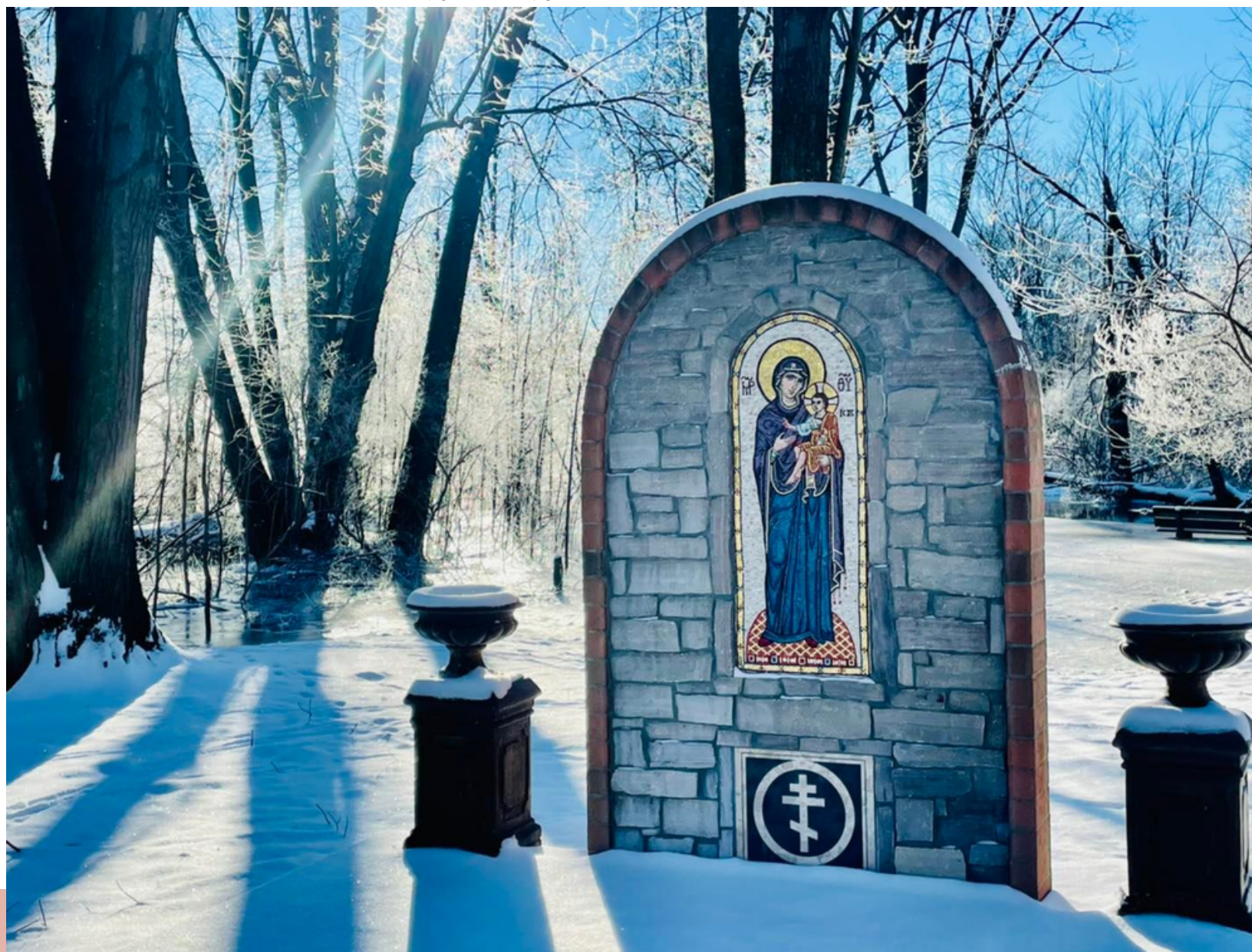


February 2022

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church



Fr. Gabriel Bilas, Rector

Office: 810-750-1401

Church Email: SMMOCAFenton@gmail.com

Father's Email: frgabrielstmm@gmail.com

2439 S. Long Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430

<http://www.st-marymagdalene.org>

Office Hours*:

Monday 10:00am-3:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am-3:00pm

Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

***or by appointment**

Monthly e-Newsletter

ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH

Simeon's Prophecy

From the Desk of Fr. Gabriel

We have spent these last 40 days, celebrating the events of the Winter Pascha, remembering and watching in awe as the Creator of the Universe, humbled Himself to become a small and helpless child, born in a cave, becoming man so that we could become gods!

On February 2nd, at the completion of these 40 days, we remember how the most-pure Virgin brought the Christ Child to the temple for the first time, which was the custom of the law. This offering of a child to the temple was a very serious matter in the Old Testament and in the life of Israel. If we remember back from the book of Exodus, after God had brought the 10 plagues upon Egypt, He said that from that day forward there would be a firstborn rite for His people. Every first-born child of every family, from the day of their birth, belonged to God.

As was the Jewish Custom to "get the child back", the family had to bring the newborn into the temple and offer a sacrifice of either a lamb (for those that could afford it) or two turtle doves. This was the offering to God for the return of Jesus to the family.

40 days after Christ's birth, the Theotokos brought Jesus to the temple. He was welcomed by the High Priest Zachariah, who we know from history was the Father of St. John the Baptist. Zachariah took the Child, and then did something that was unthinkable at the time! He invited Mary to go to the place in the temple that was set apart for the virgins!

This of course infuriated the Pharisees, who were the "temple lawyers" of the day! *"How can Zacharias allow this woman, who clearly just had a son, and is here with her betrothed, sit in the place of the Virgins!"* They were no doubt furious as to what they were seeing!

As Mary took her place in the temple, a righteous elder named Simeon, who we are told was a very "devout and just man, one who obeyed all of the commandments", comes and wants to hold the Christ child in his arms. He had been told by the Holy Spirit decades before, that he would not pass from this life until he had seen with his own eyes the Savior of the world. Taking the child in his arms, Simeon offered us that beautiful prayer that we still sing at least once a week here at the Church at Great Vespers:

"Lord, now let Your Servant depart in peace...according to Your Word. For my eyes have seen Your Salvation, which you have prepared before all peoples. A light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of your People Israel."

UPCOMING THIS MONTH

1- Presentation of our Lord
Vespereal Liturgy, 6pm @
Assumption

5- Choir Rehearsal, 3pm

5- Pan-Orthodox Movie Night 6pm
at St. Nicholas

6- Wood Cutting Day following
Liturgy

7- Parish Office Closed

8-Parish Council Meeting

12-SMMOY Gathering

19-Wood Cutting Day 12pm, Choir
Rehearsal 3pm

20- Lazarus Bag Items Due, Choir
Meeting following Divine Liturgy

26- Pack Lazarus Bags after
Vespers

27- Distribute Lazarus Bags



Simeon's Prophecy Continued

Holy Tradition tells us that the Pharisees were furious about what they were seeing: *"How long are we going to let this charade continue and allow this man to speak blasphemies about this young child!"* They quickly stormed off to tell Herod the horrible things that they had seen, but by the time Herod had summoned his men to investigate, the family had already left the temple.

Before giving Jesus back to Mary, perhaps after seeing the Pharisees become enraged and storm out of the Temple, Simeon said something else that is striking to hear, **especially** in our day and age: *"Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel..."* To put it a different way, those who approach this child with humble hearts, obedience, and clarity of vision will be raised up in the Glory of Christ. However, those who are like the Pharisees, those who are full of pride and resist the truth, will eventually fall.

These Pre-Lenten Sundays in February are **vital** for all Christians who desire to be on the right side of that prophecy from Simeon! We are all about to embark on a 40 day journey of self-emptying, of purification, and of sacrifice known as Great Lent. Anyone who has experienced Lent to it's fullness knows that it is an absolutely wonderful marathon for the spiritual life! But like any marathon, it requires training and preparation from us as Christians, and this is what this month is all about.

If we do not prepare, if we don't stretch ourselves for the beginning of the marathon, what happens when the gate finally opens? We cramp up and fall flat on our faces! Use this time as a period of examination, slowly changing those habits that have been built up throughout the year. Ask yourself:

- Do we spend more time on our phones or on the internet, than we do in prayer?
- Do we get angry with the politics of the day?
- Are we able to control our stomachs by saying "no" to more food than what is needed?
- Have we caught ourselves from swearing or have we stayed away from situations that would cause us to?
- Have we kept the openings of our soul: Our eyes, our ears, our mouth away from situations or negative entertainment that could affect us?
- When we pick up our bibles, do we have to blow on them to get the dust off?
- Have we picked up and read at least one chapter of the New Testament outside of Church this year?
- Have we invoked our Lord's name in prayer at least once a day?
- Have we had at least one prostration before our Lord in a prayer at home? (You will do them all the time coming up shortly...get those abs ready!)
- Have we judged anyone more harshly than we do ourselves?
- Have we shown love to everyone who comes into our path?

If there are priorities that are completely out of alignment, we need to be using this time of preparation to begin correcting them. When the dust finally settles after blowing off our bibles and our prayer rules, if we have all done our spiritual cleanse faithfully, we will find ourselves on the right end of Simeon's prophecy, and be able to rise up with our Lord on that glorious day of His Resurrection!

"Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness."
+St. John Chrysostom

Prayers for our Sick and our Suffering His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman Archbishop Damaskinos

Vinne	Terry
Elaine	Michelle
David	Srah
Michael	Rich
Mason	Harry
Pat	Judy
Joseph	Anthony
Theresa	Dorothy
Robert	Tyler
Linda	Mary
Hudson	Silvia
Dimitri	Megan
Damian	Roger
Martin	Jim
Terry	Joanne
Ivanka	Susan
Dawn	
Jeff	

Mother's With Child

Catechumenate

Alexandra	Vince
Tailer	Carol
Erika	Jacob
Mia	Mary Ellen
	Timothy
	Daniel
	Andrew
	Jake

Seminarian Family

Alexander & Danielle Earl

Anniversary of Parish Members Departed

2/1 Rose Caldarea
 2/17 Pamela Caszatt

Recently Departed

Larissa
 George

Michael Oginsky - U.S.
Stephany Bishop - U.S. Navy
Patrick Tejkl - U.S. Marines
Lindsey Cazatt - U.S. Navy

Prayers for our Armed Forces
Jason Wilburn - Army Rangers
Alex Suriano - Air National Guard
Dallas Watson - Air Force

Stephen Bondira- Coast Guard
Lt. Commander
Sarah Tyler- U.S. Air Force

PARISH GREETERS

February 6

George & Julie Jonascu

February 13

Freida Owens

February 20

Seth & Mia Hillaker

February 27

Scott & Tina Shephard

COFFEE HOUR

February 6

Jay & Tonya Rice

February 13

Chuck & Mina Owens

February 20

Bob & Nyomi Forsyth

February 27

Patricia Matts

BELL RINGERS

February 6

Tonya Rice

February 13

Vivian Capatina

February 20

Cindy Welch

February 27

Renea Becklehamer

WISHING YOU MANY BLESSED YEARS! BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES

1-MATTHIAS SURIANO

3-ANDREW BARNHART

5- FR. GABRIEL BILAS & WILLIAM WOLF

6- NIKI NAUM

10- CHRIS DOLLINS

12- NOAH BILAS

13- ETHAN SURIANO

14- DIACONITZA SUSAN SCHLAACK, VIVIAN CAPATINA &

EMMANUEL WATSON

19-ANDREW AUXIER

20-EMMETT BALLNIK

21-NYOMI FORSYTH

23-PHILLIP MOORMAN & BENJAMIN WILKINSON

26-ILEANA BILAS

27-TAISA CZUBENKO, LUKE SHEPHARD & HELEN LOCASCIO

28-DIANA AUXIER

13- ANDY & REBEKAH HUMPHREYS

15 ANDY & LYNNE MARKO

19 VINCE & CAROL LIZZIO

20- DERRICK SCHMIDT & DR. MELISSA ROYER

23- SETH & MIA HILLAKER

EPISTLE READERS

February 6:
Jennifer Otis
Subdeacon John Auxier

February 13:
Sue Walton
Reader Nathaniel Auxier

February 20:
Reader Brian Phillip Walton
Sue Walton

February 27:
Subdeacon Andrew Durand
Jennifer Otis



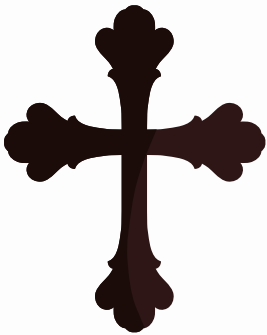
SCRIPTURE READINGS

February 6
1 Timothy 4:9-15
Luke 19:1-10

February 13
2 Timothy 3:10-15
Luke 18:10-14

February 20
1 Cor 6:12-20
Luke 15:11-32

February 27
1 Cor 8:8-9:2
Matthew 25:31-46



MONTH IN REVIEW

January saw not only our traditional Theophany river blessing and lamb roast, but also the Chrismation of the handmaiden of God Emily Elizabeth! We also remembered and prayed for all of the departed unborn during Sanctity of Life Sunday.

BUILDING UPDATE

Construction documents have been completed and we are currently receiving subcontractor bids for the temple expansion. If donations continue to come in for the building fund, God willing we will be pointing to a groundbreaking and start date shortly after Pascha!

The Church is opened for private prayer Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 10am -3pm or by appointment

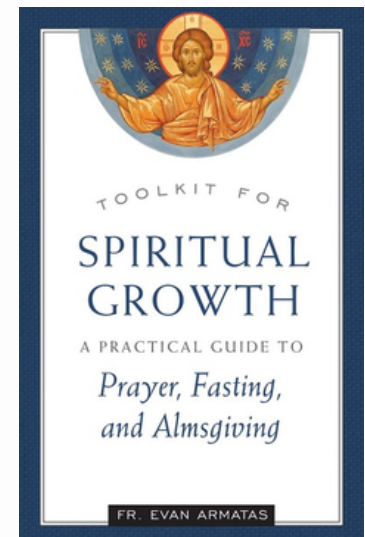


"The Church is a hospital, and not a courtroom, for souls. She does not condemn on behalf of sins but grants remission of sins."
+St. John Chrysostom

RECOMMENDED READING

TOOLKIT FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO PRAYER, FASTING, AND ALMSGIVING
BY FR. EVAN ARMATAS

Are you a new Orthodox Christian, confused about what you need to do to grow in your Faith? Or perhaps you've been Orthodox for some time but could use a refresher course in basic spirituality. Popular podcaster Fr. Evan Armatas explains the fundamentals of the three-legged stool of Orthodox practice - prayer, almsgiving, and fasting - in terms that everyone can understand and implement. Let Fr. Evan help you establish your life in Christ on a firm footing.



MONTHLY FORECAST

Lazarus Bags:

It is that time of year where we put together our blessing bags for the homeless and less fortunate based off of the parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-31) We will be gathering various items to distribute (see the sign up sheet and flyer in the Narthex for details) Items are due back on **Sunday, February 20th**. We will need people to stay after Vespers on Saturday, February 26th to help pack the bags. The bags will be blessed and distributed the following day! If you would like to make a monetary donation please reach out to Deacon Mike or the parish office.

Feast of the Presentation of our Lord:

On Tuesday, February 1st, we will be celebrating as a Pan Orthodox Community the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord at Holy Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Grand Blanc. Vesperal Divine Liturgy will begin at 6:00 PM.

Saturday Choir Rehearsals:

We will have two Saturday rehearsals to prepare for Great Lent on the 5th and the 19th at 3pm prior to Vespers. There will be a MANDATORY meeting on Sunday, February 20th following Divine Liturgy for all choir members or perspective members.

Wood Cutting Day:

Calling all wood choppers! On Sunday, February 6th, please stay after the Divine Liturgy to help chop up some more wood for our cookers and fires!

Metanoia Continues:

We have our Metanoia classes continuing in February, and ending just before the first week of Lent. The class is offered both in person and via zoom, so if you know anyone (near or far) who has ever wanted to learn how to deepen their Christian Faith, spread the word!

Fr. Josiah Micro-Retreat:

As we prepare for Great Lent, mark you calendars for Wednesday, March 2nd, as we will be welcoming Fr. Josiah Trenham via zoom for a micro retreat entitled "King Josiah and Repentance". See the Flyer below with how to register for the talk.

Memorial Saturday:

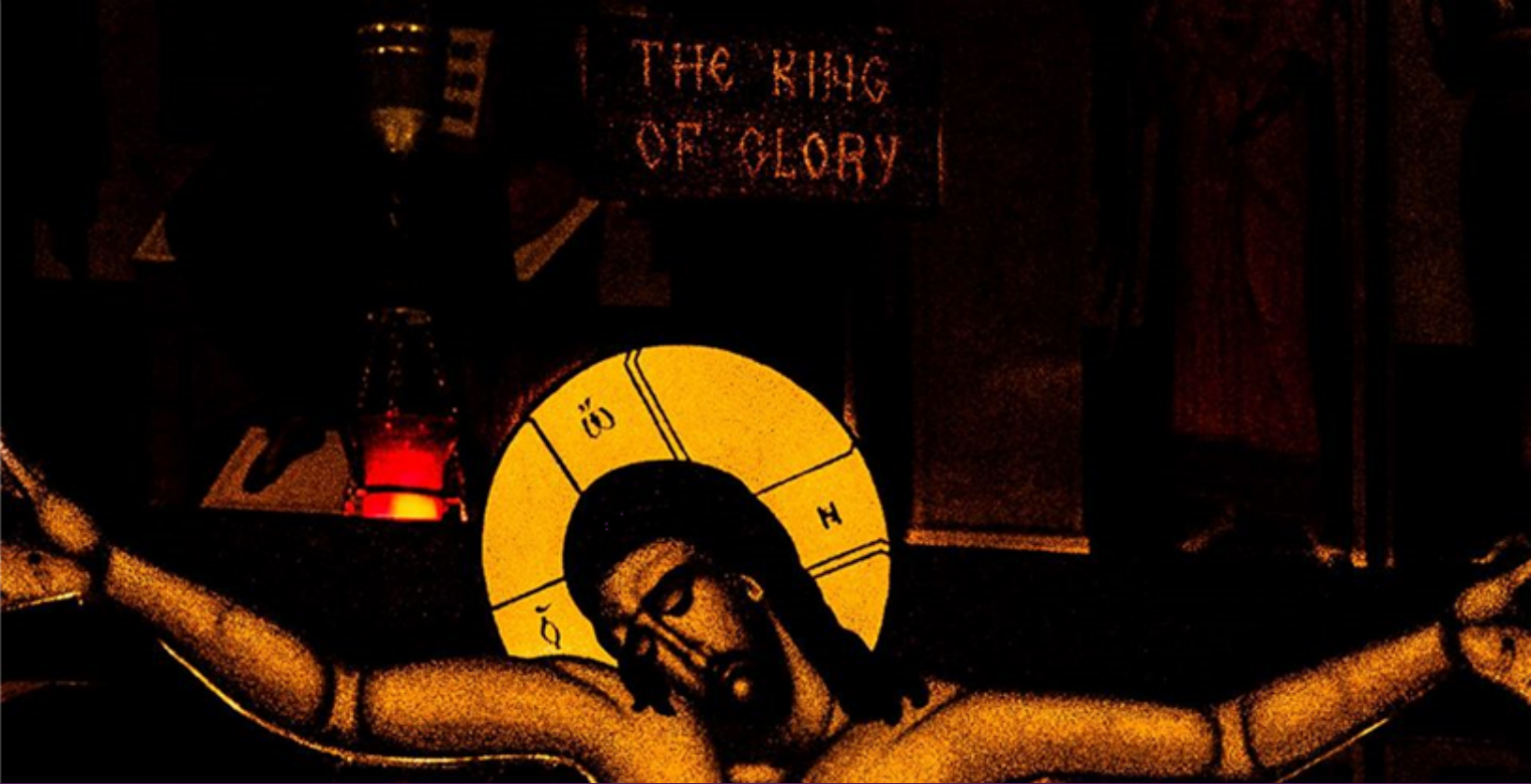
This coming month, on Saturday, February 26th before Great Vespers, we will having our first Memorial Saturday of the year to remember all of our departed loved ones. Bring your lists of departed family members to the service and be sure to join us!

Meat-Fest Agape Meal:

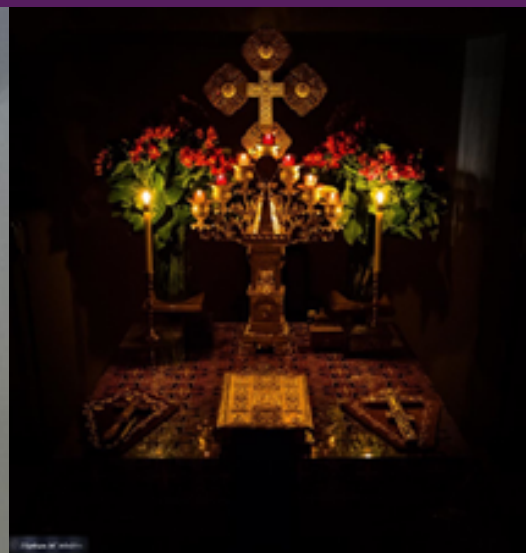
Our big "farewell to meat" agape meal will be after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 27th! Be sure to bring your favorite meat dish to pass and to share!

Clean Week Schedule

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! Clean Week is the week of March 6th. See the flyer below for dates and service times. Please make every effort to attend ALL services that week. Welcome to Orthodox Boot Camp!



Clean Week 2022



Sunday, March 6th

**Hours & Divine Liturgy 9:50am followed by
Forgiveness Vespers**

Monday March 7th

Clean Week Matins, 9:00am

Tuesday, March 8th

Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew, 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 9th

Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew, 6:30pm

Thursday, March 10th

Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew, 6:30pm

Friday, March 11th

Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew, 6:30pm

Saturday, March 12th

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6:30pm

Vigil, 4:00pm

PARISH LENDING LIBRARY

Don't forget to turn off the T.V. and to utilize our wonderful parish lending library to help feed your spiritual growth . Simply sign-out the book you are borrowing on the sheet next to the bookshelf in the Parish Education Center. The parish lending library can be accessed Sunday after Liturgy or during office hours.

The Library covers the following topics and MORE!

Introduction to Orthodoxy, Orthodox Theology, Patristics, Spiritual Study, Children's Books, Service Books, Orthodox Living & Prayer, Orthodox Ethics, Church History, Lives of the Saints, Liturgical Theology



P

NOW AVAILABLE

Parish Kiosk Gift Certificates

For purchase at any value for any occasion. See Rebekah in the parish office to purchase yours as a gift today!

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H K

If you would like to order anything for gifts during Great Lent or for Pascha please reach out to the parish office.

What a way to share your faith!



UPCOMING CHOIR REHEARSALS

Holy melodists and hymnographers



St Romanos
the Melodist



St Kosmas
the Poet



St Sabbas
of Buzău



St Joseph the
Hymnographer



St John of
Damascus



St Andrew of
Crete



St John
Koukouzelis



The Holy Prophet
King David



St Gregory
Domestikos



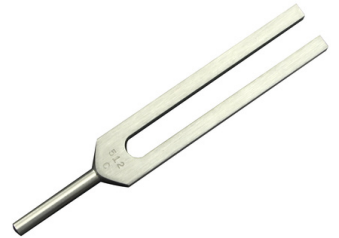
St Cecilia



St Kassiani



St Joseph
the Merciful



**MANDATORY
CHOIR MEETING
SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 20TH
FOLLOWING
DIVINE LITURGY.**

Saturday, February
5th & 19th at 3pm
prior to Vespers.

Please see Reader
Greg with any
questions



JANUARY'S CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 6: MARRIAGE

FEBRUARY 13: ORDINATION

FEBRUARY 20: REQUIEM

FEBRUARY 27: COLOSSIANS: FORGIVENESS

Hello Church Family!! February is here and with it comes all those wonderful Sundays that prepare all of us for Great Lent. God willing, the weather will cooperate so we can participate in this preparation. This month, the children will have an opportunity to learn some music to be shared during liturgy. Please encourage your children to participate as we practice during church school. More details to follow as this plan comes together.

This month the children will be learning about the sacraments of Marriage and Ordination. There will also be a lesson on the Orthodox view of death and how we remember the dead (requiem) in the church and our lives. The final lesson of the month is on Forgiveness based on Colossians 3:13. This topic will lead us into the beginning of Lent on March 6, Forgiveness Sunday. Church school will NOT meet on that day as we all take part in the Rite of Forgiveness following Divine Liturgy. This beautiful tradition is a perfect beginning to our Lenten Journey.

We look forward to seeing all the children and thank you all for supporting their participation in Church School. A child's first and best teachers about the faith are their parents and there is no better place for all of us to learn than in church.

Yours in Christ,
Terri Oginsky
Church School Coordinator
989-906-0135
toginsky@gmail.com



SMMOY

ST. MARY MAGDALENE
ORTHODOX YOUTH

UPCOMING
GATHERING

FEBRUARY 12TH

FOLLOWING GREAT
VESPERS

Our next meeting will be another discussion/open dialogue with Father Gabriel, this time on the topic of gender.

Since there are many directions this discussion could go, we suggest the teens reach out to Seth & Mia or Father with potential questions so that the talk can be more focused on what the teens want to learn about.



COLLEGE CORNER

PRAYERS FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Katherine Arnes
Oliver Senter
Sydney Wilkenson
Renee Wilkenson
Katerina Jonescu
Katheryn Brcic
Alexandra Kekel
Abigail Arnes
Tea Jonascu
Ethan Durand
Justin Auxier

Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) is the official campus ministry organization of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America





"METANOIA"

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 what about what the earliest Christians taught? How did they worship? What did they believe? 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 will cover the fundamental beliefs of the Ancient Christian Church, passed down to us from Christ and His Disciples.

First Semester 2022- All classes begin at 6:30pm

- Wednesday, January 12th: Introduction to Orthodoxy and Holy Tradition
- Wednesday, January 19th: What do we believe about God?
- Wednesday, January 26th: What is mankind's purpose in life?
- Wednesday, February 2nd: What is sin?
- Wednesday, February 9th: What did Jesus Christ come here to do?
- Wednesday, February 16th: How do we pray?
- Wednesday, February 23rd: What is the big deal with the Theotokos and the Saints?

ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH

PRE-LENTEN REFLECTION
WITH GUEST SPEAKER
FR. JOSIAH TRENHAM



King Josiah & Repentance

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND
6:30PM EST

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER
FOR THE
ZOOM EVENT



2439 S. LONG LAKE RD
FENTON, MI 48430
SMMOCAFENTON@GMAIL.COM
810-750-1401
ST-MARYMAGDALENE.ORG





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

“AN INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR
COMMUNITY OUTREACH LED BY THE
FAITHFUL OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE
ORTHODOX CHURCH”

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY:

WE WILL COLLECT ITEMS AND PACK THEM FOR OUR LAZARUS BAGS

(LUKE 16:19-31).

**KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX, ITEMS ARE DUE
BACK ON FEBRUARY 20TH**

WE WILL NEED HELP PACKING THE LAZARUS BAGS ON

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH FOLLOWING GREAT VESPERS

BAGS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

Please contact Deacon Mike or the Parish
office if you would like to join the efforts of
the Fellowship of St. Photini

*Truly, I tell you,
whatever you did for one of
the least of these
brothers and sisters of mine,
you did for me.*
~MATTHEW 25:40

Ἡ ΠΑΡΑΒΟΛῆ

Ἐ ΠΛΟΥΣΙΟῦ ΚΑΙ Ἐ ΠΟΡΧΟῦ

ΛΑΖΑΡΟΥ



(Luke 16:19-31)

Lazarus Bags

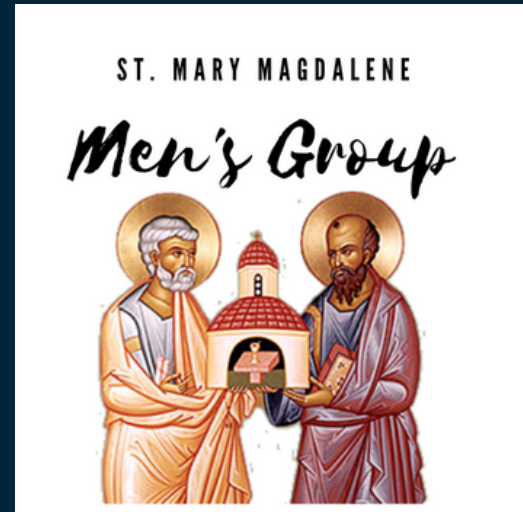
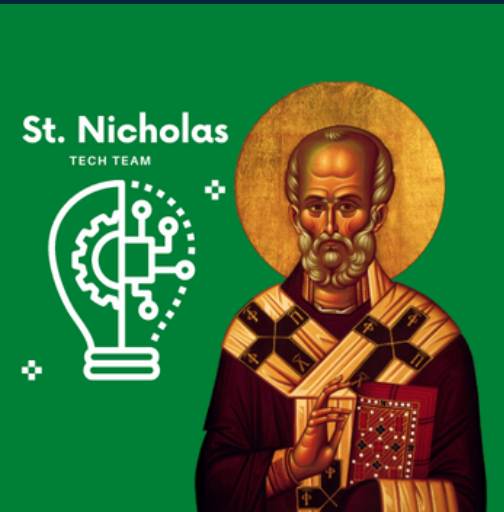
Items Needed

- + Hand Warmers
- + Razors
- + Gloves
- + Hats
- + White Socks
- + Protein Bars
- + Bottled Water
- + Chapstick
- + \$10 McDonald's Gift Cards
- + 50 drawstring backpacks
- TRAVEL SIZED:
 - + First Aid Kits/Bandaids
 - + Kleenex
 - + Toothbrush
 - + Toothpaste
 - + Shaving Cream

*Sign up sheet is on the table in the Narthex
Items due back on February 20th!*



PARISH MINISTRIES & GROUPS





St. Mary Magdalene

Parish Council

Upcoming Meetings:

February 8th, 7:00 pm
March 15th, 7:00pm

Parish Council Members

Joe Otis, Chair
Reader Chris Ballnik, Secretary
Ann Schutt, Treasurer
David Welch
Tina Shepherd
Subdeacon Andrew Durand
Rachel Burtka
Terri Oginsky

Alternate: Jay Rice



FELLOWSHIP AGAPE MEALS

Agape (Greek agapē): in the New Testament, the fatherly love of God for humans, as well as the human reciprocal love for God. In Scripture, the transcendent agape love is the highest form of love and is contrasted with eros, or erotic love, and philia, or brotherly love.

Sobornost: Divine-Human Oneness

Sobornost means spiritual harmony based on freedom and unity in love. It is a necessary component in our membership with the Body of Christ, for if we are not bound together in love, our freedom becomes our enemy, separating us from others and ultimately from Christ Himself. This concept was so important to early Christians that it was the basis for the agape meal, when Christians shared their food with one another after the celebration of the eucharistic banquet.

That the pre-communion fast would be broken after the Divine Liturgy with a communal meal (the love feast) clearly demonstrates the importance of community within the life of the Church. Sobornost is the divine human oneness we experience as members of the on Body, the Church, and is the moment when we who are many become one. It is the image of the unity of the Holy Trinity, finding its expression among the believers.

Sobornost is not the same as fraternity, a submission to a brotherhood for benefit of the individual. Rather, it is akin to *kenosis* (the relinquishment of divine attributes by Jesus Christ in becoming human) Sobornost is when the individual gives up self-benefit for the community or ecclesia.

We cannot truly be one in Christ if we do not seek out oneness with our fellow Christians. Nor can we be one with Christ if we routinely reject sobornost for heights of spirituality that make us so conscious of self that they separate us from our neighbor.

-"The Morning Offering" Abbot Tryphon November 16th

2022 AGAPE

MEAL SCHEDULE

January 9th: Theophany Lamb Roast please bring a dish to pass.

February 27th: Meatfare please bring a meaty dish to pass

March: No Agape Meal since we will have potlucks following all Pre-Sanctified Liturgies.

April 24th: Pascha Celebration, bring your basket!

May 1st: Agape Meal bring a dish to pass - Egg Hunt for the kids.

June 12th: Holy Pentecost, bring a dish to pass

July 24th: First Responders Blessing, Main Meal provided please bring a dessert to share

August: No Agape Meal

September 18th: Agape Meal, bring a dish to pass

October 9th: October Fest bring a dish to pass

November 13th: Veterans Lunch, main dish provided, please bring a dish to pass

December 11th: Agape Meal (Fasting)\

December 24th: Holy Supper

"Look down from Heaven of God and Behold, and Visit this Vineyard which You have planted with Your right hand, and establish it!"



Outdoors from the front of the building.



The inside of the Sanctuary.



Outdoors from the back of the building.



**St. MARY
MAGDALENE**
ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH

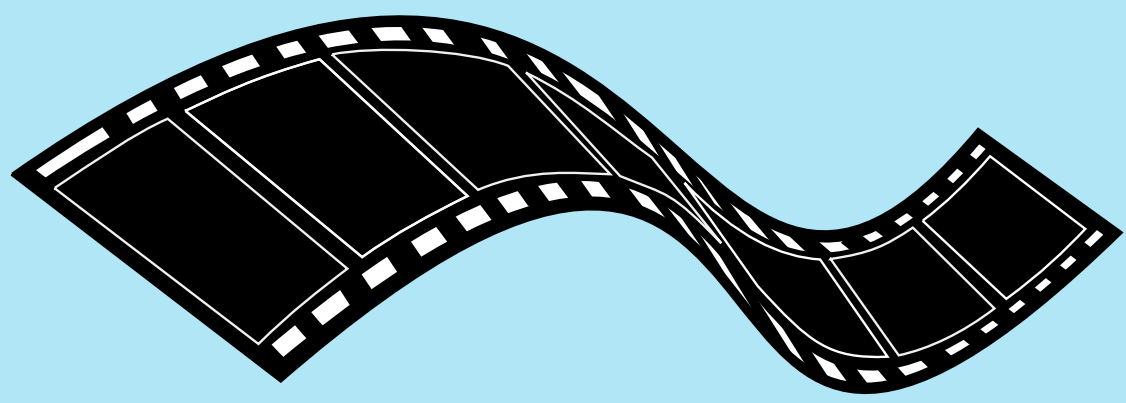
CONNECT WITH US

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
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Fenton, MI 48430
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smmoca@fenton@gmail.com
st-marymagdalene.org



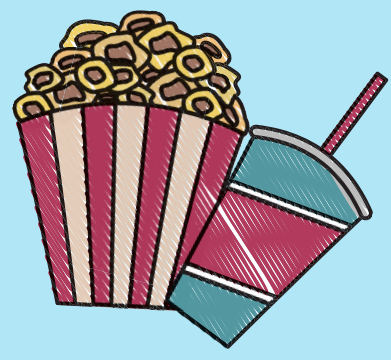
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

PAN-ORTHODOX MOVIE NIGHTS

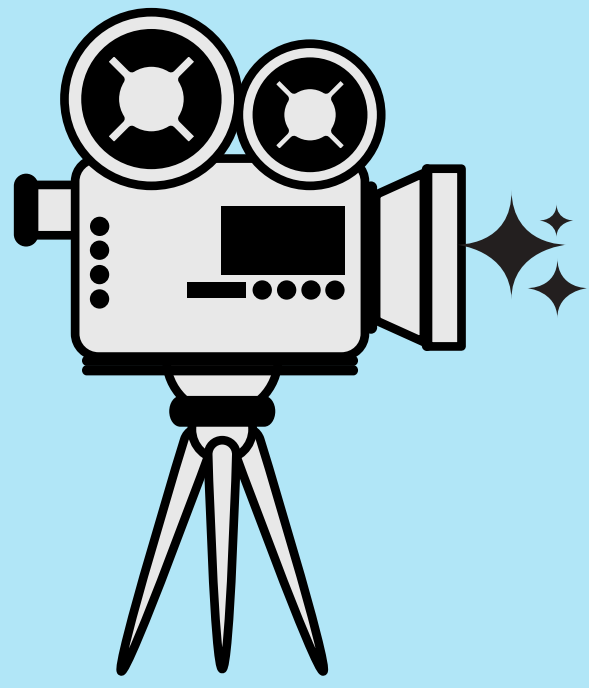


Hosted at St. Nicholas

First Saturday of Each Month



Vespers at 5pm with refreshments and movie to follow




Upcoming Features:

January 8th- New Men & From the Little Mountain
February 5th: The Shepherd

2143 S. Center Rd Burton, MI 48519

*The Pan-Orthodox Churches
of Genesee County*



Holy Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
(2245 E. Baldwin Rd Grand Blanc, MI)

St. George Orthodox Church
(5191 Lennon Rd Flint, MI)

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
(2439 S. Long Lake Rd Fenton, MI)

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
(2143 S Center Rd Burton, MI)

The Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint

Assumption (Greek) 2245 Baldwin Road ❖ Grand Blanc, MI 48439 ❖ 810-771-4611

St. George (Antiochian) 5191 Lennon Road ❖ Flint, MI 48507 ❖ 810-732-0720

St. Mary Magdalene (OCA) 2439 South Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1701

St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

Come, Join Us for this Lenten Retreat by Fr. Bogdan Bucur!



Our Covenant with God: Lessons from the Patriarchs, Prophets, Scribes, and Pharisees

Fr. Bogdan will discuss some Biblical texts including the persons of Abraham, Jacob, Esau, Moses, and the woman caught in adultery.

Saturday, March 19, 2022

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church • 2143 S Center Rd • Burton, MI

Please RSVP by March 14 to (810) 744-0070 or

stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com

10 am	Divine Liturgy
11:30 am	Lunch (free will offering)
12 pm	Registration
12:30 pm	Session 1 with Fr. Bogdan
1:30 pm	Break
1:45 pm	Session 2 with Fr. Bogdan
2:45 pm	Break
3 - 3:30 pm	Questions and Answers
4 pm	Vespers followed by Confessions

Guest Speaker: Fr. Bogdan Bucur

Fr. Bogdan Bucur is associate professor of Patristics at St Vladimir Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY since 2020. He is a priest of the Antiochian Archdiocese who received his M.Th. in Orthodox Theology at the University of Bucharest in his native Romania and then came to the United States to study under now-Archbishop Alexander (Golitzin) at Marquette University where he received his M.A. in Theology and Ph.D. in Religious Studies. Between 2007 and 2020, he was Assistant and then Associate Professor of Theology at Duquesne University, in Pittsburgh, where he worked in the areas of Early Christian Studies and Reception History of the Bible. In 2010 he was ordained a priest in the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese and served as the pastor of St Anthony Orthodox Church in Butler, PA (2010-2020). Fr Bogdan He is a scholar of early Christianity, with a special interest in the link between reception history of the Bible and doctrinal developments in early Christianity and the Byzantine tradition.

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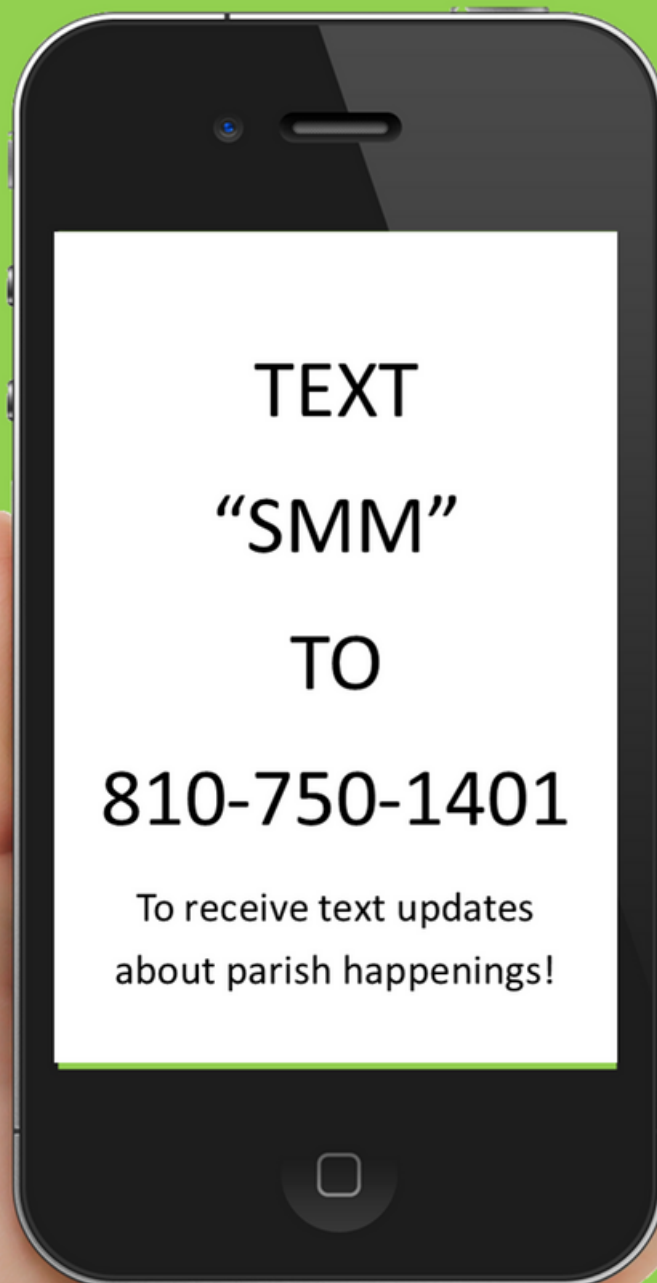
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