



## St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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**Sunday August 7, 2016 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — 7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. Afterfeast of the Transfiguration.** Martyr Dometius of Persia and two disciples (363). Finding of the Relics of St. Mitrophanes, first Bishop of Voronezh (1832). Ven. Pimen (Poemen) the Much-ailing, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—1110). Ven. Pimen, Faster, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.). St. Mercurius, Bishop of Smolensk (Kiev Caves—Near Caves—1239)

### This Week's Schedule

*Saturday 8/13              Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.*

*Sunday 8/14 Hours 8:40 a.m*

*Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m*

*followed by coffee hour*

*Transfiguration Vespers 7:00 p.m.*

### Reader Schedule

| DATE   | 3 <sup>RD</sup> HOUR | 6 <sup>TH</sup> HOUR | EPISTLE    |
|--------|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Aug 7  | S BUNITSKY           | K BUNITSKY           | FINCK      |
| Aug 14 | L SULPIZI            | SOUDERS              | BRASOWSKI  |
| Aug 15 | <b>DORMITION</b>     |                      |            |
| Aug 21 | S BUNITSKY           | K BUNITSKY           | S BUNITSKY |
| Aug 28 | SOUDER               | PECK                 | PECK       |
| Sept 4 | A RILEY              | J RILEY              | J RILEY    |

## Hymns and Prayers

### **Tone 6 Troparion**

*(Resurrection)*

The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.

Mary stood by Your grave,  
seeking Your most pure body.

You took hell captive,//  
not being tempted by it.

You came to the Virgin, granting life.//

O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

### **Tone 7 Troparion**

*(Transfiguration)*

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God,  
revealing Your glory to Your Disciples as far as they could bear it.  
Let Your everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners,  
through the prayers of the Theotokos!//

O Giver of Light, glory to You!

O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

### **Tone 4 Troparion**

*(Martyr Dometius)*

Trained in asceticism on the mountain,  
with the weapon of the Cross you destroyed the spiritual assaults of the  
hostile powers, all-blessed one;  
once again you bravely prepared for combat  
and for both struggles you have been crowned by God,//  
Monk-martyr Dometius of eternal memory.

### **Tone 6 Kontakion**

*(Resurrection)*

When Christ God the Giver of Life,  
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,  
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.//  
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

### **Tone 6 Kontakion**

*(Martyr Dometius)*

You rose above earthly things  
which drag down the mind;  
You were a great guide of monks, O Dometius.  
You did not fear the furious emperor who would not honor God.  
Therefore, hieromartyr, you died singing the hymn://  
“God is with me and no one is against me.”

### **Tone 7 Kontakion** (*Transfiguration*)

On the mountain You were transfigured, O Christ God,  
and Your Disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it;  
so that when they would behold You crucified,  
they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary,  
and would proclaim to the world//  
that You are truly the Radiance of the Father.

### **Tone 6 Prokeimenon**

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance! (*Ps 27/28:9*)

*v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)*

### **Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all! (*Ps 103/104:24*)

### **Epistle Romans 15:1-7**

*We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification.*

*For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.”*

*For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*

*Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ*

*Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.*

### **Tone 6**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. (Ps 90/91:1)*

*v: He will say to the Lord: “My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust.” (Ps 90/91:2)*

## Tone 8

v: *The heavens are Yours; the earth also is Yours. (Ps 88/89:11)*

### Gospel Matthew 9:27-35

*When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!”*

*And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.”*

*Then He touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith let it be to you.”*

*And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, “See that no one knows it.”*

*But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country.*

*As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed. And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, “It was never seen like this in Israel!”*

*But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons.”*

*Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people*

**(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing:)**

Magnify, O my soul, the Lord Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor!

Your childbearing was without corruption;  
God came forth from your body clothed in flesh,  
and appeared on earth and dwelt among men.  
Therefore we all magnify you, O Theotokos.

### Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1)  
O Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance, and will exult in  
Your name forever. (Ps 88/89:15b)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### This Week's Announcements

**Parish Council Meeting** Just a reminder that our August parish council meeting will be held Thursday Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Dormition Fast** The Theotokos, the Virgin Mary, was “blessed amongst women,” and she was chosen “to bear the Savior of our souls.” Orthodox Christians consider her to be the Queen of all the saints and angels. Knowing that she is eternally present at the throne of God interceding for mankind, we pray for her love, guidance, and protection. Every year the Orthodox Church sets aside the first fourteen days of August in honor of the Virgin Mary. This fast period peaks on August 15th, when the Church gathers to celebrate the great feast of the Dormition (Falling-Asleep) of the Theotokos. The fourth and final fasting season of the Church year is the Dormition Fast. This fast begins August 1<sup>st</sup> and lasts for two weeks until the Feast of the Dormition on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos** The feast commemorates her glorification and salvation in Jesus Christ. Fr. John Hopko says that, "the feast of the Dormition is the sign, the guarantee, and the celebration that Mary's fate is, the destiny of all those of "low estate" whose souls magnify the Lord, whose spirits rejoice in God the Saviour, whose lives are totally dedicated to hearing and keeping the Word of God which is given to men in Mary's child, the Saviour and Redeemer of the world". According to tradition, while in prayer, an angel appeared to the Theotokos telling her that she would leave this world. As a token and promise that her Son awaited, the angel gave her a branch with flowers from Eden. So on this day in honor of the greatest flower of womanhood, and the first to receive the promise of the awaiting kingdom, flowers are brought for blessing. We will celebrate this feast with Vespers on Sunday Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and Divine Liturgy on Aug. 15th at 9:00 a.m. followed by the blessing of flowers and seed.

**Reminder!** In and Out should not be the traffic pattern by the back door during services. Use the restroom before coming to church. You shouldn't need to get a drink of water during the service (especially if you are taking Communion!) - come to pray. It should go without saying that adults and teens should be able to hold their place for the entire service, without moving around or going in and out of the nave during the time of the service.

**Summer Reading Table** There is a new library table put out for your summer reading. Take a book with you on vacation, to the beach, wherever the summer takes you, take a book!

**Study Group Summer Break** Please note our study group will have our summer break during the month of July. Thanks to all who continue to help make the study group a blessed time for everyone.. We will resume late summer with the study of "The Ladder of Divine Ascent.

### ***A Saint Who Was the Mother, Wife and Aunt of Saints***

On August 5 the Church remembers Saint Nonna, who is often chiefly identified as the mother of Saint Gregory the Theologian. She was indeed his mother, but there is much more to know about her.

Raised in a Christian family, Nonna learned early to love Christ. She was also a dutiful daughter. So when her family arranged an "advantageous" marriage to a wealthy landowner, Gregory of Arianzus, she obediently accepted him as her husband.

But the marriage was a source of pain to her, because she loved Gregory and worried about his salvation. He was a member of a pagan sect, and a fire worshipper.

Nonna prayed fervently that her husband would come to the true faith. Her son Gregory, in his writings, describes the way in which her prayers were answered. His father, he writes, had a dream in which he was singing the first verse of Psalm 122 (121): "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.' " The dream was so vivid that it made the elder Gregory actually want to go to church. This was the beginning of his conversion to Christianity.

In the early years of their marriage, Saint Nonna concentrated on raising her children as strong Christians, while also seeing to their education. The brilliance of her son Gregory, both as a theologian and as a philosopher, is the best evidence of her success. His written words about her also show his love and admiration for her: "What time and place of prayer ever eluded her? She was drawn to this each day before anything else, and she had complete faith that her prayers would be answered."

The elder Gregory attended the Ecumenical Council of Nicaea and was baptized there. He was ordained to the priesthood, and later was made

Bishop of Nazianzus. Nonna was made a deaconess. Both of them gave tireless and loving service to the people around them. Their nephew Amphilocius became Bishop of Iconium, joining them in faithful service.

In her later years, Nonna experienced the greatest loss a mother can have, not once but twice. In the space of two years, her youngest son died, and then her daughter. Though she bore these deaths as God's will, her distress affected her once-vigorous health so that she became weak and had little appetite for food.

Her son Gregory describes a dream which restored his mother's health: "It seemed to her that I...had appeared to her suddenly by night with a basket of the whitest bread. Then I blessed these loaves with the Sign of the Cross, as is my custom, and I gave her to eat, and with this her strength increased." Saint Nonna lived for several more years, spending most of her time praying in church after her husband's death.

In a reading for today, Saint Paul writes (I Corinthians 3: 9) that "we are God's fellow workers." Saint Nonna, in her many roles, fulfilled that one as well.

*This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.*

### **Wisdom from the Holy Fathers**

*Do not try to decide a difficult matter by means of disputing, but that which is enjoined by the spiritual law, namely patience, prayer, and thoughtful hope.*

**(St. Mark the Ascetic, Homilies, 1:12)**

*The Holy Spirit illumined firstly the holy Prophets, and they wrote the Divine Scripture; secondly, He illumined the holy Apostles; and thirdly, He has illumined the holy Fathers, and they have explained the books of our Church, in order that we may know how to conduct ourselves.*

*Our Faith has been made secure by wise and learned Saints, who both explained the Holy Scriptures precisely and have enlightened us through their divinely inspired discourses.*

**St. Kosmas Aitolos**

**Prayers for the Departed:** Infant Arsenius, Paul, Irene Sulick, Elizabeth Walens, Harry Wujcik

**Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need:** Fr. Vladimir Petorak, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Lemlem Resat, Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Agnes Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, Maria Current, Anna Herko, Zack Bajuyo, Luke Wales, Nona Carey, Joseph Wojciechowski, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, , Maria and Doug Dozier, Mary Anne Farrell, Caiton Tompkins, Michael Vannello, Catalina(Mary) & Jeremy (John) Finck, Alma Clothier, Rae Svecz, Andrew Kovolkavich, Pearl Minnich, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Carson, Stephen, Maria, Aiden, Peck Family, Harry Kutch, Stephanie Hojnicki

**Prayers for Women and the Children to be Born of Them:**  
Kristine

*Service Ministries*

| Date    | <u>Coffee Hour</u>          | <u>Service Duty</u> | <u>Church Cleaner</u> | <u>Library</u> |
|---------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 7-Aug   | Conover/ Daubert/<br>George | Elia/ Morjana       | Kendall               | Skomorucha     |
| 14-Aug  | Sulpizi/ Skomorucha         | Riley               | Baldychev/<br>Shatley | Maloney        |
| 21-Aug  | Elia/Gunersen/<br>Farrell   | Sulpizi/ Finck      | Hines                 | Lewis          |
| 28-Aug  | Peck/ Wales                 | Hojnicki/<br>Souder | Sulpizi               | Gundersen      |
| 4-Sept. |                             |                     |                       |                |

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

| DATE   | VESPERS and LITURGY |
|--------|---------------------|
| Aug-07 | Team Conover        |
| Aug-14 | Team Gabriel        |
| Aug-15 | DORMITION SHARED    |
| Aug-21 | Team George         |
| Aug-28 | Team Conover        |