

WELCOME TO THE GOD-LOVING 8. GOD-PROTECTED PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL'S!

A parish of the UOC-USA and the Ecumenical Patriarchate
74 Harris Ave. Woonsocket, RI 02895 | 401.762.3939 |
www.StMichaelUOC.org | Fr. Borislav Kroner

"Each one shall give what he has decided in his own mind, not Grudgingly or because he is made to - for God loves a cheerful giver." - II Cor. 9:7

December 18, 2022

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec. 18 – 27th Sunday after Pentecost / St. Sabbas the

Sanctified – FAST WITH FISH, WINE & OIL

Tone 2 / Epistle: Eph. 6:10-17; Gospel: Lk. 17:12-19

9:00AM Divine Liturgy – Live video broadcast on our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelUOC/

WEEKDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Philip's Fast-Advent

Mon., Dec. 19: St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, archbishop of Myra

in Lycia -- FAST

Epistle: Heb. 13:17-21; Gospel: Lk. 6:17-23

Tues, Dec. 20: St. Ambrose, bishop of Milan – FAST WITH WINE &

OIL

Epistle: 2 Tim. 3:16-4:4; Gospel: Lk. 21:12-19

Wed., Dec. 21: Ven. Patapius of Thebes -- FAST

Epistle: 2 Tim. 4:9-22; Gospel: Lk. 21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24

Thur, Dec. 22: The Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy

Theotokos – FAST WITH WINE & OIL

Epistle: Gal. 4:22-31; Gospel: Lk. 8:16-21

Fri., Dec. 23: Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugraphus – FAST

Epistle: Titus 1:15-2:10; Gospel: Lk. 21:37 - 22:8

Sat., Dec. 24: Ven. Daniel the Stylite of Constantinopole – FAST

WITH FISH, WINE & OIL

Epistle: Eph. 1:16-23; Gospel: Lk. 13:18-29

10:00AM Moleben

<u>Sunday, Dec. 25 – 28th Sunday after Pentecost / Sunday of the Holy Forefathers / St.Spyridon the Wonderworker of Tremithon – FAST WITH FISH, WINE & OIL</u>

Tone 3 / Epistle: Col. 3:4-11; Gospel: Lk. 14:16-24

9:00AM Divine Liturgy – Live video broadcast on our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelUOC/

Remember: even when you are absent, expenses continue

PARISH NEWS

- -<u>WE EXTEND BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:</u> Cindy Kuczer (Dec. 18), may God grant you, Many, Happy Years! Многая літа!
- **--PLEASE REMEMBER** when entering the Church Hall, after the Divine Liturgy, please only use the Main Entrance. The side hall is being used by the Sunday school classes and is shut so as to keep the area quite for their lessons. Thank You for your consideration.
- --OPERATION CAUSE FOR WARM PAWS: This year a local Motorcycle Club is doing something for the holidays and for the animals in our local shelters. As "Operation Cause for Warm Paws", we are asking for blankets, towels, wet/dry food, and toys. Please help us help them. All donations can be left with Fr Boris who can be reached at 617 792 5434 (A box will be set-up in the parish hall, under the bulletin board.)
- -- CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK 2022: We want to thank everyone who helped make this year's Cookie Walk a success. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
- **--REMEMBER**, when using the church hall to turn off all electrical and gas appliances and the lights, before leaving, as well as make sure the doors are locked. Thank You!

If you have been to church and have later tested positive for COVID-19 you MUST:

- 1-Inform Father Boris OR a parish officer as soon as possible
- 2- Tell them the date you were last in church
- 3- Tell them date of your positive test

This information is VERY important for the health and safety of our (YOUR) parish family! Parishioners who attended at the same time as an infected person need to know in order to be tested and stay healthy, or be treated.

Please remember to keep an eye on your emails before coming to Church for any changes in guidance due to the pandemic. **Thank you!**

UPCOMING PARISH & INTER-PARISH EVENTS

**Sunday, December 18th - St. Nicholas celebration for our children.

UOL CORNER

- **--UOL'S MISSION STATEMENT:** "The Ukrainian Orthodox League is a national volunteer organization of members in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, who are committed to promoting the Orthodox Faith, supporting the Church, developing the potential of our youth and their active participation in the life of the Church, and preserving Ukrainian heritage and culture."
- -- **UOL MOTTO:** "Dedicated to our Church, Devoted to Its Youth"
- **--MEMBERSHIP IN THE UOL:** Anyone wishing to join us in our ministries, please contact Erika Namaka or Janice Meschisen.
- **--WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK** all those who helped make our 2022 Adopt-A-Family Christmas Gift program a success. Thank You & God bless!
- **--WISHING OUR PARISH FAMILY** a truly blessed, peaceful and safe Nativity Season!
- --Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023 UOL Meeting, after Liturgy
- --Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023 -- Theophany Dinner, more info to follow.

THE NATIVITY FAST

During the Nativity Fast the Church encourages us to intensify our spiritual lives in order to ready our souls and bodies for the Feast. We do this through fasting, prayer, alms-giving, confession and increased attention given to "preparing for His coming", to make sure we've done what we can to make a "fit dwelling place for Him" in our hearts and lives.

"increase your prayer life, read more scripture and spiritual books, especially lives of the saints. A little less television, no anger, no gossiping, no laziness and let's try to avoid the Christmas parties. If we prepare in this way, God will bless us and we will find the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord to be far more spiritually rewarding than ever before. May God help us to struggle courageously." Bishop Joseph

The Purpose of Fasting

The purpose of fasting is to focus on the things that are above, the Kingdom of God. It is a means of putting on virtue in reality, here and now. Through it we are freed from dependence on worldly things. We fast faithfully and in secret, not judging others, and not holding ourselves up as an example.

- Fasting in itself is not a means of pleasing God. Fasting is not a punishment for our sins. Nor is fasting a means of suffering and pain to be undertaken as some kind of atonement. Christ already redeemed us on His Cross. Salvation is a gift from God that is not bought by our hunger or thirst.
- We fast to be delivered from carnal passions so that God's gift of Salvation may bear fruit in us.
- We fast and turn our eyes toward God in His Holy Church. Fasting and prayer go together.
- Fasting is not irrelevant. Fasting is not obsolete, and it is not something for someone else. Fasting is from God, for us, right here and right now.
- Most of all, we should not devour each other. We ask God to "set a watch and keep the door of our lips."

Fasting Periods

The Nativity Fast is one of the four Canonical Fasting Seasons in the Church year. This is a joyous fast in anticipation of the Nativity of Christ. That is the reason it is less strict than other fasting periods. The fast is divided into two periods.

- 1. **November 28th through January 1st** the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Similarly, fish, wine, and oil are permitted on Saturdays and Sundays.
- 2. **January 2nd through January 6th** traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil only on Saturday and Sunday during this period.

Please note that this is the letter of the tradition and certain allowances should be made for the occasional suspension of the severity of the fast, not as an excuse for laxity or indulgence, but when love requires. When in doubt, talk to your priest!

When Not to Fast

- between January 7 and January 18th (even on Wednesdays and Fridays);
- if you are pregnant or nursing a newborn;
- during serious illness;
- without prayer;
- without alms-giving;
- according to your own will without guidance from your spiritual father.



St. Michael UOC Supports Misto Dobra!

(update- we have raised \$550 toward of our \$2,500 goal.

Please help to spread the word! There are less than 20 days

left in our campaign. Please help us reach our goal of

\$2,5000.)

Dear Parishioners and friends. So begins the season of giving!

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As you know, our parish has been raising funds to help the people of Ukraine since Russia's invasion began in February 2022.

During the holiday season we are especially thinking about the children of Ukraine and have identified a specific charity to support.

Misto Dobra (City of Goodness) is an organization in Ukraine that helps mothers, children and the elderly, offering them shelter, food and medical care. Now with an ongoing war in Ukraine their situation is more desperate and support is needed more than ever.

Starting today (Thanksgiving) through Nativity, all contributions directed to our parish's Ukrainian Aid Fund will support Misto Dobra.

We will be sending Misto Dobra \$2,500 from the funds that we have already collected for humanitarian aid and have started a online fundraising campaign on PayPal, with a goal to raise enough funds to double this donation (at least!) before the end of our holiday season.

Please watch our Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelUOC) and Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/stmichaeluoc/) accounts and forward the information that will be posted there to your family/friends/followers.

Or you can share this link to the PayPal Campaign page. https://www.paypal.com/donate?campaign_id=VH9HR8RC9NZN6

If you have any questions about this fundraiser please speak to Lesia or Erika. Thank you!



OPERATION CAUSE FOR WARM PAWS

BLANKET
DRIVE FOR
ANIMAL
SHELTERS
IN NEED

ALSO
COLLECTING:
TOWELS
TOYS
WET/DRY
FOOD









JOIN US AT A MONTHLY LIVE STREAMED CELEBRATION OF AN AKAPHIST TO

ПРИЄДНУЙТЕСЯ ДО ЩОМІСЯЧНОЇ ПРЯМОЇ ТРАНСЛЯЦІЇ СЛУЖІННЯ АКАФІСТА

ТНЕ МОТНЕК ОБ БОД - QUEEN ОБ ALL КОГОРОДИЦІ ВСЕЦАРИЦЯ

BESEECHING HER INTERCESSION FOR THE HEALING OF ALL THOSE SUFFERING FROM CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES MONTH II SACTYPHULTBA AND SUINEHHE BIA PAKY TA IHWIX XBOPOE

First Thursday of each month -- beginning on 3 November 2022 at 7:00pm

Перший четвер кожного місяця— починаючи з 3 листопада 2022 року о 19:00 год

Please submit the names of those you wish to pray for to: uocofusa@aol.com with the subject - PRAYERS

Будь ласка, надішліть імена тих, за кого ви бажаєте молитися: uocofusa@aol.com з темою – МОЛИТВИ

Future dates: 1 Dec, 5 Jan, 2023: 2 Feb, 2 Mar, 6 April, 4 May, 1 June, 6 July, 3 Aug...

Майбутні дати: 1 грудня, 5 січня, 2 лютого, 2 березня, 6 квітня, 4 травня, 1 червня, 6 липня, 3 серпня...









