



St. Michael Youth Program

March 2016

As for me and my house...
we will serve the Lord.”

Joshua 24:15

Home Discussion

“Serving the Lord” involves our commitment as a family, beginning with our parents. We serve the Lord by helping and working with others. During the month of March, we enter the season of Great Lent when we focus upon the lessons of prayer, good works and fasting.

Prayer: In addition to praying in church together, what are the times when we can pray together as a family? In addition to praying at meals, begin planning a regular time of prayer as a family, especially to remember others.

Good Works: Consider ways of helping a family member, a friend, classmate, or co-worker, as a family. Someone who you may know, has a need and may need help.

Fasting: Think of the ways that you could change how you use your time, the kind of meals you eat and ways of spending your money, in order to focus upon serving the Lord.

Memory Verse

And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour.” (Luke 1:46-47) [from the “Magnificat” - Mary’s hymn (Luke 1:46-55) read on the Feast of The Annunciation (March 25)]

Hymn of the Theotokos

(of The Annunciation Feast and Sundays of Lent)

**To thee the Champion Leader do I offer thanks
of victory, O Theotokos, thou who has delivered
me from terror; but as thou that hast that power
invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free
from all forms of danger free me and deliver me,
that I may cry unto thee:
“Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom!”**

Calendar

March 6 - The Sunday of the Last Judgment (“Meat Fare”). We are reminded that we will all face a day of Judgment when those who have served the Lord Jesus Christ by serving others will be welcomed into His Kingdom [Matthew 25:31-46]

March 13 - The Sunday of Forgiveness (“Cheese Fare”). God forgives us as we also forgive others [Matthew 6:14-21]

March 20 - The “Sunday of Orthodoxy.” Jesus calls His disciples (Philip and Nathaniel) saying, “Follow me!” They recognize Him as who Moses wrote: “the Son of Joseph” who is also the “Son of God.” [John 1:43-51]

March 25 - The Feast of the Annunciation [Luke 1:24-38] The Archangel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she is to give birth to Jesus: Christ, the Lord.

March 27 - The Second Sunday of Lent. [Mark 2:1-12] Jesus heals a man unable to walk thanks to the help of four men of faith who brought the man to Jesus through the opening in the roof of a building where he was.

Activity

Each Sunday throughout the month of March workshops will be held for our Creative Festival entries. Church School teachers will assist in providing materials for the following categories:

- Creative Writing
- Creative Art
- Creative Poetry
- Creative Photography

Use the daily Lenten Calendar (attached) to consider how you might contribute coins or dollars in our family “Food for the Hungry” alms box collection

Special Events

Sunday, March 20 - Procession with Icons when we celebrate the meaning of having images in our church: not as idols but as

Wednesday Evening Divine Liturgy of The Pre-sanctified Gifts and Family Lenten Dinner: March 16, 23, and 30.