



Newsletter June 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

See [St. Michael's Website for Calendar](http://www.stmichaelshsv.org)

Saturday, June 5 – +4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class

Sunday, June 6 – Sunday of the Blind Man

+8:45am Orthros

+10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, June 9 – Vespers

+6:00 pm

Thursday, June 10 – **ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

+8:45am Orthros

+10:00am Divine Liturgy

Saturday, June 12 – +4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class

+6:00 pm Vespers

Sunday, June 13 – Holy Fathers; 1st Ecumenical Council

+8:45am Orthros

+10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, June 16 – Moleben to St. Michael

+6:00 pm

Saturday, June 19 – +4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class

+6:00 pm Vespers

Sunday, June 20 – **PENTECOST**

+8:45am Orthros

+10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, June 23 – NO MOLEBEN

Thurs - Sat, June 24-26: St. Michael's 7th Annual Retreat on Monte Sano.

Saturday, June 26 – NO VESPERS

Sunday, June 27 – Sunday of All Saints

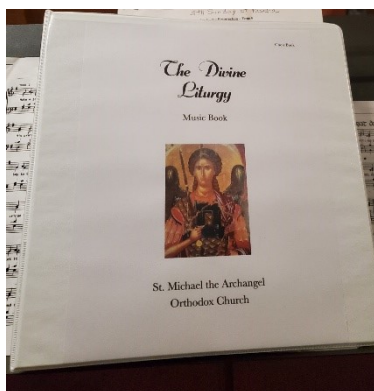
+8:45am Orthros

+10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, June 30 –

Moleben to St. Michael

+6:00 pm



Coffee Hour: (*Fast)

June 6 – Platt

June 13 – Morgan

June 20 – Sievers

June 27 – Tanner

*July 4 – Tedford

*July 11 – Veres

July 18 – Zarzaur

July 25 – Baker

June Birthdays:

1st – Father Gregory Schultz

3rd – Angela Gafton

5th – Keela Ainsworth

6th – Chris Sweeney

7th – Helen Bergantz

8th – Patrick Faulkner

11th – Robbie Cox

11th – John Duda

15th – Cooper (Tamara) Murray

19th – Chase Baker

20th – Constantine Baker

24th – Justin Novak

26th – Vicki Kendall

28th – Hal Pastrick

28th – Serena Harwell

29th – Peter Veres

June Anniversaries:

3rd – Hal & Vivienne Pastrick

12th – Joe & Helen Bergantz

25th – Marc & Kathy Couch

Save the Date: St. Michael's 8th Annual Retreat on Monte Sano on Thursday, June 24—Saturday, June 26, 2021. See *Mat. Ann* if you want to reserve an RV site. See *Bob Zarzaur and Iryna Haddock* regarding food.

Thanks to: Ray and Vicki Kendall for the new Liturgy binders for choir. To Vicki for painting the Archangel Michael on the iconostasis and to Tatiana Shadrino for delivering two new prosfora seals from an abbot in Russia.



The News at St. Michael's –June 2021

Feasts & Fasts: After the joyful Feast of Pascha, the Paschal celebration and Bright Week, we have all been enjoying these Grace-filled days of the post-Paschal Season. The fasting rules are relaxed to allow for fish, wine & oil on the Wednesday and Friday, which is a wonderful consolation! The Sundays after Pascha have helped strengthen our faith and given us the Grace of the Holy Spirit in abundance!

Moleben Services: Once the Lenten Pre-Sanctified Liturgies and Holy Week Services were finished, we have resumed our weekly Moleben and Akathist Services to our Patron Archangel Michael on Wednesday evenings.

Spiritual Education: Inquirer classes were held on Saturdays in May (with the exception of Bright Saturday).

LOOKING AHEAD...

Upcoming Services & Fasts: We will celebrate the **Feast of the Ascension** with a Vespers service on Wednesday, June 9th at 6:00pm and Matins/Liturgy on June 10th at 8:45am and 10:00am. The **Feast of Pentecost** will be celebrated with a Vespers service on Saturday, June 19th at 6:00pm and Matins/Liturgy on Sunday, June 20th at 8:45am and 10:00am. The Apostles Fast begins on Monday, June 28th and ends on Monday, July 12th on the **Feast of the Apostles Peter & Paul**.

Inquirers Class: Classes will continue on Saturday afternoons at 4:00pm throughout the month of June (with the exception of Saturday, June 23).

New Property & Phase 3 Capital Campaign: As of May 31st, 32 households have contributed pledges totaling \$5,567 per month. While this is great news and brings us 72% of the way to our goal of \$7,750, we need all 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.

7th Annual Retreat: The Retreat will begin on Thursday evening, June 24th with Vespers at 6:00pm followed by dinner and a spiritual talk by our guest speaker: Bishop James Corazza. On Friday, June 25th, we will begin Matins at 7:00am, followed by breakfast and two more spiritual talks. Then lunch is served and the afternoon is free time. Vespers will begin at 6:00pm, followed by dinner and the final spiritual talk. On Saturday, June 26th we will begin Matins at 8:45am, Liturgy at 10:00am followed by a BBQ picnic.

If you have not yet made your campground or cabin reservation, please contact the office at Monte Sano State Park and try to get a site as near to the campground pavilion as possible. The phone number is 256-534-3457, but last time Mat. Ann checked, there is only primitive campsites and some cabins available. A sign-up genie will be sent out to RSVP for meals which will be provided, and any donations towards the cost of food, the speaker travel expense and accommodations will be appreciate.

Please let Mat. Ann know if you plan to bring your children for evening or day activities.



Dear Brothers & Sisters,

This month features two important Feasts of the Church: the Ascension of the Lord and the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles at Pentecost. In addition, the Apostles Fast (one of the four extended fasting periods) begins a week after Pentecost.

During the forty days after the Resurrection of Christ at Pascha, the Lord showed Himself to the disciples and Apostles numerous times to strengthen their weak faith and convince them of the Truth of His Resurrection. It was on that fortieth day that the Lord gathered His disciples and ascended into heaven, telling them to remain in Jerusalem until they would be imbued with power from on high.

Ten days later, while they were gathered together in the upper room, the Holy Spirit descended upon them and these formerly timid, fearful disciples became bold confessors of Christ! They preached to the crowds that had gathered and by God's Providence, were able to speak in various languages so that everyone could hear them proclaiming Christ. That day, that over 3,000 people were baptized. This was the beginning of the Apostolic Church, the Body of Christ on earth.

These historical events have been recorded in Scripture for our benefit. However, these Great Feasts of the Church are not merely events that took place nearly 2,000 years ago. There is a living, spiritual dynamic process that happens each time we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension and Pentecost. If the Lord simply wanted us to remember the things that happened and leave it at that, why does the Miracle of the Holy Fire happen every year at Pascha in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem? When the Patriarch receives the Holy Fire and everyone lights their candles from it, how is it that this fire does not burn those who place their hands, faces, beards and hair into this miraculous fire from heaven? Evidently, the Lord wants everyone to know that our Holy Church is filled with the living Grace of the Holy Spirit—not just one time at the first Pentecost in 33 A.D.

As Christ's disciples, we are called to follow Him not only by remembering the historical events that took place long ago, but we are called to practice our faith each day and throughout the Liturgical Year by participating in the Great Feasts and Fasts the Holy Church has given us. St. John Maximovitch once said that there are no '*rites*' in the Orthodox Church. He meant by this that we do not just have empty 'ceremonies,' but rather during the Great Feasts, Sacraments and other Divine Services, heaven and earth literally come together in 'real time.' It is possible for us to experience the Grace of the Holy Spirit at these times if we will do our part to prepare properly and with God's help.

As beautiful as the Great Feasts and Church Services are, the Grace of the Holy Spirit is given to us not only for our own benefit and enjoyment, but the Holy Church calls us to serve as witnesses and examples. In this way, others around us will be greatly helped. This is why St. Seraphim of Sarov famously said that if we will acquire the Spirit of peace (the Grace of the Holy Spirit), a thousand around us will be saved. This is why our church is 'apostolic' as stated in the Creed. And this is why the Apostles Fast was established the week after Pentecost. By exercising ourselves spiritually, we receive heavenly assistance in overcoming our passions and acquiring the virtues. Then, like the Apostles, we are transformed by the Grace of the Holy Spirit and are better able to serve Christ and those around us. May God's blessings be with you in this Holy Season!

In Christ,

+Fr. Gregory

May 2021 Photos



Above pictures: Blessing the building of a new home for Ray and Vicki Kendall in Owens Cross Roads.



Above: Rock breaking on the new Church property on Madison Blvd.

Fairy Tale Fashions
Anyaberry Studios at Lowe Mill
Saturday, May 29, 2021



Above Left: Monica Schultz-Baker performs classical music demonstrating for her Studio 1042, first floor, Lowe Mill

Above Right: Anya Sievers introduces her sewing students

Below Right: Anya and her students show off their fashion creations. See if you can find her daughter, Amelia.





Baptism of Veronika Adams
On
Sunday, May 30, 2021
Godparents: Anya and Pavel Sievers



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: 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.