

# Saint Michael Byzantine Catholic Church

463 Robinson Road, PO Box 426 ♦ Campbell, Ohio 44405

Parish Office: 330-755-4831 ♦ Parish email: [stmichaelcampbell100@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelcampbell100@gmail.com)

Pastor: Reverend Father Kevin E. Marks ♦ Pastor's E-mail: [kevmarks@hotmail.com](mailto:kevmarks@hotmail.com)

Pastor's Cell Phone: 412-480-4508 ♦ Youth Group Email: [stmikesbykids@gmail.com](mailto:stmikesbykids@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stmichaelbyzcampbell.org](http://www.stmichaelbyzcampbell.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/st.michaelsbyz.campbell](https://facebook.com/st.michaelsbyz.campbell)

X: [twitter.com/byzcampbell](https://twitter.com/byzcampbell)

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation ..... Available before/after liturgies.

Holy Mysteries of Initiation ..... Contact the parish office.

Holy Mystery of Anointing ..... Contact the parish office.

Holy Mystery of Marriage ..... Contact the parish office at least 8 months prior to wedding.

Religious Education Classes ..... ECF classes on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Youth Group ..... All youth welcome; see Keri.

GCU ..... Call Ed Stanko at 330-758-4190.

St. Michael's Civic Club ..... Call Nick DuBos at 412-726-8527 or email him at [nicholasdubos@gmail.com](mailto:nicholasdubos@gmail.com).

St. Michael Hall, 405 Robinson Road ..... Call Parish Office For Rentals.

St. Michael Cemetery, Sanderson Avenue ..... Call Jerry Shirilla at 330-534-9104.

Your Will ..... Please be so kind as to remember St. Michael's in your last will and testament. Secure our future.

**DIVINE LITURGIES:** Sat eve: 6:00 P.M. Sun: 11:00 A.M.

**Holydays:** 6:00 P.M.

**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS WEEK SCHEDULE ON INSIDE COVER**

## *The Story of the Origin of Jesus Christ, Son of David, and the Rest of the Names*

Matthew's genealogy is extraordinarily comprehensive in his theology of the roots of Jesus' story in the Old Testament. But that is only one part of the story of Jesus Christ. The story has a sequence as well; and the continuing sequence is what makes the genealogy "good news" for Matthew's audience and for us. Human being have been empowered to preserve, proclaim, and convey the salvation brought by Jesus Christ throughout history. The God who wrote the beginnings with crooked lines also writes the sequence with crooked lines, and some of those lines are our own lives and witness.

A God who did not hesitate to use the scheming as well as the noble, the impure as well as the pure, men to whom the world hearkened and women upon whom the world frowned – this God continues to work through the same melange. If it was a challenge to recognize in the last part of

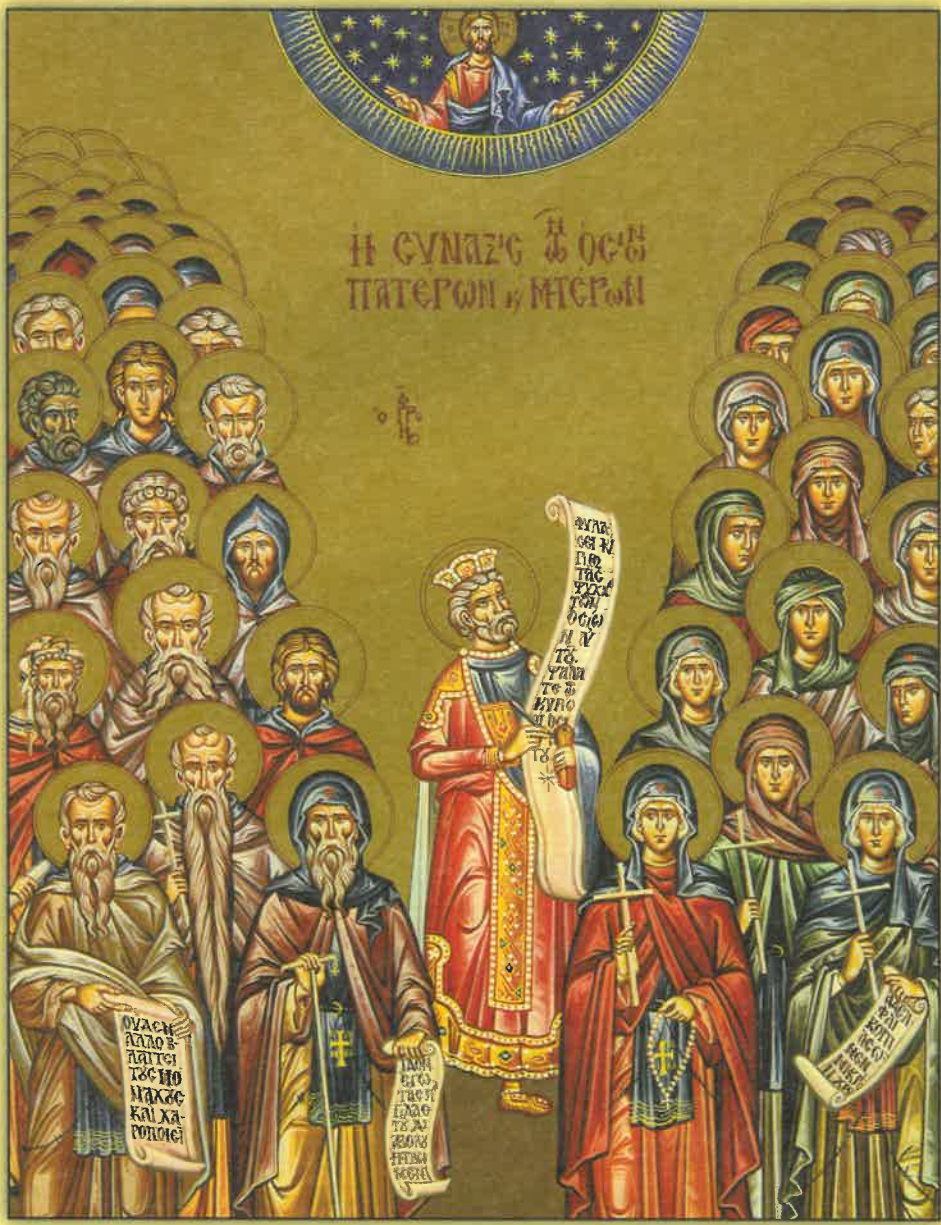
Matthew's genealogy that totally unknown people were part of the story of Jesus Christ, it may be a greater challenge to recognize that the unknown characters of today are an essential part of the sequence. The proclamation of that genealogy in the Advent liturgy is designed to give us hope about our destiny and our importance.

By stressing the all-powerful grace of God, the genealogy presents its greatest challenge to those who will accept only an idealized Jesus Christ whose story they would write only with straight lines and whose portrait they would paint only in pastel colors. If we look at the whole story and the total picture, the Gospels teach us that Jesus' ministry was not thus; the history of the church teaches us that the sequence as not thus. God's grace can work even with people like us.

*Father Raymond E. Brown, S.S.*



## SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD SUNDAY OF THE ANCESTORS



*Icon of the Holy Ancestors*



Christ Is Born!  
Glorify Him!  
Christós Raždájetsja!  
Slávite Jeho!

St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church



Vol. 10 No. 52

**The Feast Of The Holy Nativity Of Our Lord, God, And Savior Jesus Christ**

**SUN., DEC 24**

**Christmas Eve**

**8:30 P.M.**

Great Compline with Christmas Carols

**\*\*\*9:00 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGY**

Intention for Peace in the World



**MON., DEC 25**

**Christmas Day**

**\*\*\*11:00 A.M.**

**CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGY**

+Jerry Arends

requested by: Arleen Arendas & Family

(remembrance of 77th birthday 12/22)

\*\*\*fulfills Christmas obligation

**Tues. Dec 26**

**THE FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**— Solemn Holyday**

**11:00 A.M.**

+Andrew Tablack

requested by: Granddaughters

(45th anniversary of passing 12.28)

**Wed., Dec 27**

**The Feast Of The Protomartyr & Archdeacon Stephen —**

**Simple Holy Day**

**11:00 A.M.**

+Steve Arendas +Steve Millich

requested by: Andy & Marge Arendas

+Stephen Millich Jr.

**Sat., DEC 30**

**6:00 P.M.**

**(VIGIL SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY)**

+Dr. Paul M. Dubos

requested by: Family

(remembrance of birthday 12.28)

**Sun., DEC 31**

**THE SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS —  
COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY JOSEPH, KING DAVID,  
& JAMES**

**11:00 A.M.**

+James T. Klingensmith

requested by: Keri Vokish

(2nd anniversary of passing 12.17)

& Grace Papini



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

December 25 – Jesus

December 26 – Johnna Tabus

December 27 – Victoria Colovos

December 29 – Helen Dubos



**Church Attendance**

Saturday 12/16 – **70** (6:00 pm)

Sunday 12/17 – **35** (11:00 am)

**Pray For The Homebound, Hospitalized, & In Recovery** updated: December 22, 2023

**RESIDING AT HOME** – Julie Brozman, Gail Clark, Joann Evan, Marlene Hahn, Lindsay Hospodar,  
Francis Kotasek, Ken Tirpack, Patti Tirpack, Betty Stanko.

**Assumption Village** (9800 Market Street, North Lima, OH 44452) – Helen Palusak.

**Concord Care Center of Cortland** (4250 Sodom Hutchings Road, Cortland, OH 44410) – Lucille Puhak.

**The Inn at Ironwood** (6699 Ironwood Boulevard, Canfield, OH 44406) – Dorothy Leone.

**Vista Center At The Ridge** (3379 Main Street, Mineral Ridge, OH 44440) – Ken Zahorsky.

**Windsor House at St. Mary's** (1899 W. Garfield Road, Columbiana, OH 44408) – Rosemary Dubos, Anne Thomas.

**Aventura at Assumption Village** (9800 Market Street, North Lima, OH 44452) – Mary Macala.

**Church offerings from December 16 & 17, 2023**

Sunday Offering .... \$2,500.00

Loose Currency .... \$65.00

Candles .... \$57.00

Christmas .... \$100.00

**TOTAL: \$2,722.00**



**DEC 17. TOTAL:**

**\$608.00**

**The one Christmas light that never burns out...**



Weekly Requirement to Meet Yearly Expenses			
Date	Collection	Required	Overage (Shortage)
Dec. 17	\$2,722	\$ 2,850	(\$128)
YTD	\$ 117,493	\$145,350	(\$27,857)

**Quote of the Week**

“Christmas is not as much  
about opening our presents as  
opening our hearts.”

— Janice Maeditere

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Nativity of Jesus Word Search



## 2023 Pastoral Christmas Message

My Dear St. Michael Parish Family & Friends:

At the Annunciation, a young woman’s life changed forever. Mary most likely had her own plans for what she wanted to do with her life. Through an invitation by Archangel Gabriel, and by her own will, those plans would change. Mary would go on to accept God’s call for her to bring Jesus into the world. Mary’s “YES” to the Archangel would begin her journey as the Mother of God, the Theotokos.

Sometimes, I wonder what would’ve happen if Mary said no. Then I thought it wouldn’t be too much different then the times in our own lives that we say no to God’s invitation. What happens when we do? Life can feel empty and dark, it seems that things in life fall apart easily, and while we think we are happy and we can do what we want, that happiness quickly fades away and doesn’t last.

Christmas is a time to be open to God’s plans, not ours. We are so determined to do our own plans, oftentimes putting God last or not even in our schedule at all. We can say to ourselves, “I’m going to do my own thing, it’s my life.” Mary shows us the opposite and God had something way better for her. As created in God’s image and likeness, we must be willing to cooperate with God’s plans and not ours. When was the last time you changed your plans for God? Where you said to yourself I’m going to church instead of... and just fill in the blank.

Christmas is a time to say YES to God’s plans for our lives. YES to coming every week to His Church, YES to receiving the Sacraments, YES to living out our faith and traditions in our families and homes, YES to prayer, YES to loving our neighbor, and YES to allowing the Good News of the Gospel to shine within us.

As Mary said “YES” and changed her plans, may we do the same. Respond to God’s daily invitation he has for you, and when you think your plans are the best, God has something for you so much better. Merry Christmas!

Fr. Kevin

- |           |           |              |        |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------|
| BETHLEHEM | GOLD      | STAR         | JOSEPH |
| NAZARETH  | WISE MEN  | CHRISTMAS    | BIRTH  |
| DONKEY    | MYRRH     | FRANKINCENSE | HEROD  |
| VIRGIN    | MANGER    | ANGEL        | MARY   |
| MESSIAH   | SHEPHERDS | JESUS        | STABLE |
| KING      | PEACE     | WORSHIP      | BABY   |



# Seasonal Christian greeting during Christmastime

The greeting that we salute each other with is **CHRIST IS BORN!** (Christós Raždájetsja!) The response is **GLORIFY HIM!** (Slávite Jeho!). This is also the greeting we use for mirovanije.

## The Feast of the Synaxis of the Theotokos

A synaxis, (*greek meaning, assembly*), in the Byzantine Catholic Church, is a feast on which we honor those saints who are connected with the saints or mystery celebrated on the previous day. The Church established this feast to draw our attention to Christ's Holy Mother and to give us an opportunity to praise her after the birth of her Divine Son. In addition, the feast reminds us of the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt to save the Divine Infant from the massacre of innocent children ordered by King Herod after the departure of the Magi.



## The Feast of St. Stephen, the First Martyr



On the third day of Christmas, our Byzantine Catholic Church celebrates the memory of the First Martyr and Archdeacon, St. Stephen. All that we know about Stephen the Proto-martyr is found in chapters 6 and 7 of the Book of Acts. The early Christian congregations, like the Jewish synagogues, had a program of assistance for needy widows. The people accordingly chose seven men, including Stephen, and the apostles laid their hands on them. They are traditionally considered to be the first deacons, although the Scriptures do not use the word to describe them. Stephen was an eloquent and fiery speaker, and a provocative one. His blunt declarations that the Temple service was no longer the means by which penitent sinners should seek reconciliation with God enraged the Temple leaders, who caused him to be stoned to death. As he died, he said, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."

## Pray at our Church Manger

The Scriptures tell us that Jesus was born in a manger in a cave of Bethlehem of Judea because there wasn't any room in the local inn. In commemoration of these facts, a Nativity Manger set is placed in the Church. We come to the Holy Manger and offer our prayers to the newly born Christ Child during the Holy Nativity Season. As we pray at the Holy Manger of the Christ Child and reflect upon the humble scene, we must ever realize the tremendous debt of gratitude that we owe to Jesus, the Son of God, for having come into the world in order to save us. Pray before the Holy Manger sometime during this Holy Season.



## The significance of the Christmas Trees



The Christmas trees remind us of the eternal life brought to us by Jesus Christ, while the tree decorations remind us of His spiritual gifts and blessings. The exchange of gifts from under the tree expresses our mutual love in imitation of the infinite love of our Heavenly Father who so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that all those who believe in Him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

## No penitential practice this Friday

In celebration of our Lord's Nativity, our Byzantine Catholic Church proscribes **NO FASTING/PENANCE** on **Friday, December 29th**. Enjoy meat this Friday.

## New Years Eve at our hall next Sunday

A New Years Eve get together will be held at our hall **NEXT SUNDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER**



**31st beginning at 8:00 p.m.** Heavy Appetizers will be on the menu. Soda and coffee/tea will be provided along with champagne and wine. You may bring your own other drinks if you wish. You can also bring board games or card games or come anytime or leave anytime. It's just a nice get-together and safe way to ring in the New Year. You are just asked to sign the list in the narthex so we can prepare by this Wednesday. There is **NO CHARGE** to attend.

## 2024 Liturgy Intentions

You may schedule your 2024 Liturgy Intentions. If you have a special occasion this upcoming new year, or an anniversary of a loved one's passing, or would like certain dates for intentions, please schedule them asap. The stipend for an intention is \$20.00.



### Question: Why is the Nativity of Christ celebrated on December 25<sup>th</sup>?

There are two main explanations as to why the Church chose to celebrate the Nativity of Christ on December 25<sup>th</sup>. The first says that the day was chosen to oppose the great pagan feast of the sun god, which was celebrated near December 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Winter Solstice, the time of year when the days started to get longer again (at least in the northern hemisphere). It is believed that the Church chose December 25<sup>th</sup>, because it ensured that Christians would be fasting during the pagan celebration and would therefore not easily be tempted to participate. And also because it would help the pagan peoples to leave off worshiping the false sun god and instead celebrate the coming of the True God, "the Sun of Righteousness".

The second explanation says that the day was chosen in relation to the feast of the Annunciation, which was celebrated on March 25<sup>th</sup> commemorating the supernatural conception of the Lord in the womb of the Virgin Mary. The Annunciation was celebrated on this day because of the belief in the ancient world that great men died on the same day as they were conceived. Since the Lord was believed to have been crucified on March 25<sup>th</sup>, it also came to be believed that He was likewise conceived on this day. And since it followed that the Lord's birth would be nine months after His conception, the feast of His Nativity was set on December 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Christmas In Heaven Memorial Candles

Steve & Anna Arendas  
 Steve & Marge Millich  
 Steve Millich Jr.  
 John & Christine  
 Macabobby  
 Arendas & Kocurek  
 families  
 Millich & Mikita  
 families  
 Gerald Arendas  
 Glen & Helen Davis  
 Jim Bigley  
 Corky Donofrio  
 MaryAnn Donofrio  
 Sandy Mink  
 Marian & Tony  
 Shepelevich  
 Loved Ones Lost  
 Helen Rush  
 James Rush  
 John Colonna  
 Leanina Colonna  
 John Thomas  
 Frank Turocy Sr.  
 Anna Evan  
 Cosmo Coccitto Sr.  
 Helen C. VanSuch  
 John Van Such  
 Katherine VanSuch  
 Steve VanSuch  
 Louise Cutrone  
 Dominic Cutrone Sr.  
 Ann Drotar  
 Carmel Carson  
 Peter N. Dubos  
 Peter C. Dubos  
 Marie Guerrieri  
 Ben Guerriei Jr.

Ernie Biondillo  
 Sam Carsonie  
 Steve DuBos  
 Mary DuBos  
 Paul Dubos  
 Paul Dubos  
 Mary DuBos  
 Stephen DuBos  
 Mary Kovach  
 Michael Kovach  
 Mickey Kovach  
 Richard Bury  
 Margaret & Andrew  
 Wayda  
 Marie & Daniel Ford  
 Ken Gran  
 Dan Cebula  
 Helen Cebula  
 Jim Cebula  
 Jeff Gomori  
 Michael & Mary Gozur  
 Ed Sr. & Martha  
 Snitzer  
 Rick Gozur Sr.  
 Mary & John Muzina  
 Marcy & Paul  
 Hospodar  
 Anne D. Samek  
 Francis "Babe"  
 Lazorcak  
 Rosemarie Muzina-  
 Raybuck  
 Doug Raybuck  
 Nicole Raybuck  
 Eddie Smith  
 Nora Sabella  
 Melina Edenfield  
 Ron & Staci Solvesky

Emil & LouAnn  
 Kramer  
 Mary Lou Macala  
 Connie Jr. & Dee  
 Straub  
 Kathleen Straub Hall  
 John Hostal  
 Ruth J. Hostal  
 John R. Hostal  
 Serafin & Mary Buta  
 Robert, Francis, &  
 Frances Lomuscio  
 Rev. Fr. Constantine &  
 Mrs. Suzanne Tofan  
 Marlene Tofan  
 Leo & Helen Copacia  
 Rev. Fr. Leo Copaca  
 George Pete  
 Elita Pete  
 Martha Macala  
 Irene Waliga  
 John & Mary Jevesok  
 Lou Biska  
 John & Mary Lucas  
 Walt Shabella  
 John R. Lucas  
 Joe & Agnes Lucas  
 Edward & Jean Lucas  
 John & Helen Zentiska  
 Michael & Anna  
 Pihonsky Sr.  
 Michael & Anna  
 Pihonsky Jr.  
 John & Patricia  
 Pihonsky  
 Bernard & Elizabeth  
 Sullivan  
 John & Janet Zentiska

Robin Ceyrolles  
 Bob Kalajainen  
 Marge & John Hudak  
 Anna & Joseph  
 Rudinec  
 Elizabeth & Stephen  
 Roman  
 Lena & Paul Hudak  
 Margaret Mary Hudak  
 John Bednar  
 Margaret & John  
 Hudak Sr.  
 Sr. Vitalia Tomko  
 Sr. Leocadia Sevachko  
 Fr. John P. Tully  
 Betty & John Jacobs  
 Eleanor Stanislav  
 Joseph Stanislav  
 Peggy Straub  
 Conrad Straub  
 George P. Swantek  
 Paul Swantek  
 Raymond Tirpack  
 Andrew & Betty  
 Tirpack  
 John & Mary Olexa  
 Agnes DelSignore  
 Kathleen Gibbons  
 Joseph Gibbons  
 Kyle Brown  
 Richard Trexler  
 John Thomas  
 The Macek Family  
 Pat Potkonicky  
 M/M Sean McGarry  
 Larry Edwards  
 Edward Vasilchek  
 Msgr. Victor G. Romza

Charles Edwards  
 Ruth Kinnick  
 Agnes & Joseph  
 Kinnick  
 Daniel Vokish  
 Ann & Steven Jacisin  
 Wilma & Frank  
 Vokish  
 Irene Kovalchick  
 Daniel Watkins  
 Michael Kovach  
 Michael & Mary  
 Kovach  
 Jack & Shirley  
 McAllister  
 Beatrice & Glenn  
 Kramer  
 Glenn & Nadine  
 Kramer  
 Jeanne Vasko  
 Leigh Yallech  
 Tracey Sullivan  
 Theresa & John  
 Bartelmay  
 Diana L. Bartelmay  
 Carol DiFabio  
 Carol & Don Chick  
 Michael Chick  
 Glenn & Jane Eckert  
 Joseph Kukura  
 John Tumbri  
 Seth Tumbri  
 Joanne Dalisio  
 Michael & Evana  
 Metroka  
 John & Margaret  
 Sinkovich  
 John & Grace Prince

Roger & Carol Reeveley  
 Leonard & Virginia  
 Pastore  
 Christopher Farmer  
 Ramiro & Maria  
 Medina  
 Steve Petrosky  
 John & Teresa Vessalo  
 Dorothy Van Such  
 Family  
 Don Fetty  
 Bill Van Such  
 Millie & George  
 Constas  
 Lloyd Ellis Sr.  
 Eddie Smith  
 Dale Sullivan  
 Bev Harris  
 Randy McBride  
 Judy Singer  
 John & Ethal Krohl  
 Bob McBride  
 John McBride  
 Stephen Bendel  
 Scott Bendel  
 Bill Marks Sr.  
 Billy Marks Jr.  
 Mary Lou Cimoric  
 Margaret & John Kohl  
 Ann & Frank Marks