ARCHANGEL MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, November 22, 2026

5025 E. Mill Road – Broadview Heights, Ohio 44147
440.526.5192 - info@stmichaelscleveland.org

www.StMichaelsCleveland.org

V. REV. FR. JOHN MEMORICH
(C) 216.548.8757
frjohn@stmichaelscleveland.org

Our parish welcomes you and thanks you for joining us in worship this morning. If you desire any information about our parish, our diocese, or the Orthodox Church and Faith, please contact Fr. John Memorich. Check us out online or visit our Facebook Page which is updated regularly!

CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST!

Afterfeast of the Entry into the Temple. Apostles of the Seventy Philemon and Archippus, Martyr Apphia, wife of Philemon and Equal-to-the-Apostles, and Onesimus, disciple of St. Paul.

25th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 8.

EPISTLE READING
Eph. 4:1-6

GOSPEL LESSON
Luke 12:16-21

WEEKLY SCHEDULE
Nativity Fast

Sunday, November 22
9:30 am Divine Liturgy (Live Stream)
Church School
Parastas – Gregory Misichko

Monday, November 23 **St. Alexander Nevsky**

Tuesday, November 24 **Greatmartyr Catherine**

Wednesday, November 25 **St. Clement of Ochrid**

Thursday, November 26



Saturday, November 28
5:00 pm Vespers/Confession

Sunday, November 29
9:30 am Divine Liturgy (Live Stream)

CHURCH OFFICE

PLEASE NOTE - Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the church office will be closed Thursday and Friday. The **Deadline** for Bulletin input is Tuesday, November 25, 2025 - 12 noon.

PRAYERS, CANDLES, 7-DAY VIGILS and FLOWERS

FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:

Birthday –
Mike Gaydos.....by Dad, Mom & Family

Health –
Rosemary Andrews.....by the Family
Ann Marie Krynock (7-d) .....
.....by Rebecca Timko / Gabrielle Palladino
Dan & Sandy Mehalik .....by Lynda Kostura

FOR THE REPOSE AND BLESSED MEMORY OF:

Kuzma Hanchuk (Departed).....by Family
Annette Lapso (Departed; 7-d) .....by Dennis Lapso

The **Two High Place Candles** are given in memory of **Michael Supra** on the 16th anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord by the Muzic & Ramsay Families.

NOVEMBER COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR

Sunday School

Bulletin Information (Deadline)

Deadline for the bulletin Sunday, Nov 30, is **Tuesday - 12/noon.** Please forward any information you would like to have added to the bulletin to the church email – info@stmichaelscleveland.org or call 440-526-5192.
Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fri, Dec 4 – HALOS Christmas Event
- Sun, Dec 13 – Nativity Concert @ St. Vladimir's Ukrainian OC, Parma, OH
- Thurs, Dec 17 – GCCOC – 6:30 pm Unction Service @ St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Cathedral, Cleveland, OH
- Sun, Dec 20 - Yolka

St. James Prayer List – November

"The prayer of the righteous has great power in its affects"
(St. James 5:1)
For the complete St. James Prayer List,
please see the most recent issue of the Archangel.

NATIVITY FAST

The Nativity Fast - according to the practice of the OCA, it is a strict fast: We refrain from meat, dairy products, and eggs. Fish, wine, and oil are allowed on certain days; these are marked on the wall calendar (e.g., if a day says "fish, wine, & oil," that means that those three foods are allowed on that day.

CONFESSION DURING THE NATIVITY FAST

Confession is in order for all during the Advent Season. Please approach in a timely manner.

PLEDGE LETTERS and CARDS

All pledge cards and letters have been mailed out. To date we have received 101 pledges from over 265 distributed, **due date is December 1st.** **Please** return those ASAP! Food for thought – instead of contributing to McDonald's or Starbuck's bottom line – donate to your church. $5/week makes a difference .....

The impact is significant!

To meet your 2026 pledge, the last Sunday to submit checks is December 27th. Any checks or cash received AFTER Dec. 28 will go towards your 2027 pledge. Thank you for your prayers and financial support to the parish.

NOTE: Direct payments can be made thru your bank via an on-line banking service where the bank can send the check directly to the church in a given amount on a specific date - offered for FREE vs using PayPal, which charges a 3.48% fee on each transaction you make. Contact your bank or go on-line to initiate this service.

SAMARITANS – BAKING COOKIES

The Samaritans will be distributing cookies to shut-ins and members over 80+ (let us know who you are). Any questions, reach out to Kathy Kovalak – 440-842-6639.

- **Sun, Dec 6 –** Drop off cookies to church
- **Weds, Dec 9 –** Box Cookies for distribution
- **Sun, Dec 13 –** Pick up cookies for delivery

PIEROGI MAKING

Please join us to peel and pinch –

Tuesday, Dec 15	12 noon	Peeling potatoes
Wednesday, Dec 16	9:00 am	Pinching

Any questions, please contact Donna Tesar – 216-401-2834.

Happy Birthday to you who are celebrating this week



November

Michael Gaydos	22	Jason Pfeiffer	24
Lois Colagrossi	23	Amanda Malinowski	28

Happy anniversary to those celebrating this week



November

James & Barbara Mates	23	William & Pauline Mehalik	24

May God grant you many years!!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA FLOWERS



Donations for flowers can be made in honor of/or in memory of a loved one. Please see the attached flyer.

NEW CHALICES



Despite the ongoing embargo with Russia, we were finally able to circumvent normal procedures and procure four new chalices for our parish. We had hoped these much-needed liturgical items would have been here in time for our parish's 100th anniversary, but better late than never.

If there are any individuals or families that would like to donate the cost of one or more of these chalices, perhaps in memory of departed loved ones, please contact Fr. John.

55+ Club Members

Our Christmas lunch is scheduled for

- Tuesday, December 29 at 11 am
- Woodside Event Center
- Cost is $15/member and $20/guest
- Gift exchange - $15 - gender neutral gift
- Contact Liz Herberth to confirm – 440-590-2174

Event is open to all!

Also, please note there will be .....NO MEETINGS for the months of December & January!!! Please provide your due payment - $10 - to Liz Herberth.

Please mark your calendars for February 16th with a Parastas service for our 55+ Club deceased members @11am, followed by meeting & lunch.

🎉 3rd Annual Charity Raffle – Clean Water Project in Pokot, Kenya

Tickets can be purchased **online** or by **check payable to St. Michael's**. If you prefer to enter by check, please give your check to **Darlene Dimitrijevs**. Our next drawing will take place on Sunday, December 6th. Thank you all for your generous support!

ZOE HOUSE TOY DRIVE

Christmas is around the corner and sometimes Zoe House is the only resource for moms of young children to "shop" for gifts. We try to accommodate children from newborn to size 5T with gently used toys, clothing, coats, books, as well as strollers, highchairs, swings, beds (bassinets to toddler) and more.

If you have toys that your children have outgrown, or if you need to make space for the new items, they may receive this Christmas, please consider donating the no longer used toys to Zoe House.

Donations can be brought to the church and left at the front door or can be delivered directly to Zoe House, 5454 State Rd. (call for an available time 216-465-9030). If you have any questions, feel free to call Zoe House. Or you can talk to Kathy Kovalak, Donna Tesar, Liz Herberth, Mary Hoffman, or Judi Wienclaw - AMOC's Zoe volunteers.

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS – 2026

Thank you to those who have sponsored a coffee hour!

November – Sunday School December – BOT (Board of Trustees)

HELP US KEEP IN TOUCH

We kindly ask all parishioners to help us keep our records up to date by providing any changes to your **phone number, home address, or email address**. We strongly encourage you to include your **cell phone number**, as it greatly helps us communicate important announcements and updates in a timely manner.

CANDLES & PRAYERS

Have your loved one(s) remembered or prayed for during the Liturgy by requesting Candles & Prayers. Each request includes a listing in the bulletin, the name read during the service and the specific candle you would like. A $3 candle burns during the service; a $15 Seven-Day candle burns all week. There are specialty candles as well (i.e., Tetrapod Candles, High Place, Altar Table, etc.). Prices for those range from $20-$30. Call or email the church office to submit your request – or leave it in the collection basket, or at the candle desk. Call the church office with any questions!

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Health & Well-Being

Health * Birthdays * Anniversaries * Name Day * Traveling

Repose & Blessed Memory

Newly Departed * Death Anniversary * Birthday of the Departed

the halos ARCHANGEL MICHAEL

Friday, December 4



DONATE TO THE FOCA

SEMINARIAN GIVING TREE



This year we are supporting 2 families from St. Tikhon's Seminary. The wish lists are very limited for each family. We have one short Amazon wish list and are collecting money and gift cards to fulfill the remaining wishes, which include a play kitchen and indoor play yard.

Find the Amazon Wish List at: https://bit.ly/3WoDdnl

We are also collecting the following gift cards in any amount:
Amazon
Walmart

Make checks payable to:
Cleveland R Club

Venmo: @Cleveland-RClub

Return all gifts by Sunday, November 22

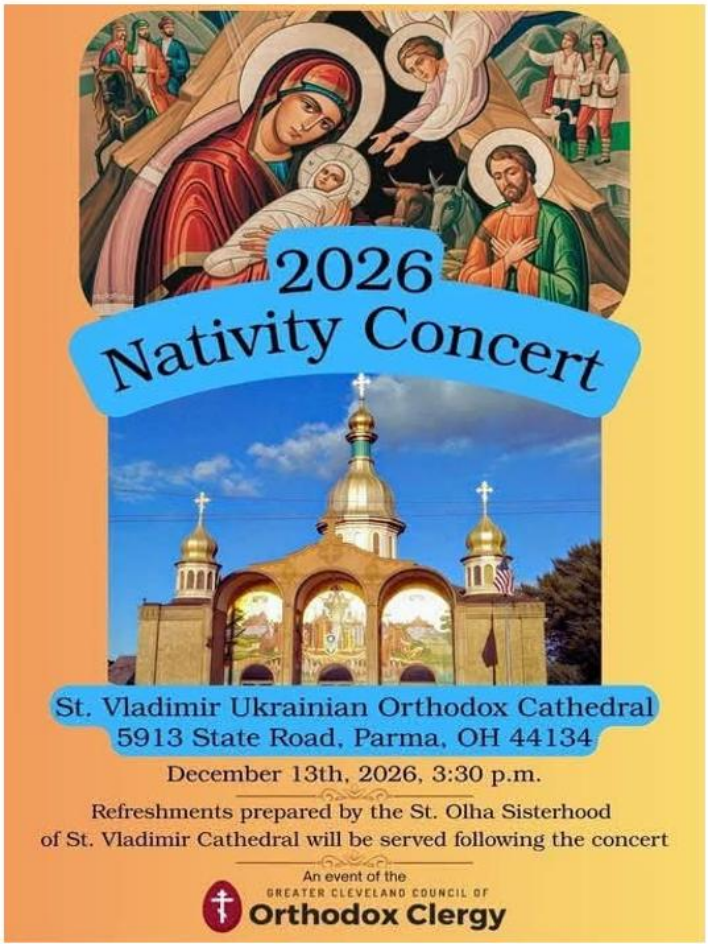
Contact Becky Tesar with questions 216-403-4070



Friday, December 11 – Saturday, December 12



Sunday, December 13



Sunday, December 20

https://stmichaelscleveland.org/nativity-pageant/



Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon on the Beginning of the Nativity Fast

November 15, 2026 Protocol 11/018

To the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, beloved children in the Lord,

Christ is in our midst!

We have now entered into a season of growing darkness. For weeks now, the sun has been retreating earlier and earlier, and the cool darkness has descended upon us. This darkness is for some of us a welcome respite from the heat and activity of the warmer months. For others, it is an unwelcome, oppressive invasion into our already complicated and difficult lives.

In our culture, the newly descended darkness is accompanied by a flurry of consumption of all things new and shiny. We engage in a frantic search for meaning and depth, looking to new gadgets and prepackaged experiences to fill the dark void of meaninglessness. We are also regularly reminded of the losses and gaps within our homes and hearts. This season is one where families are expected to gather together. The expectation carries with it the possibility of great bonds of communion and levity. But for many of us, those relationships can be fraught with fractures and reverberate with anxiety. Instead of the warmth of a table full of familiar faces, we find ourselves surrounded by more than a few empty chairs.

My beloved children in the Lord, the darkness is not destined to remain, and the light is just on the horizon!

The darkness that currently prevails is an invitation into kindling an eager expectation for the light which comes into the world at our Lord's nativity in the flesh. The Lord offers us an invitation to step into the light and to hear his offer of relief. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). We are weary from the vanity of the world and we are burdened by the strained and fractured relationships all around us. And it is precisely in the midst of that the light of our Lord's face shines upon us. Vanity and loss are not the end of the story because Christ Himself has entered into the world ushering in a reign of grace and truth (John 1:14). In Christ we find ourselves truly seen and loved by God in all of our complexities and struggles. This is the sweet taste of grace and the victory of truth.

In light of the gift of our Lord's advent we ask what can we offer to Him? We are given by our mother, the Church, in this season the spiritual disciplines of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving to help cleanse and reset our bodily appetites, to refocus and cleanse our mind's eye, and to unburden and direct our hearts towards the light. These ascetical tools are not given to us in order to increase our to-do list and overwhelm us. Rather, these tools are given to us to give us a deeply needed reset in order to embrace and rest in the light of God. We lighten our load by lessening our excessive dependence upon food, focusing our wandering and forgetful minds upon God, and loosening the anxious grip that material goods have upon us. This is how the light may more brightly shine within our hearts.

In addition to these spiritual disciplines I also suggest renewing the light of friendship and fellowship. Unsubscribe, log off, and put the screens away. Help someone in your neighborhood with a practical need, like raking their lawn. Sit with a loved one over tea and coffee and just listen to them with no other agenda than that. Try making your gifts for Christmas rather than just buying them. Remember and pray for those whom we have lost. Write a handwritten note of encouragement or thanks to someone. Make a good meal for someone in need and share it with them. In the light of Christ, we can find truth and grace abounding everywhere, especially in the small things that bring us closer to one another and, therefore, to God.

May God bless us as we enter into these shorter days filling our hearts with an eager expectation of our Lord's coming in the flesh at His Nativity. Glory to Him who has shown us the light! With my primatial prayers and blessing for these holy days of anticipation,

+ Tikhon
Archbishop of Washington,
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

Archpastoral Message of the Most Reverend DANIEL Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest at the Beginning of the Nativity Fast 2026

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and Devoted Faithful of the Diocese of the Midwest

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,

The Church once again invites us to enter into the holy season of the Nativity Fast. In these blessed forty days, we are invited to walk the road to Bethlehem and to prepare ourselves, as individuals and as communities of faith, to celebrate the great and awesome mystery of the Incarnation. As the Gospels attest, the Word "begotten of the Father before all ages" took upon Himself our human flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14). Although a great mystery, the Incarnation of the Son of God is not some abstract theological concept or unapproachable truth. Rather, it touches upon our human life and experience. Christ was born at a particular time, in a particular place, during the reign of a specific ruler, and was laid in a real manger in the town of David. The Creator of time took on human flesh and was born in time. God did not remain distant from His creation. He entered into our life, experienced our pain, understood our weakness and our mortality. He took them upon Himself so that He might heal them, sanctify them, and raise them up.

The keeping of the Fast and the celebration of the Feast do not have us only look back to Christ's birth in Bethlehem. We are also called to look to the future, toward the coming of the Lord in glory. The Child of the manger is the King who will come again to judge the living and the dead, and His Kingdom will have no end. So, we live between two comings. The first was in humility, hidden in a cave. The second will be in glory, seen by all creation. In this "in between time," we strive to keep our lamps burning and to keep watch, so that when the Bridegroom comes He may find us ready.

What can we do to maintain this vigilance, this preparedness? How should we live and what should we do in the Fast that lies ahead of us? The Church offers us the tools which it has always offered and offers once again:

Let us enter ever more deeply into prayer. Make room for Christ in each day, both in church and in the quiet of our homes. Let our personal prayer and family prayers, the services of the Church, and the reading of Holy Scripture fill these weeks.

Let us fast, not only from food, but from the distractions in our lives. During these holy days, we fast from food and maintain a fasting routine. But we also fast from anger, judging others, gossip, and the constant distracting noise of the world around us that keeps us from hearing God.

Let us reach out in love and charity to those in any kind of need. We remember that the Lord who became poor for our sake meets us in the poor, the hungry, the lonely, the refugee, and the suffering. Our suffering and disadvantaged brothers and sisters are all around us; we meet them in our daily lives and routines. Let us not forget them during as we journey to Bethlehem, remembering Christ was born poor and outcast and that whatever we do for the least of His brethren, we do for Christ Himself.

Let us repent of our sins and seek forgiveness. I call upon all of you to make a sincere confession before the Feast for which we prepare, so that the manger of our hearts may be swept clean and ready to receive the newborn King. And, before the Feast of Peace, seek peace with those from whom you are estranged. The angels sang "peace on earth." Let that peace begin in your families, in your parishes, and in your communities.

Let us focus on the meaning and purpose of the Nativity Fast. My beloved, the world around us often rushes to celebrate before it has prepared and then forgets the Feast as soon as it arrives. We are called to something deeper: a patient, joyful preparation that brings us to the Nativity with hearts able to receive its full light. Let us not allow this holy season to pass without bearing fruit in our lives.

May the Most Holy Theotokos, who carried the Word within her and waited in faith for His birth, guide us on our journey to Bethlehem. May we walk this journey in faith and arrive at Bethlehem ready to fall down and worship the One who shared in our life so that we may share in His.

I offer my blessing to all of you as we begin this holy season and assure you of my prayers for you and your loved ones. I ask your prayers as well.

With love in Christ,

+DANIEL
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

2026 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Once again, we will be decorating the church for the Holiday Season with Poinsettia flowers. Please consider a donation in honor or memory of your loved ones. Flowers will remain in the church until the New Year – and your donation helps defray the cost of the flowers. All names will appear as printed below in the bulletin on Sunday, December 20th.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NAMES/DONATIONS IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

(Names submitted after December 13 are not guaranteed to be included.)

Please complete this form and return it to the Church Office with your **donation check/cash** (made out to Archangel Michael Orthodox Church) – marked as Christmas Poinsettia Flowers.
Orders can be returned in the Sunday Collection basket or mailed to the church office.
Be sure to note "**Poinsettia**" on your donation check.



PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____ **Envelope #:** _____ **Check #:** _____ **Amount:** _____

Phone: ( ) _____ **Email:** _____

Donated By: _____

(how it will be listed in the Bulletin, i.e. The Memorich Family or Kathy & John Mindala)

In Honor Of	In Memory Of

ONLY INFORMATION LISTED ON THIS SHEET WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE BULLETIN ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20th.

(attach a separate sheet if necessary)

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

NOVEMBER - 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Unmercenaries & Wonderworkers Cosman & Damian 1 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME – CLOCKS FALL BACK 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Church School	2 10am-Prosphora Baking 12noon-Pieroghi – peel potatoes	3 9:30am – Pieroghi pinching	4 9:30am-Bake Nut Horns	5	6 6pm-HALOS–Open Gym	7 5pm – Vespers/Confession
Synaxis of the Archangel Michael 8 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Church School St. Michael's Day Banquet	9 6pm-FOCUS/St. Herman's @ St. Mary's ROC	10	11 9:30am-Molieben 9:30am-Package Bakery 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	12	St. John Chrysostom 13 9:30am-Set Up / Bake Bread	Apostle Philip St. Gregory Palamas 14 10am-Help 11am-4 pm - Baba's Kitchen 5pm – Vespers/Confession
15 **Nativity Fast Begins** 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Church School Package candy for St. Herman's	Holy Apostle & Evangelist Matthew 16 5pm-Dinner/Serve @ St. Herman's	17 11am-55+ Meeting/Lunch 7pm-Adult Education – Second Sign of Jesus	18 7pm-BOT Meeting	19 10am-Adult Education – Second Sign of Jesus SOLOS – First Ladies Museum / Canton, OH	20 7pm-Book Club	Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos 21 9:30 am-Divine Liturgy 5pm-Vespers/Confession
22 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Church School Parastas – Gregory Misichko	St. Alexander Nevsky 23	Grtmrtyr. Catherine 24	St. Clement of Ochrid 25	THANKSGIVING 26	27	28 5pm-Vespers/Confession
29 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Church School	Holy Apostle Andrew 30					