

# Newsletter August 2020

Christ is in our midst!

## St. Michael the Archangel Serbian Orthodox Parish

Saturday Vespers 6:00 PM Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Website: [www.stmichaelsv.org](http://www.stmichaelsv.org)



### See [St. Michaels Website](http://www.stmichaelsv.org) for Calendar

**Sunday, August 2** – Holy Prophet Elias

†8:45 am Orthos

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

*After Coffee Hour*—Baptism of Constantine Baker

**Tuesday, August 4**—Church Board mtg. 6:00 pm

**Wednesday, August 5** – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

**Saturday, August 8** – Vespers

†6:00 pm Vespers

**Sunday, August 9** – Hieromartyr Panteleimon

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, August 12** – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

**Friday, August 14**—**Beginning of Dormition Fast**

**Saturday, August 15** – Vespers

†6:00 pm Vespers

**Sunday, August 16** – Sts. Isaac, Dalmatus & Faustus

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Tuesday, August 18** – Vespers for Transfiguration

†6:00 pm Vespers

**Wednesday, August 19**—**Transfiguration of the Lord**

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy *Fish, Wine & Oil allowed!*

**Saturday, August 22** – Vespers

†6:00 pm Vespers

**Sunday, August 23** – **Martyrs Lawrence & Pope Sixtus**

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, August 26** – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

**Thursday, August 27** – Vespers for Dormition

†6:00 pm Vespers

**Friday, August 28** – **Dormition of the Theotokos**

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy *Fish, Wine & Oil allowed!*

**Saturday, August 29** – Vespers

†6:00 pm Vespers *End of Dormition FAST!*

**Sunday, August 30** – **Holy Martyr Myron**

†8:45am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

### Coffee Hour: (\*Fast Day)

Aug 2 – Phillips

Sept 6 – Zarzaur

Aug 9 – Platt

Sept 13 – Ainsworth

\*Aug 16 – Sievers

Sept 20 – Baker

\*Aug 23 – Traylor

Sept 27 – Bergantz

Aug 30 – Veres/Freude

### Birthdays:

2nd – Aleksandra Barth

17th—Leonard & Amy Adams

2nd – Shannon McBride

8th – Ryan Traylor

10th – Mark Novak

11th – Uliana Sievers

14th – David Hogan

16th – Kathy Couch

18th – Patrease Traylor

19th – Benjamin Litter

29th – Tatiana Shadrina

### Anniversaries

Save the Date: Baptism of Constantine Leon Baker on

Sunday, August 2. Baptism of Lidia Veres on Sunday, September 13.

News: The owner of the Church School Building, Winfred, has sold 4317 Spartacus and **we will have to move out in about a month.** This will change our ability to have a Church school program in the future.

## **The News at St. Michael's – August 2020**

**Feasts & Fasts:** On July 1<sup>st</sup>, we honored our Father among the saints, **St. John Maximovitch** with a Vespers service. Then, on Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the **Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul** on which concluded this year's **Apostle's Fast**.

**Bishop Longin's Visit:** St. Michael's was blessed with a visit from our Bishop Longin on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. Accompanied by Subdeacon Stefan, Bishop Longin served an Hierarchical Liturgy. Prior to beginning the Liturgy, Bishop Longin ordained **Joe Bergantz** and **Hal Pastrick** as Subdeacons and tonsured **Leonard Adams**, **Benjamin Litter** and **Eric Morgan** as Readers.

**New Property:** In April, the utility lines were delayed and will now be installed in mid-August due to a minor change that had to be made in order to complete the sewer line installation. This had to be approved by the City of Madison and Madison Utilities. Due to the current construction boom, getting this approval was quite challenging! However, we finally got the approval we needed on July 20<sup>th</sup>! In the meantime, we're working with our General Contractor to schedule the remaining work on Phase 2 (driveway & parking lot grading/paving and stormwater system). We are on track to finish Phase 2 by October, 2020.

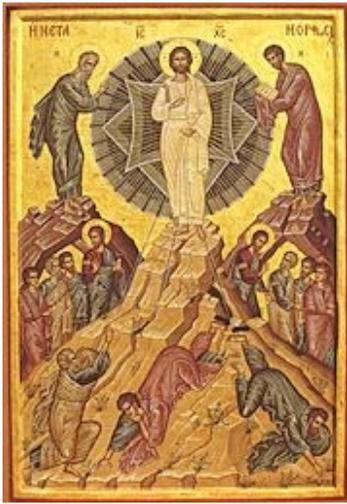
**Sunday School:** The owner of the building next door at 4317 Spartacus has accepted an offer to sell his building. It is not yet clear what the new owner will do with the building, but this probably means that we will no longer be able to use that space for our Sunday School program. In the meantime, we will explore other options. Stay tuned for more developments.

### **LOOKING AHEAD...**

**Upcoming Feasts & Fasts:** The **Dormition Fast** will begin on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. We will celebrate the **Feast of the Transfiguration** with a Vespers service on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm and on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> with Matins at 8:45am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00am. On Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be a 6 pm Vespers and on Friday, August 28, we will celebrate the **Feast of the Dormition** with Matins at 8:45am and Divine Liturgy at 10am.

**Catechumen & Inquirers Class:** Classes are being held on Saturday afternoons at 4pm.

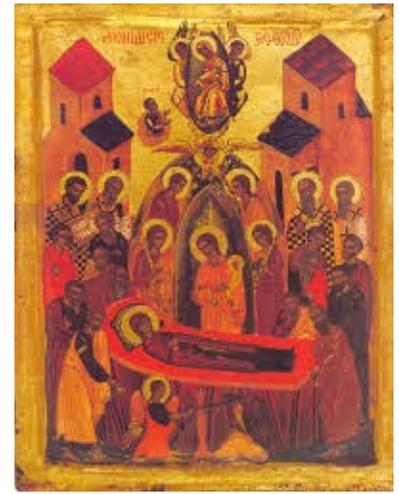
**St. Michael Moleben & Akathist Services:** These services will continue on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm with the exception of Wed., August 19<sup>th</sup> due to the Feast of the Transfiguration. Our purpose is to ask the divine intercession of our Patron: St. Michael the Archangel, as we develop our new property.



## Finishing Our Course

*Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.*

(I Corinthians 9:24-25)



Anyone who has ever run a race (or watched one) knows that the ending is very important, for in order to complete the race, we must cross the finish line. Each year on September 1/14, we begin our spiritual race: the Church's Liturgical Year. A whole spiritual cycle starts which we follow from beginning to end. During the month of August the Church celebrates the last two Great Feasts of the Church Year: The Transfiguration of the Lord and the Dormition of the Theotokos.

Just as the goal of our lives is to work out our salvation with God's help, we also hope to draw as close to God as possible in this life. The Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6/19) is for us an image of the Divine Uncreated Light shining through the humanity of the Incarnate God upon Mt. Tabor. Just as our Lord said "These things I do, so shall ye do..." many saints and righteous ones have experienced this Uncreated Light.

St. Seraphim of Sarov is one of the most well-known in this regard. When his disciple Motovilov asked St. Seraphim how he could know whether he was truly in the Grace of the Holy Spirit, St. Seraphim prayed, placed his hands on Motovilov's shoulders and told him to look at him. Motovilov beheld a strange sight: "St. Seraphim had become brighter than the sun! He could not bear to look at him. Then St. Seraphim said to him, 'How do you feel now?' And Motovilov answered, 'Extraordinarily well...I feel such calmness and peace in my soul that no words can express it.'" Although we may not have quite the same experience that St. Seraphim and Motovilov had, we can receive inspiration from the Lives of the Saints and the Divine Services of the Church.

St. John Maximovitch once said that the Liturgical Year begins with the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos (September 8/21) and ends with the Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Theotokos (August 15/28). Not only are Orthodox Christians called upon to honor the Most Holy Mother of God on this occasion of her translation from this earthly life to the heavenly life; but there is a great mystery for us to contemplate.

The Mother of God receives the glory which belongs to God and is the first among human beings to participate in the final deification of the creature. "*God became man, that man might become God. (St. Athanasius the Great)...*The glory of the age to come, the last end of man, is already realized, not only in a Divine Hypostasis made flesh, but also in a *human* person made God." (from *The Meaning of Icons*) Our Lord promised us "*And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*" John 14:3

The Mother of God offers us a glimpse of her ineffable glory and the first-fruit of the Church's eschatological consummation that is the spiritual heritage which awaits all faithful Orthodox Christians when Christ returns in His Second Coming.

Fr. Gregory Schultz

# August, 25, 2020 Visit of Bishop Longin A Churching and Tonsuring of Sub-deacons & Acolytes

*Left:* Monica Baker is Churched with 5 week old Constantine; *Center Left:* H.E. Bishop Longin sits in Bishop's Throne with newly tonsured Subdeacons Hal Pastrick & Joe Bergantz. *Center Right:* Mary Zarzaur and Anna Jones holding Lazarus observe. *Lower Left:* Tonsuring of Reader/Acolytes. *Lower Right:* New Reader/Acolytes Eric Morgan, Benj Litter and Leonard Adams





*Above left:* Back row—Tish Berganz, daughter, Helen Bergantz (wife of subdeacon Joe) and Vivienne Pastrick, (wife of subdeacon Hal).  
*Above right:* Dr. Carla Thomas from St. Luke's Orthodox Church in Anniston came to visit.  
*Below:* Group picture of attendees for Liturgy and Tonsures.



## Prayer List:

**Living:** **Church Members & Orthodox Friends:** Please pray for God's help with building of the future Church and hall on our new property on Madison Blvd.; Kathy Couch, Vicki Kendall, Becky Brennan, Pat Darzi's speedy recovery from surgery. **Friends of Members:** Anne Kobasa (mother of Helen Bergantz), Mahasin Tadros

**Reposed:** Carl Brennan, Fr. Michael Vanderhoef, Fr. Patrick Kinder, Bill McKenney, Eli Grba, Fr. Athanasius Shaw, Gennadiy Zhmaylo, Fr. Chris Williamson, Gregory Hughes, Ron Waskerwitz, Christopher Pamfilis, Alexa & Hayden Hannig, Nicolae Caracalean, Olga Gulas, Valentina, Vangie Pamfilis, Milan Petrovic, Boris and Mary Kochoff, Fryni McCreary, Nelia Friedman, Natalie Elliott.

**Confessions:** May be heard Saturdays after Vespers; Sunday 9:40—10 am before Divine Liturgy or contact Fr. Gregory to arrange a time. Please come early Sunday morning so we can begin Liturgy by 10:00 am.

## Committees/Chairpersons:

*Sub-deacons*—Bob Zarzaur, Joe Bergantz,

Hal Pastrick & Anthony Freude

*Choir Director*—Ray Kendall

*Ass't Choir Director*—Matushka Ann

*Readers/Acolytes*—Leonard Adams, Steve Cox, Matthew Hartley, David Hogan, Rick Kaiser, Ray Kendall, Benjamin Litter, Charles Malmede & Eric Morgan

*Sisterhood President*—Iryna Haddock

*Sisterhood Treasurer*—Michele Platt

*Sunday School Director*—Matushka Ann

*Sunday School Teachers*—Serena Harwell, Pavel Sievers

*Sunday School Teaching Assistants*—Stephanie Litter

*Bookstore*—Matushka Ann

*Library*—Eric Morgan

*Building Maintenance*—Sub-deacon Bob Zarzaur & Rick Kaiser

*Welcoming Committee Coordinator*—Charles Malmede

*Live-streaming & Website*—Charles Malmede

*Newsletter Bulletin*—Rick Kaiser

*Candle/Supplies*—Rick Kaiser

*Facebook/Instagram*—Stephanie Litter

## Church Council—2019 to 2020

Father Gregory Schultz—Parish Administrator

Sub-deacon Moses (Bob) Zarzaur—President

Michele Platt—Vice President

Matthew Hartley—Treasurer

Rick Kaiser—Secretary

**Members at Large**— Joe Bergantz, John

Duda, Benjamin Litter, Charles Malmede and

Hal Pastrick

Please note: the Church telephone number is: **256-881-2449**

Office hours at the Church are cancelled at this time.

Please contact Fr. Gregory concerning any pastoral needs.