



Newsletter July 2018

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/

[Click here for St. Michaels Website Calendar](#)

Sunday, July 1st – Martyr Leontius, Hypatius and Theodulus, at Tripoli in Syria.

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Monday, July 2nd – St. John Maximovitch.

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, July 8th – Virgin-martyr Febronia of Nisibis.

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, July 11th – Glorious Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul.

†6:00pm Vespers Service

Thursday, July 12th – Glorious Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul.

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, July 15th – Translation of the Relics of St. Mardarije.

†8:45am Matins

†10:00am Typica Service

Wednesday, July 18th – Venerable Athanasius of Mt. Athos.

†6:00pm Vespers Service

Sunday, July 22nd – Hieromartyr Pancratius, bishop of Taormina in Sicily.

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, July 29th – Hieromartyr Athenogenes, bishop of Heracleopolis

†8:45am Orthros

†10:00am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour: (*Apostles Fast)

*July 1st – Bowling

Aug. 5th – Hartley

*July 8th – Cox

Aug. 12th – Harwell/Couch

July 15th – Sievers

Aug. 19th – Hogan/Schultz

July 22nd – Ellis/Fontane

Aug. 26th – Huron

July 29th – Haddock

Note: If you cannot be at church on your Sunday, please arrange to trade places with someone from the coffee hour list that can.

Birthdays:

1st – Inna Barth

2nd – Debbie Gulas

4th – Vivienne Pastrick

6th – Isabelle Bowling

7th – Whitney Somerville

7th – Inna Teasley

10th – Charles Teasley

19th – Joseph Huch

21st – Nikolai Sievers

24th – Madeline Harwell

26th – Nathan Ainsworth

29th – Igor Meagher

Anniversaries:

19th – Rick & Michele Kaiser

Thanks: To Mat. Ann, Iryna Haddock, Serena Harwell, Adrienne Bowling, Timea Veres and Sandy Ellis for all their help with the June Summer Camp! To Christopher Murphy, Matthew Hartley, Peter Veres, Ken Frack, Christopher Sweeney, Leonard, Adams and Benj Litter for their hard work on the new property at the June work party!

St. Michael's News

Summer Camp: This year's summer camp was held Monday, June 11 through Wednesday June 13. The theme for this year was centered around the tradition of the Apostle's Fast that takes place each year beginning the week after Pentecost and ending on the Feast of Apostle's Peter & Paul, June 29 (church calendar) or July 12 (civil calendar). Each day began in the church with prayers and a short catechism class by Fr. Gregory. Then the children worked on craft projects related to the Apostles. Using the Scriptural quote "On this rock I will build my Church..." the kids glued icons of the apostles to an actual rock along with that Gospel quote. Sandy Ellis conducted a liturgical singing workshop and Iryna Haddock coordinated the food together with Serena Harwell, Adrienne Bowling, Timea Veres and Mat. Ann. On Wednesday, after morning prayers, we all went on an outing to Southern Adventures right around the corner from the Church off Lehman Ferry Rd. The kids really enjoyed the water park and splash pools and several of us played miniature golf. A great time was had by all and we're looking forward to doing this again next year!

Work Party: On Saturday, June 23rd, eight stouthearted men of St. Michael's met at the new property to continue working on its development. Thank you to: Christopher Murphy, Matthew Hartley, Leonard Adams, Benj Litter, Christopher Sweeney, Peter Veres, and Ken Frack. Fr. Gregory was on hand to operate the bobcat and others operated the big woodchipper machine, turning limbs left behind by the loggers into big piles of woodchips. We also put a chain across the driveway to help deter would-be litterbugs who seem to think our property is available for dumping trash! Please contact Fr. Gregory if you need vehicle access. In addition, we repaired a most of the silt fence on the eastern boundary of the property to stay in compliance with ADEM. Despite some rain during our lunchtime, God blessed us with good weather for most of the morning and afternoon hours!

Coming Up:

Feast day of St. John Maximovitch: On Monday, July 2nd, we will be celebrating the glorification of our beloved American saint, St. John Maximovitch with and Orthros service at 8:45am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00am.

Feast day of Apostles Peter & Paul: On Wednesday, July 11th at 6pm, we will celebrate the feast of the Apostles Peter & Paul with a Vespers Service and then on Thursday, July 12th, with Orthros at 8:45am and Divine Liturgy at 10am. This day marks the end of the Apostle's Fast.

Feast of the Translation of the Relics of St. Mardarije: Our Bishop Longin has invited everyone to attend the Annual Celebration of St. Mardarije of Libertyville on July 14-15. On both days, the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be served at the St. Sava Monastery (built by St. Mardarije) and there will be other activities, prayers and banquets. Please go to www.stsavamonastery.org for more information. Since all the clergy are required to attend, Fr. Gregory will not be available to serve the Divine Liturgy at St. Michael's that weekend. However, we have received a blessing from the Bishop's office to hold Reader's services, so there will be a Vespers service on Saturday, July 14 at 6pm and on Sunday morning, a Matins service at 8:45am and a Typica service at 10:00am followed by Coffee Hour.

July 2018 Photos
2018 Children's Summer Camp





In honor of the glorification of St. Mardarije of Libertyville, following are some excerpts from his inspiring 21st Archpastoral Epistle written on Pascha, Sunday April 21, 1935. He reposed later that year on December 12, 1935.

...On a sunny day about two years ago I was decorating the park around the monastery church in Libertyville with about ten workers. Suddenly out of my chest a stream of blood started flowing. For three days the doctors could not stop the bleeding. They took me to the hospital. Two doctors diagnosed that my days in this world were numbered. In order to verify that claim, my closest coworkers called two well-known specialists in tuberculosis, one of whom was an old professor of medicine at the University of Chicago. Those two specialists said to the priests who were gathered around me to say good-bye that that night, during the night, or at the latest the next day, in the morning, I should die. The priests believed it. Who wouldn't? They were hearing this from those who were experts in the field. And they had to believe it even more because I had already given instructions for my burial at the monastery, and because the temperature and heartbeat of my sick body were at levels from which, according to the science of medicine, a man cannot return back to life. I was in a death-bed delirium and I did not recognize the people around me. And then suddenly, around midnight, I quietly said to the priests who were standing around me: "One of you, go to the monastery, serve Liturgy, bring the Holy Gifts, and give me Communion."

During the night, from time to time, I regained consciousness. In those moments my lips whispered a warm prayer to the Lord Christ. This was not an ordinary prayer. This was rather a direct conversation of a son with his Father. I felt the graceful presence of Christ and I prayed like this:

Lord Christ and my God, I don't care if I die. I am not sorry to leave this world. I am ready to close my tired eyes and stand before Your righteous judgement seat, trusting that Your fatherly love and mercy will forgive me, if in my earthly life I did not act according to Your commandments, if I was not zealous enough in the great responsible episcopal mission, which You through Your Church entrusted me with. You will forgive me, I know because Your fatherly love is beyond measure. You will also forgive me because, from my childhood, from the sixteenth year of my life, I dedicated my life to serving You, Your altar, and Your people. I am not afraid of death. Personally, I am even looking forward to it, because In Your eternal Kingdom things will be incomparably easier for me than they have been in this sinful world. For me, the transition from this life is not a transition into an unknown, desolate space with no substance or sense, but a transition into Your eternal Kingdom, which you promised to all those who believe in You. But I beg of You, Heavenly Father and Lord Christ, pour out upon me, Your faithful servant, Your rich mercy, and leave me in this world a few more years, so that I can complete my service to my people and Church, in which You have mercifully elevated me to the greatest apostolic dignity. I would like to preach Your Holy Gospel with even more fervor, to even more warmly relate to my people that salvation is possible only through You and in You. Leave me on earth a little more that I may decorate the monastery of Your great saint Sava a little better. Extend the days and years of my life, if nothing else, then that I can help my old parent and his numerous family, whom a handful of people of no conscience, irresponsible people from the street, cloaked with a cover of modern morals, try to bring down to the level of a pauper, destroying the community of his home. I pray to You, O lord my God, fulfill my prayer. Hear me in my weakness, in this night and this hour of death. You can do anything. You brought back the dead from the grave to life with one word. With the touch of Your fingers You gave eyesight back to the blind. I pray to You, this night, when I expect my departure from this world, touch my weak body with Your miraculous right hand and return life to me, which is now on its way to being extinguished. O Lord, let me get up from my death bed, and return to my dear people, and preach to them how You worked a miracle in me and gave me back my life. But not my will be done, but Your will be done, O Lord.

With those words I concluded my warmest prayer, bathed in warm tears, which freely fell on my pillow and I closed my tired eyes. I fell asleep and I saw a strange vision. People call it a dream. I saw myself walking, broken from the illness, hunched over, through the monastery gate toward my prepared tomb. Suddenly, above the monastery church, I saw a perfect bright circle descending toward the earth. An invisible force pulled me closer and closer to the bright circle. When I approached and came very close, I recognized in that bright circle the Holy Communion Christ and out of that circle I heard the words: "Look at the multitudes of people on both sides of the monastery river. They are waiting for you. Go to them."

Soon it dawned. They woke me up. Through the open doors of my room, a fully vested priest with a chalice in his hand entered. There could have been no Confession, because I could not speak.

With tears of joy that I was receiving the Body and Blood of Christ for the last time, and with firm faith in eternal life beyond the grave, with faith which had never before been so illumined by the graceful presence of the kindest and most merciful, all-forgiving, heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, I partook of His Holy and most pure Body and Blood.

And what happened at that very moment, my dear brethren? That very moment my eyes opened wide. My reason, which had been darkened by the proximity of death, was suddenly illumined. The doctor who came to the hospital that morning, convinced that he would find me dead, entered through the door, allowed the priest who communed me to exit, nervously approached my bed, took my hand, measured my pulse, and suddenly, his face was radiant with joy. He repeated a couple of times that my heart was in excellent condition and that my pulse was normal. When he was convinced that my temperature was also normal, while it had been announcing my death the night before, this doctor, a Jew, exclaimed: "The bishop will live! This is a true miracle from God!"

Since then two years have passed my dear brethren, and I, by God's grace, have advanced in my health, so that today the doctors and all the people who have known me over the past eighteen years here in America tell that I have never in my life looked better than right now.

My conscience keeps telling me: "Why are you quiet? Why don't you tell the people about the miracle that God worked in you?" For two years I hesitated and hid the mystery of my healing, but I will not keep silent anymore. I will feel better when I relate this mystery to my people. And this is what I am doing. The faithful will believe this and they will be established in their faith even more, while the unbelievers will doubt. I am doing my duty toward God and His miraculous power...

Prayer List:

Living: **Church Members & Orthodox Friends:** Please pray for God's help with building the future Church and hall on our new property on Madison Blvd.; Lisa Craft, Ivan Fontane, Loren Capsopoulos, Leslie Hargrave, Phil Harwell & family, Weston Letson, Tim Waskerwitz, Kurt Weber, Fr. Parthenios, Sean Perry, Fr. Dcn James Hughes, Martin Gureasko. **Friends of Members:** Anna Kobasa (mother of Helen Bergantz), Mahasin Tadros

Reposed: Gennadiy Zhmaylo, Fr. Chris Williamson, Gregory Hughes, Ron Waskerwitz, Christopher Pamfilis, Alexa & Hayden Hannig, Nicolae Caracalean, 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-deacon—Bob Zarzaur
Choir Director—Sandy Ellis
Ass't Choir Director—Matushka Ann
Readers/Acolytes—Steve Cox, Matthew Hartley, David Hogan, Rick Kaiser, Ray Kendall, Charles Malmede & Hal Pastrick
Sisterhood President—Iryna Haddock
Sunday School Director—Matushka Ann
Sunday School Teachers—Serena Harwell, Adrienne Bowling and Pavel Sievers
Library & Bookstore—Matushka Ann
Building Maintenance—Sub-deacon Bob Zarzaur & Rick Kaiser
Welcoming Committee Coordinator—Charles Malmede
Website—Charles Malmede
Newsletter Bulletin—Rick Kaiser
Candle/Supplies—Rick Kaiser

Church Council—2017 to 2018

Father Gregory Schultz—Parish Administrator
Sub-deacon Moses (Bob) Zarzaur—President
Michele Platt—Vice President
Matthew Hartley—Treasurer
Pavel (Elliot) Sievers—Secretary

Members at Large—Joe Bergantz, Rick Kaiser, Charles Malmede and Hal Pastrick

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

Office hours at the Church are as follows.*

Tues: 10:00 am—4:00 pm; Wed: 12 noon—6:00 pm; Thurs: 10:00 am—4:00 pm

**Please note: while Fr. Gregory will normally be at the Church during these times, pastoral needs are given priority (ie.: when someone is ill, etc.) If you need to see him, please call ahead.*