessing following the Divine Liturgy!

Church School Begins!

Please remember to allow all of our Church School Children to be the first in line to receive the Eucharist, as they will be departing shortly after to begin their lessons in the Education Center. Regular attendance to Church school is important to the growth of our Church, so please be sure that they are present!

3rd Annual Pet Blessing at Fenton Adopt-A-Pet

On Tuesday, September 10th, we will be partnering with Fenton Adopt-A-Pet for our 3rd annual Pet Blessing! All pets in attendance will receive a special Orthodox Style Collar Tag! The blessing will begin at 6:30 in the front yard of the Adopt-A-Pet (13575 Fenton Rd. Fenton, MI). See you there!

Pan Orthodox Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

On Saturday, September 14th, the Divine Liturgy for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross will be held at St. George Orthodox Church in Flint, beginning at 10:00 AM. Great Vespers and Confessions will be held at the normal time at St. Mary Magdalene, beginning at 5:00 PM

St. Mary Magdalene Annual Chili Cookoff!

On Sunday, September 15th, following the Divine Liturgy, we will be hosting our 3rd annual St. Mary Magdalene Chili Cook-off in the parish hall! Be sure to bring your favorite chili recipe for the competition! The winner will receive their choice of an icon of the Last Supper or an icon of St. Ephrosynos (the patron saint of cooks!)

Fr. Gabriel Out of Town

From **Tuesday** September 17th to **Friday** September 20th, Fr. Gabriel will be attending the Metropolitan Council Meeting in New York City. The Metanoia Course will still be having class, taught by Dcn. Michael. Fr. Gabriel will be back for the normal weekend service schedule.

Lost and Found

Please be sure to check the lost and found downstairs for items that have been left in the parish hall that do not belong to the Church! After a few more weeks, we will be donating these items to charity!

Habitat for Humanity with Fellowship of St. Photini

Our next planned event is for Saturday September 28th from 9am—3pm with Habitat for Humanity. The location will be announced closer to the date, but will be around the Flint area. Please wear work appropriate clothing and plan for the weather. Habitat for Humanity asks that you bring a lunch, as lunch is not provided. Please see Rebekah Humphreys or David Schutt for more information.

Incase you missed this months
homilies visit...

[http://www.st-marymagdalene.org/
parish-blog](http://www.st-marymagdalene.org/parish-blog)



OUR PARISH YOUTH



Welcome back! We are so excited to begin another church school year! We are happy to have several new faces joining our dedicated group of volunteers! This year the preschool through upper elementary classes will be covering the topic of Church History!

We already have a few fun events planned out, including the annual Church school sponsored trip to Spicers Cider Mill and Trunk or Treat!

Please consider ordering from our Candle fundraiser, as this helps to fund the events above as well as help to defer the cost of lesson materials for the year! Please see Mat. Laura if you have any questions or would like to order (order form and brochure on back table in vestibule)

As we get into the groove of the year, we will be taking inventory and putting out a list of needs for our children and the classrooms, be on the lookout for further information on the "Church school supply drive"



This year the teens will take a deep dive into what it means when we refer to Orthodox

Christianity as a liturgical and communal way of life. At the end of the church school year, students should be able to discuss with confidence the various parts of their liturgical life in the Church—including the Eucharist, Church architecture, the parts of the Divine Liturgy, the liturgical calendar, and more. As we move through different topics during the year, we will continuously circle

back to the idea that we are a communal Body of Christ.

-Subdeacon Andrew Durand

- -Matushka Laura



“FATHERS AND MOTHERS: GO AND LEAD YOUR CHILD BY THE HAND INTO THE CHURCH.” - ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (OCF) is the official campus ministry organization of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America.

Flint OCF: The OCF had an eventful first month of the 2019-2020 school year, including three excellent meetings. Our first meeting was supposed to be a round of mingolf at Uncle Rays in Fenton but we were rained out. However that didn't stop us! Instead, we met up in Grand Blanc for some ice cream. On August 2nd, we met up with Fr. Bob Royer to discuss "How are We Saved? Orthodox Soteriology Among Competing Worldviews." It was a fascinating meeting. Last week we volunteered at the Center for Hope Soup Kitchen.



Prayers for our college students:

Greg Auxier
Katherine Arnes
David Schutt
Katherine Schutt
Oliver Lazar Senter
Elena Bucciarelli

Zachary Wilkinson
Douglas Wilkinson
Laura Khoury
Rachael Hildreth
Sydney Wilkinson
Katerina Jonescu

Prayer of a Student

Christ my Lord, the Giver of light and wisdom, who opened the eyes of the blind man and transformed the fishermen into wise heralds and teachers of the gospel through the coming of the Holy Spirit, shine also in my mind the light of the grace of the Holy Spirit. Grant me discernment, understanding and wisdom in learning. Enable me to complete my assignments and to abound in every good work, for to You I give honor and glory. Amen.

Prayers Before Study

Most blessed Lord, send the grace of Your Holy Spirit on me to strengthen me that I may learn well the subject I am about to study and by it become a better person for Your glory, the comfort of my family and the benefit of Your Church and our Nation. Amen

Christ, the true light, who enlightens and sanctifies every person coming into the world, let the light of Your countenance shine upon me (us) that I (we) may see Your unapproachable light; and guide my (our) steps in the way of Your commandments, through the intercessions of Your all-holy Mother and of all the Saints. Amen.

Prayer After Study

I thank You, Lord our God, that again on this occasion You have opened my eyes to the light of Your wisdom. You have gladdened my heart with the knowledge of truth. I entreat You, Lord, help me always to do Your will. Bless my soul and body, my words and deeds. Enable me to grow in grace, virtue and good habits, that Your name may be glorified, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

A Month in Review:

August was an exceptionally busy month in the life of our little church in the woods. On top of all of the extra feast days and services, we were extremely blessed to receive the last of our 6 bell set, in memory of Manuela Kemp! Thank you to all those who helped to prepare the Church for the Feast Days that we had!



Recommended Reading from

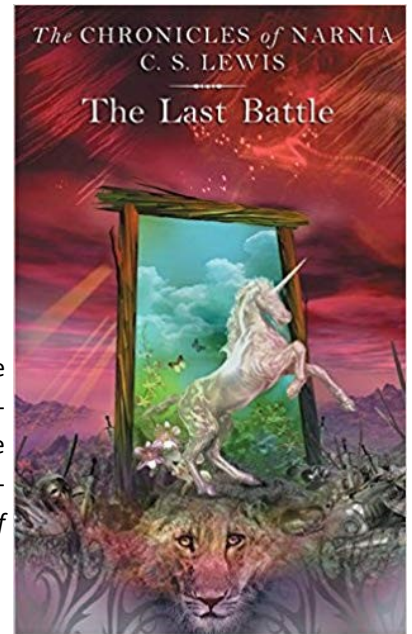
Fr. Gabriel

The Last Battle, By: C.S. Lewis



The Last Battle is the greatest of all battles, and the final ending the most magnificent of all endings in this, the last book of C. S. Lewis's timeless series, *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

This continued preparation for our fall adult education class "The Beginning and the End" that will begin on October 16th and is a four part lecture series ending with a talk from His Eminence Archbishop Alexander on November 6th.



The Nativity of the Theotokos: First Light

Taken from oca.org

When Mary of Nazareth first emerged from her mother as a newborn infant and uttered her first newborn cries, few then present could have had any inkling what that child would mean to human history. After an extended period of infertility and difficulty in conceiving, of course her parents were delighted—even if the child was a girl and not a boy. The social stigma of childlessness had been removed, and there was a precious new life to love and care for, someone to love and care for them in return in their advancing old age. But it is doubtful if anyone watching as the infant was wrapped in the customary swaddling clothes and placed at her mother's breast could guess her true significance. For that little girl represented the first light of a coming redemption and rescue.



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People who have sat long throughout the night waiting for the sun to arise and fill the world with light and warmth rejoice when they see its first light. Even before the sun itself crests the horizon and is seen, one can still see the horizon gradually becoming lighter, illuminated by the coming dawn. That first light precedes the actual arrival of the sun with its piercing and blinding rays, and heralds its imminent presence. First light comes creeping over the world, and only after that comes the sun itself. Those who wait for the sun, rejoice in first light, for it means that their long wait is almost over.

The birth of little Mary was the world's first light as it sat waiting through the long night of sin and death. Girls in Palestine at that time were betrothed around the age of twelve or thirteen, and so Mary would have been about that age at the time of the Annunciation. That means that about fourteen years after Mary was born, Christ the Saviour would be born as well, the sun of righteousness coming over the horizon, arising with healing in His wings for the sick and weary world (Malachi 4:2). Young children might think that fourteen years is an eternity, but adults as they age realize that such a span of time passes more quickly than they could have imagined. And in the history of the world, such a span of time is a mere blink of the eye. That is why the Church celebrates the Nativity of the Theotokos, for it knows through historical hindsight what no one present at that birth could have guessed: the baby's newborn cries announced not only her birth, but the imminent birth of the Savior as well.

That birth also reveals the ways of God, and shows us what He finds truly valuable. Humanly speaking, the little girl born that day did not have much going for her. She was a Jew in a Roman world, a female in a man's world, and a poor person in a world that valued riches above all else. She had no special education or status; she lived in a small undistinguished town not even mentioned in the Law and the Prophets, and she lived at a time when her homeland was occupied by a tyrannical and hated foreign power. But she did have a holy and humble heart, a heart that beat towards God and proclaimed her to be His handmaid. And in the end, this was enough. God apparently thought that ethnicity, gender, riches, education, and power, however handy in some ways, were irrelevant to His saving purposes. He therefore chose her to be His special vessel, His instrument for entering human history and rescuing His world. Mary's humble status, combined with her crucial and exalted role in the history of salvation, reveal that that is all we need as well. Like her, we may not be powerful, rich, well-placed, or brilliant. But if we are humble and have a heart that beats for God, God can use us too. His strength is made perfect in weakness—even the weakness of a little baby girl born to an aged set of parents tucked away in Galilee and hiding from the harsh glare of history.

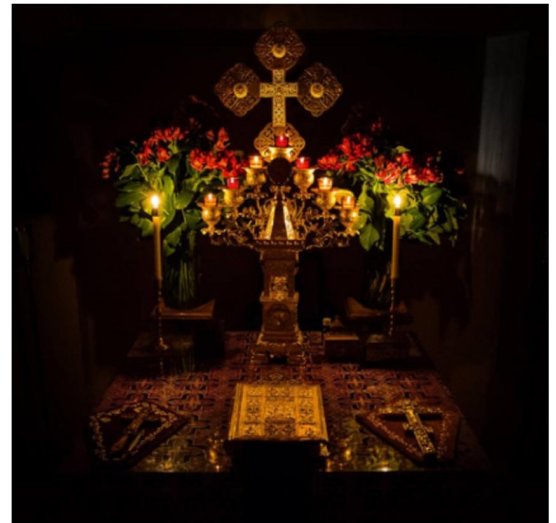


Adult Education has begun, please see Fr. Gabriel if you would like to join us!

Adult Education



"ΜΕΤΑΝΟΙΑ"
LEARNING TO CHANGE ONE'S HEART FOR GOD



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 they believed? Now is your opportunity to come, discuss, and learn about the fullness of what the Ancient Christian Faith is all about!

This 7 Week Class, which covers the sacraments of the Church, will begin on Wednesday, August 28th and Conclude October 9th

Fall Semester, 2019

Wednesday, August 28th:	What Do We Gain by Baptism and Chrismation?
Wednesday, September 4th:	The Incredible Mystery Behind the Eucharist
Wednesday, September 11th:	Making an "About Face" Through Confession
Wednesday, September 18th:	The Eternality of Marriage
Wednesday, September 25th:	The Mystery of the Priesthood
Wednesday, October 2nd:	Why Does God Allow Bad Things to Happen?
Wednesday, October 9th:	What Happens After We Die: The Funeral Service

Adult Education



St. Mary Magdalene Fall Lecture Series

THE BEGINNING AND THE END

AN ORTHODOX UNDERSTANDING OF CREATION AND THE
END OF THE WORLD, USING IMAGERY FROM THE
“CHRONICLES OF NARNIA”

Join us for our Fall Adult Education Series, we will be using images from C.S. Lewis’s famous series “The Chronicles of Narnia”, to uncover the Orthodox Teachings on the Creation of the World and the Second Coming. As part of our lecture series, we will be joined by His Eminence Archbishop Alexander for a special wrap up session on November 6th, as he speaks on his translation of St. Symeon the New Theologian’s writings on Eschatology (the study of the end times).

+ Wednesday, October 16th, 6:30 PM

WHAT IS MANKIND’S ROLE IN THE UNIVERSE?

+ Wednesday, October 23rd, 6:30 PM

DO ANGELS AND DEMONS EXIST?

+ Wednesday, October 30th, 6:30 PM

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AND KNOW ABOUT THE END TIMES?

+ Wednesday, November 6th, 6:30 PM

ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER: “ST. SYMEON ON THE END TIMES”



St. Emilia's Moms Group

The next get-together will be September 29th during fellowship hour at the table in the kitchen, This will be a low key meeting to plan the next outing.

CALLING ALL MOTHERS: This group would like the participation of all mothers in the parish as they move forward in their ministry. This is a new ministerial group to our parish. For more information please reach out to Renea Becklehamer or Addie Lanterman

The group's recommended reading;

"Parenting Toward the Kingdom: Orthodox Christian Principles of Child-Rearing" by: Phillip Mamalkis

FELLOWSHIP OF ST. PHOTINI

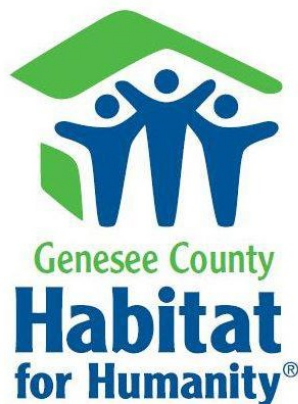


"An inclusive opportunity for community outreach led by the faithful of St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church"

We need your help!! Our next planned event is for Saturday September 28th from around 9am—3pm with Habitat for Humanity. The location will be announced sooner to the date, but will be around the Flint area.

Please wear work appropriate clothing and plan for the weather. Habitat for Humanity asks that you bring a lunch, as lunch is not provided. Please see Rebekah Humphreys or David Schutt for more information.

Please contact Theophan Forsyth, Terri Oginski or Rebekah Humphreys if you would like any information about upcoming projects or would like to donate to the works of the Fellowship of St. Photini.



Mark your Calendars!

Sunday, November 10th is 'Parish Ministries Sunday' at St. Mary Magdalene, come see what our parish does in our community to help those in need and sign up for a ministry that is fitting for you! You will also be introduced to ministries provided within the church. This will be a great time for families to find their niche in community giving. Brunch will be provided.

Thank you!



The students and staff at Torrey Hill Intermediate School in Fenton want to thank you for your generous donations of school supplies for the 2019-2020 school year. Together, we were able to raise right around \$900 in supplies for those children in need. Your blessed efforts will continue to give as these children use these supplies throughout the school year!



3rd Annual Community Pet Blessing



Tuesday, September 10th @ 6:30 PM
Adopt-A-Pet
13575 N Fenton Rd. Fenton, MI

In the ups and downs of life, one of the greatest blessings that our Lord bestows upon mankind are our pets! Come join us for the 3rd Annual Community Pet Blessing where we will gather together to offer thanks to God for our furry friends, and to bless them so that they can, in good health, continue to assist us throughout our journey in life!

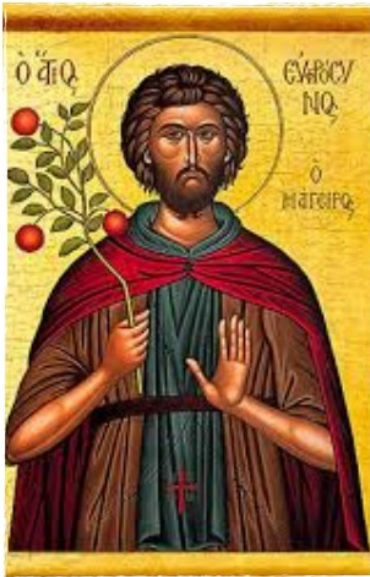
Any leashed or crated pets are welcome!

There will be a special gift for all pets in attendance!

For More Information, contact the Church at (810) 750-1401 or Adopt-A-Pet at (810) 629-0723

st-marymagdalene.org or adoptapetfenton.com

SEPT
15



2019 ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHILI COOK OFF!

When: Sunday, September 15th after Divine Liturgy

Where: St. Mary Magdalene Parish Hall

Join us and participate in this year's Chili Cook-Off! Each family is asked to bring their best chili recipe for a friendly competition in the parish hall, where everyone will cast anonymous ballots for their favorite chili! The winner will receive their choice of an icon of St. Euphrosynos (the patron Saint of cooks), or an icon of the Last Supper for their dining room!

Referral Program To Benefit The St. Mary Magdalene Mortgage Initiative



Conne Terova
Real Estate One
Cell: (248) 318-7342
Email:
cterova@gmail.com
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!