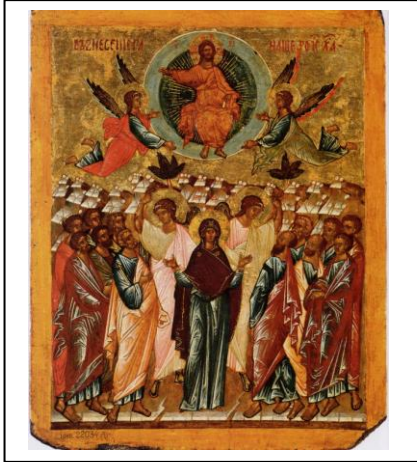




Saint Michael's Romanian Orthodox Church

Southbridge, Massachusetts
www.stmichaelorthodox.com

June 2024



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday

9:00am Divine Liturgy
5:00pm Vespers

Sunday

8:30am Matins
9:30am Divine Liturgy

For the full Calendar the last page

Feast days

June 3rd – Apostle Bartholomew, St. Luke of Crimea; Saturday of the Souls
June 5th – Monday of the Holy Spirit/Holy Trinity
June 12th – Apostles' Fast Begins
June 13th – Ascension of our Lord
June 14th – Prophet Elisha
June 19th – Apostle Thaddeus, St. Paisios the Great
June 23rd – Holy Pentecost
June 24th – Nativity of St. John the Baptist
June 29th – Apostles Peter and Paul
June 30th – Synaxis of the Apostles

Ascension of Our Lord

“You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, after You filled the Disciples with joy, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, and You blessed them and established their faith, that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.”

“We who seemed unworthy of the earth, are now raised to heaven,” says Saint John Chrysostom. “We who were unworthy of earthly dominion have been raised to the Kingdom on high, have ascended higher than heaven, have come to occupy the King’s throne, and the same nature from which the angels guarded Paradise, stopped not until it ascended to the throne of the Lord.” By His Ascension the Lord not only opened to man the entrance to heaven, not only appeared before the face of God on our behalf and for our sake, but likewise “transferred man” to the high places. “He honored and loved man by putting him close to the Father.” God quickened and raised us together with Christ, as Saint Paul says, “and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Ephes. 2:6). Heaven received the inhabitants of the earth. “The First fruits of them that slept” sits now on high, and in Him all creation is summed up and bound together. “The earth rejoices in mystery, and the heavens are filled with joy.”

“Terror-stricken and trembling stand the angelic hosts, contemplating the Ascension of Christ. And trembling they ask each other, “What is this vision? One who is man in appearance ascends in His body higher than the heavens, as God.”

Saint Michael's Romanian Orthodox Church
16 Romanian Avenue, Southbridge Massachusetts 01550
Telephone: (508) 765-5276

Website: www.StmichaelOrthodox.com

Email: stmichaelromanianorthodox@gmail.com

Facebook: St. Michael Orthodox Christian Church

2023 Parish Council Officers

President: Spiro Thomo
Vice President: Joshua Seigler
Secretary: Julian Economou
Treasurer: Katie Mironidis

2023 Ladies Society Officers

President: Genevieve Boilard
Vice President: Katie Mironidis
Secretary: TBD
Treasurer: Debbie Thomo

Clergy

Fr. John Downie fr.john_downie71@yahoo.com

Parish News & Events

**Happy Birthday!! God Grant You Many
More Years!!**

June 4th – McKenzie Moise
June 27th – Joshua Grasso
June 28th – Joshua Moise
June 29th – Miriam Grasso
June 30th – Fr. John Downie

**Bible Study – June 6th at
7:00pm**

Bible Study on zoom for the
Archdiocese



Happy Name Day

June 29th – Sts. Peter and Paul – Peter Boilard,
Paul Yanka, Paul Porra, Peter Chapland



Please Pray for:

Elpiniki Sophia
Mary



Centennial Letter by Fr. John Downie

(100th Anniversary November 10th, 2024 – save the date)

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Supporters,

The most important aspect of our short pilgrimage on this earth is our relationship to the One Who brought us out of nothing into being, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, One of the Holy Trinity. It is with great honor that this year we celebrate the 100th year anniversary of the founding of Saint Michael's Orthodox Church precisely for the task of enhancing this relationship through experiencing and sharing this all loving, all humble and wholly righteous God and His grace. This November 10th we will be celebrating the centennial anniversary of this mission that has been entrusted to us by the One Who has brought all things into being and without Whom nothing has been made. This little parish has worked, wept, rejoiced and strived together with the larger community of Southbridge for 100 years trying in our way to make progress in this world, struggling to bring peace, comfort and perhaps more importantly meaning to the various trials, joys and epochs of our local New England community. Please consider accepting our formal invitation to you to join us in commemorating this joyful occasion at our Anniversary Gala Celebration on Sunday, November 10, 2024, Southbridge Conference Center after the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at Saint Michael's. Your presence will

undoubtedly enhance the celebration of this once in a lifetime event. This is a chance for us to reflect together on the importance of eternal truths and their effect in the lives of our greater community; to remember our loved ones who are still with us and those who have moved on from this world. It is also an opportunity to consider what the future may hold and what potential could be unlocked. Because of the historical nature of the event we would like to offer you an opportunity to showcase your support by placing an advertisement in our Program Book. This elegant publication will not only serve as a keepsake for all attendees but will also be prominently featured on our website and social media platforms and will enter into the historical record of Southbridge. Our entire community at Saint Michael's would be very grateful for your support, and your sponsorship advertizing will not only assist Saint Michael's in its mission but also help to solidify the bonds between you or your institutions and the parishioners and friends of Saint Michael's. We thank you for taking the time and thought in considering this invitation and look forward to your participation in this unique and memorable centennial celebration,

In Christ,

Fr. John Downie and Centennial Committee



SAINT MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

100th Anniversary Gala Celebration

Below are the sponsorship levels. You can place an ad “in honor of,” “in memory of,” or advertise your business. Your business will be featured on our website and our social media platforms.

| | |
|---|----------|
| • EVENT SPONSOR (7.5"W X 10"H) | \$ 2,500 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LISTED AS EVENT SPONSOR ON COVER OF OUR PROGRAM BOOK • FULL COLOR PAGE AD (INSIDE FRONT COVER, INSIDE BACK COVER) • BANNER WITH YOUR NAME AND LOGO PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED AT THE EVENT | |
| • FULL PAGE GOLD BORDER (7.5"W X 10"H) | \$ 750 |
| • HALF PAGE - (7.5"W X 4.75"H)..... | \$ 300 |
| • QUARTER PAGE - (4.75"W X 3.5" H) | \$ 200 |
| • EIGHTH PAGE - (2.5"W X 3.5"H) | \$ 100 |

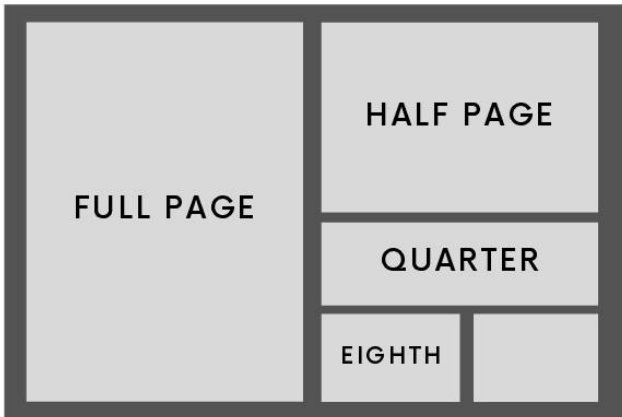
ARTWORK/AD REQUIREMENTS

Email High Resolution Artwork (jpeg, pdf, png.)

Need Ad Created? CONTACT CHURCH

- Artwork Attached.
- High quality, hard copy is attached (will be scanned).
- Message Attached

Ads must be received by SEPT 1.



From Parish life – Pictures from Holy Week and Pascha 2024



Pascha Night - Agape Meal



***Man, Feminism and Women* part of the interview with Fr.
Constantin Coman May 2024**

(Full interview - on the church website under Resources)

Fr. Constantin Coman is a retired Professor and Dean of the Theological University of Bucharest. His spiritual father was Archimandrite Sophian Boghiu, who will be numbered among the Saints of the Romanian church starting with 2025. Fr. Constantin is a very well known Spiritual Father in Romania, who confesses thousands of people. We already introduced him to our readers through a very inspired article called: *The man to be man, and the women to be women*. Fr. Constantin also coordinated Fr. John Downie's PhD work.

Father Constantin:This is the condition of the complete man, the one who communes by God, as he was conceived to be connected to God, to the divine energy, uncreated energy which allows him to acquire the divine attributes: incorruptibility, love, sacrifice, holiness, because all these are not obtained through human effort, but by communion. The effort of man is to reach the communion. If a person is full of self, the Spirit of God no longer has a place in him because the self-filling is his spirit, not Holy Spirit. Self-opinion is a movement of the spirit, it is a state of your feeling. The proud man, full of self is all-sufficient. It's like someone who, for example, says "Sir, I don't need the sun, I do well enough without the sun, without the heat of the sun!" Although he was not made to survive without sunlight, because the human concept is to live with the resources of the creation: light, sun, water, earth, etc.

If we accept that man is also a spiritual creature, then we accept that we take over from our fathers all the spiritual anatomy, which also needs a spiritual sun, living water, spiritual, heavenly bread. All are repeated in the Gospel according to John. We have a repetition here: the ontological, physical, bacterial resource is doubled by the heavenly resource, the spirit. In John we are told that man is also a spirit. We humans communicate with each other in spirit. Our physical companionship is not enough for two people to accompany each other, they must accompany each other in spirit. Our cramming in the bus does not require any kind of accompaniment. Hypocritical hugging is not companionship either. There must be an outpouring of spirit, to receive the other and to give to the other.

.....

Pr. Constantin: Yes, that's it! Women, by excellence, are the expression of feeling. Unfortunately, the rationalist, materialist era that has been going on for several centuries has also been a great temptation for women and they have gone out of their specific attribute, the symbol of feeling, of the institution of the spirit and the capacity for the dance of discourse, for words, for logic, for argument. That is why the husband and wife are no longer reconciled in the family. Of course, the first responsible is the man, and the second responsible is the wife.

But we are not talking about this topic. We return to the Myrrh-bearing Women, and here are the myrrh-bearing women in the divine economy, the first witnesses of Christ's Resurrection. Not the disciples, the men, but the women.

There are many explanations, but the most appropriate to nature is that women share the divine reality more easily. It is because they are more spirit than rationality and information. ... they go to the spirit, to be in communion. ...

But the woman, that's why she benefits because she doesn't ask too much, she feels and only at the level of feeling is realities confirmed. At the level of arguments, the world has been struggling with arguments for thousands of years, changing ideologies, changing philosophical systems and still not reaching an understanding [about life and world]. ...the truth lies in the spiritual embrace.

Reporter: Sincerely.

Fr. Constantin: Obviously sincere, because the spirit does not come out if you are not sincere. The spirit of cunning comes out at the meeting, and it does not unite, but separates. Only if you love and are honest with the other, the spirit of love comes out of you.

These extraordinary, brave women! Brave because women with this gift of feeling are braver. Precisely because having this gift of feeling, they are more spiritual, as they say.

Reporter: In other words, less reason, more feeling.

Fr. Constantin: Here's more love. And they go to do their duty. For the Myrrh-bearing Women there was one thing left to do, to

anoint the body of the Lord Jesus Christ with myrrh.

Reporter: That was the order of the times.

Fr. Constantin: Yes, that was the order of the times. And then here are the women who benefit from the extraordinary gift of being the first witnesses of the Resurrection. What happens to the disciples when the women go and tell the disciples? They don't believe them! The rationality.

... But the drama is that we, after 2000 years, are still asking ourselves and looking for rational arguments and we will not find



them, precisely because God is beyond reason. But man is also beyond reason, because he is a spirit. I am very sorry because on the one hand, we have lost this culture of the spirit, of man as existing in the spirit,

and everything that follows from this, but on the other hand, I am glad that we have started to recover it. We recover it thanks to the great prophets of our age, through whom the Spirit himself speaks: The pious Silouan asked a spiritual partner, Stratonic: "how do the perfect speak?" "I don't know, you answer," he said. St. Silouan said: "They don't say anything from themselves."

Reporter: Zero self-sufficiency.

Pr. Constantin: Here, zero self-sufficiency. They do not speak from themselves! But from where do they talk? Only from the words of the spirit. What is this word of the

Spirit? It is the embrace of the loved one. Consequently, we should cultivate the love from God, the love of God, and fight against the inertia, against the mentality of duty, the mentality of decorum, the ideological mentality implies. Do you understand? Everything turns into theoretical arguments in order to go to church, to worship, to fast. No! We have to do all of them for the love of God.

.....

Reporter: If you were to do a study, a lecture at another symposium with the title Myrrh-bearing Women vs. feminism, what would you start with?

Pr. Constantin: I am the most feminist among feminists, because I advocate that women, first of all, should discover their true feminine nature and promote it. They should not let themselves be captive to external ideologies, which do not cover the female nature and which violate it, counterfeit it, pervert it, because this is what we must recognize, Mr. Catalin, that man is a given. Either it is taken as it is and it is attempted to know itself and function based on the primordial data, or he has no chance to invent itself. Man seeks to invent himself. What to invent, because you are a given! This whole world is a given. Man is still a given. So we are called to discover ourselves and to function according to the data written in our genome. So the woman, what is the woman? Obviously, it is distinct from a man. Obviously, it is meant to be defined by reference to men. As the man must define himself by relating to the woman. A man is not a man if he is not related to a woman, and a woman is not a woman if she is not related to a man. It is so obvious! But the evidence is not only at the level of the anatomy, as people think, and now they are trying to manipulate the anatomy, thinking that it is changing, no! The last fiber of the physical and spiritual feminine component is

feminine. Let's admit it! A strand of hair, if you take the last cell from a strand of hair, it will tell you that it is female. The last epidermis, if you take it, will tell you that it is feminine. But the look is feminine, but the mouth is feminine, but the shoulder is feminine, but the thighs are feminine, but the chest is feminine, but the speech is feminine, but the thinking is feminine. It is impossible not to accept this gift, and to accept it completely! Work this one!

But man does not assume the cross of his own identity, because it requires of him the effort of self-knowledge. I'm doing an exercise, like you do with me now, with students in the old days, with young parishioners now: 'Hey, are you getting married?' "Yes." What constitutes the specificity of femininity? Tell me also: what is a woman? Define it." Guess what? They do not know. Well, how do you get married, if you don't know what that woman is? Why are you going with the man? I ask the same question to the man.

Because he doesn't know how to define himself either. What is specific about him? What defines him? Because the man is a man from head to toe. From the epidermis to the depths of the soul. No one has studied this thing, the specifics. We were talking with the young people from my church about this 30-40 years ago, and a girl, an architect found a study on this topic, which exactly confirms the church, evangelical, patristic discourse about the specific nature of womanhood, of femininity and the specific male natures, namely: the male cell starts "inwards", towards the exit, and the female cell starts inwards, towards receiving. So she is receptive. So it is the principle of the earth. As the earth is the principle of femininity, in Greek it has the feminine gender. We made him masculine, by mistake. Earth is primarily feminine. Why? Because it receives in itself the seed

that bears fruit and gives life. We made him masculine, and now we can no longer use it to explain that the woman is the principle of the earth, which receives the seed in her, in order to bear fruit. So we must be welcoming, we must have receptivity. If the earth does not receive the seed, the seed does not bear fruit.

The man is the principle of initiative. He walks towards the woman. All his cells have this dynamic. And there is a great responsibility of the man, because he is the initiative! He must manage with responsibility. But that does not mean superiority! It means specific! Only when the man is very manly and the woman very feminine, things come true. The woman is fulfilled when meeting the respective man and the man is fulfilled when meeting the respective woman. Otherwise no.

Now, let's talk about this leveling ideology. ... We, more than Romanians, Chinese, and Hungarians, are people! God opened this thing for us to assume this condition. The Chinese and the African, and the Antarctic people and the American are human, too. We accept this. We are united in our human condition. We also have particularities as a nation. We accept this too. ... But ideologies spread very easily in such a plan... This ideology regarding human rights, rights that are the reverse of the cross. Human rights represent the monstrous expression, don't cut it, the monstrous expression of man's self-sufficiency, of man's autonomy, as when man is free. It is free, indeed, but it is free and it fulfills itself as a free being by placing it on the trajectory assumed by its ontological data. You are no longer free if you leave this state and become an ant, or become another animal, as the old fathers used to say, or speechless, become a horse, become... you are no longer human. You are free if you function in this vocation of your

nature. Either your nature is not autonomous. If air is taken from you, you will disappear in a few minutes. If your light is taken away, also; food, also, in some time....if your contact with people is also taken away, and then....We come into the world in a line, in a physical sequence, in a nation. Well, this condition is a dependence and must be accepted. We have to assume this string. Hey, I come from some parents. I have to become a parent myself.

What does it mean that the mother can have an abortion? Is she the master of her body? How to be the mistress of the body?! But where, did she invent it? Did she make it? No! It was given to her! So the existence of man, says a great theologian Matsaridis, quoting from the fathers, is given; "moved", he uses this word. You are not the master, you are the beneficiary of your own existence and you are obliged to respect its coordinates. In these coordinates is the vocation and the freedom to give birth. Because as you were born, so also you have the responsibility to give birth. Therefore, this ideology is embraced with great ease by women, to kill the baby from the womb, as it is her right... But there is another life. How can you have this right? Understand? Unfortunately, we are in a period of great crisis of female identity, but also in a great crisis of male identity. The man is called to be master of himself. Master means responsible. Head! Not to be misunderstood. The man abdicated his vocation, of being the head. He is often intimidated by the woman's arguments. If he risks and is uninspired to approach the path of arguments with the woman, he has no chance, because the woman is more talkative than the man by nature. But it is the talkativeness because this is the temptation. She is called to be silent and communicate through feeling, at the level of spirit and

intuition. You shouldn't ask a woman what you think, but what do you feel? Doing so you will benefit and get rich. As you think, the parallels are countless. I asked my students not what do you think, but what do you feel. None of them had an answer, they were dead. This is death. Man dies and lives only biologically. The spirit in him is dead. There (in spirit) is the source of life. There is the recapitulation of your person, there is your love, there is your faith, there is your thanksgiving, gratitude, expression. Words are only means, like the body. The body is a physical expression of the self. Who am I? The question of St. Gregory of Nyssa. Hands? No, not at all. They are mine, but they are not me. The eyes? No, not at all. They are mine, but they are not me. Then who am I? The spirit is me. ...

..... Because of my critical speech, many women call me a misogynist. But I love the female gender very much... I am one of those who wholeheartedly promote femininity. Not feminist ideologies, but femininity. Sometimes I am doing this with very harsh language. "Hey, go back [settle back] to your nature! Beware of masculine attitudes and moods, as muscles and other masculine features will grow on you and you will not be happy. We [men] won't be happy either [with women not being feminine anymore]. Especially since there is now an opposing wave that challenges us in this direction. This wave provokes especially women, but also men, to mock their nature. But that's because of us, we are responsible for this, because we do not potentiate ourselves and do not work on our specific vocation. We do not testify to the world that we are real men and real women. We do not testify to the world that our Christian families are fulfilled and happy. No! Our families are tormented, they are decadent, they are failures. Let's pray to the good God for the state of repentance.

Because our sins the family is mocked. We with the words...thank you! Nobody beats us. What about the deed? The statistics! Let's take the statistics and see the state of our families. I, in the 45 years since I have been a priest and have confessed and continue to confess, I manage hundreds of families [in fact he is confessing thousands of people] and I cannot count 3 successful families that can give joy to your soul.

Reporter: What is the solution to get us back?

Pr. Constantin: This: to fight with self-sufficiency and to settle in our own nature. Its own nature is this: for the woman to accept her status as earth, to receive the man's initiative and reap it. And the man should cultivate the seed and self-control, and to offer love to the woman.

To the woman, I say this: Hey, at least 3 months you also obey perfectly [after marriage]! Tell the man: whatever you say! Wherever you say! However you say! Do this and see what comes out of it! At the same time I say to the man: be careful, all your decisions, all your initiative should be for the love and joy of the woman, so that she feels that by obeying she gets from you exactly what she wanted. But she does not receive what she wants on the basis of her demand, but she receives it as a gift. When you claimed, you took away the other's right to give to you, because you forced him. The movement of love is not conditioned by obligation, and is a free movement. The woman's sin is reproach, the man's sin is the lack of initiative. The man must anticipate the reproach of the woman. Don't let the woman reprimand. She should have no reason to.

Reporter: Father, thank you very much!

Parents School' corner

Separate Feeling from behaviors – commentary from the book *Parenting toward the kingdom* by Philip Mamalakis

Dr. Mamalakis encourages parents to separate feelings from behaviors in principle 4 of *Parenting Toward the Kingdom*. This is a very important principle.

He explained that our children's feelings and behaviors require different responses, and as always, our children are learning by how we respond to them. It is thus important that we stand with our children and help them learn to manage their feelings, so that they are not controlled by them. When we help our children learn to manage their feelings, they learn to behave correctly even when they don't feel like doing so..

Dr. Mamalakis continues by recommending parents to set limits to behaviors. He says that children learn best when their parents have done well at setting limits. The limits that parents set will be good ones if they are clear and non-negotiable, shaped by God and His Own limits for His Church. These limits must be respectful and effective, and should work towards the family's long-term goals. While the limits are being established and enforced, parents need

to be careful to connect with their children.

Dr. Mamalakis next offers strategies for setting limits. He acknowledges that there are many ways to set limits, the best limits are clear and consistent, and steadfastly enforced. While "no" is simple and firm, it can often lead to a power struggle, so it is not necessarily the best way to begin to set a limit: instead, Dr. Mamalakis recommends "not yet." Another option is to offer the child a pathway to getting a "yes!" (ie: "Yes, after you have done x [thing that needs to be done] you may do y [that thing you just asked if you could do].") Giving directions and instructions is another way to set limits, but we must be careful not to misuse or overuse it. Along the way, sharing information with our children, directing them to the kind of behavior we want to see, breaking tasks into smaller ones, and incorporating fun into the directions/instructions makes easier for our children to understand and complete them. Giving directions straight up (not disguised as questions) and giving five-minute warnings for transitions are among other effective strategies. Above all, parents need to allow their children to struggle with the limits, not rescuing them or getting angry when they

struggle; but lovingly supporting them in the struggle.

Dr. Mamalakis goes on to discuss setting limits with your child. Because a parent's goal is for their children to grow up to make their own decisions and live within the limitations of the Faith, it makes sense for the children to gradually help to set their limits; to make choices and be responsible as is appropriate for their age. As parents set limits together with their children, Dr. Mamalakis suggests the following strategies: give choices, collaborate, brainstorm solutions, prepare your children beforehand, and follow up with them later.

Dr. Mamalakis gives ideas of ways that parents can respond to pushback. He tells his readers that it is normal for children to resist/argue/protest limits; and it is how they test to see if the rules really are firm. He suggests that, in response to pushback, we check in with our children; stand firmly by our rules; describe the process; walk away to give our children time to pull it together; apply the parenting strategies we know; reinforce any positive effort we notice; only explain our reasoning behind the rules once; give a "pull yourself together" time out (not as a punishment); and set limits to the pushback. If our children push beyond the limits that we have set, we will need to respond with consequences;

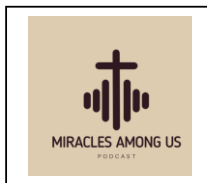
but consequences are not the first response to pushback.

Dr. Mamalakis writes that consequences should be the last resort when our children do not behave. They should help our children learn that our limits are firm, and teach our children about how life works. While we give consequences to our children for their behaviors, we need to be mindful of how we do so, in order to continue communicating that we love them unconditionally. We need to allow our children to experience natural consequences, demonstrate limiting behavior by limiting our own, and be prepared to give logical consequences when needed.

He writes that logical consequences range from tightening the limits to asking forgiveness to removing privileges. He warns parents against using vague or empty threats, and encourages his readers to be willing to sometimes "lose the battle to win the war," so to speak.

"Parenting Toward the Kingdom" outlines these principles:

1. Always parent with the end in mind.
2. Respond, don't react.
3. Understand struggles in terms of the values and the virtues of the Kingdom of God.
4. Separate feelings from behaviors.
5. Teach the joy of obedience.
6. Teach the joy of repentance.



Podcast *Miracles among us*, hosted by Fr. John Downie is coming back with new Episodes in June, 2024.

Miracles Among Us is a podcast where you can listen to how God is working powerfully in ordinary people's lives. You can also tell your story about how God has worked His miracles in your life; great miracles or small, by writing in or by setting up an interview.

We often think how amazing it must have been to live when Jesus Christ walked the earth preaching, healing and working wonders.

Yet, we now have another Comforter, the Holy Spirit in addition to Christ Himself Who will also be with us to the end of the ages.

Stay tuned and Let's glorify God for all of His Miracles Among Us!



www.miraclesamongus.net

Holy Archangel Michael Church First Children Summer Camp – July 11th -13th

Bible Study and spiritual talks, workshops (prayer ropes, prosphora), chanting, movie night, farm visit, beach and river trips, games, sleep over and a lot of fun. The full schedule will be available soon.

Parents and other volunteers are required for food and chaperoning. Children over 8 can sleep over on the church property (tents or/and museum).

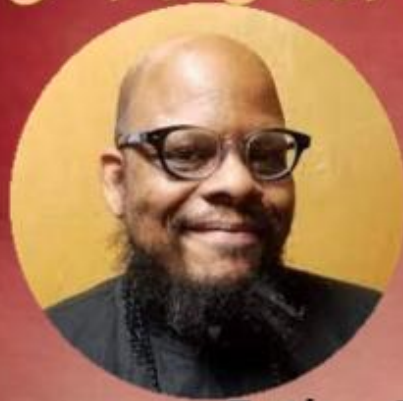
Age: 4 - 15. No fee. Registration deadline: June 21st.

All the way from Kansas City for a weekend with us!

Young Adult Retreat

Meet our Guest Speaker

Fr. Turbo Qualls



Father Turbo is one of the hosts of the very popular podcast *The Royal Path*. He is a tremendously effective Orthodox witness to young adults.

YAR
SPRING
EDITION
2024

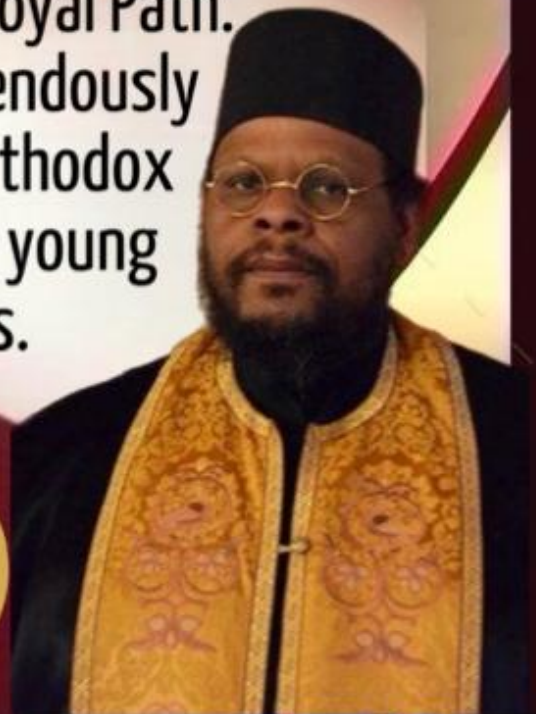
Attend
one, two,
or three
days!

May 31

June 1*

June 2

*June 1st
Open to
ALL AGES!



Saint Michael Romanian Orthodox Church
16 Romanian Ave Southbridge, MA
For more info call 508-909-6607
www.stmichaelorthodox.com



Schedule Young Adults Retreat and Speaker Event – Spring Edition 2024

Friday - May 31st:

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm - Registration

5:30 pm - 6:15 pm - Dinner

6:15 pm - Opening and welcome words - Fr. John Downie

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - **Lecture:** *Emotion. A great servant but a horrible master? What are our feelings for?* - Fr. Turbo Qualls

7:30 pm - 7:45 pm - Break

7:45 pm - 8:30 pm Q&A Session

8:30 pm - 9:00 pm - Break and preparation of the Bon Fire

9:00 pm - 10:00 pm - YAR music talent show (instruments: guitar, flute, drums, piano, etc)

Saturday, June 1st:

8:30 am - 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

10:00 am - 10:30 am – Breakfast

10:30 am - 11:30 am **Lecture/Speaker event (open to All):** *The Call of the Shepherd: Finding the Hidden Heart in Confession*

11:30 am - 11:45 am - Break

11:45 am - 12:45 pm Q&A Session

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Lunch ***After Lunch, the program will continue only for Young adults.*

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Prayer ropes workshop - Instructor: Joshua Seigler

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Sports/Social interactions

5:00 pm – Vespers

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Dinner

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Movie Night & Pop Corn!

Sunday, June 2nd:

9:00 am - Matins

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

11:45 am fr. Turbo's sermon

12:15 pm Coffee hours for all & Cookout for YAR

3:00 pm Summary & End of Retreat



Publick House- Turkey Buffet on 6-3-24

(Monday)

Fundraiser for St. Michael's Orthodox Church of Southbridge

Dinner Seatings are 4:30 - 6:00 pm and 6:30- 8:00pm

Tickets are **\$16 each**-(**\$5.00** for children) please exact cash or a check payable to the Publick House * **Must be prepaid tickets, none at the door. Tickets are for sale until Thursday 5-30-24.**

Available at Federated Church 8 Maple St. Sturbridge:
M-F 9-12pm until May 30th.

Contact persons:

Ken Benson cell: 774-230-3848 or email:

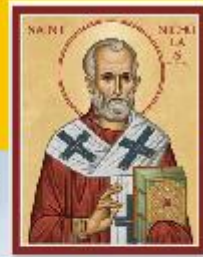
[kreb0815@gmail.com](mailto:krb0815@gmail.com)

Sandra Nasto : 774-318-8659 Sturbridge

Spiro Thomo : 774-200-8043 Southbridge

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

34 GOLD STREET | SHREWSBURY, MA



Please Join us on

Sunday June 23rd

As we are celebrating the

75th Anniversary

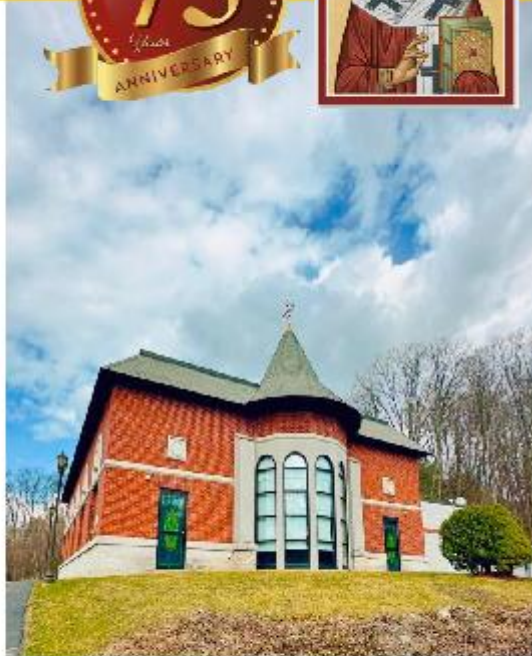
of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

After the Holy Liturgy

from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm



Ask us about the 75th
Anniversary cross
project.



We ask for your support by placing an acknowledgment in the

Program Booklet

Giving Categories

- **Diamond** **\$2,000** Includes 2 full special pages & acknowledgments.
- **Platinum** **\$1,000** Includes 2 full pages.
- **Gold** **\$500** Includes 1 full page.
- **Silver** **\$250** Includes half page.
- **Patron** **\$100** Single-entry line

Ticket Prices

Adults **\$ 60**

Children (12 under) **\$ 20**

FOR TICKETS & PROGRAM BOOKLET

FR. VASILE AILENI 508-320-0645

GEORGE DEMAKE 774-239-7804

EMAIL | PARISHCOUNCIL@STNICHOLASCHURCH.ORG

WEB | WWW.STNICHOLASCHURCH.ORG

June 2024

Saint Michael's Romanian Orthodox Church

Southbridge, Massachusetts

www.stmichaelorthodox.com

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | 1 Divine Liturgy 9:00am Vespers and Litia 5:00pm |
| 2 Matins 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am | 3 | 4 | 5 Mid Pentecost Fish allowed | 6 7:00 pm Bible Study - Zoom | 7 Fish Allowed | 8 Divine Liturgy 9:00am Vespers 5:00pm |
| 9 Matins 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am | 10 | 11 | 12 Fish allowed Vespers, Litia and Matins 6:30pm | 13 Ascension of our Lord | 14 Fish allowed | 15 Divine Liturgy 9:00am Vespers 5:00pm |
| 16 Matins 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am | 17 | 18 | 19 Fish allowed | 20 | 21 Fish allowed | 22 Saturday of All Souls Divine Liturgy and Memorial services 9:00am Vespers, and Litia 5:00pm |
| 23 Pentecost Matins 8:30am Divine Liturgy and Vespers 9:30am | 24 Fish Allowed Holy Trinity and The Nativity of St. John the Baptist Divine Liturgy 5:00am The beginning of Sts. Peter and Paul Fast | 25 + Strict Fast | 26 + Strict Fast | 27 + Strict Fast | 28 + Strict Fast Vespers, Litia and Matins 6:00pm | 29 Sts. Peter and Paul 5:00 am Divine Liturgy |
| 30 Synaxis of the Twelve St. Apostles Sunday of All Saints | | | | | | |