



Newsletter October 2015

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/

October Important Church Dates:

Sunday 4th – St. Sophia Slava & Potluck Meal

Sunday 11th – Venerable Chariton the Confessor

Wednesday 14th – Protection of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

Sunday 18th – Martyr Charitina of Amisus

Sunday 25st – Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council.

Friday 30th – 7pm Guest Speaker Fr. Michael Oyer

Announcement: We will begin our study on the Orthodox perspective of the End Times. Please join us on Wed. Sept. 30th and Wed. Oct. 7th at St. Michael's Church at 6:30pm.

Please note, Fr. Gregory will be out of town from 10/14 through 10/23. Fr. Seraphim Joa will serve Vespers & Liturgy on 10/17 & 10/18.

Supplies Needed: Please consider donating the following:

- Coffee, decaf and regular (Specialty coffee is always appreciated!), Creamer, Paper Plates, Plastic Forks, Paper Towels

Coffee Hour: (* Fast Day)

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| Oct. 4 th – St. Sophia Slava | Nov. 1 st – Sisterhood |
| Oct. 11 th – Bergantz | Nov. 8 th – Craft |
| Oct. 18 th – Capsopoulos | Nov. 15 th – Darzi/Baker |
| Oct. 25 th – Cox | Nov. 22 nd – Ellis/Fontane |
| | * Nov. 29 th – Gulas |

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:

8th – Ivan Sievers
8th – Kathe Hoyer
11th – Timothy Harwell
21st – Cate Queener
26th – Brad Zarzaur
27th – Sophia Harwell

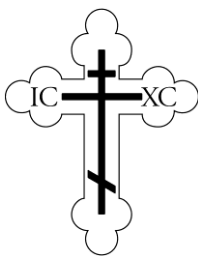
Anniversaries:

5th – Charles & Anastasia Malmede
16th – Bob & Mary Zarzaur

News Items – Please send church news items to the Newsletter Editor: Rick Kaiser at rkmk2012@gmail.com



Several families have moved this year, leaving some gaps in our coffee hour list! Please talk to Fr. Gregory, Mat. Ann or one of the board members about having your name added to the list. It's a simple way to get involved, a great venue to greet newcomers that come to visit, and the more responsibility we share, the better it is for all. Thanks!



Be the Bee and not the Fly

Some people tell me that they are scandalized because they see many things wrong in the Church. I tell them that if you ask a fly, “Are there any flowers in this area?” it will say, “I don’t know about flowers, but over there in that heap of rubbish you can find all the filth you want.” And it will go on to list all the unclean things it has been to.

Now, if you ask a honeybee, “Have you seen any unclean things in this area?” it will reply, “Unclean things? No, I have not seen any; the place here is full of the most fragrant flowers.” And it will go on to name all the flowers of the garden or the meadow.

You see, the fly only knows where the unclean things are, while the honeybee knows where the beautiful iris or hyacinth is.

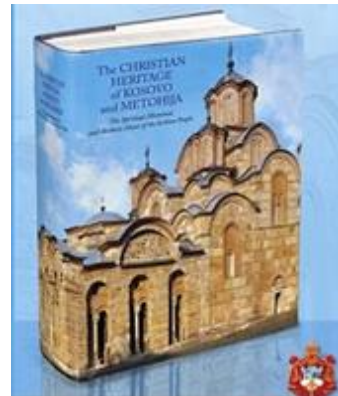
As I have come to understand, some people resemble the honeybee and some resemble the fly. Those who resemble the fly seek to find evil in every circumstance and are preoccupied with it; they see no good anywhere. But those who resemble the honeybee only see the good in everything they see. The stupid person thinks stupidly and takes everything in the wrong way, whereas the person who has good thoughts, no matter what he sees, no matter what you tell him, maintains a positive and good thought.

+ St. Paisios of Mt. Athos, “Good and Evil Thoughts,” *Spiritual Counsels III: Spiritual Struggle*

St. Lazar and the Battle of Kosovo: The Spiritual Significance of Kosovo and Metoija

A talk by Guest Speaker, Fr. Seraphim Baltic at St. Michael's Church on September 11, 2015

St. Michael's Church was honored to welcome Fr. Serafim Baltic recently for a talk about St. Lazar and the Battle of Kosovo and the spiritual significance of what has since become 'Serbia's Holy Land.' In 1389, the Serbian Christian Prince St. Lazar led his army in battle against the invading Moslem Turkish army led by Sultan Murad. This historic battle changed the course of history. However, the Christian and spiritual significance of this even goes beyond a mere political and military struggle, for at its heart, the Battle of Kosovo was a battle for the Heavenly Kingdom and the preservation of the Orthodox Christian Faith. The lessons of Kosovo are still as relevant today as they were then. Today's Christians face great battles against their faith by immoral and evil forces around the world. Kosovo offers an example of how Christians can be victorious over evil with God's help. At the end of his talk, Fr. Seraphim brought a copy of the new book "The Christian Heritage of Kosovo and Metohija which will become a welcome addition to our growing library at St. Michael's.



Confessions: may be heard Saturdays after Vespers; also Sunday mornings before Divine Liturgy between 9:40 & 10 am or contact Fr. Gregory to arrange a time. Please come early on Sunday mornings so we may start Divine Liturgy on time.

House Blessings: Please contact Fr. Gregory to schedule your house blessing at: (church) 256-881-2449; (home) 256-325-4401 or (email) frgregory1@gmail.com

Prayer List:

Please keep in your prayers

Living: **Church Members:** Jim Cesari, Kathe Hoyer, Brad Zarzaur, Ashley Zarzaur. **Friends of Members:** Anna Kobasa (mother of Helen Bergantz), Corey Robinson, Danny, Jean, Donna, Doug, John, Rachel, Demi, Anne, Joanne Karas, Glen, Catrina Thomas.

Reposed: Vangie Pamfilis, Milan Petrovic, Jim Smith (Lisa Crafts' father), Larry Smith (Lisa Craft's Uncle), Anna Scoggins (mother of Kathy Hoyer), Mary Kochoff, Mary, Sam, Frances, Joe, Anne, Stan, Daniel, Anna, Fryni, Nelia, Natalie, Brandie Cesari (Jim Cesari's wife).

Committees/Chairpersons:

Choir Director – Sandy Ellis
Ass't Choir Director – Matushka Ann
Sisterhood President – Iryna Haddock
Sunday School Director - Matushka Ann
Church Supply Coordinator – Loren Capsopoulos
Library & Bookstore – Matushka Ann
Building Maintenance - Bob and Rick
Welcoming Committee Coordinator – Charles Malmede
Capital Campaign – Hal Pastrick and Joe Bergantz
Website – Charles Malmede
Newsletter Bulletin – Rick Kaiser
Candle Supplies – Michele Kaiser

Church Council – 2014 to 2015

Father Gregory Schultz – Parish Administrator
Bob Zarzaur– President
Michele Platt – Vice President
Joe Bergantz – Treasurer
Marshal Standifer – Secretary

Members at large – Sandy Ellis, Mike Jokich, Rick Kaiser, Charles Malmede, Hal Pastrick

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

Office hours at the church are as follows.*
Tuesday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Wednesday: 12 noon – 6:00 pm
Thursday: 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 (i.e.; when someone is ill, etc.). If you need to see him, please call ahead.*