

October 2022

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church



Fr. Gabriel Bilas, Rector

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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

Don't Poke the Bear

From the Desk of Fr. Gabriel

During a monthly visit over coffee with a local pastor friend of mine, I was a bit disturbed to learn of a new store that went up in a neighboring community that was dedicated to selling items used for witchcraft and seances. As if that wasn't enough, I was bombarded a day later with brochures describing an upcoming "Witches Ball" as well as invitations to a group that teaches people special dances to call upon the spirits for Halloween! All of these events have led me to offer this small word of warning to anyone reading this: **Do not fall prey to this ignorance dear ones!**

Our society at large tends to think of witches, demons, ghouls, and spirits as harmless games and fun. Orthodox Christians understand from experience however, that these things are incredibly dangerous. When we are invited to events or parties that deal with spirits, whether it is organized in complete knowledge of what is being done, or out of ignorance in the spirit of fun, we must ask ourselves: *"Why would I go to poke the bear?"*

As we get closer and closer to the end of October, allow me to give this annual public service announcement. **Demons and Evil spirits are absolutely, positively, without a shadow of a doubt, REAL.** They surround us like vultures, waiting to crash down on those who show either weakness in the spiritual life, or (worse yet) attacking those who playfully deny their existence. With that in mind, here are three things to remember about the existence of demons and how we are to react to them.

1.) If you look for them, they will very easily find you!

In the very popular book "Everyday Saints", the young student Tikhon talks about his experience with calling upon the spirits prior to his conversion to Orthodoxy. His group of friends spent time researching and learning how to do seances so that they could establish a connection with spirits, and eventually they were quite successful! In their seances, they would have conversations with entities that called themselves "Napoleon" or "Socrates".

These spirits would even tell them intimate details about their personal lives as well as details about the future. Tikhon and his friends didn't truly know what they were getting into, but one thing was for certain...their moods changed after the seances began.

Depression and darkness that could not be described in words had slowly started to creep into their lives, and what started with innocent curiosity eventually ended in a very scary situation.

If you go looking for demons, they will find you. St. Paisius of Neamt, an 18th century saint, once said:

"Do you not know with whom you battle? How legions of invisible enemies surround you, and every one of them wages his own battle? They sound numberless voices, and desire to swallow up your soul. Should you not be cautious? Is it possible that having drunk your fill and given yourself over to sleep, lying down and constantly consoling yourself, that you can with all of this, receive salvation? If you will not be attentive to this...you will never escape their traps!"

UPCOMING THIS MONTH

1- Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos, Divine Liturgy 10:00am followed immediately by Great Vespers & Confessions

2-Blanket Kit distribution for this month's outreach (Due Back on the 23rd)

4- Prayer Service for the sick & suffering. 6:30pm

9- Baptism of Tikhon Hillaker, 9:40am

15- Fellowship of St. Photini Meeting, 3pm followed by Vespers

16- To-Go Soup Sale after Divine Liturgy

16- Parish Outing to the Orchard, 1pm

22- Anastasia Conover Baptism, 1pm

23- BLANKETS DUE

23- OCMP Special collections. Cash or Checks made payable to St. Mary Magdalene.

30- Trunk-or-Treat following Liturgy



"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

- | | | |
|---------|---------|--------------|
| Vinne | Ivanka | Janice |
| Elaine | Dawn | Bryan |
| David | Jeff | Chrissy |
| Pat | Mike | Kristen |
| Michael | Lauren | Cameron |
| Jim | Rich | Mary Valarie |
| Elaine | Judy | Lynne |
| Mason | Anthony | Jeanne |
| Theresa | Dorothy | Glenn |
| Robert | Megan | Gerald |
| Linda | Shirley | Tony |
| Hudson | Tinna | |
| Allison | Susan | |
| Steve | Brian | |
| Dimitri | Sophia | |
| Damian | Sharon | |
| Martin | Miriam | |

2.) The Only Thing that Demons are Capable of is Destruction

During one of the seances, the spirit of Nikolai Gogol, a famous Russian author, came into the midst of the students. He was in tremendous pain, asking the students for help. Being an author whom Tikhon and his friends greatly admired, they wanted to do everything they could to help him! When they offered their assistance, Gogol asked them to join him so that they could help and offered to find them some poison to drink.

This leads us to the second thing we must remember about demons, and perhaps the sole reason you do everything in your power not to "poke the bear": The only thing that demons are capable of is destruction. They cannot love. They cannot lift us up. They cannot fill our lives with light or life. Their only aim is to destroy. This was the case with Tikhon and his friends, who had a demon ask them for life itself...seeking their destruction through suicide.

3.) A Savior is Needed to Escape Their Destruction

Tikhon tells how as soon as the students realized what was going on, that the spirit of Gogol was asking for their lives, they ran.

Tikhon ended up running to the one place he knew he would receive deliverance: The Church.

"I went to the Savior. Using that name "Savior" so often, even Christians lose connection to the word's original and real meaning. But now, it was the most desired and most important word: Savior. We knew, however fantastic it might sound, that we were being hunted by powerful and unknown malevolent spirits, from whom only God our Savior could deliver us."

When we run into any trouble in life, not just with an encounter with a demon, but even struggles of doubt, or health difficulties, or depression, we need to **run to our Savior**. We run to the Church, which acts as a warm blanket of protection to the dark cold of the world.

The Church has given us so many weapons with which to combat the demons. When the priest gets vested before a Divine Liturgy, he is literally putting on armor to combat the darkness! As laity, each of us should also be the member of the NPRA (the National Prayer Rope Association), because our prayer ropes are an amazing weapon against the wiles of the enemy! We must use these to our advantage as often as we can!

And so, as society gets ever closer to the end of October, be cautious dear ones, and do not poke the bear! Rather seek consolation and love in the light that is offered to us every time we enter our prayer corners, every time we enter into Church, and every time we come into the Destroyer of Demons, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Mother's With Child

- Elizabeth
- Tricia
- Renee
- Rachel
- Christine
- Ruthanne
- Taylor
- Matushka Sara

Catechuminate

- | | |
|--------|------------|
| Collin | Jacqueline |
| Jaclyn | William |
| Mark | Dimitry |
| Sarah | Nicholas |

Seminarian Families

- Deacon Alexander,
- Matushka Danielle &
- Cordelia Earl

- Reader Paisios, Anna,
- John & Theodore
- Hamann

Anniversary of Parish Members Departed

- 18- Veronica Stepanko
- 18- Andrew Joseph

Recently Departed

- Metropolitan Herman
- Eleftheria Rissin

Prayers for our Armed Forces

*Michael Oginsky - U.S.
Stephany Bishop - U.S. Navy*

*Jason Wilburn - Army Rangers
Alex Suriano - Air National Guard*

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

PARISH GREETERS

October 2

George & Julie Jonascu

October 9

Freida Owens

October 16

Steve & Sue Walton

October 23

Scott & Tina Shephard

October 30

George & Julie Jonascu

COFFEE HOUR

October 2

Clark & Katherine Senter

October 9

Chuck & Minka Owens

October 16

Terry & Freida Owens

October 23

Brian & Tammy Arnes

October 30

John & Brianna Walton

BELL RINGERS

October 2

Cindy Welch

October 9

Vivian Capatina

October 16

Cindy Welch

October 23

Vivian Capatina

October 30

Cindy Welch

WISHING YOU MANY BLESSED YEARS!

BIRTHDAYS

- 1- PAISIOS HAMANN
- 2- GRAYSON WELCH
- 3- GREGORY JANNAKOS & TERRI OGINSKY
- 4- LAUREN CONOVER
- 5- BRENDA BANDWELL
- 6- JOSEPH YONAN
- 7- CONNE TEROVA & CHRISTOPHER GARDNER
- 8- LORI DRUMMOND
- 10- DOUG AUXIER
- 14- MARISSA BAILEY, ISABELLA OTIS & TEA JONASCU
- 15- IRELYND OTIS, RILEY WILKINSON, DEACON ALEXANDER EARL
- 16- JOYCE BALLNIK & KEITH BIEGANSKI
- 17- KRISTIEN JAKUBUS
- 18- ALEXANDRA KEKEL, JOHN WALTON
- 19- OLIVER SENTER, SETH HILLAKER, VINCE LIZZIO
- 20- ASHER WOLF
- 22- JIM OGINSKY
- 23- HUNTER DOLLINS
- 24- RILYNN JANNAKOS & LAUREN PETERS
- 29- BRADY DAMIC
- 30- DAVID BRCIC

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1- MYKOLA NEWMERZYCHYJ & MICHELLE ROSYNSKY
- 6- CHRIS & RACHEL BURTKA
- 6- JEREMY & TAYLOR BLOHM
- 9- STEVEN & ELIZABETH KEKEL
- 9- TOMAS & STACEY YONAN
- 11- JOHN & BRIANNA WALTON
- 12- THEOPHAN & MICHELLE FORSYTH
- 14- MICHAEL & ANGELINA LIONAS
- 17- CHRISTOPHER & ROBYN BALLNIK
- 18- JOHN SR. & DELIA BARTLEY
- 22- TED & INNA WALLS
- 26- KURT & ANN SCHUTT

EPISTLE READERS

October 2
Rdr Brian-Philip Walton
Sue Walton

October 9
Theophan Forsyth
John Wolf

October 16
Ruth Karabina
Sue Walton

October 23
Rdr Tom Chiatalas
Jennifer Otis

October 30
Rdr Christopher Ballnik
Rdr Brian-Philip Walton



SCRIPTURE READINGS

October 2
2 Cor. 6:1-10
Luke 6:31-36

October 9
2 Cor. 6:16-7:1
Luke 7: 11-16

October 16
2 Col. 9:6-11
Luke 8:5-15

October 23
2 Cor. 11:31-12:9
Luke 16:19-31

October 30
Gal. 1:22-19
Luke 8:26-39



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

ST SILOUAN THE ATHONITE (SOPHRONY)

In the autumn of 1892 a young Russian peasant named Simeon from the province of Tambov was drawn to that ancient repository of Orthodox spirituality, Mt Athos. He had done his military service and now came to the Russian Monastery of St Panteleimon, to embark on long years of spiritual combat lasting until his death in 1938. Although he was unlearned and ignorant in the ordinary sense, tireless inner striving gave him authentic personal experience of Christianity identical with that of many of the early ascetic Desert Fathers.

The first part of this book is a remarkable account of St Silouan's life, personality and teaching by his spiritual disciple Archimandrite Sophrony. Archimandrite Sophrony went to Mt Athos in 1925 and there at the Monastery of St Panteleimon became amanuensis to Staretz Silouan.

Part two comprises the writings of Silouan, originally penciled in laborious, unformed characters on odd scraps of paper. The Lord said, "Every one that is of the truth hears my voice" (John 18:37). And according to Father Sophrony, "these words are applicable to Staretz Silouan's notes ... [That] whoever has received from God the mind and wisdom to know him will be aware in the Staretz' words of the breath of the Holy Spirit."

Can be ordered through the Kiosk for \$32 each

Join us for the BAPTISM



Sunday, October
9th, 2022 at
9:40 AM



2439 S Long Lake
Rd, Fenton, MI
48430

We cordially invite you to join us to
celebrate this occasion and for a
luncheon afterwards at 1 pm at
Fenton Lakes Sportsmans Club
1140 Butcher Rd, Fenton, MI 48430

Please RSVP to Mia Hillaker at
(810)-293-1141 by October 1st

MONTHLY FORECAST

Protection of the Theotokos and Special Great Vespers Start Time

On Saturday, October 1st, we will celebrate the feast of the Protection of the Theotokos with Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM. Following Divine Liturgy, there will be a light breakfast, followed immediately by Great Vespers and Confessions.

Beginning of the Regular Prayer Service for the Sick and the Suffering

Beginning Tuesday, October 4th, we will begin our monthly prayer service for the Sick and the Suffering. The Akathist to the Icon of the Pantanassa will begin at 6:30 PM. If you would like to submit names to be prayed for, most especially those who are suffering from cancer, please do so by visiting the special page on our website dedicated to this service, or by calling the parish office.

Baptismal Divine Liturgy

On Sunday, October 9th, we will be celebrating the Baptism of Tikhon Hillaker. In lieu of the hours, we will begin the service at 9:40 AM with the Churching, Catechumen, and Exorcism prayers. Please make sure to be there on time on that Sunday!

Fellowship of St. Photini Meeting

The Fellowship of St. Photini is our community outreach group at St. Mary Magdalene. There will be a meeting at 3:00pm on Saturday, October 15th for all who are interested in joining this ministry!

Fall outing to the Orchard

On Sunday, October 16th we will have our annual parish outing at Mueller's Orchard (6036 Lobdell RD Linden, MI 48451) at 1:00pm Meet at the picnic tables under the pavilion. Cider & doughnuts will be provided but bring a snack to share if you would like. Dress for the weather.

Soup to Go Sale

Some of the wonderful cooks of the parish will be having a special Soup Sale to support the Church on Sunday, October 16th after the Divine Liturgy. The available soups are Chicken Noodle, Butternut Squash, Spinach Orzo, White Bean Chicken with Leek, and Avgolemono! Be sure to bring your appetites to Church with you that Sunday!

Baptism of Leighton Anastasia Conover

On Saturday, October 22nd, beginning at 1:00 PM, we will celebrate the baptism of Leighton Conover, granddaughter of Charles and Minka Owens! Great Vespers will follow at the normal time of 5:00 PM

OCMP Special Collection

On Sunday, October 23rd we will hold a special collection for the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry. We have several members of our parish who participate in this outreach. We will pass the plate after Liturgy. Please plan on bringing cash or checks payable to St. Mary Magdalene with OCPM in the memo line.

Parish Trunk or Treat

This will take place on Sunday, October 30th following Church School. Father asks that you please change into your costume after Divine services & Church School and do not wear costumes to church. Parishioners are asked to bring candy to distribute. We encourage costumes of your patron saints or bible stories!

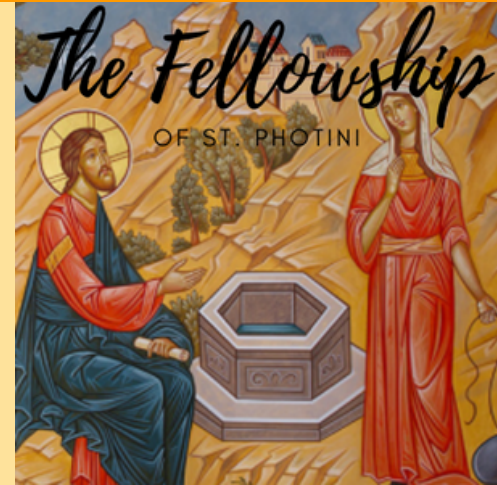
Choir Sectionals

This month there will be choir sectionals held on Saturdays beginning at 3:30 prior to Vespers. Sopranos (10-8), Alto (10-15), Tenor (10-22) & Bass (10-29). See Reader Gregory or Elena for more information.

Blanket Making Community Outreach

This month's community outreach is our annual blanket making for those in need. The blanket making kits will be available to sign-out on Sunday, October 2nd and are due back completed on Sunday October 23rd. Each kit comes with instructions on how to put the blankets together (THIS IS A GREAT FAMILY PROJECT!) Due to the sensitive nature of the population who will be receiving these blankets we ask that you make them in a pet free/ smoke free environment. The education center is available during the week and on Saturdays for you to make your blanket at the church. Contact the office to set up a time.

Fellowship of St. Photini



ANNUAL BLANKET MAKING

All blankets made will go to charity.

OCTOBER 2ND - OCTOBER 23RD

CHECK OUT A BLANKET KIT*

MAKE A BLANKET WITH YOUR FAMILY

RETURN YOU BLANKET

*PLEASE MAKE YOU BLANKET IN A PET FREE & SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT. IF YOU NEED A PLACE TO MAKE A BLANKET THE EDUCATION CENTER IS AVAILABLE. CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO SCHEDULE A TIME.

For more information please reach out the Helen LoCascio or Vivian Capatina.

BUILDING THE LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WOODS

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS ON THE FOUR PILLARS OF CHURCH GROWTH

What is Happening in the Pillar of Worship?

We have certainly been blessed these past few months to have such a wonderful plethora of Feast Day Celebrations! I was pleasantly surprised and uplifted at the attendance for the services of the Nativity of the Theotokos! These opportunities show us just how high on the totem pole of life our faith is. If you have not been attending services outside of Sunday Morning, it's time to re-check your priorities in life!

With the summer months coming to a close, we have seen an increase in Sunday attendance these past few weeks, which have included several inquirers and visitors. Although we do have a wonderful greeters ministry in the parish, it is the responsibility of all of us to make sure that inquirers and visitors are welcome and comfortable (as best as we can in our temporary worship space). If you see someone you don't recognize, don't be afraid to go up, introduce yourself, and introduce them to other people!

What is Happening in the Pillar of Community?

We were blessed to welcome several new catechumens into the life of the parish in Nicholas, Sarah, and Dmitry. We also welcomed the newest warrior for Christ, Tatum Alexander Jannakos, to our ranks as he received baptism, Chrismation, and the Holy Eucharist at the beginning of September!

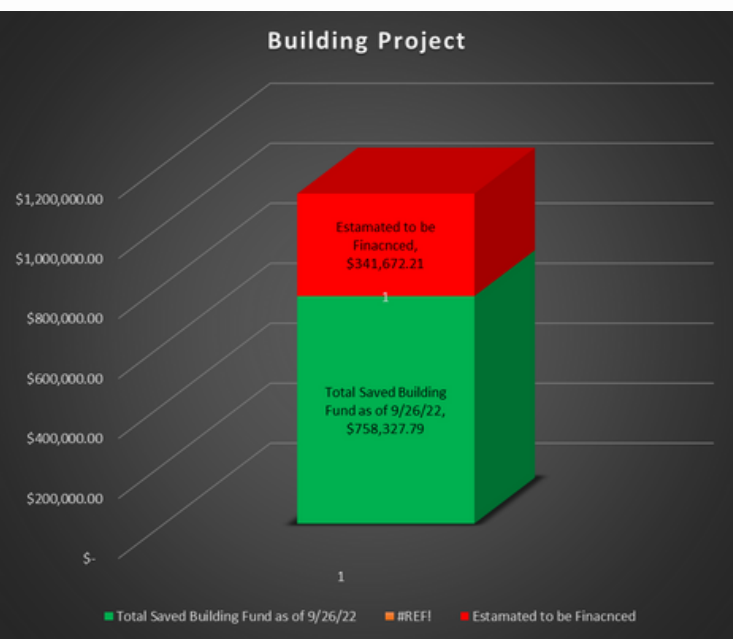
As we are in the midst of our building project, we have had to limit some of the community events that we typically hold annually. One of the events that we were able to go forward with was the 6th annual Molebin to St. Mammias and Pet Blessing at the Fenton Adopt a Pet! This event was co-sponsored by Uncle Ray's Dairyland, who provided special treats for all of the animals and owners who were in attendance. This event has had strong participation every year it has occurred, and continues to be a wonderful witness of our faith in the community.

What is Happening in the Pillar of Education?

This past month, our Metanoia classes had begun, and have had great attendance thus far. This class serves multiple purposes. It is first and foremost a class for those new to the Ancient Christian Orthodox Faith, so that they may learn what the earliest Christians taught and lived. It is also a wonderful class for those wishing to deepen their understanding of their own faith. Even if you have taken the class before, consider taking it again with us!

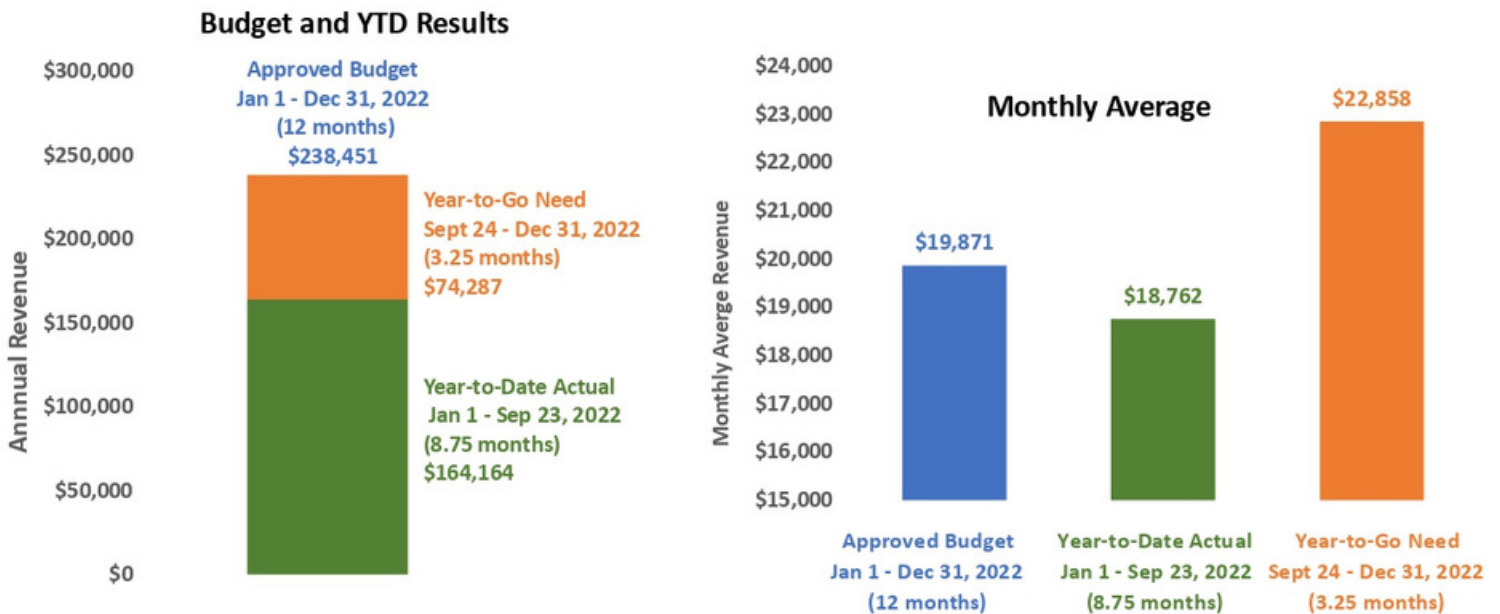
What is Happening in the Pillar of Stewardship?

While there has been a general push for donations to be made towards the building fund, we all need to be conscious of the regular Church's general expenses as well! We have been so extremely blessed since the very first days of the Church to be a tithing parish...and it is our Christian duty to return a portion of those wonderful blessings our Lord has given to us back to Him, so that His work can continue through the Church! If you have not filled out a pledge form for 2022, or would like to learn more about tithing, please do not hesitate to reach out to Fr. Gabriel



Total Collected 8/29 -9/26
\$4,922.52

2022 Budget Update As of September 23, 2022



September 23, 2022

Dear Parish,

We love our church as a place of Orthodox worship, education, service, and fellowship. We are a tithing church, and through Christ, we have been financially sound. We were able to pay off the mortgage from the original construction early, and save enough money to begin the current expansion. A wonderful feature of our parish culture is that we automatically give, without any prompting from our priest.

For this tradition to continue, the parish council is now requesting your help. On Sunday December 5, 2021, we voted to approve an annual budget of \$238,451 to operate the church in 2022. This does not count the Building Fund, which is a separate capital budget. To meet our 2022 operating budget, we should collect on average \$19,871 per month in tithes and donations. Through September 23, we have collected an average of \$18,762 per month, which leaves us \$9,707 short of where we should be at this time. To catch up, we need to collect \$22,858 per month on average for the remaining months.

We, your parish council, understand that these are somewhat uncertain times and so we would like to respectfully ask those of you that may currently have the means, to consider increasing your tithe or making a one time donation to help bridge the gap to the budget that we all approved as a parish last December. Together we can do this!

If you have any questions, please ask Treasurer Ann Schutt or Fr. Gabriel. Thank you for your support!

In Christ,

Parish Council
Joe, Chris, David, Tina, Sdn. Andrew, Rachel, Terri, Ann, Jay (alternate)



Prayer Service for the Sick and Suffering, Especially those suffering with Cancer.

We welcome anyone who is sick or has a loved one or friend who is sick and suffering with cancer or a chronic illness to join us for this once a month prayer service. We will be offering prayers for the healing of soul and body, for compassion and for comfort to those who are fighting illness.

Please join us in person or submit your names to be read during the healing service

Beginning in October 2022
The first Tuesday of the Month
6:30pm

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
2439 S. Long Lake Rd. Fenton, MI 48506
st-marymagdalene.org



Scan this code to submit
names for prayer or to
find more information.

PARISH LENDING LIBRARY



The parish lending has recently gone through a reorganization and added several new titles. The list of current titles are available digitally on our website. Use the sign-out sheet to check out a book. Make the most of your summer!

You can find reading on the following topics;
St. Mary Magdalene Pictorial History, Young Adult, Journals, Children's Books, Orthodox Theology, Spirituality, Multi Media, Family Life, Orthodox Living, About Prayer & Prayer Books, Sacraments, Advent, Great Lent & Pascha, Intro to Orthodoxy, Scriptural Study, Church History, Liturgical Theology, Service Books, Lives of the Saints. Patristics. Memoirs & Commemorations, and Ethics.



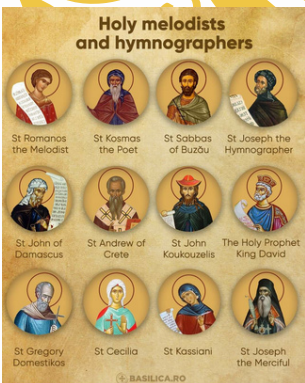
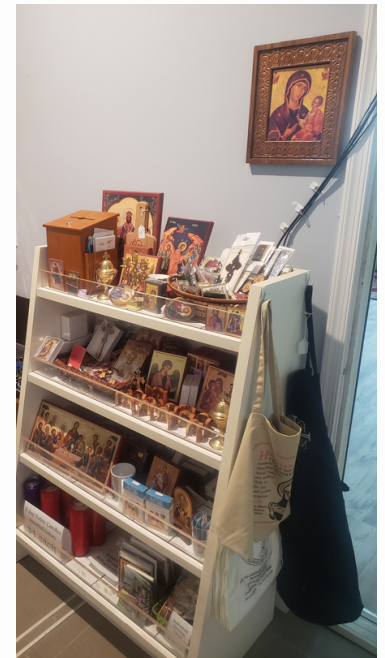
We are still here!!!!

P
A K
R I
I O
S S
H K

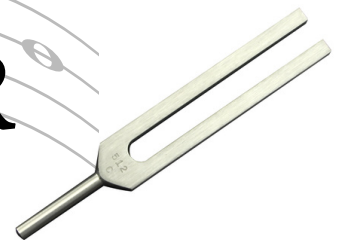
The Parish Kiosk was moved to the hallway in the temporary chapel. We still have a wide array of treasures available from books to home altar supplies to icons. Check it out!

If you are looking for something specific please reach out to the parish office and we can order it from our suppliers. Your order helps support the parish.

We Still have St. Mary Magdalene tumblers available for \$20 each!



PARISH CHOIR



Sectionals will be held through the month of October, check the calendar for your designated week. Starting in November we will have regular mandatory rehearsals EVERY Saturday at 3:00pm



St. Mary Magdalene Church School began with a Meet and Greet on Sunday September 25. It was so good to see all the children. We are once again blessed with teachers who happily work to educate our children in the faith.

I want to make you aware of a few changes this year. Many things are happening in the Education Center during the church expansion including Divine Liturgy and coffee hour. Adding Church School to the mix requires some adjustments. Children will still leave for class directly after Communion. We all need to encourage them to leave quietly as they come to class as church is not finished and we want to keep the noise to a minimum. Class times will be shortened to 15 minutes for the preschool class (or until liturgy is finished) and about 30 minutes for the other classes. We will not be handing out snacks this year so that teachers have the full amount of time for the lesson. The preschool through 1st grade class will be meeting in Father's office and parents can pick their children up there after liturgy. The lower elementary class will meet in the middle classroom and the upper elementary class will meet in the library.

Class will meet on Sunday from October 2 through Sunday November 20. The lessons in October will be based on the Epistles to the Romans and First Corinthians. Second Corinthians, Galatians and Ephesians will be the sources used in November. Trunk or Treat will follow church school on October 30. As always, it will be a busy time in the parish.

Please feel free to reach out to me with questions, concerns and ideas.

Yours in Christ,

Terri Oginsky
Church School Coordinator
989-906-0135
toginsky@gmail.com

ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH

ANNUAL PARISH OUTING TO THE ORCHARD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16TH

Mueller's Orchard

6036 LOBDELL RD
LINDEN, MI 48451

1:00PM

MEET AT THE PICNIC TABLES
UNDER THE PAVILION

CIDER & DOUGHNUTS WILL BE
PROVIDED

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE IF
YOU WOULD LIKE

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

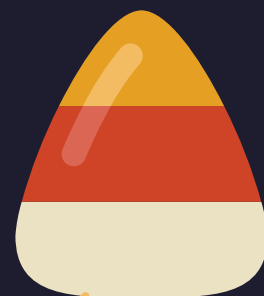
*Sponsored by
the Church School*





TRUNK OR TREAT

CHURCH SCHOOL EVENT



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30TH

ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH
2439 S. LONG LAKE RD - FENTON, MI

FOLLOWING CHURCH SCHOOL
PLEASE CHANGE INTO YOUR COSTUME AFTER DIVINE SERVICES & CHURCH SCHOOL
PARISHIONERS PLEASE BRING CANDY TO DISTRIBUTE
WE ENCOURAGE COSTUMES OF YOUR PATRON SAINTS OR BIBLE STORIES!



SMMOY

ST. MARY MAGDALENE
ORTHODOX YOUTH

As summertime is busy for all, we will be moving our Saturday gatherings to weeknights for the remainder of the summer.

UPCOMING GATHERING

TBD, AS SETH AND MIA TRANSITION TO PARENTHOOD

COLLEGE CORNER

PRAYERS FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Oliver Senter

Katerina Jonescu

Katheryn Brcic

Alexandra Kekel

Abigail Arnes

Tea Jonascu

Ethan Durand

Justin Auxier

Ava Arnes

Francis Lazar Senter





"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.

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

Wednesday, September 7th:	Introductory Class for Seekers and Catechumens
Wednesday, September 14th:	Intro. to the Holy Mysteries of Baptism & Chrismation
Wednesday, September 21st:	The Early Church's Understanding of the Eucharist
Wednesday, September 28th:	Repentance and the Mystery of Confession
Wednesday, October 5th:	The Church and the Mystery of Holy Orders & Priesthood
Wednesday, October 12th:	Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? Holy Unction
Wednesday, October 19th:	The Eternality of Marriage
Wednesday, October 26th:	Death and the Funeral Service

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church

YOUNG ADULT GROUP



THERE WILL BE YOUNG ADULT SOCIAL TIME EVERY SATURDAY FOLLOWING GREAT VESPERS, BEGINNING WITH THE THE PRE-COMMUNION PRAYERS.

KEEP AN EYE ON THE BAND APP FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO THE BAND APP PLEASE REACH OUT TO SUBDEACON JOHN AUXIER.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

FELLOWSHIP MEETING OCTOBER 15TH AT 3:00PM. THIS IS FOR ANYONE WHO HAS SIGNED UP FOR THIS MINISTRY OR WHO WOULD LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS MINISTRY.

THIS MONTH WE WILL HOLD OUR ANNUAL BLANKET MAKING PROJECT. BLANKET KITS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON OCTOBER 2ND AND WILL BE DUE BACK ON OCTOBER 23RD

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEMINARIAN ANGEL TREE: NOVEMBER 13- DECEMBER 4TH

NEW TOY DRIVE: DECEMBER 11TH

CAROLING AT THE NURSING HOME: DECEMBER 25TH

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



ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH

Annual Soup Sale

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16TH
IN PERSON**

**2439 S. LONG LAKE RD.
FENTON, MI 48430**

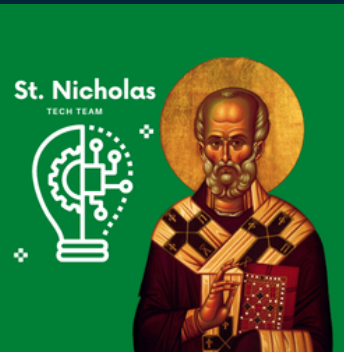
**PROCEEDS TOWARD PURCHASEING OF NEW
ALTAR SERVER LANTERNS**



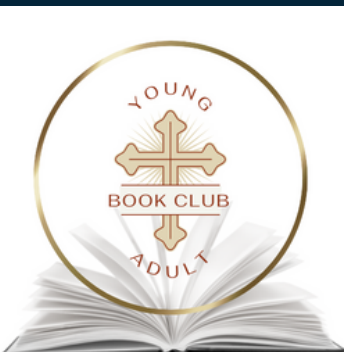
**Soups Available:
Chicken Noodle
Spinach Orzo
Butternut Squash
Cheesy Broccoli
White Bean Chicken Chili
Avgolemono (Lemon Chicken)**

Quarts \$10

PARISH MINISTRIES & GROUPS



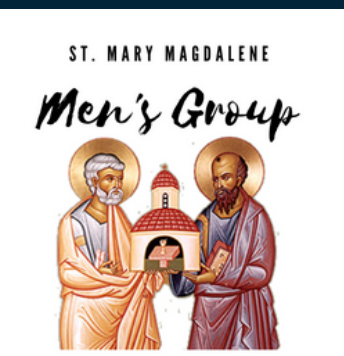
THE ST. NICHOLAS TECH TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROMOTING, UPDATING, AND ENHANCING THE ONLINE PRESENCE OF OUR PARISH. ENCOMPASSING THE WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS, AND LIVE-STREAMING SO THAT WE CAN SPREAD ORTHODOXY THROUGH MODERN COMMUNICATION CHANNELS.



THE YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB MEETS EVERY THURSDAY TO DISCUSS VARIOUS BOOKS AND TOPICS RELATING TO THE ORTHODOX SPIRITUAL LIFE. THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE GROUP RANGE FROM 18-45 YEARS OLD, BUT ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!



THE ORTHODOX MOM'S GROUP IS MADE UP OF MOTHERS WHO GET TOGETHER TO DISCUSS HOW BEST TO HELP RAISE THEIR CHILDREN WITHIN THE TRADITIONS OF THE ORTHODOXY FAITH.



THE MEN OF THE PARISH GET TOGETHER A FEW TIMES A YEAR AT VARIOUS PLACES TO ENJOY IN FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER. FOR MORE INFORMATION, DO NOT HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO THE PARISH OFFICE.



St. Mary Magdalene

Parish Council

Upcoming Meetings:

October 11th, 7:00pm

November 8th, 7:00pm

December 4th ANNUAL MEETING

December 13th, 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

There are no more agape meals scheduled for this year.

We will set a schedule for next year based on the progress of construction.

Then next fellowship activity will take place on Sunday, October 16th with the outing to the Orchard.

save the date

NOVEMBER

1ST- AKATHIST FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

13TH- VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION

13TH- ANGEL TREE KICK-OFF

20TH- END OF THIS SEMESTER OF CHURCH SCHOOL

23RD-THANKSGIVING MOLEBIN

DECEMBER

4TH- ANNUAL MEETING

4TH- ANGEL TREE GIFT CARDS DUE

6TH- AKATHIST FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

11TH- ST. NICHOLAS VISIT

11TH- CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENTS BRING A NEW TOY FOR THE FOSTER CLOSET

24TH- ROYAL HOURS & VIGIL

25TH- CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT THE NURSING HOME FOLLOWING LITURGY

PAN-ORTHODOX GOINGS ON

The Pan-Orthodox Churches of Genesee County

Holy Assumption Greek
Orthodox Church

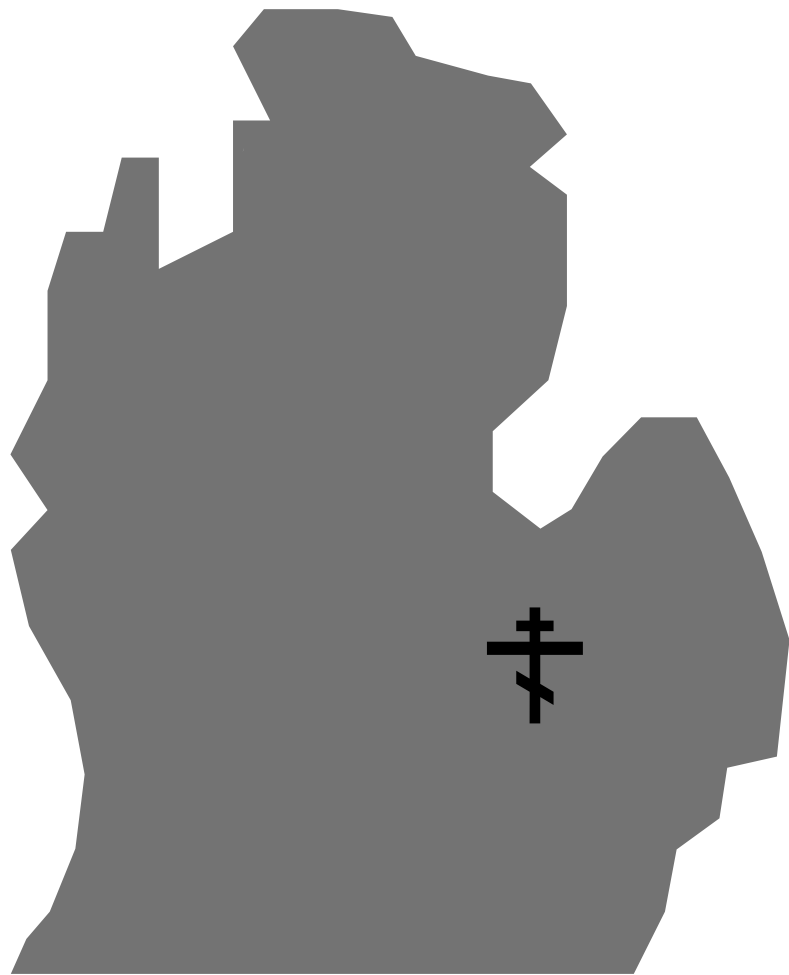
(2245 E. Baldwin Rd Grand Blanc, MI)

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)





SPIRITUALITY



NEON PARTY



GRAND BANQUET



**D
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T**

Motor City

ORTHODOX CONFERENCE

KEYNOTE: Steve Christoforou

NOVEMBER 4-6, 2022

A Pan Orthodox Young Adult (21-40) conference focused on fellowship, fun, Servant Leadership, spirituality, community, and much more!



REGISTER & LEARN MORE:
MOTORCITYORTHODOX.ORG

WE'RE BACK!! SAVE THE DATE!

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

FALL SALAD LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Enjoy an assortment of individual,
delectable salads. Includes a cheese
triangle & beverage.

\$10 PER PERSON

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2245 E. BALDWIN ROAD

GRAND BLANC, MI 48439

810-771-4611

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF MICHIGAN
(OCW) PRESENTS

"Big T" vs. "little t"
Traditions

FR. RADE OBSENICA

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022
7:00 P.M.**

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
760 West Wattles Road
Troy, Michigan 48098

Any questions?
Contact Gia Cherpes-See at gcsee1@gmail.com

ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH

LET'S GET CONNECTED!

Follow us!



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youtube.com/c/SaintMaryMagdalene

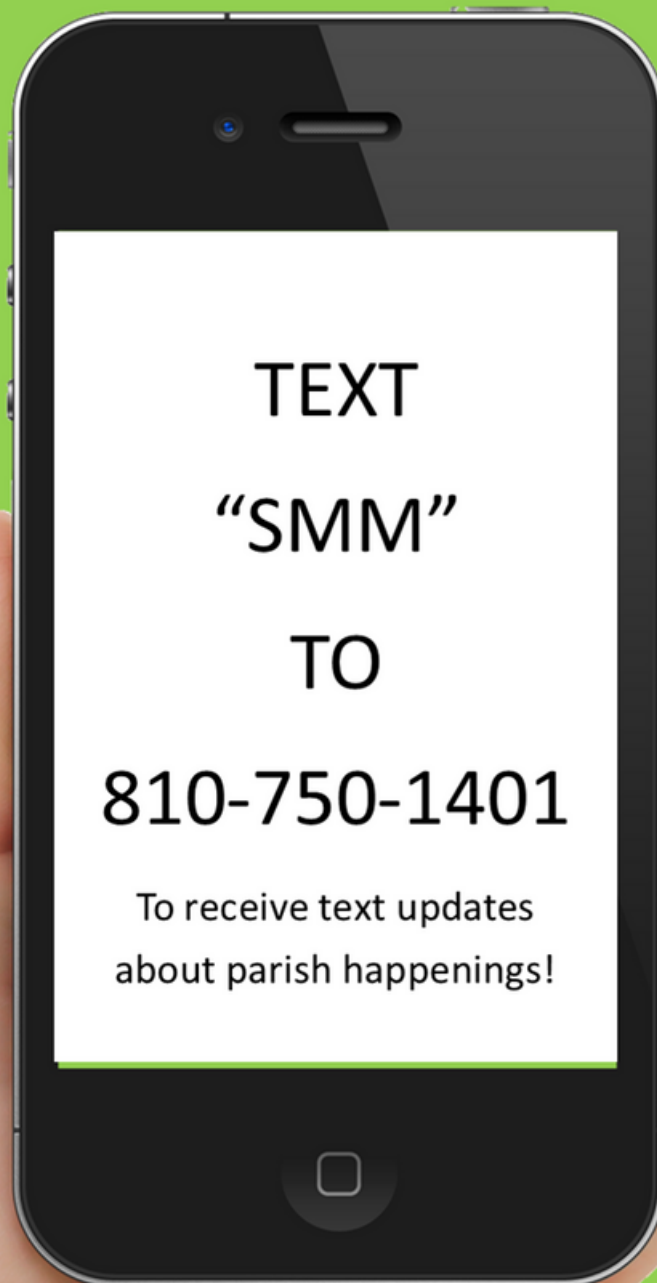
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Stay up-to-date with St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church



St. MARY
MAGDALENE
ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH



TEXT

"SMM"

TO

810-750-1401

To receive text updates
about parish happenings!



St. MARY
MAGDALENE
ORTHODOX CHURCH

Call: 248-318-7342

Donation of

\$500.00

REFERRAL PROGRAM

To benefit the Building Expansion Project

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 sold home!

Conne Terova
Real Estate One

Cell: 248-318-7342
cterova@gmail.com
teamterova.com

