

Newsletter November 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.stmichaelsHSV.org



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

Sunday, Nov. 1 – St. John of Kronstadt

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, Nov. 4 – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

Saturday, Nov. 7 – Concerts on the Farm @ Chase & Monica Baker's †3:00 pm—6:00 pm

NO VESPERS

Sunday, Nov. 8 – Great Martyr Demetrius

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, Nov. 11 – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

Saturday, Nov. 14 – †6:00 pm Vespers

Sunday, Nov. 15 – Synaxis of the unmercenary Healers

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, Nov. 18 – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

Saturday, Nov. 21 – †6:00 pm Vespers

Sunday, Nov. 22 – St. Michaels Patronal Feast

†8:45am Orthros;

†10:00 am Divine Liturgy

12:30pm Slava Celebration and POTLUCK & Annual Assembly after Liturgy at Edgewater Clubhouse, 111 Edgewater Dr., Madison

Thursday, Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving Day

†6:00 pm

Saturday, Nov. 28 – †6:00 pm Vespers

Beginning of the Nativity Fast

Sunday, Nov. 29 – Apostle Matthew

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

12:30 pm Baptism of Matthias Litter

Coffee Hour: (*Nativity Fast)

Nov 1 – Hogan/Schultz *Dec. 6 – Kendall

Nov 8 – Jones

*Dec. 13 – Litter

Nov 15 – Kaiser

*Dec. 20 – Malmede

Nov 22 – Potluck Feast

*Dec. 27 – Phillips

*Nov 29 – Kendall

Nov. Birthdays:

7th – Gregory Barth Jr.

8th – Luke Freude

8th – Anthony Freude

9th – Aron Veres

14th – John Jones

15th – Anya Sievers

27th – Tim Waskerwitz

27th – Richard Kaiser

27th – Jason Hamby

28th – Matthew Hartley

30th – Joy Elizabeth Ainsworth

Nov. Anniversaries

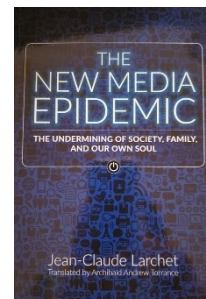
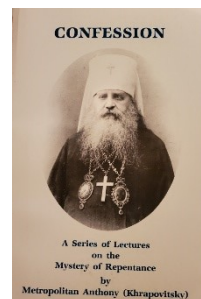
30th – Charles & Inna Teasley

Save the Date:

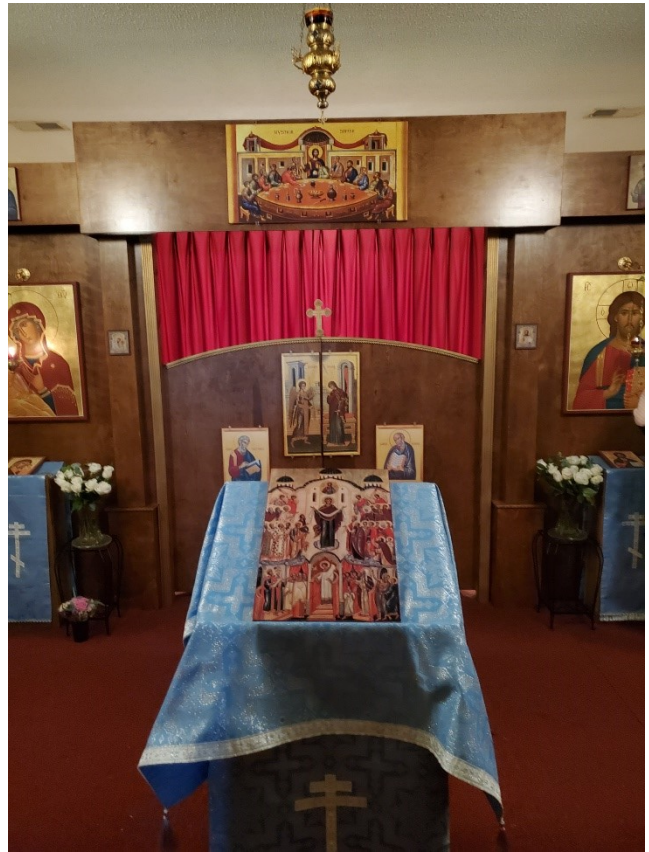
- Saturday, Nov. 7th, 3:00—6:00 pm, Concerts on the Farm @ Chase & Monica Baker's
- Sunday, Nov. 22nd, 12 Noon Slava Celebration and POTLUCK after Liturgy at Edgewater Clubhouse, 111 Edgewater Dr., Madison

NEW Library & Bookstore Books:

- Confession by Metropolitan Anthony Khrapovitsky
- The New Media Epidemic by Jean-Claude Larchet



October 2020 Photos



Left Above: Caleb Eversole is made catechumen on Sunday, October 11, with sponsor, Bill Tanner as witness.
Right Above and Below: Celebration of the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos on Wednesday, October 14, 2020



October Photos 2020



Joseph and April Mahafza married at St. Constantine and Helen/Holy Cross Greek Church on Saturday, October 17
Above Right and Left: Choir sings from the loft.



October Photos 2020



Mahafza Wedding Reception at
Weeden House backyard



October Photos 2020



Eight Day Naming Ceremony
for Matthias Litter on
October 21, 2020



October 2020 Construction Work at New Property



The News at St. Michael's –November 2020

Feasts & Fasts: We celebrated the **Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos** with a Vespers service on October 13th and Matins & Divine Liturgy on October 15th. Moleben & Akathist services were held on Wednesday evenings in October. Several Inquirer & Catechumen classes were held on Saturday afternoons.

New Catechumen: Congratulations to Caleb Eversole who was blessed to become a Catechumen after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 11th. Bill Tanner served as Caleb's Sponsor. May God grant Caleb many years!

Wedding: On Saturday, October 17th April Petty and Joseph Mahafza were united in Holy Matrimony! Congratulations to the new couple and may God grant them many years!

LOOKING AHEAD...

Upcoming Feasts & Fasts: Our Patronal Feast for **St. Michael the Archangel** will be celebrated with a Slava service & potluck meal this year following the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, November 22nd**. After Liturgy, we will proceed to the Edgewater Clubhouse at 111 Edgewater Drive, Madison, Alabama. This year's **Annual Assembly Meeting** will take place after the Slava & meal. Since there is only a capacity of 50 people and since the Annual Assembly is for parishioners in good standing, we cannot accommodate visitors this year and also ask that you sign up in advance. The **Nativity Fast** begins this year on **Saturday, November 28th** concluding with the Feast of the Nativity on January 7, 2021. Please be sure to check the monthly calendars for fasting instructions. Fish, wine and oil is allowed on the weekends (*with the exception of the weekend before the Nativity*) and on a number of other days. We will celebrate the **Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple** with Vespers on **Thursday, December 3rd** and Matins & Divine Liturgy on **Friday, December 4th**.

Catechumen & Inquirers Class: Classes are being held on Saturday afternoons at 4:00pm.

St. Michael Moleben & Akathist Services: These services will continue on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm (*with the exception of Wednesday, November 25th*). Our purpose is to ask the heavenly intercession of our Patron: St. Michael the Archangel, as we develop our new property.

Nativity Spiritual Study Group: will begin on Wednesday, Dec. 2 after Vespers. There will be a simple fasting meal followed by the spiritual study and discussion. A \$5 donation is requested to cover the costs of the meal.

New Property: The work on Phase 2 has begun with the grading of the parking area and bulldozers, front loaders and dump trucks can be seen up on the hill. The big excavator has been set up across the street on Madison Blvd. and we expect the lower utility work to begin any time now. Please keep the new property development in your prayers!

Thankfulness to God

Each year we celebrate the American Thanksgiving holiday in November and this can be a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our thankfulness to God. In the Gospel of Luke 17:11-19 there is an account of how ten men who were lepers called out to Jesus 'Master, have mercy on us,' and Jesus healed them. One of them was a Samaritan who received healing, and he glorified God and prostrated himself before Jesus and gave thanks. Jesus said, 'Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.'



St. Theophylact says that of the ten lepers, the nine who were Israelites showed themselves to be ungrateful, while it was the Samaritan, an accursed foreigner who returned to voice his gratitude... The ten lepers represent human nature, which was leprous with wickedness... but Christ healed the whole leprous nature of man, when, for every man's sake, He took flesh and tasted of death. Although the Jews had been cleansed of the uncleanness of their leprous sin, as far as it was the Lord's part to do, they showed themselves ungrateful and did not return from the path of their vain foolishness to give glory to God Who saved them... but the foreign and accursed people of the Gentiles recognized the One Who makes clean and they glorified Him by believing in Him.

St. John of Kronstadt wrote:

- Thank God every day with your whole heart for having given to you life according to His image and likeness—an intelligently free and immortal life.
- Especially thank God for having restored and guided you again unto life eternal after you had fallen into eternal death, and for having done so not simply by the action of His omnipotence, for this would not have been in conformity to His justice, but by having given for our redemption His only begotten Son, Who suffered and died for us.
- Thank Him also for again daily bestowing life upon you, who have fallen an innumerable multitude of times, by your own free will, through sins, from life into death, and that He does so as soon as you only say from your whole heart: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before Thee!"
- Thank Him also for often delivering you from sickness, you who imprudently throw yourself into danger and sickness, the precursors of bodily death, for correcting your faults, and for not depriving you of earthly life; for everything is from Him, the All-merciful Father; everything comes from the First Origin of Life, Who has apportioned and lent life to all.

As we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday with our family and friends, let us remember to give thanks to God for all the countless blessings He has given us, and which we often take for granted. Let's consider that while we may have struggles, there are people who have a much more difficult life than we do. Some live in unimaginable poverty while others are sick and dying or in prison. Some do not have the blessing of a church to attend or do not know about the Christian faith. Let us pray for those who are less fortunate than we are and let us give generously to those in need. Let us be thankful that we have been given a church to worship God in and that we have received the grace of Orthodox Christian Baptism! And let us pray for one another and give thanks to God for our church community and support our church with our talent, treasure and time that we may demonstrate our gratitude to God for His abundant mercy.

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.