


From: Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish info@orthodoxclearfield.org 
Subject: Announcements 02/11 – 02/17/2024
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To: Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish announcements@orthodoxclearfield.org



St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, [Irvona](#)
Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, [Madera](#)
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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS
Thirty-Seventh Week (36th Sunday) After Pentecost — Tone 3
Sunday, February 11 – Saturday, February 17, 2024
[daily Scripture readings](#)

The purpose of the Parish is to: maintain a local Orthodox Christian community...; worship God in accordance with the Tradition of the Holy Orthodox Church, “in Spirit and in truth” (*John 4:24*); preserve, protect, defend, and propagate the Holy Orthodox Faith...; provide charitable aid and Christian education...; and build and maintain churches, chapels, schools, and other religious, educational, and benevolent institutions as may be expedient.

— from Article I, Section 1 of the [proposed Madera Bylaws](#)

1. UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

THIRTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [download musical texts](#)
Saturday, February 10

- **Great Vespers**, 6:00pm @ Irvona
- **Confessions**, following

Sunday, February 11

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Irvona
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Madera Council Meeting**, 11:30am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Parks Family, sponsors*)

THIRTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [download musical texts](#)
Saturday, February 17

- **Great Vespers**, 6:00pm @ Madera
- **Confessions**, following

Sunday, February 18

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Madera
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Sally S., Chris F., and Brandy L., sponsors*)

2. **THE MADERA CHURCH COUNCIL** will meet briefly today (Sunday, February 11) following the Prayers of Thanksgiving.

3. FEEDBACK REQUESTED ON MADERA BYLAWS = As a reminder, your comments, questions, and suggested changes on the [draft bylaws prepared](#) for Nativity of the Theotokos (St. Mary's) Church can be emailed to info@orthodoxclearfield.org or given in writing to Council President Greg Sidorick. These bylaws were written not only to govern the church in Madera but also to envision and lay a foundation for a unified parish structure with multiple churches and organizations, each having representation on one Council.

A special session will be held on Tuesday, February 27, at 7:00pm, in Madera, to review the feedback received and answer questions from those who wish to attend. The Madera Council will also set the date for a Special Meeting to approve or reject the proposed bylaws, highlighting any revisions in a separate correspondence, while ensuring there are at least three Sundays of announcements in the bulletin and from the Ambon before the vote.

While the draft bylaws pertain specifically to St. Mary's Church, and only Madera members can vote to ratify them, feedback from St. Michael's members is also strongly encouraged. The Irvona Council has expressed interest in adopting the same bylaws at a later date. **May God bless our efforts!**

4. ALTAR ROBES UPDATE = Five purple robes in three sizes for \$1,305 were ordered last week from Vesna Vestments in Toronto, Ontario, for Great Lent, which starts March 18. Vesna Lucic, with her proven expertise and the best quote, will deliver quality robes in 6-7 weeks. Your generosity is appreciated, and now is an excellent time to consider donations for a set of white robes for Pascha. **Glory to Jesus Christ!**

5. BAPTISM OF CARLY MAE DINSMORE = The Dinsmores invite you to attend the baptism of their daughter, Carly Mae, on **Saturday, February 24 at 10:30am in Madera**. A reception will follow the blessed event in St. Mary's Hall. May God grant many years to Jeremy, Heather, Norah, and especially Carly Mae!

6. ORPHEUS SINGERS PERFORMANCE = The Orpheus Singers, an auditioned chamber choir comprising of community members and students at Penn State University, will present "Meditations on the Cross" on Sunday, February 25, at 4pm, at Faith United Church of Christ in State College, PA. The evening features Lenten choral music spanning from the masterpieces of J. S. Bach to the contemporary compositions of Alice Parker, all under the direction of our very own Jacob Mandell. Tickets are available for purchase [online](#), with general admission priced at \$12. Senior citizens and students can avail of a discounted ticket for \$8 by entering the code SENIOR or STUDENT at checkout. Children under 5 can attend for free. As we embark on our Lenten journey (the performance aptly takes place on Zacchaeus Sunday), don't miss this opportunity to be transformed through hymns of both preparation and anticipation.


7. POLKA DINNER DANCE = St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, located at 301 South State Street, in DuBois, is hosting a polka dinner dance party on Friday, March 1, 2024 from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. The evening features music by the Vagabonds, dancing, and a delicious menu including kielbasa sandwiches, pierogis, halushki, soft drinks, beer, and wine. Admission is \$15 per person; all proceeds benefit the church's Building Maintenance Fund. **All are invited!**

8. ANCIENT FAITH MEN'S RETREAT = Men of the Parish: Embark on a transformative journey at the Ancient Faith Men's Retreat from **August 22-25, 2024**, at the Antiochian Village Conference Center in Bolivar, PA. Strengthen your faith and build connections with Orthodox brothers during this four-day event featuring engaging speakers like Hieromonk Basil and Fr. John Strickland. Enjoy daily services, Sunday Divine Liturgy, and fellowship with like-minded individuals. Register now, secure your roommates, and find more details [here](#). Don't miss this opportunity for spiritual growth and camaraderie.

9. ANCIENT FAITH WOMEN'S RETREAT: Women of the Parish: Experience a reflective and friendly gathering at the Ancient Faith Women's Retreat from **November 7-10, 2024**, at the Antiochian Village Conference Center in Bolivar, PA. Five inspiring speakers, including Mother Christophora and Dr. Rossitza Shroeder, will explore the theme, "Prayer: Entering into the Heavenly Palace." Open to Orthodox women of all ages, this four-day event offers worship, learning, and friendship. Register today, arrange your roommates, and discover more details [here](#). Join your fellow Orthodox women for a transformative weekend at the entrance of the holy Nativity season.

10. STAY CONNECTED = If you or someone you know would like to have a meeting with Fr. Alexander, you may call or text the parish's phone number, 814-862-8694, or use the [online form](#) on the parish website, orthodoxclearfield.org. Appointments are available at various times of the week, according to your particular availability and needs. As a reminder, be sure to let Father know if any form of sickness is keeping you away from church so he can add you to the prayer list and **bring the healing Sacraments to you.**

February Milestones:

 **Birthdays:** Mka. Jennifer Cadman (February 7), Vladimir Sidorick (February 12), Jonathan and Kennadie Kalenish (February 15), Alexsey Sidorick (February 21), Paul Bihun (February 24), Michael Parks, Jr. (February 26), Bridgett Sidorick (February 27), and Christian Stodart (February 27)

Each month we will list the special days of parishioners in this section of the bulletin. Forgive any errors or omissions as this is still a work in progress. Please make sure we don't miss your special day by emailing your information to info@orthodoxclearfield.org or checking your record [here](#).

This e-mailing list is intended for occasional messages regarding parish services, events, and announcements of the united community of St. Michael Orthodox Church, 163 Hemlock Street in Irvona, PA (all events labeled "Irvona" are held here) and Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, 151 Alexander Street, in Madera, PA (all events labeled "Madera" are held here). If you would rather not receive these messages, simply reply to this e-mail with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

