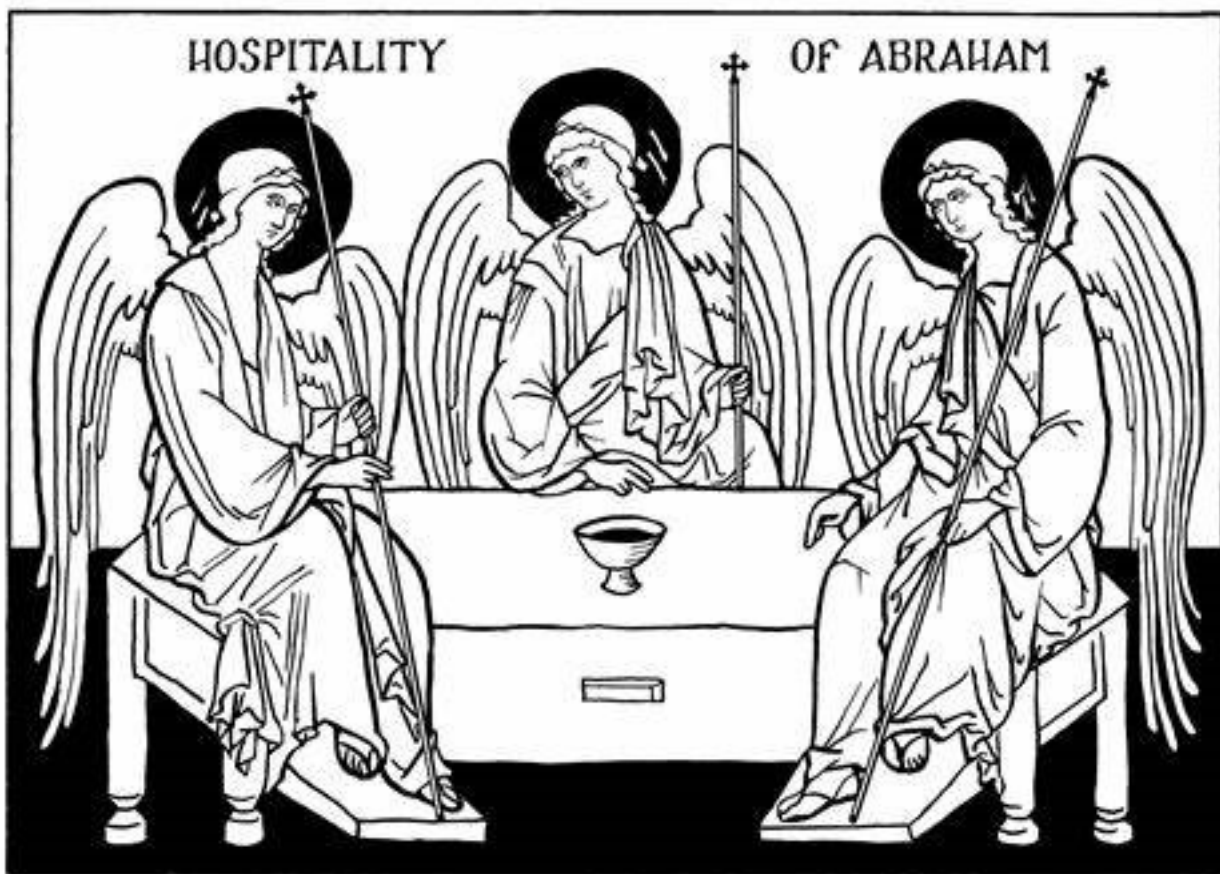


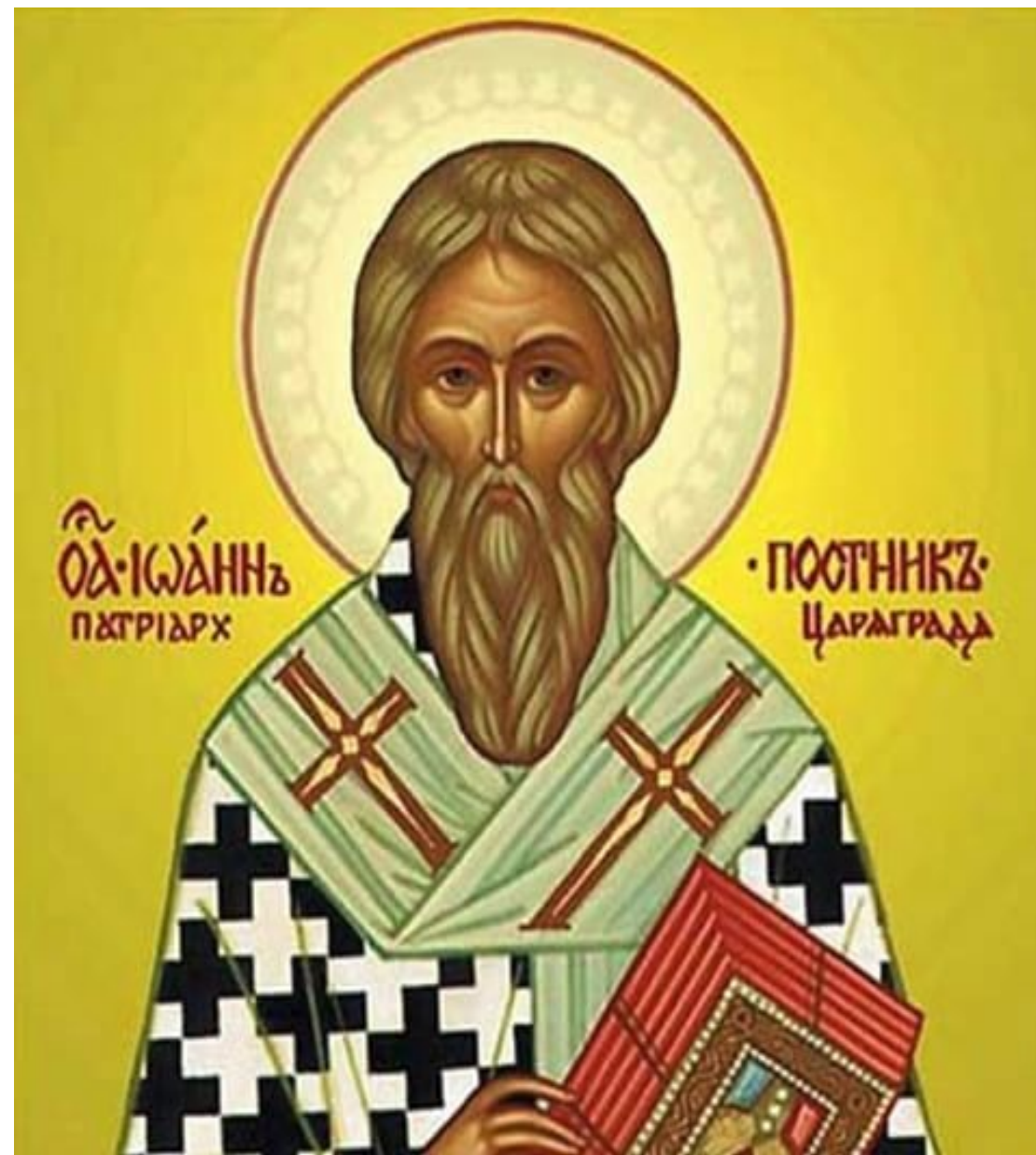
*From the Divine Office for St. Paul the Confessor (Nov. 6)*

*O blessed father, well-named confessor, protector of those who acclaim you with fervor, O holy Paul: save us from all sin, all dangers, all the storms of the passions and from all tyranny. As an acceptable hierarch, as an invincible witness, you can plead freely before Christ our God. (Vespers)*

*Imitating holy Paul, the preacher of the Faith, you spread abroad the teachings of the supreme wisdom from on high, cutting short all heresy, O splendor of hierarchs and blessed confessor. You have appeared as a pillar supporting Orthodoxy. (Orthros)*



**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS  
NOVEMBER 6, 2022**



**ST. PAUL THE CONFESSOR  
NOVEMBER 6**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church  
256 Hamilton St.  
Worcester, MA 01604  
Rectory: (508) 752-4174 Hall: (508) 755-2199  
Email: olphmelkite@gmail.com  
Rev. Bryan McNeil, Pastor  
Email: Brymc56@comcast.net Cell: (978) 314-1962  
Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

### **Antiphon (1st)**

1: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth, and sing praise to His name.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.*

2: Say to God: How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You.

*Be shafa'ati Walidatil Eelah, ya Mukhallisu, khallisna.*

3: Let all the earth worship You and sing praises to You; let it sing praises to Your name, O Most High!

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us .*

### **Entrance Hymn**

**Priest: Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ!**

**People: O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You. Alleluia!**

### **Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5) pg. 40**

Let us, O faithful, praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our Salvation, for He was pleased to be lifted in the flesh upon the cross, and to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

### **Patronal Troparion (Tone 1) Pg. 15**

In giving birth, you have preserved your virginity and in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

### **Kondakion (Tone 2) Pg. 16**

O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever-present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.

### **A Synaxis for the Heavenly Powers**

On November 8 the Byzantine Churches celebrate a synaxis (assembly) in honor of the commanders of the heavenly hosts, Michael and Gabriel, along with all the heavenly powers. This feast was first observed in a church at the thermal baths of the Emperor Arcadius in Constantinople and spread from there throughout the Christian East as the principal commemoration of the incorporeal powers.

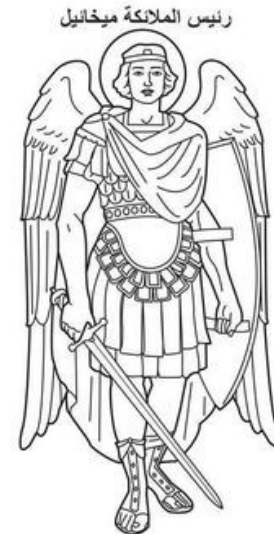
Another feast of St. Michael is kept on September 6 remembering the miraculous spring at Chonae in Asia Minor. A sanctuary dedicated to the Archangel had been erected by local Christians. Pagans sought to destroy it by diverting a stream from a nearby gorge against it; however a lightning strike split a massive rock diverting the stream again and preserving the shrine. Believers attributed the lightning to St Michael and considered the diverted waters forever sanctified.

### **Other Angels in the Tradition**

There are a number of other angels named in Christian tradition, not to mention those in Jewish or Islamic lore. The Book of Tobit, found in the Greek Septuagint, but not in the Hebrew Masoretic text, speaks of the angel Raphael, who identifies himself as “one of the seven angels who enter and serve before the glory of the Lord” (Tob 12:15). Thus seven angels are often depicted in icons wearing priestly vestments.

The seven are named in 1 Enoch 20, a book highly esteemed by first-century Christians and still regarded as canonical Scripture in the Ethiopian Church. Besides Michael, Gabriel and Raphael it lists Uriel, Remiel (Jeremiel), Sariel (Selaphiel) and Raguel. Uriel and Remiel are also mentioned in 2 Esdras 4, another early work held to be canonical in some Churches. Uriel and Remiel were sent to explain to Ezra the signs of the times in which he lived. The presence of the archangels in our world was generally thought to indicate an approaching apocalyptic age.

Hail, Gabriel, announcer of the Incarnation of God! Hail, Michael, chief Captain of the bodiless hierarchies, who cry aloud, “Holy, holy, holy are You, O our Mighty God!” From the Canon, November 8



**DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS**

**Today**                    **Our father and bishop Francois Wyatt William Rahall**  
 +James Rahall, Corinne Halal. Requested by Maria Filewicz

**Nov 20**                    **+John & Souhalia Arraje, Paula Arraje Lewis.** Requested by Susan Arraje

**Nov 27**                    **+Aileen Abraham, Robert Abraham.** Requested by Ron Abraham

**Today's Coffee Hr. is hosted by Maria Filewicz**  
**Next week's Coffee Hr. will be hosted by Houda Daou**

Please remember in your prayers: George Arraj, Jr., Ron Abraham, Peter Abraham, Vi Gazal, Robert Ghiz, Sadie Mirante, Archie Opatka, Katherine Thomas, Charlotte Stockhaus, Ruth Welsh, Richard Abraham, Sr., Daneil Sarrouf, Bob Lynch, Michael Mooradian, Michael McNeil, Jeff McNeil, Wyatt Willian Rahall, St. Patrick's Manor, the people of Ukraine, and those who suffered a loss as a result of Hurricane Ian .

If there are people for whom you would like me to pray, please reach out and give me their names. Part of our vocation as Christians is to pray for each other, especially when someone is sick or suffering in any way.

**Last Week's Collection**

<b>Weekly</b>	<b>\$ 653</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 23</b>
<b>Coffee Hr.</b>	<b>\$ 11</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$ 120</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 807</b>

**God bless you for your generosity!**



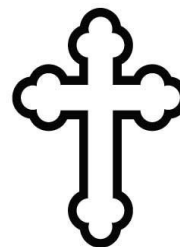
**Welcome to any visitors we may have with us this morning! We are happy to have you worship with us.**

**Please join us downstairs in the church hall for the coffee hour so that we can get to know each other better and answer any questions you may have about the parish or the Melkite Church.**

**THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE**

**We are having a Thanksgiving Food Drive again this year. You can participate by making a monetary donation or putting non-perishable food items (i.e. canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, etc.) in the box in the narthex. We will use the monetary donations to purchase turkeys and anything else we need. We will donate food to a local food pantry so that our brothers and sisters who are struggling will be able to have Thanksgiving dinner for them and their families.**

**Thanks in advance for your generosity to those who need our help!**



**UPCOMING LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

**Mon 11/7, 6PM - Great Vespers for the feast of the Archangel Michael and all Angels**

**Mon 11/21, 6PM - Divine Liturgy for the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos**

**FINANCIALS**

<u>10.2022</u>		<u>YTD (10.2022-10.2022)</u>	
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$5,895</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>\$5,895</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>(\$3,761)</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>(\$3,761)</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$2,134</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>\$2,134</b>



## Synaxis of the Chief Commanders, the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, and of the Other Bodiless Powers

A FEW YEARS AGO a Greek pilot had this harrowing experience. In mid-air his plane experienced system failure. The instruments disengaged, the engines cut out and there was nowhere to go but down. Suddenly the pilot saw the holy archangel Michael appear beneath the wings, holding them aloft. He couldn't believe it. St. Michael guided the plane to safety, then vanished.

In our culture there is no room for incorporeal powers such as angels. We class them as myths, along with Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy. Their tales may provide pleasantly distracting entertainment, but we "know" that only the corporeal, the physical is real.

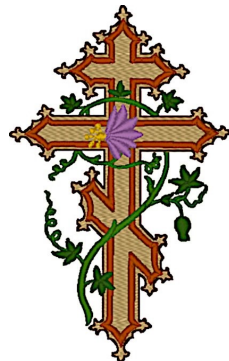
The Church, based on the witness of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures, insists that incorporeal powers – angels – are very real, although generally unseen. They are created, as we are, but with none of the limitations our physical nature imposes on us. The angels are the invisible creation we mention in the Nicene Creed; yet they are not faceless forces: they are individuals differing according to their rank and function.

The great number of human beings who inhabit only this planet is nothing compared to the number of angels who inhabit the universe. As St Cyril of Jerusalem writes, "Imagine how great in number is the Roman people. Imagine how great in number are the other peoples who now exist and how many more must have died! Imagine how many have been buried in a century or in a thousand years. Imagine all mankind from Adam to the present day. Great is their number, but it is small in comparison with the angels."

We find the presence of angels recorded throughout the Old and the New Testaments. The prophet Isaiah saw seraphim before God's throne (Is 6:2) and the prophet Ezechiel saw the cherubim (Ez 10:8). The prophet Daniel saw a thousand thousand ministering to God with ten thousand times ten thousand standing before God (Dan 9 and 10). As we say in the Divine Liturgy, "There stand before You thousands of archangels and myriads of angels, cherubim and seraphim... singing, proclaiming, shouting the hymn of victory and saying 'Holy!'"

The highest in rank of the heavenly powers who minister among us are the holy archangels Michael and Gabriel. Mentioned in several books of the Bible, they are referred to in our Church as the "captains" or "commanders" of the heavenly hosts. In the apocalyptic Book of Daniel Gabriel is described as coming to Daniel "in rapid flight at the time of the evening sacrifice" (Dan 9:21). He prophesied that in the last days Michael, "the guardian of your people" (Dan 12:1) would defend and deliver from their enemies "everyone who is found written in the book." Thus in icons Gabriel is usually depicted as winged while Michael is clothed in a military uniform.

The angel Gabriel appears before Zechariah to announce the birth of John the Forerunner and before the Theotokos to announce the birth of Christ. There are angels at His birth in Bethlehem and at His tomb in Jerusalem. Angels populate the garden in the Book of Genesis (Gen 3:24) and the heavens in the Book of Revelation. We call on them in the psalms to protect and help us and to lead us in blessing the Lord.



### Prokimenon

**Reader:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Reader:** Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Reader:** You, O Lord, will keep us

**People:** And preserve us always from this generation.

### Epistle: Gal 6:11-18

#### Alleluia Verses

Your favor, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation, my mouth will proclaim Your faithfulness.

**Verse:** For You have said, "My kindness is established forever." In heaven You have confirmed Your faithfulness.

### Gospel: Lk 8:41-56



"The soul that loves God has its rest in God and in God alone. In all the paths that men walk in the world, they do not attain peace until they draw nigh to hope in God"

- St. Isaac the Syrian