


From: Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish info@orthodoxclearfield.org 
Subject: Announcements 09/08 – 09/14/2024
Date: September 7, 2024 at 14:11
To: Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish announcements@orthodoxclearfield.org



St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, [Irvona](#)
Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, [Madera](#)
orthodoxclearfield.org • (814) 862-8694 • info@orthodoxclearfield.org

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS
Twelfth Week of Pentecost — Tone 2
Great Feasts of Nativity of the Theotokos and Elevation of the Cross
Sunday, September 8 – Saturday, September 14, 2024
[daily Scripture readings](#)

An angel of the Lord stood nearby, saying to her, “Anna, Anna, the Lord has heard your prayer. You’ll conceive and give birth, and your offspring will be spoken of through the whole world.” ... And she saw Joachim coming with his flocks, and immediately ran and flung herself around his neck, saying, “Now I know that the Lord God has greatly blessed me. For look! The widow is no longer a widow, and look! The one without a child in her womb has conceived.”

— *On the Birth of the Theotokos*
from the Protoevangelium (Infancy Gospel) of St. James

1. UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY [download musical texts](#)
Sunday Before the Elevation of the Cross
Saturday, September 7

- **Great Vespers** with **Litya** for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, 6:00pm @ **Madera**
- **Confessions**, following

Sunday, September 8

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ **Madera**
- **Festal Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Festal Patronal Potluck Dinner**, following

Tuesday, September 10

- **Cemetery Endowment Committee Meeting**, 4:00pm @ Clearfield Area Charitable Foundation, 236 E. Market St., Clearfield

ELEVATION OF THE CROSS [download musical texts](#)
Friday, September 13

- **Vesperal Divine Liturgy***, 6:00pm @ Irvona

Saturday, September 14
(Strict Fast Day)

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

Sunday After the Elevation

Saturday, September 14

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

Sunday, September 15

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Irvona
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Mandells, sponsors*)

2. PATRONAL FEAST THIS WEEKEND = This weekend, **September 7-8**, we will celebrate the patronal feast of **Nativity of the Theotokos Church** with Great Vespers and Litya on Saturday and the Festal Divine Liturgy on Sunday, both at their usual times in Madera. A festal potluck will follow the Sunday Divine Liturgy. As an added bonus, we will be hosting a 93rd birthday party for Christine Ferlitch. In her honor, her family is providing the chicken main course and birthday cake for desert. Volunteers are still being sought for potluck's side dishes. You can indicate what you plan to bring [here](#) to help coordinate our offerings.

3. GREAT FEAST THIS WEEK = On Friday night, we will celebrate the Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross, also known as the "Elevation of the Cross." Each year on September 14, we commemorate three distinct events related to the True Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ: its discovery by Saint Helena after an extensive search, the dedication of churches by Emperor Constantine at the sites of Christ's crucifixion and burial, and its restoration by Emperor Heraclius after it was lost to enemy hands.

As we fall in worship before the Cross on Friday night, we remember that the Cross of our Lord remains at the center of our lives, our weeks, every Lent, and every year. In doing so, we give honor to the One who died upon it for our salvation. Eucharistic fasting will begin at noon for those receiving Communion on Friday night. Additionally, we will fast as strictly as we are able throughout Saturday, up until Great Vespers, to remember that following Christ to the Cross brings both great victory and great sacrifice.

4. WITNESS OF FAITH: FR. ROMAN BRAGA = St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Canonsburg, PA, will present a talk by Dr. Daniel Hinshaw titled "From the Crucible of Romanian Communism to the United States: **The Witness of Fr. Roman Braga**" on Tuesday, September 10. Dr. Hinshaw's book on Fr. Roman, *Journey to Simplicity: The Life and Wisdom of Archimandrite Roman Braga*, was recently published by St. Vladimir's Seminary Press. It tells the story of a man who survived the most brutal persecution and torture in the Romanian Communist prison system and eventually immigrated to the United States. Dr. Hinshaw will share his insights on Orthodox Christianity taking root in this country. The evening will begin with Vespers at 6 pm, followed by refreshments in the church hall. Dr. Hinshaw's presentation will start at approximately 7 pm. All are welcome to attend.

5. MUSIC AVAILABLE FOR OUTREACH = Our Ss. Mary and Michael's Outreach Fund has acquired a selection of CDs performed by the **St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral Choir** in Minneapolis, when it was under the direction of our very own Zach Mandell. These CDs are a wonderful way to introduce non-Orthodox family and friends to the beautiful music of the Orthodox Church. The CDs will be available at both our churches in exchange for any size donation to our parish's outreach fund. Please leave a check with "Outreach CDs" in the memo line or cash in a specially marked envelope in the offering basket.

This recording features hymnography from contemporary Orthodox composers, including Resa Ellison, a talented conductor of the Cathedral Choir and a good friend of Fr. Alexander, who passed away unexpectedly at the young age of 31 in 2010. Her composition was providentially discovered several years after her repose and was therefore able to be included in her loving memory.


6. SAVE THE DATE = On **Saturday, October 19 at 10:30 a.m.** in Madera, our parish will once again host first responders from throughout our county. The morning will begin with a brief prayer service interceding for those who keep us safe and free from harm. It will be immediately followed by the blessing of their vehicles (police cars, firetrucks, ambulances, etc.), and a catered lunch in appreciation for their holy work. As a significant outreach event for our parish, please pray for the success of this gathering! If you would like to be involved in the planning and promotion of this year's luncheon, please see, email, call, or text Fr. Alexander.

7. STAY CONNECTED = If you or someone you know would like to meet with Fr. Alexander, you can call or text the

parish number at (814) 862-8694 or use the [online form](#) on the parish website, orthodoxclearfield.org. Appointments are available throughout the week, tailored to your schedule and needs. If illness prevents you from attending church, please inform Father so he can add you to the prayer list and arrange to **bring the healing Sacraments to you** if needed. In case of an emergency after hours, repeated phone calls will automatically bypass silent mode and connect you directly to Father.

September Milestones

 **Birthdays:** Josiah Cadman (September 10), Laura [Elisabeth] Rush (September 14), Hope Mandell (September 14), Brandon Stodart (September 17), Christine Ferlitch (September 18), and Mary Lanser (September 26).

 **Anniversaries:** Michael & Katrina Lucas (September 11), Jay [Benjamin] & Laura [Elisabeth] Rush (September 23), and Michael & Crystal [Christina] Parks (September 26).

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: The Blessed Matushka Olga, Anthony

Living: Metropolitan Onufriy, Igumen David, Grace Elisabeth and her newborn child, Don, Basil, Michael, John, Joseph, Scott, Sophia, Arif, Mary, Alexandra, Juliana, Francis, Thekla, Agnes, Paul, Maksim, Anya and the child she bears, Lucy and the child she bears, Virginia, Marilyn, Andrei, Mark, Marian, David, Michael, Shane, Tatiana, Nadia, Ethan, Abigail, Gianna, Phyllis, Bob, Nathan, Michelle, Michael, David, Marion, Robert

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

