



# Newsletter August 2021

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](http://www.stmichaelshsv.org)

See [St. Michael's Website for Calendar](#)

**Sunday, Aug. 1** – St. Macrina sister of St. Basil and Gregory of Nyssa

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, Aug. 4** – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

**Saturday, Aug. 7** – †4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class

†6:00 pm Vespers

**Sunday, Aug. 8** – Hieromartyr Hermolaus

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, Aug. 11** – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

**Friday, Aug. 13** – †6:00 pm Vespers

**Saturday, Aug. 14** – **Procession of the Cross**

†4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class

†6:00 pm Vespers

**Sunday, Aug. 15** – Translation of the relics of Protomartyr Stephen

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00 am Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, Aug. 18** – †6:00 pm Vespers

**Thursday, Aug. 19** – **Transfiguration of the Lord**

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, Aug. 21** – †4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class

†6:00 Vespers

**Sunday, Aug. 22** – Holy Apostle Matthias

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00 am Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, Aug. 25** – Moleben to St. Michael

†6:00 pm

**Friday, Aug. 27** – †6:00 pm Vespers

**Saturday, Aug. 28** – **Dormition of the Theotokos**

†4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class

†6:00 pm Vespers

### Coffee Hour: (\*Fast)

Aug 1 – Fontane/Adams

Aug 8 – Eversole/Harrison

\*Aug 15 – Haddock

\*Aug 22 – Hartley/Brennan

Aug 29 – Harwell

Sept 5 – Hogan/Schultz

Sept 12 – Jones

Sept 19 – Kendall

Sept 26 – Litter

### August Birthdays:

2nd– Aleksandra Barth

2nd – Shannon McBride

8th – Ryan Traylor

10th – Mark Novak

11th – Uliana Sievers

14th – David Hogan

16th – Kathy Couch

19th – Benjamin Litter

29th – Tatiana Shadrina

### August Anniversaries:

17th – Leonard & Amy Adams

Thank You to *Pavel Sievers* for filling in the sink holes in the parking lot.

Please Pray for the repose of former parishioner, *Tamara Savina*. She passed away in Russia around July 22. Her son, Igor, came on Sunday to let us know and ask for prayers. A pannikhida will be served on Sunday, August 1 after Liturgy. You are welcome to attend.

St. John Craft Fair: Please contact Stephanie Litter about participating in the craft fair on November 20, 2021 to help raise funds for St. Michael's.

## **The News at St. Michael's –August 2021**

**Feasts & Fasts:** We celebrated the **Feast of the Apostles** with a Matins/Liturgy on Monday, July 12th.

**Spiritual Education:** Inquirer/Catechumen classes were held on the Saturdays in July.

**Visit to Romanian Monastery:** Ask Matushka Ann about her visit to Holy Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction, Michigan. She visited the grave of Fr. Roman Braga.

**Sale of 4319 Spartacus:** Some parishioners may remember the discussion we had at our Annual Assembly meeting last year about the Church Board's decision to sell our present building. On July 14th, 2021, St. Michael's officially sold the property at 4319 Spartacus to Steve Walker of Southern Sealing, our neighbor on the north side of our property for the sum of \$225,000! The remaining balance of \$90,775 on our mortgage was then paid off (along with 2,298.29 in property taxes and fees) and \$131,926.71 in net revenue was deposited into the St. Michael's Building Fund that will be used for the new church building! We also signed a lease for up to two years and St. Michael's is now renting our former building from Steve. This means that 'the clock is ticking' on getting our new building built!

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

**Upcoming Services & Fasts:** We will celebrate the **Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord** with a Vespers (*instead of a moleben to St. Michael*) on Wednesday, August 18 and a Matins Service at 8:45am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00am on Thursday, August 19. The Moleben services will continue throughout this month on the other Wednesday evenings in order to request heavenly intercessions from our Patron St. Michael the Archangel for our new church!

**The Dormition Fast:** begins on Saturday, August 14th in preparation for the Feast of the Dormition. Sometimes known as "Little Lent," the Dormition Fast is only two weeks in length, but is as strict as the Lenten Fast.

**Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos** will be celebrated with a Vespers on Friday, August 27 and a Matins Service at 8:45 am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am on Saturday, August 28.

**Catechumen & Inquirers Class:** Classes will continue on Saturday afternoons at 4:00pm throughout the month of August (*except for Saturday, August 28 because of the Feast of Dormition*).

**New Property & Phase 3 Capital Campaign:** The end of Phase 2 is near and will hopefully be completed by the end of August. So far, 35 households have contributed pledges toward the new church building. While this is great news, we still need the remaining 24 households who have not yet sent in their pledge forms to do that as soon as possible! Then we can go to the bank and get approved for the construction loan to build the new church/fellowship hall building! With your support, it's possible that we could be moved into our new church & fellowship hall before the end of next year, 2022! Please see Matthew Hartley, Church Treasurer if you have any questions or need another copy of the pledge form.



*Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.  
See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,  
Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. (Ephesians 5:14-16)*

### **Redeeming the Time**

During the month of August, the Liturgical Year draws to a close with the last two of the 12 great feasts: The Transfiguration of the Lord & The Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos. As St. John Maximovitch once said that the Liturgical Year begins with the Nativity of the Theotokos (Sept. 8/21) and ends with the Dormition of the Theotokos (Aug. 14/27). This is because the Lord chose to become Incarnate as a man through the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary. The Liturgical Year is like a spiritual journey that takes us through all the major events that happened in the lives of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ and His most holy Mother. As Sacred Tradition attests, the Lord Jesus Christ became the “Second Adam” and the Most Holy Theotokos became the “Second Eve.” Together, they reversed the consequences of the Fall and opened the way to salvation for the human race. The Liturgical Year affords us the ongoing opportunity to “*Redeem the Time*” as St. Paul says, because the Holy Fasts and Feasts throughout the year, literally sanctify time itself by drawing down the Grace of the Holy Spirit and bringing heaven and earth together.

The Transfiguration of the Lord on Mt. Tabor, was an image for us of Deification, or Theosis. The Lord appeared in the glory of the Uncreated Light before His disciples, who witnessed this “*as far as they were capable.*” The Holy Fathers have taught us a three-fold path to salvation: Purification, Sanctification and Deification. We have a wonderful image and experience of this three-fold process every single week when we prepare for and participate in the Divine Liturgy. We purify our bodies by observing the Eucharistic Fast from midnight on Saturday evening until after we’ve received Holy Communion on Sunday and we purify our souls through the cleansing sacrament of Holy Confession. At Vespers the evening before and at Matins the morning of the Divine Liturgy, we sanctify our minds and hearts through prayer in preparation for Holy Communion. If we have prepared worthily, we are united to our Lord Jesus Christ, through partaking of His most Holy Body and Blood and participate in the process of Deification “*as far as we are capable.*”

The Feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos provides us with a sort of “spiritual preview” of what we hope to inherit when we leave this earthly life. As the Troparion of the Feast states, “...*Thou wast translated to Life, O Mother of Life...*” The Most Holy Theotokos was raised up to heaven after her repose from this earthly life. In a way, she prefigures what is in store for all those “*who deny themselves, take up their cross, a follow Christ.*”

May Christ our God bless us to ‘finish the course’ of this Liturgical Year and to make good use of the time we have remaining in this earthly life by redeeming the time!



**July 4, 2021 Photos**  
**Holy Dormition Monastery**  
**Rives Junction, Michigan**



Guest House



Bell  
Tower  
On  
Left



*Left: St. Veronica  
and St. Monica*  
*Right: Holy Unmercenary  
female physicians; Sts.  
Hermione, Philonella and  
Zenaidia*





# Holy Dormition Monastery Rives Junction, Michigan *July 4, 2021*



*Above:* Children's garden  
*Right:* Gazebo near cemetery  
*Below:* Fr. Roman Braga's  
grave (he was tortured for  
Christ)





# Feast of the Apostles

*Monday, July 12*



**House Blessing**  
**Thursday, July 15**  
At  
Charles and Ana Malmede's  
home with Rick & Michelle Kaiser  
attending.





# Pannikhida for Carl Brennan

*on Sunday, July 18*



## 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.; **Friends of Members:** Anne Kobasa (mother of Helen Bergantz), Mahasin Tadros & Bob Zarzaur.

**Reposed:** Tamara Savina, Jim Nordness, Patriarch Iriney, Metropolitan Amphiloque, Fr. James Barfield, 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, 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*—Bill Tanner

*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—2020 to 2021

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.