


**From:** Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish [info@orthodoxclearfield.org](mailto:info@orthodoxclearfield.org)   
**Subject:** Announcements 09/29 – 10/05/2024  
**Date:** September 28, 2024 at 15:50  
**To:** Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish [announcements@orthodoxclearfield.org](mailto:announcements@orthodoxclearfield.org)



St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, [Irvona](#)  
Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, [Madera](#)  
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**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**Fifteenth Week of Pentecost — Tone 5**  
Sunday, September 29 – Saturday, October 5, 2024  
[daily Scripture readings](#)

Therefore, let us not be ungrateful for His kindness. For if He were to reward us according to our works, we would cease to be.

— St. Ignatius of Antioch,  
*Epistle to the Magnesians, Ch. 5*

## 1. UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

### **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** [download musical texts](#)

**Saturday**, September 28

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

**Sunday**, September 29

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Irvona
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Monthly Panikhida for September**, ~11:15am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Parks, sponsors*)

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### **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** [download musical texts](#)

**Saturday**, October 5

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

**Sunday**, October 6

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Madera
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Monthly Panikhida for October**, ~11:15am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Bridgett S. and Olivia S., sponsors*)

**2. MANY YEARS TO MATTHIAS BRELO** – On the morning of September 28, the parish joyfully celebrated the baptism of **Matthias Brelo**, newborn son of Ben and Grace-Elisabeth Brelo. The service took place at 10:30 a.m. in Madera.

of **Matthias Eric**, newborn son of Ben and Grace Elizabeth Eric. The service took place at 10:00 a.m. in Madera, followed by a luncheon hosted by Matthias' godparents, Nick and Maureen Sidorick. We wish "Many Years" to Matthias, the newest member of our parish family!

**3. FIRST RESPONDERS PRAYER SERVICE AND LUNCHEON** – On Saturday, October 19, at 10:30 a.m. in Madera, our parish will once again welcome first responders from across the county. The day will begin with a brief prayer service, asking for God's protection over those who keep us safe. Immediately afterward, we will bless their vehicles (police cars, fire trucks, ambulances, etc.) and serve lunch to show our appreciation for their important work. This is a key outreach event for our parish, so please pray for its success! A sign-up sheet for volunteers to bring food will be available by the end of the month. If you are interested in further helping with the planning or promotion of the event, please reach out to [Greg Sidorick](#) or [Fr. Alexander](#) via email, phone, or text.

**4. COLLEGE STUDENT SUNDAY RECAP** = On August 25, our parish observed College Student Sunday 2024, designated by the Assembly of Bishops to support the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF). Thanks to the generosity of our faithful, \$226 was raised this year, surpassing last year's total of \$213. These funds were dispersed last week to support OCF programs like "First Forty Days," which connects Orthodox college students with local chaplains during their first weeks on campus. Thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry!

**5. YOUNG ADULT RETREAT AT CAMP NAZARETH** – Orthodox Christians aged 18-35 are invited to a weekend of reflection, fellowship, and spiritual renewal at the Young Adult Fall Retreat, happening the weekend of October 25-27, 2024, at Camp Nazareth. This year's theme, "Caring for God's Creation: The Self," will be explored by keynote speaker Alex Balouris, who will guide participants in understanding how we can honor God by caring for our mental, physical, and spiritual health. Our Archdiocese is co-hosting the retreat with the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh Y2AM, and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Father Alexander and Luke Sidorick from our parish will serve on the planning committee and attend the event. For more details and registration, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yafall2024>.

**6. MONTHLY PANIKHIDAS NEXT TWO WEEKS** – This Sunday, September 29, following the Divine Liturgy in Irvona, we will celebrate the monthly panikhida for September, which had been postponed from Labor Day weekend. A printed list of names is available in the Narthex for your review. Next Sunday, being the first Sunday of the month, we will resume our regular schedule and celebrate the panikhida for October. Please [email any additions or corrections to Father](#), or use the black commemoration slips located in the Narthex of either church to have your loved ones remembered. **May their memories be eternal!**

**7. ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED** = His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek has scheduled the 2024 Annual Archdiocesan Assembly for the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Allison Park. The day will begin with Divine Liturgy at 9:00 a.m., followed by plenary sessions and a meal. The parish will be represented by two delegates, one from St. Michael's and one from St. Mary's, which will be selected when each respective council meets in the middle of October. If you are interested in representing your church at the assembly or traveling with our delegation as an observer, please see or contact your respective Church Council President ([Jacob Mandell](#) for Irvona or [Greg Sidorick](#) for Madera). All parishioners are encouraged to keep the delegates in their prayers as they attend this important Archdiocesan event.

**8. 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.

**9. PARISHIONERS IN THE NEWS** = Congratulations to our very own **Zach Mandell**, featured in a recent spotlight by St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary! Zach, who recently accepted a position at St. Vladimir's this academic year, shares insights about his passion for liturgical chanting and his journey of serving the Church in this feature. His commitment to deepening his faith and ministry is truly inspiring. You can read more about Zach's story [here](#).

Also, if you or a loved one is featured in the news for sporting events, concert performances, accomplishments, or other highlights, please send a link to [info@orthodoxclearfield.org](mailto:info@orthodoxclearfield.org) so we can celebrate and share the good news with the parish!

**10. 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](http://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.

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## Your Stewardship

Date	Location	Stewardship Offering	Year-To-Date
Sept. 22, 2024	Madera	\$725.00	\$32,237.27
Sept. 15, 2024	Irvona	\$694.00	\$30,281.72
<i>Budgeted Goals:</i>		<i>\$2,200.00 weekly</i>	<i>\$55,000.00 annually</i>

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## 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 21).

*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](mailto:info@orthodoxclearfield.org) or checking your record [here](#).*

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## Prayer List

**Departed:** The Blessed Matushka Olga, Priest Anthony, Protodeacon Arkady, Anthony, Donald

**Living:** Metropolitan Onufriy, Igumen David, Rodrick, Kristen, Basil Z., Frank Bakaysa, Basil L., Michael T., John, Sophia and the child she bears, Arif, Mary L., 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, Paul, Michael S., Shane, Tatiana, Nadia, Ethan, Abigail, Giana, Phyllis, Bob, Nathan, Michelle, Michael L., 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.*

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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

