



# ST. MARY'S HOLY DORMITION

## Scripture Readings

### Colossians 3:4-11 (Epistle)

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

### Matthew 22:35-46 (Gospel)

At that time, one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

## JANUARY 28th, 2024 VENERABLE EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

### JAN Birthdays & Anniversaries

1st - Kelsey Hlatki  
5th - Margo Wilkinson  
6th - Logan Bourg  
8th - Tammy Christensen  
10th - Michael Hunter  
10th - Sheahan Bourg  
15th - Fr. David Lowell  
20th - Litsa Osburn  
22nd - Jeremy Gardner  
24th - Rowelin Dawson

## SCHEDULE

Feb 3rd - Great Vespers (5:00 PM)  
Feb 4th - Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

## WISDOM

"Virtues are formed by prayer. Prayer preserves temperance. Prayer suppresses anger. Prayer prevents emotions of pride and envy. Prayer draws into the soul the Holy Spirit, and raises man to Heaven."

"Blessed the one who continually humbles himself willingly; he will be crowned by the One who willingly humbled himself for our sake."

"Like the apple of Thine eye preserve me, O Lord God; defend me and beneath Thy wings shelter me from temptations."

- St. Ephrem the Syrian

## WEEKLY JOKES

"When a hockey player is feeling down, they always find a way to 'puck' themselves up!"

How do you get a musician off your doorstep? Pay for the pizza.

I tried to order a large Coke when I was traveling through Minnesota. They wouldn't give one though...They only had Mini Sodas.

I just saw my wife trip over and drop a basket of clothes she just ironed. I watched it all unfold.

# WELCOME! IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE!

**Coffee Hour:** 1/28 - Potluck | 2/4 - No One

**Church Cleanup:** 1/28 - Britton | 2/4 - C. Hlatki

Please continue to sign up for Coffee Hour and Church Clean Up. A church clean up list has been posted as well to explain what is needed.

## Fish Fry at St. Michael's Catholic Church

Our brothers and sisters over at St Michael Catholic Church are having their annual fish fry if anyone is interested in attending. It will start February 16th at 6 PM and will happen every Friday until March 22nd. It's always good to support them as they always support us with our events. Enjoy!

## Calhan School in Need of Items for Kids / Special Collection

We received word this past week from the school that there are many kids who are in need of hygiene items and warm clothes for the winter. We will be taking a special collection today and next week for money to buy those items. If you would like to donate anything as well, please do and let Fr. Stephen know. We will be buying the items next week and reimbursing the Church from the collection. Please be generous.

## Natalie Hlatki leaves for Boot Camp on Monday!

Natalie is off to join the military during her "gap" year in college to help cover costs as well as gain some resume and other experiences. She will be heading out to Great Lakes, Illinois for the next number of months and we just wanted to give her a warm (but sad) send off to her and let her know that she is in all of our prayers. May God Grant Natalie and her family many years and we are excited for this next stage in her life!

## Meal Train for the Bourgs

If you are interested in helping Logan, Abigail, and their newborn Sheahan, a Meal Train has been setup where you can bring them meals on different days. Please see Fr. Stephen if you have any questions. Link here: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/nvr1qe/>

## House Blessings Have Begun - Sign up Sheet in Narthex

If you have not yet signed up for your house to be blessed or spoken with Fr. Stephen, please do so. You are not required to do anything special but it is important to have your home blessed every year.

## Adult Class moved from Jan 27th to Feb 3rd after Vespers

## Annual Meeting (Today) - Community Potluck

## Venerable Ephraim the Syrian

Born into a humble family, Saint Ephraim began his life with a fiery temper and doubts about faith. However, a pivotal dream and imprisonment led him to embrace repentance and seek guidance from Saint James of Nisibis. Under his mentorship, Ephraim transformed into a dedicated monk, preaching, teaching, and even accompanying him to the Council of Nicaea.

After relocating to Edessa, Saint Ephraim's wisdom and eloquence shone through. He wrote extensively, including the first Syriac commentary on the Pentateuch and numerous prayers and hymns still cherished today. He fervently defended orthodoxy against Arianism and inspired pagans to convert.

Despite his accomplishments, Saint Ephraim remained grounded in humility. He declined offers of priesthood and bishopric, even feigning madness to avoid the latter. He dedicated his final years to alleviating the suffering of Edessa's inhabitants during a famine, establishing a poorhouse for the needy.

In essence, Saint Ephraim's journey exemplifies the transformative power of faith and the importance of selflessness in serving God and community.

## The Come and See Challenge:

**Have you brought someone NEW this month or brought someone back?**

**Have you gone to Great Vespers at least once this month?**

**When was the last time you went to Confession?**

## Prayer List

### Living:

Abp. Benjamin, Abp. Alexander, Met. Isaiah, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Dennis, Meryl, Harold, Tammy, Steve Sr, Litsa, Leilani, child Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, John, Alicia, Iryland, Patricia, Danny, Christina, Jerry, Roberta, Wendy, Judy, Michael, Beverly, Lily with child, Infant Dominic, Jill, Kalee with child, Joseph, Alisha with child, Jackie, Azrah, Amber with child, Anna with child, Joan, Trisha, Stella, Carol, Ethan, DaeLynn with child, infant AdaLynn, Nauvlet, Lee, Leilah, Austin, Brian, Josh, Mother Magdalena, Kodiak, Ron, Miriham, Cheri, infant Gus

**Those who are confined:** Casey, Basil, Mark, Johnny, Hannah

Please keep Fr. Anthony in your prayers as he enters in the last days of his earthly life.

### Departed:

Fr. Moses, Mother Elizabeth, Diane, Margaret Donna, Rosemary, John, Glynis, Ana, Lloyd, Richard

### Youth:

#### Roller Skating (Feb 18th)

Our Roller Skating outing has been moved to the 18th to accommodate some of the kids who want to go but have other activities happening on the 4th. Everyone is still invited to go and we will just go on the 18th instead of the 4th!

## St. Ambrose Donations

January is the March for Life and a time which we focus more on the Sanctity of Life. Please use this time to consider donating.

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