


From: Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish info@orthodoxclearfield.org 
Subject: Announcements 07/28 – 08/03/2024
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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
Sixth Week of Pentecost — Tone 4
Sunday, July 28 – Saturday, August 3, 2024
[daily Scripture readings](#)

"The [Dormition F]ast in August was established in honor of the Mother of God the Word; Who, foreknowing Her repose, ascetically labored and fasted for us as always, although She was holy and immaculate, and had no need for fasting. Thus, She especially prayed for us in preparation for being transported from this life to the future life, when Her blessed soul would be united through the Divine spirit with Her Son. Therefore, we also should fast and praise Her, emulating Her life, urging Her thereby to pray for us."

— St. Symeon of Thessalonica

1. UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [download musical texts](#)

Saturday, July 27

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

Sunday, July 28

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Irvona
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Mandells, sponsors*)
- **Third Annual Parish Picnic**, 1:00pm-6:00pm @ [Curwensville Lake](#), [Pavilion 3](#)

Thursday, August 1

Procession of the Cross

Dormition Fast Begins. Omit meat and dairy now through August 14.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [download musical texts](#)

Saturday, August 3

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

Sunday, August 4

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Madera

- ~~Third and Sixth Hours~~, 9:00am @ Madera
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Monthly Panikhida for August**, ~11:15am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Sally S., Chris F. & Brandy L., sponsors*)

THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Monday, August 5

- **Vespertal Divine Liturgy***, 6:00pm @ Madera
- **Blessing of Fruit**, following

2. PARISH PICNIC TODAY = Join us this afternoon from 1:00pm until 6:00pm for our third annual **Orthodox Family Picnic at Curwensville Lake!** Don't miss out on an afternoon filled with delicious food, relays and tournaments for "kids" of all ages, and lake activities (tubing, swimming, etc.) with us. We are blessed to have Fr. Mark Meholick and Dn. Christopher Meholick providing musical entertainment once again! Our parish will supply the meats, condiments, and bottled water. As we provide outreach together, Father kindly asks that you bring a guest or two, and also a covered side dish, dessert, or additional beverages to share with our guests. To help with coordination, please check out the [sign-up sheet](#) to see what others are bringing. We look forward to seeing you there!

3. DORMITION FAST BEGINS = The [Dormition Fast](#) begins this Thursday, marking the last of the four fasting periods of the church year, which ends on August 31. As with any fast, it is a period of preparation for a feast that holds significant emphasis in the Church's life. In this case, it is the "falling asleep" of Mary, the Mother of God. During this sacred time, we witness her translation from life through death to life eternal, preparing us for our own repose and reception into the Kingdom of God, embraced in the arms of Christ, as depicted in the festal icon. For those keeping the fast, the regimen is the similar to that as Great Lent. There is a dispensation for fish for the **Feast of the Transfiguration**—which we will celebrate with a Vespertal Divine Liturgy on Monday, August 5—and on the feasts of St. Herman and St. Tikhon on August 9 and 13, respectively. Contact [Father Alexander](#) if you have any questions about this fast, or about fasting in general. **Blessings!**

4. ALTAR ROBE FUND UPDATE = With a generous \$1,000 donation received earlier this month and commitments from two additional parishioners, work has begun on a new set of five gold robes for the servers. The gold robes are expected to be delivered by mid-September and will join the existing purple and white sets, completing the first phase of the Altar Robe project. Those interested in sponsoring additional colors (such as blue for Marian feasts, green for Palm Sunday and the Pentecost season, etc.) to complement these new sets are encouraged to contact Fr. Alexander.

5. FAST AND PRAY TO END ABORTION = Orthodox Christians for Life has once again prepared a wonderful resource for the upcoming fast entitled "[The Dormition Fast Prayer Vigil to End Abortion](#)". It is a collection of simple and accessible daily prayers compiled from various pro-life services that participants can say privately each day of the upcoming fast. Father encourages you to add them to your daily prayer rule, joining with other Orthodox Christians in fervent supplication for the women, men, babies, and all those involved in and affected by abortion.

6. AUGUST PANIKHIDA NEXT SUNDAY = Next Sunday, August 4, our parish will serve a memorial for all the members of our extended parish family who reposed during the month of August. Father is collecting a list of [names](#); please be sure [to email him](#) or use the black commemoration slips that are located in the Narthex if you have any additions or corrections to the diptychs he is compiling. **Memory eternal!**

7. YOUTH DAY IN NEIGHBORING DIOCESE = The [Diocese of New York and New Jersey](#) is hosting "Youth Day 2024" at Christ the Saviour Church in Paramus, NJ, on Saturday, August 24, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event is open to all youth, teens, and families. Participating kids will enjoy a day of fun with field games, a water slide, bounce house, obstacle course, tug of war, water balloon toss, dunk tank, face painting, and music. The schedule includes a Molioben Service at 11 a.m., a BBQ Lunch from 12-1 p.m., and activities from 1-4 p.m., concluding with Great Vespers at 5 p.m. Register by August 15. For more info, email admin@nynjocayouth.org.

8. FALL ARCHDIOCESAN RETREAT SCHEDULED = The Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania, in collaboration with the St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Christians for Life Ministry, is sponsoring a retreat with Frederica Mathewes-Green on September 7, 2024. This event, entitled "The Church's Unborn Witness to Life," will take place at St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral, 8290 Thompson Run Road, Pittsburgh (15237). Frederica Mathewes-Green, a prolific author and commentator featured in publications like the Washington Post and Christianity Today, will lead sessions on "Pro-Life Orthodoxy Through the Centuries" and "Post-Abortion Women Speak." Registration is \$20 per person, with no fee for college students and younger. Check-in begins at 9:30 am, with the first session starting at 10:00 am, followed by lunch at 12:00 pm and the second session at 1:00 pm. For more information or to register, contact Fr. David Vernak at frdavidvernak@verizon.net or 201-704-6217, or [click here](#). The registration deadline is September 1, 2024.

9. 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

text the parish's phone number, 617-552-8887, or use the [online form](#) on the parish website, www.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.**

Your Stewardship

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Weekly Offering</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
July 21, 2024	Madera	\$1,099.00	\$24,867.85
<u>July 14, 2024</u>	<u>Irvona</u>	<u>\$1,099.00</u>	<u>\$24,782.16</u>
<i>Budget Goals:</i>		<i>\$2,200.00</i> <i>weekly</i>	<i>\$55,000.00</i> <i>annually</i>

July Milestones

 **Birthdays:** Candy [Tatiana] Lucas (July 3), Fr. Alexander Cadman (July 6), Rachele Sidorick (July 13), Walter [Vladimir] Lucas (July 17), Rachel Mandell (July 18), and Joelle [Mary] Rush (July 29).

 **Anniversaries:** Walter [Vladimir] & Candy [Tatiana] Lucas (July 6), Jeremy & Heather Dinsmore (July 21), Dimitri & Olivia Sidorick (July 22), and Vladimir & Rachele Sidorick (July 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](#).

Prayer List

Departed: Priest Nikolay, Mka. Annice, Kera, Daniel, Katherine, The Blessed Matushka Olga

Living: Metropolitan Onufriy, Igumen David, Child Matthew, Basil, Michael, Arif, Mary, Stanley, Nadia, Alexandra, Juliana, Benjamin, Frank, John, Francis, Thekla, Agnes, Paul, Maksim, Grace Elisabeth and the child she bears, Anya and the child she bears, Lucy and the child she bears, Virginia, Marilyn, Andrei, Mark, Marian, David, Paul, Michael, Shane, Tatiana, Phyllis, Bob, Nathan, Michelle, Michael, David, Marion

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.

* to take Holy Communion on a weeknight, begin your absolute fast (i.e., no food or drink) by noon, unless directed otherwise by your spiritual father.

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

