



September 2005 Newsletter of  
**St. Andrew Orthodox Catholic Church**

1216 Greencrest Ave., East Lansing, Michigan 48823; (517) 351-4627  
 Visit our website at: [StAndrewOrthodoxChurch.US](http://StAndrewOrthodoxChurch.US) (no "." on St).

**Rev. Fr. CHRISTOPHER ROZDILSKI,**  
**Pastor**  
 Rectory: (517) 351-4627  
 Emergencies ONLY: (517) 256-7399

**Saturday Vespers** 6 pm  
 Confessions (following)  
**Sunday Liturgy** 9:30 am  
 Confessions 8:45 am

**PARISH COUNCIL**

- Frances Johnson  
 Chairman  
 (517) 646-8786
- Samir Matta  
 Vice-Chairman  
 (517) 669-6676
- Jack Stein  
 Secretary  
 (517) 541-2367
- Maria Daly  
 Treasurer  
 (517) 487-9511
- William Gross  
 (517) 410-4066
- Don Dimitroff  
 (517) 321-1266

**Newsletter Staff**

Father Christopher  
 Matushka Mary  
 Leann Lerie Matta  
 Catherine Hattrem

**Schedule of Events**

Thurs Sept 1 Beginning of New Church Year  
 Sat Sept 3 MSU concessions  
 Wed Sept 7 **6:00pm** Vespers-Nativity of Theo  
 Thurs Sept 8 **9:30am** Liturgy-Nativity of Theo  
 Sat Sept 10 MSU concessions  
 Sun Sept 11 (social hour) Brotherhood Meet.  
 First Classes of Church School  
 Mon Sept 12 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting  
 Tues Sept 13 **6:00pm** Vespers-Elev'n of Cross  
 Wed Sept 14 **9:30am** Liturgy-Elev'n of Cross  
 Wed Sept 21 7:00pm Sisterhood Meeting

**!!! Please note these service time changes:**  
**ALL Vespers services at 6:00 pm**  
**ALL Liturgy services at 9:30 am !!!**

**Looking Ahead**

October—1, 22 & 29: MSU concessions  
 November—19: MSU Concessions  
 November—Sunday, 28th, St. Andrew Feast  
 day (11/30) potluck luncheon;  
 December 10—3rd Annual Cookie Walk

**❖ Prayer-filled Intentions ❖**

**Prospora Donors for September**

Contact Denise Covell to sponsor prospora for a special occasion or memorial for a loved one.  
 4th—Donald & Jennie Dimitroff in memory of mother, Lenka, on the 12th anniversary of her repose.  
 11th—John & Frances Johnson for daughter, Kim McFarland, on the occasion of her birthday.  
 18th—(requested before Jennie's repose) Jennie Potter in memory of daughter, Jamie Sue, on the 41st anniversary of her repose.  
 25th—Steven & Denise Covell for son, Matthew, on the occasion of his birthday.

**Church Calendar**

Ushers for September

4th—Anna Zivic & Jack Stein  
 11th—Nevenka Dines & John Johnson  
 18th—Steve & Denise Covell  
 25th—Sandy Oade & Penju Miteff  
 If you are unable to keep your assigned time, please find a replacement and notify coordinator, Cathy Estrada.

Social Hour Hosts for September

4th—Covell & Donahue  
 11th—Pierpont  
 18th—Chulakova & Kutchaev  
 25th—Smalley  
 Coordinator: Matushka Mary Donahue

Cleaning Crews for September

Date	Upstairs	Downstairs
3rd	Andretz/Miller Olga Chulakova	Michael Daly Bianka Daly
10th	Poufcas	Kobidze Sandy Oade
17th	Beck <b>*Note: 9/14 Liturgy*</b>	Donahue Covell
24th	Cathy Estrada Paripovic	Fisher Jr. FOCA

Coordinator: Leann Lerie Matta  
 Fr. Christopher is not always readily available to let you into the church. Please contact Fr. or another key holder 24 hours in advance.

FOCA Pop Can Returns for September

Andretz/Miller  
 Returns can be taken as needed, when the container is full. Please submit the money from returns to Laura, ASAP. Please remove cans weekly.

## ❖ Living Work & Donations ❖

❖ **New Concessions Digs @ MSU Football Stadium:** With the new addition to the MSU football stadium complete, our concessions volunteers will have a new concession stand on the 5th floor of the west wing (near gate #126) among the private suites & club seats. We appreciate all of our returning experienced volunteers signing up, but we also desperately need new energetic volunteers to share in this fundraising opportunity. There are 6 home games that St. Andrew church is signed up to work. Please sign up for at least 2 games and help your beloved church, while enjoying the comradarie with your fellow parishioners. New times for set up have been established; speak with Barb Pierpont for details.

❖ **Go Green to Get Some Green!** Don't forget to mark your calendars for the MSU Spartans football home games: September 3 & 10; October 1, 22 & 29; and November 19. Plan now to volunteer for MSU concessions. We are in need of 16 people to work each football game this season. This is an important fundraising event for our church, in its 4th year for us.

❖ **Loving Donation:** Thank you to the Nevenka Dines family for their donation of 2 whiteboards for our younger church school classrooms. This loving donation was made in memory of Dr. Lenna Dines. May her memory be eternal and may God continue to bless, guide & guard her family.

## ❖ Living Work & Donations ❖

❖ **LOOKING GOOD!** Have you noticed our spruced-up church grounds??? A little bit of hard work and attention have already brought about beautiful rewards. We've had more volunteers "adopt" plots around the church and personal plans by adoptees are already in the works to incorporate new landscaping along the north, east & south sides of the church. Enormous thanks to our volunteers: the Johnsons, Anna Waters, Becks, Hubingers, Mattas, Greeve & Tippins, deMorrow and Pierponts/Fortais families. Especially, thank you to Tsveta Lambo & Anna Zivic for your continued attention to the flower bed around the church landmark. Volunteers are still needed for a few remaining plots around the church and there is always seasonal work needing attention. May God bless all of our volunteers with continued strength and purpose.

❖ **Classy Classrooms:** Take a look at the elementary church school classrooms. Not only will our children be learning in a tidier environment,, but they'll also be more comfortable. Thanks to Don & Jennifer Beck and Rachel Britton for all of their hard work and commitment in painting the classrooms and supplying them with area rugs, bean bags and new storage shelves. Supplies were provided through Church School funds. The wall shared by the elevator room and preschool classroom is also being replaced due to water damage that occurred before a sump pump was placed beneath the elevator. May God continue to bless our church with such dedicated parishioners.

## ❖ Parish Details ❖

☑ **Newsletter Sponsor:** This issue of the newsletter is sponsored by Athena Dines for the health of husband, Steve, and brother, Louis Lambo. May God grant them all continued health and length of days.

☑ **Warm Thoughts:** As the winter approaches and fuel prices continue to rise, your church especially needs your donation towards heating costs. **A special FUEL envelope is enclosed in this newsletter for your thoughtful contribution.** Please remember how tight your church's monthly budget is when you choose the amount of your gift.

☑ **News Deadline for October Newsletter:** All church organizations & committee chairs, please note that the **deadline for the October newsletter is Sunday, September 25.** Please submit your information to Leann Matta, Matushka Mary, or Catherine Hattrem. It is standard practice to review all material with our pastor for his approval before printing; we need to allow sufficient time for the formatting, collating & mailing.

☑ **Gentle Reminders (to keep our church neat):** The pew liturgy books will last longer with a little loving care. Please return them to the book holders with the wire spine up & properly closed with covers on both sides... Also, take a little time to rinse the cans/bottles you donate each week. It keeps our floors clean & hungry critters outdoors, where they belong.

## ❖ Church Register ❖

**Baptism:** Fr. Christopher baptized baby Adrian, son of Marius & Cerasela Iancio, on August 13, 2005, in our church temple. Many years!

### The 7-Ups

1. **Wake Up...** Decide to have a good day! Psalm 118:24, "This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."
2. **Dress Up...** The best way to dress up is to put on a smile! 2 Samuel 16:7, "For the Lord does not see as a man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."
3. **Shut Up...** Say nice things and learn to listen. Understand why God gave man 2 ears, but only 1 mouth; to listen twice as much as he talks. Proverbs 13:3, "He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction."
4. **Stand Up...** For what you believe in. If you don't stand up for something, you'll fall for anything. Galatians 6:9, "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."
5. **Look Up...** To the Lord! Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
6. **Reach Up...** For something much higher. Philippians 3:14, "I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
7. **Lift Up...** Your prayers to God. Philippians 4:6, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

### Birth of the Theotokos

Teach your child to appreciate the importance of this Great Feast by explaining to them that the Theotokos was the Mother of God, joining Heaven with earth through the virgin birth of her son, Jesus Christ. When God had decided the time had come, Mary's response was, "Be it done according to Your will." We celebrate her birth because we too long to become "Godbearers" by bringing Christ to the people that we see each day. How can we bring Christ to our friends & loved ones: by loving God's people—all people; by living a life of prayer; by obeying Christ in all that we do; by speaking openly to others about our faith in Christ; by inviting others to come to church with us.

Remember, though, to bring Christ to others, we must first have Christ in our hearts!

—Borrowed

## Brotherhood of St. George the Great Martyr

George, this truly great and glorious Martyr of Christ, was born of a father from Cappadocia and a mother from Palestine. Being a military tribune, or chiliarch (that is, a commander of a thousand troops), he was illustrious in battle and highly honoured for his courage. When he learned that the Emperor Diocletian was preparing a persecution of the Christians, Saint George presented himself publicly before the Emperor and denounced him. When threats and promises could not move him from his steadfast confession, he was put to unheard-of tortures, which he endured with great bravery, overcoming them by his faith and love towards Christ. By the wondrous signs that took place in his contest, he guided many to the knowledge of the truth, including Queen Alexandra, wife of Diocletian, and was finally beheaded in 296 in Nicomedia. Like St. George, the Brotherhood at Saint Andrew church will not go quietly into the night.

As the principal custodians of our beautiful temple, rectory, and grounds, the members of the Brotherhood have relied on the sweat and effort of the few to benefit the many. Unfortunately there are many works still to be undertaken and other long-standing and new members of the parish must step forward and begin to do their share for the common good.

To this end, the Brotherhood is creating a bulletin board related to the care and upkeep of our facilities. The board will include lists detailing or requesting sign up for: "Tasks or Jobs", "Equipment and Supplies Needed", "Equipment Available", and "Skills."

We are asking all parishioners to read the lists and then take responsibility for any job within their skills or abilities; or volunteer your skills so you may be called upon for future endeavors. We are also looking for specific equipment that patrons would lend or donate. For example, if you are willing to trim the shrubbery, but don't own a hedge trimmer, please add that to the "Equipment Needed" list.

The Brotherhood will also be changing our meeting schedule to one Sunday each month during coffee hour to allow more parishioners the opportunity to participate.

I strongly encourage all of the men of St. Andrew Orthodox Catholic Church to consider both their hopes for the future of our congregation and the example of commitment and dedication we are setting to the young men in the Church School and behind the Ikonostas. It is only by giving that we may receive.

Next month is time to elect new officers for the leadership of the Brotherhood of St. George. A president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer need to volunteer their guidance for the service of all. Thank you to John Johnson, Don Beck, Samir Matta and Fr. Christopher for incredible help and support in the re-establishment of the Brotherhood of St. George at St. Andrew. Many thanks also to Cathy Estrada, Joanne Lopushinsky, Fran Johnson and the many women of the parish who have worked to support the Brotherhood both in fund raising and custodial endeavors.

-Scott Pierpont, retiring President

### Church Departments

† **Parish Council... Fran Johnson, Chairman**  
!!! Please remember your weekly church contributions. Due to recent tax payments and final roof payment, we are extremely tight, financially.

† **Church School... Jennifer Beck, Coordinator**  
We're looking forward to the return of our students this fall. Our class organization remains: Ruza Paripovic—preschoolers, Kathy Krause—early elementary, Rachel Britton and Jennifer Beck—upper elementary, and Cathy Estrada and Laura Patrick—the jr./sr. high students. See you September 11 for the first day of classes, and all year through.

† **Grounds & Maintenance... Scott Pierpont, Facilities Manager**

† **Choir... Leann Lerie Matta, Director**  
A new Pre-Teen Junior Choir is starting up in September, with 15 minute practices following church school classes. This little group of children with big hearts will share in praising God during pre-Communion. Also, many thanks to all of our choir who have filled our church with hymns of praise throughout the summer months.

✠ **Organizations of Fellowship**  
† **Jr. FOCA Youth Group... Laura Fisher, Leader**

† **Sisterhood of St. Helen... Barbara Pierpont, President**  
Plans are underway for our Third Annual Cookie Walk! Mark your calendars for December 10! The Sisterhood will be putting out a sign up sheet for cookie donations. There will also be opportunities to learn to make nut rolls and other festive treats in the church hall kitchen. More information to follow!

† **Brotherhood of St. George... Scott Pierpont, President**  
See our write up on St. George & the Brotherhood in this newsletter.

† **Orthodox Christian Fellowship... Laura Fisher, MSU Group Coordinator**  
Upcoming Activities for the OCF @ MSU:  
Tuesday, September 5th -First Meeting - 7:30 pm- 9:00 pm, Iowa Rm, MSU Union  
Thursday, September 22nd, 2005 – Meeting - 7:30 pm- 9:00 pm, Iowa Rm, MSU Union  
September 25th, 2005 - Welcome Back Dinner - Holy Trinity Church, Lansing - 6:00 pm

### Elevation of the Cross

This Great Feast commemorates the discovery of the precious cross, which had remained lost for nearly 400 years until it was discovered by St. Helen, St. Constantine's mother, when she discovered sweet-smelling Basil (Basilikos in Greek, meaning "the plant of the king") on Golgotha. The cross needed to be recovered, yet again, following its 628 A.D. capture by the Persian infidels who invaded Jerusalem. This was accomplished under Emperor Heraclius III. The significance of this Feast to us, today, is that just as Moses, by God's command, raised a serpent on a pole in the desert to save the Israelites from poisonous snake bites, the Church raises up the cross in our midst so that we may find healing and strength from the deadly poison of sin and guilt.

Borrowed

## ❁ Personal Notes ❁

❁ **Congratulations to newlyweds** Joe & Laura (Fisher) Patrick who were united on Saturday, July 9, in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Redford. They have also purchased a home in Okemos. Please record their new address: 1572 Forest Hills Street, Okemos, 48864.

❁ **Requesting your prayers & visits:** Please keep Bill Salerno in your prayers as his health has taken a turn. If you are in the neighborhood of the Lake Lansing Meijers, please consider stopping in for a short visit: Independence Village—across from Meijer, room 120. If you would like to check up on his status, speak with Tsveta Lambo.

❁ **Please keep in your prayers** Jason “Seraphim” Britton, husband and father of Rachel and Morgan & Emmary Britton. Jason has returned to Iraq with respect to his new employment. He will be working in Iraq for the next year and dearly needs your prayers. May God guide and guard Jason and return him safely to his family.

❁ **New Addresses & Updated Photos:** If you have recently moved, please report your change of address &/or phone number with Fr. Christopher either in person or by calling the church rectory (351-4627). Your consideration in this matter helps us to maintain a current directory... Also, upcoming in September, new photos of our church parish families and organizations will be taken to update our photo directory. There is also interest in including parishioners' occupations in the updated directory, to encourage patronage of those businesses, as appropriate. Watch for photographers on the prowl.

❁ **Recent Visitors:** It was nice to recently see Chris & Sophia Valkanoff of Florida visiting their home parish for the first time since moving to the sunny south last year.

## ❁ Summer Pilgrimages ❁

❁ **Orthodox Camp:** Several of our parish children were able to attend camp at Antiochian Village camp in Ligonier, PA (east of Pittsburgh) this summer. Laran Alexi, Carlos, Anastasia & Ibtisam Matta attended 2nd session in early July, while Lara & Nicky Miller (Andretz) attended 3rd session the end of July. Throughout their 2 week stays, the campers attended daily Matins & Vespers services, daily religious education, and physical challenges encouraging team efforts. May all of our children continually grow in their Orthodox faith throughout their lives.

❁ **Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos @ the Monastery:** Approximately 20 parishioners from our church were able to join the celebration of the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos at the area monastery in Rives Junction. Liturgy was served by over 20 Priests, including Fr. Christopher, and several Bishops/Metropolitan and Deacons, including the ordination of a Deacon during the service. Over 500 worshippers attended, partaking of this spiritually uplifting feast day celebration. Plan now to join us next year on August 14th.

### Orthodox Resources on the Internet

If you want a great website for Orthodox music and sermons, try:  
[www.ancientfaithradio.com](http://www.ancientfaithradio.com)

Also, if you're travelling out of state and need to find an Orthodox church, check:  
[www.orthodoxyinamerica.org](http://www.orthodoxyinamerica.org)

This site can locate an Orthodox church anywhere within North America for your needs.

And to keep up with St. Andrew Church events, check out our own website at :  
[StAndrewOrthodoxChurch.US](http://StAndrewOrthodoxChurch.US)



*Thank you to Denise & Steve Covell for again organizing a wonderful day at the park with our fellow parishioners. Everyone who was able to join us enjoyed lovely weather, swimming, boating, lots of great food and Christian fellowship. We look forward to this wonderful event becoming a yearly tradition for the further growth of our church. See you next year!*



## ❄ Moments of Fellowship ❄

### 2nd Annual Church Picnic:



*Snapshots provided by Matushka Sarah.  
A great way to spend the day with Christian family!*



*Lost & Found  
??? Did you misplace a few items at the picnic? Contact Matushka Mary if you're the owner of collapsible lawn chairs or eyeglasses.*