



# St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH

*May 2021*

**Fr. Gabriel Bilas, Rector**

Office: 810-750-1401

Church Email: SMMOCAFenton@gmail.com

Father's Email: frgabrielmmm@gmail.com

2439 S. Long Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430

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

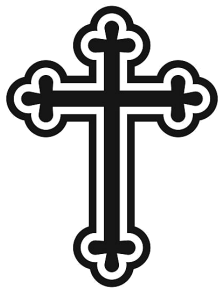
Office Hours\*:

Monday 10:00am-3:00pm

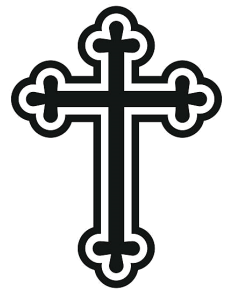
Wednesday 10:00am-3:00pm

Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

\*or by appointment



# St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH



Fr. Gabriel Bilas, Rector

Office: 810-720-1401

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## MONTHLY BULLETIN

### MAY 2021

### Important Dates

#### to Remember:

- ✙ 5/1 Holy Saturday Liturgy, 10am
- ✙ 5/1 Nocturns & Paschal Liturgy, 11:30pm
- ✙ 5/2 Agape Vespers, 1pm
- ✙ 5/3 Bright Monday Liturgy, 10am
- ✙ 5/9 Egg Hunt & Mother's Day Chicken BBQ
- ✙ 5/11 Parish Council
- ✙ 5/13, 5/20 Thursday Divine Liturgy, 10am
- ✙ 5/16 Fellowship of St. Photini Meeting
- ✙ 5/26 Divine Liturgy for the Midfeast of Pentecost, 10am
- ✙ 5/27 Akathist to St. Alexis Toth, 6:30pm

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## Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

A message from Fr. Gabriel

I greet all of you on the blessed Feast of Pascha with truly inexplicable and child-like joy! The Grace of the Church on Pascha is so powerful, that even if we do not fully grasp the magnitude of what is happening on that day in our minds, we can still FEEL IT with our hearts! We have all now gained new life as we celebrate the glorious reality that Christ is Risen from the Dead, trampling down death by His own death, and upon us all bestowing ever-lasting life!

The Paschal Joy is so great, and so unique, that it cannot possibly be contained in just a few hours! The celebration goes on for 40 glorious days! The Church remains adorned in festive white covers. Our Lord's Burial Shroud that was on the tomb on Holy Friday continues to sit on the Altar table as a reminder of the empty tomb **for 40 days!** During the Divine Liturgy, we hear that hymn to the Theotokos "The Angel Cried", where our ears always seem to perk up as we are reminded of that glorious feeling of the Resurrection **for 40 days!** We continue to greet each other and the rest of the world with the festive greeting of "Christ is Risen" **for 40 days!**

This brings up an interesting question, one that I think is hard at times for Orthodox Christians to explain: "Why doesn't Pascha end on that Sunday Morning?"



Explaining the 40 days **before** Pascha is somewhat easy to do and to understand. We spend Great Lent cultivating and preparing the soil of our hearts. When we fast and increase our prayers, we learn how to literally pull out the weeds from our lives that might choke the Seed of Life that our Lord bestows upon us all at Great and Holy Pascha. The reason we celebrate for 40 days **AFTER** Pascha, is to ensure that the new life and joy that was planted into the depths of our hearts can take root and spread to the rest of our lives in the world. This is a key time for us as Christians! Just because we plant flowers, doesn't mean that the weeds will never come back! The seeds of Pascha need watering, sunlight, and some careful attention, if they are to grow!

What are some ways we can do this? First, no matter what kind of mood you are in, or how bad of a day you are having, or how many people upset you in the morning rush hour, do not hesitate to belt the various "*Christ is Risen*" melodies that you know out loud! If you aren't comfortable singing it in front of people, go find a field, and make like Julie Andrews from the Sound of Music and let it go!

Second, use the Pascha Greeting with everyone you come into contact with! Write it on your personal emails, say it to your kids, and use it during your before and after prayers at meal-time. Don't say "*hello*" when answering a call, say "*Christ is Risen!*" (maybe this will stop the telemarketers and social security thieves from calling!).

Finally, and this one I can't stress enough, never forget that **Every Sunday is Pascha**. The Russian word for Sunday is "*Voskresenie*" (which means Resurrection). What a truly fitting way to describe the Lord's day, since it is at every Sunday Divine Liturgy that we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. The weekend services are precious to us and are absolutely 100% necessary for us to be able to live as Christians in the midst of a fallen world. Always remember the wonderful lesson that we take from the Gospel Reading on St. Thomas Sunday: When we miss one Sunday...we miss a LOT!

May God give us all the strength to continue to expand the love and joy that we receive over these next few weeks, allowing us to spread hope, life and light to a world that is literally thirsting for something as positive as God rising from the Dead!



"...O Death, where is thy sting? O Hell, where is thy victory? Christ is risen, and thou art overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen"

-Sermon of St. John Chrysostom

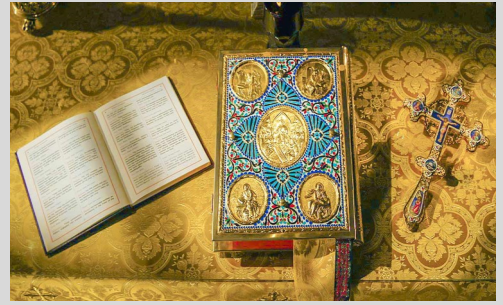
A few updates from the Church....

**Upstairs Loft Seating Available:** Since we have (finally) welcomed back the choir to their proper place in the Church, the upstairs loft is now available for additional seating. While we will still stream the services downstairs, if you would like to be in the Church, there are spots up there now!

**Joining With the Choir:** His Eminence has blessed those that have been vaccinated to join the choir once again. I just ask that you speak with Greg, Anna, or Elena before joining the choir so that we do not have too many on one part.

## Month in Review

April had our Lenten services in full swing, highlighted by the reading of the life of St. Mary of Egypt as well as Holy Week! The entire parish has begun to get excited for our first Pascha together in over 2 years! We are also grateful to those who helped to donate and purchase Pysanky eggs and Pascha candles (made by Liz Ziats) towards the purchase of some new altar boy robes for our young and upcoming servers!



## *This Month's Sunday Scripture Readings*

### **May 2nd:**

Acts 1:1-8

John 1: 1-17

### **May 9th:**

Acts 5:12-20

John 20:19-31

### **May 16th:**

Acts 6:1-7

Mark 15:43-16:8

### **May 23rd:**

Acts 9:32-42

John 5:1-15

### **May 30th:**

Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

John 4:5-42

## Post Paschal Sunday Feasts

**Sunday, May 9th: St. Thomas Sunday**

**Sunday, May 16th: Sunday of the Myrrhbearers**

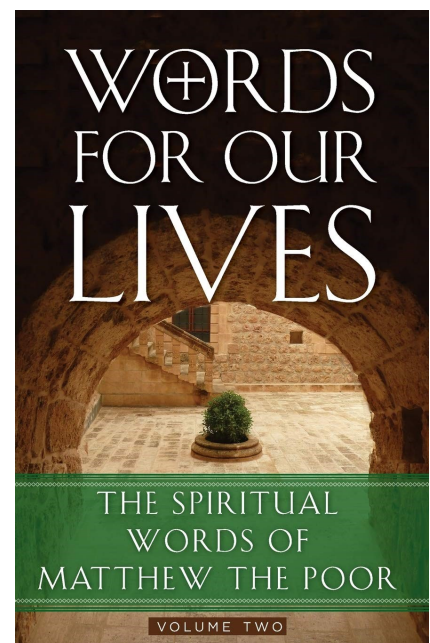
**Sunday, May 23rd: Sunday of the Paralytic**

**Sunday, May 30th: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

## Recommended Reading

“Words for our Lives; The Spiritual Words of Matthew the Poor”

The twentieth-century elder Abba Matta of Egypt, known in the West as Matthew the Poor, is widely regarded as the greatest Egyptian elder since St. Antony the Great. This series constitutes the first appearance in English of a selection of the informal talks Abba Matta gave to his fellow monks and to visitors. In simple, accessible language, he addresses subjects ranging from Scripture to the church year to everyday life in the world. To read these talks is to sit at the feet of one of the greatest spiritual teachers of our age.



# WISHING YOU MANY BLESSED YEARS!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- † 1– Rachel Burtka
- † 5– Sydney Wilkinson
- † 6– Sharon Watson & Sara Shephard
- † 8– Meghan Durand & Eric Czubenko
- † 12– Joe Otis & Elisha Watson
- † 14– Evelyn Watson
- † 15– Daniel Oginsky
- † 19– Sydney Kekel
- † 20– Jenni Otis & Elizabeth Suriano
- † 21– Alyssa Earl
- † 22– Andy Marko & Elena Bucciarelli
- † 24– Anna Hamann & Nathaniel Damic
- † 28– Anthony Ponisetti
- † 30– Lynda Joseph
- † 31– Eliot Senter

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- † 5– Andy & Shannon Joseph
- † 8– Fr. Gabriel & Matushka Laura
- † 10 Tom & Cindy Chiatas
- † 11– Chris & Robyn Dollins
- † 16– Roland & Lori Drummond
- † 17– Jeremy & Renea Becklehamer
- † 17– Dcn. David & Sara Shephard
- † 17– Keith & Emily Bieganski
- † 21– Brady & Kathy Damic
- † 23– Joe & Christine Suriano



### PARISH LENDING LIBRARY

Don't forget while you are social distancing 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

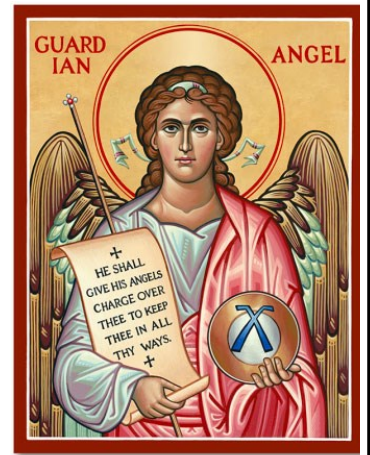
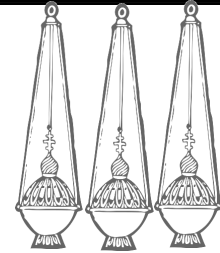
## Office Hours

The Church Office and Sanctuary will now be open from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for private prayer and reflection, phone inquiries, deliveries, or for setting an appointment with Fr. Gabriel.

# Prayer Life

*Pray for our sick and suffering brothers and sisters*

Metropolitan Herman	Gabriel
Vinnie	Eric
Elaine	Terry
Peter	Tracy
David	Maurice
Michael	Anthony
Mason	Alisha
Pat	
Joseph	
Linda	
Arminda	
Dimitri	
Damian	
Linda	
Irene	
Nancy	
Rachael	
Ronald	
Dawn	



<b>Armed Forces</b>	<b>Armed Forces Cont.</b>	<b>Catechumens</b>	<b>Mother's With Child</b>
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 Bradley Grimes Stephen Bondaria— Coast Guard Lieutenant Commander Sarah Tyler—U.S. Air Force	Alyssa William Anthony Anastasia David Christian Emily	Anna Christine Matushka Laura Inna
		<b>Recently Departed</b>	<b>Seminarian Family</b>
		Clayton William Dolores	Alexander & Danielle Earl
			<b>Anniversary of Parish Member's Repose</b>

## Parish Greeters

**May 2nd: (Pascha)**  
No Greeters

**May 9th:**  
Steve & Sue Walton

**May 16th:**  
George & Julie Jonascu

**May 23rd:**  
Seth & Mia Hillaker

**May 30th:**  
Scott & Tina Shephard

## Coffee Hour Volunteers

**May 2nd: (Pascha)**  
No coffee hour

**May 9th: (Mother's Day BBQ)**  
Men's Group Clean-up

**May 16th:**  
Chris & Rachel Burtka

**May 23rd:**  
Peter & Anna Hamann

**May 30th:**  
George & Julie Jonascu

## Epistle Readers

**May 2nd: (Pascha)**  
Rdr David Schutt  
Rdr. Brian Walton

**May 9th:**  
Janet Wiese  
Rdr. Chris Ballnik

**May 16th:**  
Rdr. John Auxier  
Rdr. David Schutt

**May 23rd:**  
Sbdn Andrew Durand  
Janet Wiese

**May 30th:**  
Rdr. Nathan Auxier  
Rdr. John Auxier

## Bell Ringers

**May 2nd: (Pascha)**  
Matushka Laura Bilas

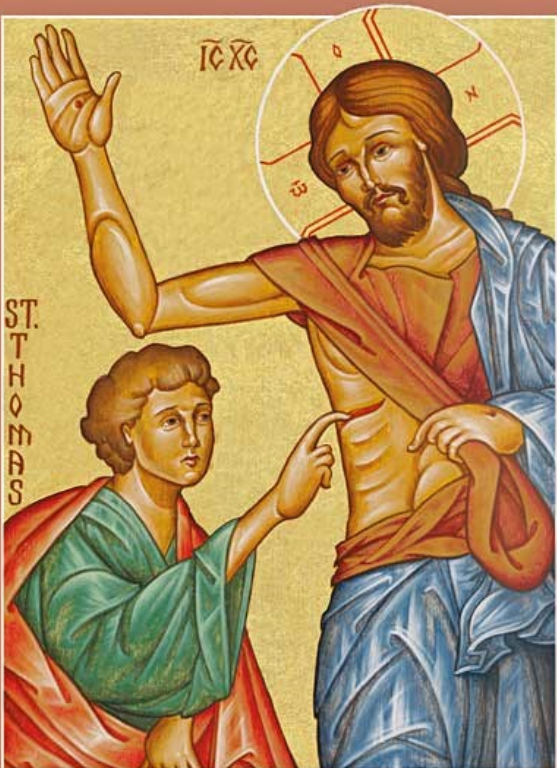
**May 9th:**  
Renea Becklehamer

**May 16th:**  
Tonya Rice

**May 23rd:**  
Vivian Capatina

**May 30th:**  
Cindy Welch

# An Orthodox Custom St. Thomas Sunday



On Sunday, May 9, 2021 the Orthodox faithful celebrate the belief of the Apostle Thomas having seen the risen Lord. Around the world our brothers and sisters continued the tradition of the Church in announcing the Resurrection of Christ (just one week after the celebration of Holy Pascha) to those who have departed this life.

It is traditional, especially in Eastern Europe, for families to visit the graves of their departed family. This time is taken to announce the resurrection of our Lord, clean the graves, light candles and sing the Paschal troparion. Parishes with cemeteries will process to the graves and the priest will bless them with Holy Water while the faithful sing with joy the words we all long to hear, "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!"

# Monthly Forecast

## Great and Holy Pascha:

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! We will be gathering for Nocturnes and Holy Pascha on Saturday, May 1st, at 11:30 PM! Bring your pascha baskets to be blessed in the basement, and after the Divine Services, we will have an agape meal outside in an outdoor tent, while we celebrate Christ's Resurrection. Don't forget about Agape Vespers on Sunday, May 2nd, at 1:00 PM!

## Bright Week Celebrations

The Pascha celebrations don't just end on Sunday the 2nd! We will gather as a Pan Orthodox Community on Bright Monday (May 3rd) for Divine Liturgy here at St. Mary Magdalene beginning at 10:00 AM. Bright Tuesday is at St. Nicholas at 10:00 AM. Bright Wednesday is at St. George at 6:00 PM (For their patronal feast). Bright Friday is at Holy Assumption at 10:00 AM! Join us all week to celebrate the glorious news of the Resurrection!

## St. Thomas Sunday and Mother's Day Cookout

On Sunday, May 9th, we will be having a Mother's Day cookout following the St. Thomas Sunday Divine Liturgy. The children will also have their annual Easter Egg Hunt in the back of the Church! We will also be breaking the Artos bread as we continue celebrating!

## Thursday Divine Liturgies Starting Back Up!

Starting on Thursday, May 13th, we will be having our regular weekly Divine Liturgies starting back up at 10:00 AM. Please keep an eye on the schedule as Liturgy for the Mid-Feast of Pentecost (Wednesday May 26th) will replace the Thursday Liturgy.

## Vespers Time Change

Great Vespers and Confessions in May will go back to its regular time of 5:00 PM

## Fellowship of St. Photini Meeting

After Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women, there will be a St. Photini Meeting in the Education Center. All are welcome to attend!

## Divine Liturgy for the Mid-Feast of Pentecost

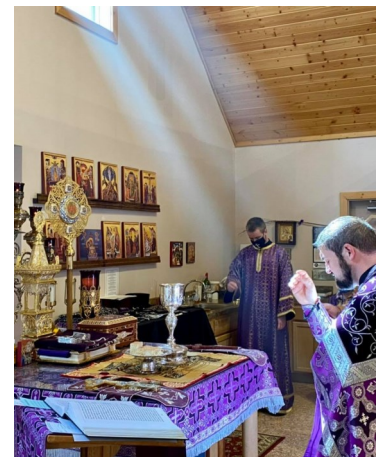
We will be celebrating the Mid-Feast at 10:00 AM on May 26th here at St. Mary Magdalene. All are welcome to attend the Divine Liturgy!

## Akathist to St. Alexis Toth

We were blessed this past month to receive relics of St. Alexis Toth! An Akathist will be held on the evening of May 27th, beginning at 6:30 PM. All are welcome to attend!


## A Message from our Sister Parish

St. George Church is looking for a special person to lead our Preschool & Childcare Ministry. The Preschool has been in operation since 2018 and has had over 30 children in attendance. Though currently closed and without a Program Director we have a valid Child Care License. With proper staffing and leadership it could be reopened at any time. Dn. Michael, Kh. Leslee, Kelly (our Church Secretary) and others are ready to assist you! We have a list of previous clients as well as a growing list of families looking for the intimate, faith based setting that we offer. Rooms are set up, in place, and waiting for children! Curriculum is purchased, learning centers are in place, and there is plenty of outdoor playspace! This is an excellent opportunity for the right person to provide a needed service / ministry to the community and help generate revenues for St. George Church and have nearly full autonomy with minimal risk. If you are interested or you know someone who might be, contact the Preschool at 810-732-1500, stgeorgeschool17@gmail.com, or talk with Dn. Michael or Kh. Leslee.





# Mother's Day Chicken BBQ

An illustration of a white chef's hat with a black outline, set against a yellow circular background. Two red-handled kitchen tools, possibly tongs or spatulas, are positioned on either side of the hat.

***St. Thomas Sunday, May 9th, during  
the Paschal Egg Hunt.***

***Outdoor dining is available.***

*We will be roasting  
chickens on our b.b.q.  
and will have hot  
dogs for the kids. All  
sides are be provided.*

*Contact the parish  
office with questions.*



# Bright Week

# Schedule



## *Pan-Orthodox Churches of Genesee County*

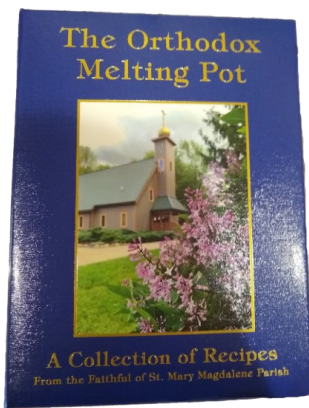
Sunday, May 2nd:	Agape Vespers	1:00pm	At St. Mary Magdalene (2439 S. Long Lake Rd– Fenton, MI)
Monday, May 3rd:	Bright Monday Liturgy	10:00am	At St. Mary Magdalene (2439 S. Long Lake Rd– Fenton, MI)
Tuesday, May 4th:	Bright Tuesday Liturgy	10:00am	At St. Nicholas (2143 S. Center Rd– Burton, MI)
Wednesday, May 5th:	Bright Wednesday Liturgy & St. George Patronal Feast	6:00pm	At St. George (5191 Lennon Rd– Flint, MI)
Friday, May 7th:	Bright Friday Liturgy	10:00am	At Holy Assumption (2245 Baldwin Rd– Grand Blanc, MI)

# Parish Kiosk



## “The Orthodox Melting Pot”

A Collection of Recipes from the faithful of St. Mary Magdalene Parish



The Parish Cookbook is available for a suggested donation of \$25 each. Please use the specific envelope designated for the cookbook to make your donation. If you would like a copy shipped to you please contact the parish office

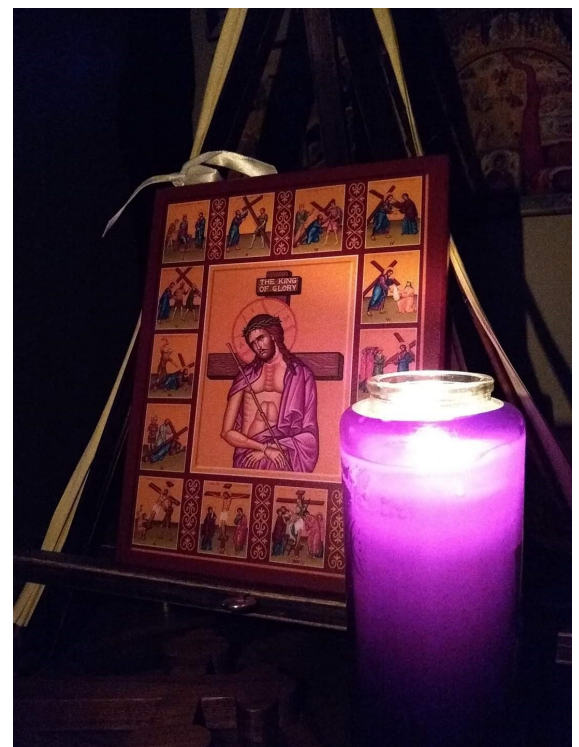
### NEW Pachal Gift & Icons available in the Kiosk.

We have several New Items!!!!

- ✝ Pascha Gifts
  - ✝ Pascha Basket Covers
  - ✝ Adult & Young Adults Books
  - ✝ Children’s Books
  - ✝ Home Altar Items
  - ✝ Icons
- ....and more!!!

If you do not see what you are looking for please reach out to the parish office so we can help!

6– Day Glass Votives now available in various colors through the Kiosk for \$4 each. These are perfect for Home devotion and for cemetery lampadas.





# Our Parish Youth

## May Church School Announcements

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Foster Closet of Michigan, we were able to gather many items to donate. If you would like to help sort the items and transport them to the Foster Closet please contact Tonya Rice.

# They absorb more than you know.



**“Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of God.” (Luke 18:16)**

As Holy Week & Pascha approaches there is a hesitance among parents about what seems like an overwhelming schedule of numerous church services while balancing homelife and the needs of their children.

Despite these feelings, it is encouraged that you bring your children to ALL services during Holy Week and to Great and Holy Pascha. Your kids may seem antsy, distracted, tired or may even be asleep, but they absorb more than you know by just being in the church. Bring your children to the church! Dress them in their pajamas, lay down a blanket so they can rest, take them to the narthex for a quiet snack but bring them to the Church!. We are blessed with a remarkably caring and

helpful parish family, if you need help just ask. There are many people in our parish willing to help you along the way. Utilize your children’s Godparents (its is literally what they “signed up” for) but bring your children to the Church! If you have any doubts, questions or would like direction please contact Father Gabriel to discuss your individual situation, but bring your children to the Church!

**Let the children be conscious that they are members of Christ's family. Let the children come to love church!**



# Pascha Egg Hunt

Sunday, May 9th following Divine Liturgy  
St. Mary Magdalen Orthodox Church  
2439 S Long Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430



Pascha egg hunt for our children will follow  
St. Thomas Sunday Liturgy  
ALL are welcome!!

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



**Prayers for our college students:**

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Katherine Arnes     | Katerina Jonescu    |
| Katherine Schutt    | Katheryn Auxier     |
| Oliver Lazar Senter | Alexandra Kekel     |
| Elena Bucciarelli   | Lauren Serafimovski |
| Zachary Wilkinson   | Abigail Arnes       |
| Douglas Wilkinson   |                     |
| Sydney Wilkinson    |                     |



**Calling all Mothers!**

The last few months have been a difficult time for many. With all of the changes in life and scheduling, balancing motherhood has been challenging to say the least. Check in on each other and be a listening ear until we can meet together again!

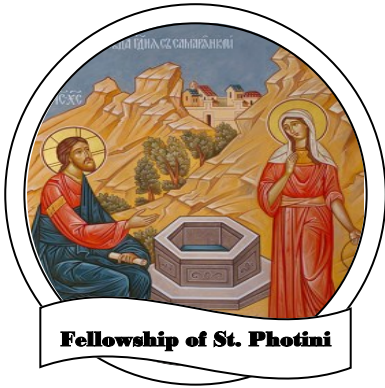
For more information about our St. Mary Magdalene Men's Group, please contact Tom Chiatlas.



St. Mary Magdalene  
Young Adults

Please see Peter Hamman to be added to the online young adult group.

# FELLOWSHIP OF ST. PHOTINI



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

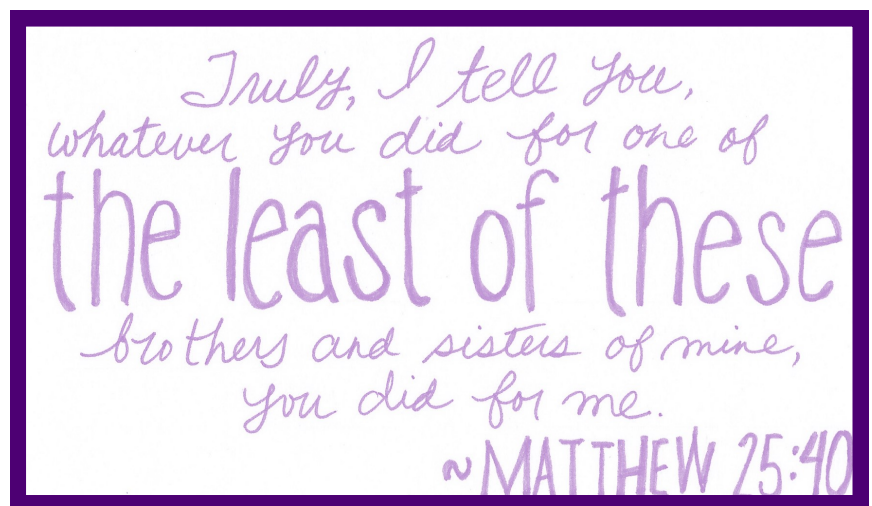
Thank you to all parents and kids that donated to the Foster Closet of Michigan!!

The Fellowship of St. Photini will have their next meeting on Sunday, May 16th following Divine Liturgy. All are welcome to attend. We will be workshopping and planning our summer community outreach. If you are interested in participating please come to our meeting on the 16th.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:**

Sorting Items for the Foster Closet of Michigan with Tonya Rice for delivery. All items need to be sorted and organized before donation. If you would like to help with this process please contact Tonya Rice.

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.



# Orthodox Churches of Genesee County, Michigan

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 S. Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1401  
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

## 2021 Great Fast and Bright Week



## Pan-Orthodox Divine Services

**Great Compline** (*Mondays, 6:30pm*) We will celebrate the Great Compline service together every Monday night at St. George. This beautiful service allows us to experience the Great Fast more deeply. Confessions will be available from 6pm–6:30pm and after the service.

**Lenten Hours** (*Wednesdays, 10:30am*) at St. Nicholas.

**Presanctified Divine Liturgy** (*Wednesdays, 6pm*) We will celebrate the Presanctified Liturgy and the Great Feast of the Annunciation together according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at both. To partake of Holy Communion, please be prepared with prayer and fasting (*no eating or drinking after 12 Noon*). Confessions will only be available prior to the Liturgy from 5:30pm–6pm. Unfortunately, we will not be having Potluck Lenten Meals this year.

- March 6<sup>th</sup>     **Pre-Lenten Retreat** led by Fr. Maximos Constas (*more information to follow*)  
March 24<sup>th</sup>    **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 6pm  
March 25<sup>th</sup>    **Great Feast of the Annunciation Divine Liturgy** at Assumption 10am  
April 7<sup>th</sup>     **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 6pm  
April 21<sup>st</sup>    **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. George 6pm  
April 24<sup>th</sup>    **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 9:30am

### **Bright Week** (May 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)

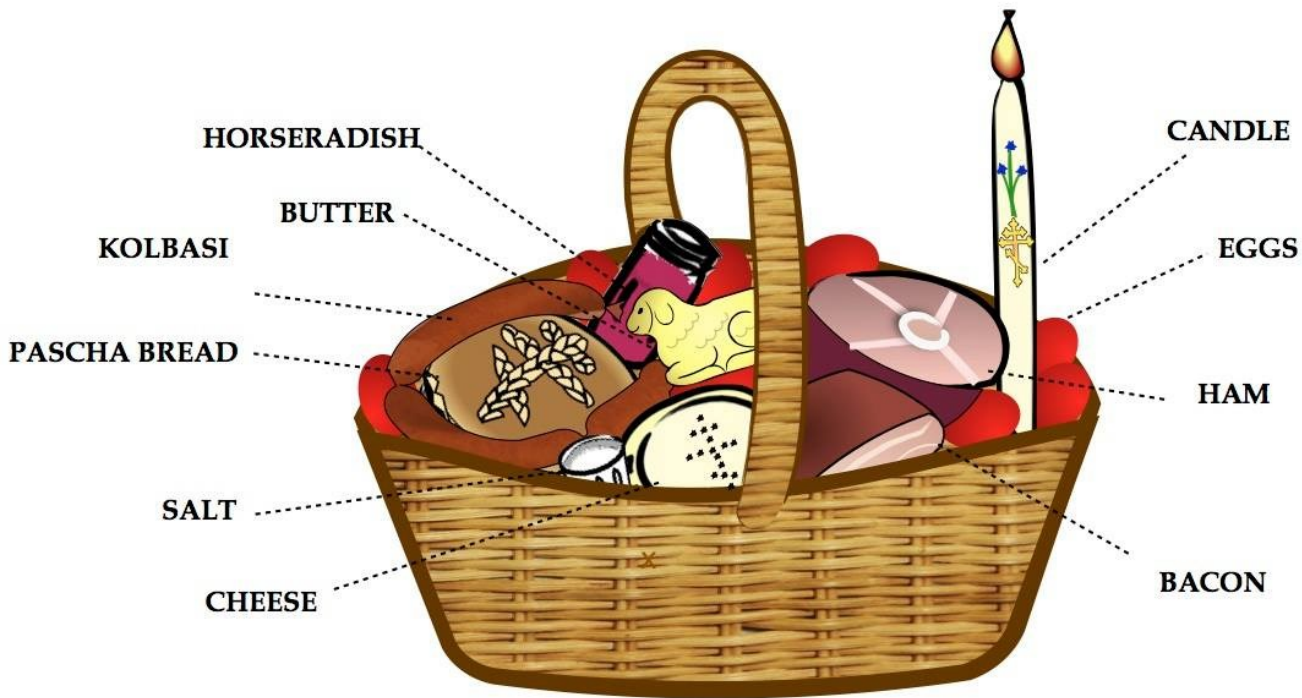
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>     **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 10am  
May 4<sup>th</sup>     **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 10am  
May 5<sup>th</sup>     **Paschal Evening Liturgy & Feast of St. George** at St. George 6pm  
May 7<sup>th</sup>     **Paschal Divine Liturgy & Life-giving Font** at Assumption 10am

*Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in North America  
A Vision of Orthodox Unity*



# HOW TO PUT TOGETHER A TRADITIONAL EASTER BASKET

"TEXT ADAPTED FROM AN ARTICLE BY FR. BASIL KRAYNYAK, GCU MESSENGER, APRIL, 1979" ILLUSTRATED BY FR. JONATHAN BANNON



**PASCHA** - The Easter Bread (Pron. Pa-ska.) A sweet yeast bread rich in eggs, butter, etc. Symbolic of Christ Himself who is our True Bread. Usually round loaf baked with a golden crust decorated with a symbol indicative of Christ. Sometimes a cross (+) of dough is placed on top encircled by a plait given it a crowned effect or Greek

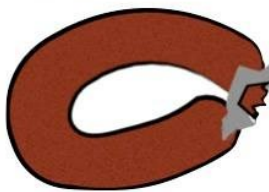
**CHEESE** - (Rusyn: Hrudka or Sirec) A custard type cheese shaped into a ball having a rather bland but sweet taste indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things. Also creamed cheese is placed in a small dish and both are decorated with symbols (see Pascha) out of cloves or pepper balls.



**HAM** - (Rusyn: Šunka - pron. shoon-ka.) The Flesh meat popular with the Slavs as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter. Some may prefer Lamb or Veal. This is usually well roasted or cooked as well as other meats so the festivity of the day will not be burdened with preparation and all may enjoy the Feast.

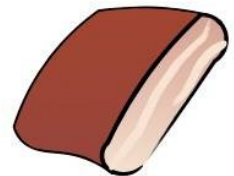


**BUTTER** - (Rusyn: Maslo pron. ma-slo.) This favorite dairy product is often shaped into a figure of a Lamb or small cross and decorated as the cheese. This reminds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things.

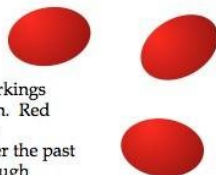


**SAUSAGE** (Rusyn: Kolbasi-pron. kolbus-i.) A spicy, garlic sausage of pork products indicative of God's flavor and generosity.

**BACON** - (Rusyn: Slanina pron. sla-ni-na) A piece of uncooked bacon cured with spices. Symbolic of the overabundance of God's mercy to us.



**EGGS** (Rusyn: Pisanki pron. pi-sun-ki) Hardboiled eggs brightly decorated with symbols and markings made with beeswax, indicative of new life and resurrection. Red eggs are also traditional date back to a story with St. Mary Magdalene. Having been dyed with onion skins saved over the past year, red shows the color of life and victory that came through Christ's blood.



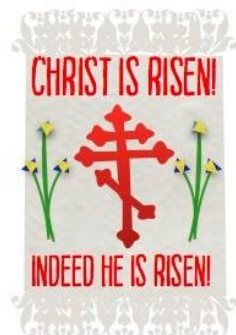
**SALT** - (Rusyn: Sol' pron. sol') A condiment necessary for flavor reminding the Christian of his duty to others.



**HORSERADISH** (Rusyn: Chrin pron. khrin) Horseradish mixed with grated red beets (optional) symbolizes the Passion of Christ still in our minds but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection. A bitter-sweet red colored mixture reminds us of the sufferings of Christ.

These articles are placed in a wicker basket. A decorated candle is placed inside and is lit at the time of the blessing. A linen cover usually embroidered with a picture of the Risen Christ or symbol with the words "Christ is Risen" is placed over the food when brought to the Church.

In some places a large Easter Bread (Pascha) is made and brought separately in a large linen cloth. If the origin of the people was from a wine growing area, a sweet wine may be brought





Again this summer, our own "Farmer Joe", will be planting and bringing excess produce to coffee hour to sell as a mini farmer's market to benefit our building fund. Below are some of the varieties that Joe is able and eager to plant!!! If you do not see what you are looking for than please talk with Joe as he is able to plant more!

To request fruits & veggies ahead of time please talk to Joe following any of the Divine Services or contact the parish office. Here is the list of what is available from "Farmer Joe"

**Tomatoes** - Various colors and sizes, Large/Med/Small(cherry/grape) - Red, Orange, Yellow, "black" (brownish purple), white. I grow mostly all vining type tomatoes, vertically, on a fence for better yields and healthier plants from the improved airflow. I do have one semi-dwarf bush type red tomato if someone wants a more compact plant or to do in a large pot (5 gal minimum).

**Peppers** - NOTE all peppers start out green and ripen to different colors, similar to tomatoes, a "green pepper" (like a green tomato) just isn't ripe. Sweet "Bells" : Golden California Wonder (yellow/gold), Orange Gourmet, and Joe's "Quick Red" (not a true "bell", this pepper may have resulted as a cross between a red bell pepper and one of my "deli tray" peppers described below, its in-between a bell pepper and deli tray sweet pepper size but I kept because I liked that it was larger than my deli peppers but ripened much quicker than a normal bell pepper) Sweet "deli tray" style: The seed for these "little sweeties" literally came from the red, yellow, and orange sweet peppers off of a deli tray nearly 20 years ago. They are the size/shape of a Jalapeno but are very sweet and ripen quickly; once producing you can pick several ripe peppers per week from them. I call them "Short and Sweet" red, orange, or yellow. These do great in pots, even indoors in a sunny window over winter!

Hot peppers - Shishito (100-1k SHU), Cherry Bomb (2.5k-5k SHU), Jalapeno (3.5k-8k SHU), Chili de Arbol (15k-30k SHU), Aji Pineapple (100k-150k SHU), Ghost (1M+ SHU), Scorpion (1-1.4M SHU)

**Muskmelon** - my own "landrace" melon grown for 10+ years from about 30 different heirloom varieties.

**Watermelon** - red seeded varieties, small & medium size

**Squash** - Acorn, Buttercup, Butternut, Joe's blue hubbard , yellow and green Acorn, Buttercup, Butternut, Joe's blue hubbard summer squash ("zucchini")

**Pumpkins** - various sizes\* (pumpkins and some squash will readily cross with different varieties so sizes may be quite variable)

**Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Radish, Corn, Arugula, Bulk Mixes Lettuce, Bush & Pole Beans**

**Beans** - Green bush beans, Green, Yellow, and Purple Pole beans

**Snap Peas**

**Swiss Chart**

**Lettuce** - a mix of mostly different shape/color leaf lettuces with some romaine mixed in; this constantly evolving mix comes from

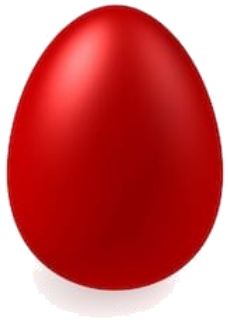
whatever lettuces are hardy enough to survive the winter at my home garden and produce new seeds (often crossing with each other) the following summer.

*Please be aware that most of my seed I have grown myself for many years (some 20+) and therefore in any given season there may be "accidental" crosses resulting in the offspring being off type from the mother plant. For me this can be exciting as that is what has lead me to some of my own unique varieties that exist no where else in the world.*





# Christ is Risen! Indeed HE is Risen!



The Great and Holy Myrrh-bearer **Mary Magdalene**, equal to the apostles, and the patroness and protectress of our parish was a disciple of Jesus.

She was Mary for Magdala, a town in Galilee. She was present at the crucifixion and the burial of Christ. She was one of the first to see Him risen from the Dead.  
(*Matthew 27:55-61, Mark 16:1-10*)



In her icon, St. Mary Magdalene is depicted holding a red egg telling the story of her attending the Emperor's banquet. She is holding a vessel, this tells the story of her as one of the Myrrh-bearing women. Lastly it shows her holding a cross which tells of her mar-



*Crack your eggs together to celebrate the shattering of Hades by the victorious Christ!*

*St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church—Fenton, MI*

# Referral Program To Benefit The St. Mary Magdalene Church Expansion



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 Church Expansion Fund by offering a \$500.00 donation for every referral that results in a closed transaction!