

Newsletter November 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.stmichaelsv.org



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

Wednesday, Nov. 3 – 6:00 pm Moleben to St. Michael
†7:00 pm—Survival Course & fasting meal

Saturday, Nov. 6 – †4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class
†6:00 Vespers

Saturday before you go to bed – Turn clocks back 1 hour! Daylight savings time.

Sunday, Nov. 7 – Martyrs Marcian & Martyrius
†8:45am Orthros
†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, Nov. 10 – 6 pm Moleben to St. Michael
†7:00 pm—Survival Course & fasting meal

Saturday, Nov. 13 – 10 am—12 pm Craft meeting at
[Stephanie Litter's house](#)
†4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class
†6:00 Vespers

Sunday, Nov. 14 – Cosmas & Damian
†8:45am Orthros
†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, Nov. 17 – 6 pm Moleben to St. Michael
†7:00 pm—Survival Course & fasting meal

Saturday, Nov. 20 –†4:00 Inquirers/Catechumen Class
†6:00 Vespers

Sunday, Nov. 21 – **St. Michael's Patronal Feast**
†8:45am Orthros
†10:00 am Divine Liturgy
12:30pm Slava/ Potluck/ Annual Assembly after Liturgy at
[Edgewater Clubhouse, 111 Edgewater Dr., Madison](#)

Wednesday, Nov. 24 – NO MOLEBEN/CLASS

Thursday, Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Day

Saturday, Nov. 27 – NO Inquirers/Catechumen Class
†6:00 Vespers

Sunday, Nov. 28 – Repose of St. Herman of Alaska
†8:45am Orthros
†10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Nativity Fast Begins!

Coffee Hour: *(Nativity Fast)

Nov 7– Phillips	*Dec 5 – Tanner
Nov 14 – Platt	*Dec 12 – Tedford
Nov 21– Potluck	*Dec 19 – Veres
*Nov 28 – Sievers	*Dec 26 – Zarzaur

November Birthdays:

2nd – Julian Ballew
2nd – Sierra Dawson
9th – Aron Veres
10th – Jordon Dawson
12th – Wanda Gilbert
14th – John Jones
15th – Anya Sievers
27th – Tim Waskerwitz
27th – Rick Kaiser
27th – Jason Hamby
28th – Matthew Hartley
30th – Joy Elizabeth Ainsworth

November Anniversaries:

30 – Charles & Inna Teasley

Thank You:

Fr. Seraphim and Mat. Julie Joa who served Vespers and Liturgy on October 16 & 17 while *Fr. Gregory & Mat. Ann* attended the events in Chicago.

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. Meet at Litter's house November 13, 10 am – 12 pm.

Save the Date!

Patronal Feast of St. Michael on November 21 at 12:30pm after Liturgy at Edgewater Clubhouse, 111 Edgewater Dr., Madison.

St. Michael's Annual Retreat will be **Thursday, June 16 – Saturday, June 18, 2022.** We have reserved RV sites; 7, 9 10, & 30 for \$41.89 and tent sites; 12, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 for \$39.51. If you would like to get your site now, write a check to St. Michael's Church and give to Mat. Ann

The News at St. Michael's—November, 2021

St. Michael's Pilgrimage to New Gracanica & Libertyville: During the week of October 12th, a contingency of St. Michael's members visited New Gracanica and Libertyville: Leonard Adams went up early, attending the Divine Liturgy and visiting the relics of St. Mardarije. Then Caleb Eversole, April & Joseph Mahafza, Fr. Gregory & Mat. Ann went up to participate in the Monastery Slava for the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos. On Wednesday, 10/13 they attended the Vigil Service and joined the Bishop and pilgrims for a festive fasting meal. On Thursday, October 14, our representatives participated in the Hierarchical Liturgy, Slava Service and Triple Procession. This was followed by a Slava feast with live music and a traditional Serbian meal. Then, our pilgrims attended the Vespers service at St. Sava's Church in Libertyville with Bishop Longin and were able to venerate the incorrupt relics of St. Mardarije. Following this, Bishop Longin visited with everyone for an edifying spiritual chat. Many prayers were said on behalf of everyone at St. Michael's!

Spiritual Education at St. Michael's: The Wednesday night Moleben Service, Meal and Spiritual Survival Course continued each Wednesday in October (except 10/13 & 10/20). We have now passed the halfway point after having gone through two sessions on the French Revolution. Catechumen & Inquirer classes continued on Oct. 2 & Oct. 30.

New Property Update: Our General Contractor has told us that as soon as some minor adjustments have been completed with the civil engineering drawings, he will instruct the other subcontractors to finish the dirtwork and paving. Despite a number of delays due to weather and other factors, he feels that Phase Two can be finished before the end of 2021. In the meantime, our architect team has been working on the blueprints for the new Church & Fellowship Hall and should be finished very soon. As soon as those are completed, we will begin getting bids from contractors, select the best one, obtain the financing from our bank and we are then hopeful that we can break ground in the Spring of 2022. Please keep praying for our new property and church project! The Evil One is not very happy about this and has done everything possible to delay us, but with God's help, WE WILL FINISH THIS!!

St. Michael's Craft Guild: Once again, members of the St. Michael Craft Guild are joining forces to participate in another Craft Fair on Saturday, November 20th from 9am to 3pm at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Stephanie Litter is hosting a craft workshop at her home on Saturday, November 13th from 10am to 12 noon. Please contact Stephanie if you are able to help!

St. Michael's Annual Slava & Annual Assembly: On Sunday, November 21st following the Divine Liturgy, we will all go over to the Edgewater Clubhouse to celebrate the St. Michael Slava service, followed by a potluck meal and a short Annual Assembly meeting afterward. Please contact Mat. Ann Schultz if you are able to help with organization and setup. A "sign-up" genie announcement will be sent out soon where you'll be able to let everyone know what awesome dish you'll be bringing to the Slava!

2021 Nativity Fast: The Nativity Fast will begin this year AFTER Thanksgiving on Monday, November 29th. On the Wednesdays, beginning Dec. 1, there will be a Vespers Service, Fasting Meal and a Nativity Study Group.

On Sunday, November 21st, our Parish will celebrate its 20th Patronal Feast since our reception into the Serbian Orthodox Church in 2002. The following is an excerpt from the *Prologue of Ochrid* by St. Nikolai Velimirovic on the Synaxis of the Holy Angels:

“The angels of God were celebrated by men from earliest times but this celebration was often turned into the divinization of angels (II Kings 23:5). The heretics wove all sorts of fables concerning the angels. Some of them looked upon angels as gods; others, although they did not consider them gods, called them the creators of the whole visible world. The local Council of Laodicea (four or five years before the First Ecumenical Council) rejected the worship of angels as gods and established the proper veneration of angels in its Thirty-fifth Canon.



In the fourth century, during the time of Sylvester, Pope of Rome, and Alexander, Patriarch of Alexandria, the present Feast of Archangel Michael and all the other heavenly powers was instituted for celebration in the month of November. Why precisely in November? Because November is the ninth month after March, and March is considered to be the month in which the world was created. Also, as the ninth month after March, November was chosen for the nine orders of angels who were created first.

St. Dionysius the Areopagite, a disciple of the Apostle Paul (who was taken up into the third heaven), described these nine orders of angels in his book, *On the Celestial Hierarchies*, as follows: six-winged Seraphim, many-eyed Cherubim, God-bearing Thrones, Dominions, Powers, Virtues, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels. The leader of all the angelic hosts is the Archangel Michael. When Satan, Lucifer, fell away from God and drew a part of the angels with him to destruction, then Michael stood up and cried out before the faithful angels: “Let us attend! Let us stand aright! Let us stand with fear!” and all of the faithful angelic heavenly hosts cried out: “Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!” Concerning the Archangel Michael, see Joshua 5:13-15 and Jude 1:9.

Among the angels there reign perfect oneness of mind, oneness of soul, and love. The lower orders also show complete obedience to the higher orders, and all of them together to the Holy Will of God. Every nation has its guardian angel, as does every Christian. We must always remember that whatever we do, in open or in secret, we do in the presence of our guardian angel. On the day of the Dread Judgment, the multitude of the hosts of the holy angels of heaven will gather around the throne of Christ, and the deeds, words, and thoughts of every man will be revealed before all.

October 2021 Photos



Above: Pavel & Anya Sievers had a new baby girl, Theodora who was born on Sunday, October 10 at 1:00 am.

Below: The naming ceremony for Theodora at the Sievers home on Friday, October 29, 2021



**Pilgrimage to New Gracanica
Monastery on the Feast of the
Protection of the Theotokos
October 14, 2021**



*Left: Fr.
Gregory, Jo-
seph & April
Mahafza,
Mat. Ann &
Caleb Ever-
sole*

*Right: Slava
Table*

*Below Left:
Slava Bread*

*Below Right:
Kolyva (or
boiled
wheat)*



New Gracanica Monastery
Slava for Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos
Thursday, October 14, 2021



Upper Right:
Matushka Ann
sings with the
choir
*Bottom Left &
Right:* Bishop
Longin speaks
to attendees
and everyone
processes
around Church
3 times.





Above Left: St. Sava Monastery Church
Above Right: St. Mardarije's coffin right of Fr. Gregory
Center: Caleb, Joseph & April inside St. Sava's Church
Below: Banquet on Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos, October 14, 2021





Above: Fr. Seraphim Joa serves Liturgy on Sunday, October 17, 2021 while Fr. Gregory is out of town.

Below: Stephanie Litter and Matushka Ann at St. John Craft Fair in March 2020



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.