


From: Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish info@orthodoxclearfield.org 
Subject: Announcements 05/12 – 05/18/2024
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St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, [Irvona](#)
Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, [Madera](#)
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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS
Thomas Sunday • Second Week of Pascha — Tone 1
Sunday, May 12 – Saturday, May 18, 2024
[daily Scripture readings](#)

Christ is Risen! Χριστός Βοσκήσε! Χριστός Ανέστη!

1. UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

ANTIPASCHA — St. Thomas Sunday [download musical texts](#)
Saturday, May 10

- **Great Vespers**, 6:00pm @ Madera
(No Confessions)

Sunday, May 11

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Madera
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Monthly Panikhida** for May, following [view the list of names for May](#)
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Mother's Day Celebration*)

Tuesday, May 14
Radonitsa (Day of Rejoicing)

THIRD SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Holy Myrrhbearing Women [download musical texts](#)
Holy Apostle James, the Brother of the Lord
Saturday, May 18

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

Sunday, May 19

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Irvona
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Paschal Potluck Brunch**, following
- **Blessing of Graves**, ~12:30 noon @ St. Michael's Cemetery, Irvona

2. **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY** = Today's Coffee Hour in St. Mary's Hall is being hosted by the men of our parish in honor of their wives and mothers. Moms, it's your turn to be served! For those who are willing to contribute to the celebration, please reach out to or contact [Jacob Mandell](#).

3. **MONTHLY PANIKHIDA AND BLESSING OF GRAVES** = This St. Thomas Sunday, May 12, we will hold our monthly Panikhida for May. Please look over our [continuously updated parish diptychs](#) to see who will be commemorated, and please [send any names or dates](#) that need to be added. Additionally, over the next three Sundays, parishioners who have loved ones buried in St. Mary's, St. Michael's, and Ss. Peter and Paul Cemeteries are welcome to join Fr. Alexander in blessing the graves located in Irvona, Madera, and Patton, respectively. This is a beautiful and wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate Christ's victory over death!

4. **MEMORY ETERNAL TO HOWARD THOMAS** = **Howard Allen Thomas**, the brother of our very own **Michael Thomas**, fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, April 27, at the age of 67. A devoted member of his church, Howard was on his grounds when he suffered a sudden heart attack, surrounded by his brothers and sisters in Christ. Born on February 7, 1957, he was the son of the late Irene L. Thomas Watson. Howard found great joy in country gospel music and was known for his dedication to interceding for others and serving them, especially through his Southern-style cooking. Visitation for Howard will be held at Living Waters Fellowship Church of God, located at 1151 North Ave, Haleyville, NJ (08349), on Thursday, May 16, with the funeral service starting at noon. Following the service, interment will take place at Overlook Cemetery in Bridgeton, NJ. Family and friends are warmly invited back to his church's fellowship hall for refreshments, which will be served from the kitchen newly named in Howard's honor.

As Michael is overseeing Howard's arrangements, memorial donations may be sent to [St. Michael's Church](#) in honor of his brother (choose "Memorial Fund Donations—Irvona" from the drop down menu). Please join us in praying for the repose of Howard's soul, and for Michael, who will be returning this week to New Jersey with a delegation from our parish. **Christ is Risen!**

5. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY** = Please bring any final non-perishable food items for the Clearfield-based [Central Pennsylvania Community Action](#) and your filled coin box for the [Orthodox Christian Mission Center](#) this St. Thomas Sunday, May 12. Monetary donations will also be accepted for either cause (be sure to put "Food Pantry" or "OCMC" in a specially-marked offering envelope or on the memo line of your check).


6. **PASCHAL POTLUCK BRUNCH NEXT SUNDAY** = On the Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearing Women (Sunday, May 19), the parish will host our annual Paschal potluck brunch. It will take place following the Divine Liturgy in St. Michael's Hall. To assist in coordinating our offerings, a sign-up sheet will be sent in a separate email this week. If you have access to a computer and are not yet a member of our parish email list, please see Fr. Alexander.

7. **ARCHDIOCESAN DAYS AT CAMP NAZARETH** = Youth of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh (OCA) are invited to join our friends in the Carpatho-Russian Diocese (ACROD) for a week of camping in an enriching pan-Orthodox environment right here in Western Pennsylvania. This July 21-27 camping week will take place at the beautiful [Camp Nazareth](#) located within the boundaries of our Archdiocese in Mercer, PA, for our diocesan youth 8-18 years of age. An added bonus is that our very own **Luke Sidorick** will once again reprise his role as one of the camp's staff that week! This is an important step toward our diocese having its own week at Camp Nazareth, which is currently being planned for 2025. To register for this year's camp, visit [campnazareth.org](#) and select Week 2, or for more information, contact [Fr. Alexander](#).

8. **RESILIENCE BOWL 2024** = Join His Eminence Archbishop Melchisedek in supporting the **2024 Resilience Bowl** the evening of Tuesday, May 21, 2024. This dynamic football-inspired event aims to raise awareness and funds for the [Neighborhood Resilience Project](#), dedicated to aiding trauma-affected communities in the Pittsburgh area. Tickets, priced at \$20 for adults and \$10 for children, can be [purchased online](#). Rooted in Orthodox Christian teachings, and inspired by the Civil Rights Movement, the Neighborhood Resilience Project seeks to transform communities from trauma-affected to resilient and healthy ones through trauma-informed community development. Led by Troy and Theodora Polamalu, this event promises to be nothing short of EPIC, happening in and around the grounds of Acrisure Stadium in downtown Pittsburgh.

9. **SAVE THE DATE:** The [Parish Development Forum](#) returns in 2024, promising to build upon the success of its previous year's record attendance. It is set to take place July 9-11 at the Woodside Event Center at Archangel Michael Church in Broadview Heights, Ohio. Reflecting this year's theme, "Equipping to Serve in a Secular World," the forum promotes and continues a thoughtful dialogue on the future of Orthodox parishes. Expect engaging keynote presentations, small group discussions, and opportunities for worship. Registration opens shortly after Pascha.

May Milestones:

 **Birthdays:** Catherine Mandell (May 1), Jay [Benjamin] Rush (May 3), Emiliya Sidorick (May 6), Patrick Stodart (May 8), Virginia Skebeck (May 15), Sharon Grubbs (May 19), Bill [Basil] Zapsky (May 27), Marilyn Cusick (May 30)

 **Anniversaries:** Paul & Cindy [Agnes] Ribun (May 22), Fr. Alexander & Mrs. Jennifer [Genevieve] (May 25)

ANNIVERSARIES: Paul & Cindy [Agnes] Duman (May 23), Fr. Alexander & Mrs. Schmitt [Scherwaga] (May 23), Gregory & Bridgett Sidorick (May 15), Bill [Basil] & Jane Zapsky (May 16)

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](#).

Weekly Prayer List:

Departed: Howard, Blessed Matushka Olga

Living: Metropolitan Onufriy, Igumen David, Mka. Seraphima, Catherine, Nicholas, Judith, James, Michelle, Michael, Guy, Stephen, Robin, Maxim, Romanos, Agnes, Paul, Basil, Basil, Juliana, Meg, Michael, Shane, Tatiana, Grace Elisabeth and the child she bears, Virginia, Marilyn, Andrei, Mark, Marian, David, Paul, Phyllis, Bob

To have you or your loved one(s) added to the parish's 40-day commemoration lists, please use the black (departed) and red (living) slips located in the Narthex of each Church, or [contact Fr. Alexander](#) directly. Persons are kept on the list for forty (40) days unless otherwise requested.

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

