



WELCOME TO THE GOD-LOVING & GOD-PROTECTED PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL'S!

*a parish of the UOC-USA and the Ecumenical Patriarchate*

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FR. BORISLAV KRONER

### January 24, 2016

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

After Christ was baptized, the first words that He said were: 'Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand'. Why? Because after we have been baptized, we are always tempted and the only way to end temptation is to repent.

The effects of temptation and sin are evident in the world we live in today. Look at what has happened in our beloved Ukraine. Why was there a maidan revolution during the time of theophany just a few short years ago? It was because the very individuals who have been put in positions of power by the people of Ukraine turned against the people. They sold Ukraine for power, money and a place at the feet of a foreign dictator who continues even to this day to undermine hard fought freedom that has been paid for with blood, sweat, tears and millions of Ukrainian lives.

Once again sin and corruption has put in peril not just freedom but the very lives of pious, brave and God loving people. This is all a result of temptation and lack of humility. It is a result of refusal to come to Christ. A refusal to come to repentance and realize that temporal wealth and power do not serve or bring salvation to our immortal soul.

Today Christ calls us all to repentance and realization of the fact that we do NOT have an indefinite amount of time. We are only here for a short while. In no way form or shape can we take our possessions with us after we leave this world.

Christ taught us to pray and he told us that what we shall ask of Him – shall be granted us. And so, on this day we pray for the light of Christ to shine down upon all of us and especially our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and the suffering Christians in the middle East. We pray for their safety, peace, independence prosperity and victory! Finally we pray even for our enemies. That they realize their error, and realize what they are doing to their own brothers and sisters and come to sincere and wholehearted confession of their sins and REPENT - FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND!

### PARISH NEWS

The Semi-Annual Parish meeting will be Sunday, January 31st after liturgy. Please plan to attend!

The Senior UOL will also be sponsoring a 'Drink and Dabble' paint party on Friday February 12. It will be held in our hall and will include 2 adult beverages and refreshments. Participants will take home a masterpiece! Please come and invite your family and friends. Also \$40 per person.



### SERVICE SCHEDULE

**Sunday, January 24th**

*Tone 1*

9AM Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, January 27th**

6PM Litia for those who have fallen asleep

**Saturday, January 30th**

5PM Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 31th**

*Tone 2*

9AM Divine Liturgy

12PM Semi-Annual Parish Meeting

**Wednesday, February 3rd**

6PM Litia for those who have fallen asleep

**Saturday, February 6th**

5PM Great Vespers

**Sunday, February 7th**

*Tone 3*

8:15AM Service of Repentance

9AM Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, February 10th**

6PM Litia for those who have fallen asleep

**Friday, February 12th**

6:30PM Drink and Dabble Fundraiser

**Saturday, February 13th**

5PM Great Vespers

**Sunday, February 14th**

*Tone 4*

9AM Divine Liturgy

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*While only Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through fasting and prayer may come to communion today, God calls all to Communion with Him through Holy Orthodoxy. If you would like to become Orthodox, see me!*

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