


**From:** Ss. Mary and Michael Orthodox Parish [info@orthodoxclearfield.org](mailto:info@orthodoxclearfield.org)   
**Subject:** Announcements 03/30 – 04/05/2025  
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**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](#)  
[orthodoxclearfield.org](http://orthodoxclearfield.org) • (814) 862-8694 • [info@orthodoxclearfield.org](mailto:info@orthodoxclearfield.org)

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**Fifth Week of Great Lent — Tone 7**  
Sunday, March 30 – Saturday, April 5, 2025  
[daily Scripture readings](#)

## 1. UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

**Saturday, March 29**

- **[PARISH LENTEN RETREAT: "The Divine Liturgy: Unveiled"](#)** with Protopresbyter Stephen Loposky, 9:00am-3:00pm @ Irvona [rsvp on facebook](#) [view flyer](#) [download musical texts](#)

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT — St. John Climacus** [download musical texts](#)

- **Great Vespers**, 3:15pm @ Irvona
- **Confessions** and **Choir Rehearsal**, following

**Sunday, March 30**

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Irvona
- **Proskomide Demonstration** in Nave, 9:30am
- **Divine Liturgy**, ~10:15am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Mandells, sponsors*)
- **Lenten "Mission" Vespers**, 5:00pm @ St. Nicholas Church, DuBois [directions](#)
- **Lenten Dinner**, following

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**Wednesday, April 2**

- **Confessions**, 5:30pm @ Madera
- **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts\***, 6:00pm
- **Lenten Potluck**, following

**Friday, April 4**

- **Confessions**, 5:30pm @ Irvona
  - **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts\***, 6:00pm
  - **Lenten Potluck**, following
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**FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT — St. Mary of Egypt** [download musical texts](#)

**Saturday**, April 5

- **Annual Church Clean-Up Day for Pascha**, 3:00pm @ Madera
- Refreshments, following
- **Catechesis**, 4:30pm
- **Great Vespers**, 6:00pm
- **Confessions**, following

**Sunday**, April 6

- **Third and Sixth Hours**, 9:10am @ Madera
- **Divine Liturgy**, 9:30am
- **Coffee Hour**, following (*Bridgett S. & Olivia S., sponsors*)
- **Lenten "Mission" Vespers**, 5:00pm @ Madera
- **Lenten Dinner**, following

2. **PROSKOMIDE DEMONSTRATION** – In place of the sermon this Sunday, March 30, an interactive Proskomide demonstration designed for families will take place at 9:30am, immediately before the Divine Liturgy. Each family is invited to submit the names of the living for commemoration during the Proskomide service. You may use the slips (red for living, black for departed) in either Narthex or email them to [fralex@orthodoxclearfield.org](mailto:fralex@orthodoxclearfield.org) to be included on the master list prepared by Fr. Alexander. Please mark non-Orthodox individuals with an asterisk (\*). Father's current [commemoration list](#) of loved ones can be viewed [here](#).

3. **LOCAL LENTEN SUNDAY VESPERS SERVICES** – Two Lenten "Mission" Vespers services will be held within our deanery: the first at **St. Nicholas Church in DuBois this Sunday, March 30**, and the second here at **St. Mary's in Madera on April 6**. A sign-up sheet for the meal we are hosting on April 6 will be circulated on March 31. All are invited to attend.

4. **ST. TIKHON CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION** – This year marks the **100th anniversary of the repose of St. Tikhon**, Patriarch of Moscow, a key figure in Orthodox Christianity in North America, who died as a confessor under the Soviet yoke. St. Tikhon tirelessly labored for the Church, guiding it through immense challenges with wisdom, humility, and steadfast faith. To honor his memory, our deanery will gather for a special Presanctified Liturgy on Monday, April 7, at 6:00pm at [St. John the Baptist Church in Black Lick](#), near Blairsville. All are encouraged to attend as we commemorate this great saint and his enduring legacy.

5. **CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAYS** – As we prepare our temples for Holy Week and Pascha, we will come together in fellowship for light "housework" in our Houses of God on the first and second Saturdays of April. On **Saturday, April 12**, all are invited to gather at about 3:00pm at **St. Mary's in Madera**, our Paschal host church this year. After 90 minutes or so of indoor and outdoor cleaning, we will break for refreshments before worshiping in our beautifully refreshed church. Then, on **Lazarus Saturday, April 19**, following a reception for the newly illumined Nicholas (see below), we will decorate **St. Michael's in Irvona**, adorning it with green and greenery in preparation for Palm Sunday. Thank you in advance for helping to beautify our temples. Many hands make light work!

6. **CHOIR REHEARSAL UPDATE** – The choir rehearsal originally scheduled for Lazarus Saturday, April 12, has been moved to **Tuesday, April 8, at 7:00pm**. It will take place at the home of Choir Director Raymond Mandell, 201 Weaver Street, Cleveland. Check out the [April Calendar](#) and please update your schedules accordingly!

7. **YOU'RE INVITED: BAPTISM OF ANZEN KOVALIK** – You are warmly invited to witness and celebrate the baptism of our catechumen, Anzen Kovalik, as he is received into the Orthodox Faith through Holy Illumination on **Lazarus Saturday, April 12, at 9:00am** just before the Resurrectional Divine Liturgy at 10:00am. At his baptism, Anzen will take the name **Nicholas**, in honor of the Royal Passionbearer, Tsar Nicholas II, who will be his patron saint. Please keep him in your prayers, especially as special petitions for those preparing for Holy Illumination are now being offered at each Presanctified Liturgy—only four remain (including the service at Black Lick) before his illumination. A reception in honor of the newly illumined servant of God Nicholas will follow the Divine Liturgy. **May God grant him many years!**


8. **CONFESSIONS** are heard by Fr. Alexander before each **Presanctified Liturgy beginning at 5:30pm**, after each **Saturday Great Vespers**, and by appointment. Father David has offered to continue hearing Confessions as well. (As a courtesy, please let Fr. Alexander know if you have gone to Confession with Fr. David or another priest.) As a reminder, membership in the parish is defined as any person over the age of 18 who has fulfilled, at a minimum, his or her annual Lenten obligation of Confession and Communion: thus, this is a requirement for anyone wanting to vote at

the Annual Meeting that takes place on the second Sunday of November.

**9. 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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## March Milestones

 **Birthdays:** Norah Dinsmore (March 3), Heather Dinsmore (March 9), Michael Eugene Sidorick (March 15), Chelsea Stodart (March 17), and Elijah Brelo (March 25)

*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:** Ronald, Roger, Dorothy, Zane, Blessed Matushka Olga

**Living:** Metropolitan Onufriy, Igumen David, Child Matthias, Michael Eugene, Eugene, Patricia, Tom, Christine, Sara, Michael, Subdeacon Matthew, Michael, Tina, Alissa, Sarabeth, Nicole, Mindy, Michael, Evan, David, Benjamin, Grace Elisabeth, Child Elijah, Thekla, Joseph, Sophia and the child she bears, Alexandra, Juliana, Francis, Agnes, Paul, Maksim, Alexis and Child Evelyn Louise newly born of her, Katherine and the child she bears, Virginia, Marilyn, Andrei, Mark, Marian, David, Paul, Shane, Tatiana, Catechumen Anzen, Ethan, Abigail, Giana, Kennadie, Robert, John, Letitia, Camryn

*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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## April Calendar

[Click here](#) to download the April Calendar, which includes **Holy Week** and **Pascha**

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\* to take Communion on a weeknight, start your absolute fast (no food or drink) no later than 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.

