



# **St. Michael**

**Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church**

**609 N. Lincoln Ave, Aurora, IL 60505**

**Church phone: (630) 897-8115**

Rev. Remus Orian: (330) 809-2500

email: [saintmichaelchurcaurora@gmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelchurcaurora@gmail.com)

website: [www.stmichaelromanianchurch.org](http://www.stmichaelromanianchurch.org)

**Most Reverend John Michael Botean**

Bishop of the Romanian Greek Catholic Diocese of Canton, OH

Diocese website: [romaniancatholic.org](http://romaniancatholic.org)

**Administrator – Rev. Father Remus Orian**

**Rectory Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm**

Cantors and Readers (Cantori ai Bisericii)

Saturday: Diane Moreau, Lynn Matyas, Denise Matyas

Sunday: Ana Muresan, Marius Misca, Ioan Ileni

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

**Sunday before the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

This Sunday: Tone 6, Epistle Heb 11:9-10, Gospel Matthew 1:1-25

**Weekly Liturgy Schedule**

**Monday, December 23, 2024: Office closed** - No Divine Liturgy

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024:** - No Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024:** 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy **Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Thursday, December 26, 2024:** 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy Synaxis of the Mother of God **(Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Friday, December 27, 2024:** - No Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, December 28, 2024:** 4:00 PM: Divine Liturgy for Lena Matyas by the family.

**Sunday, December 29, 2024:** 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy for all the members of St. Michael Church

**CONFESSION: AT ANY TIME BY REQUEST, PLEASE CONTACT FATHER REMUS DIRECTLY at 330-809-2500**

Please pray for our sick and others: Dona Popp, Joseph Popp, Leon Saros, Susan Banks, Bob Banks, Emilia Adriana Russo, Mary Ann Signorelli, Vasile Moga, Florence Moga, Lisa Mickle, Stefana Pupek, Tudor Mathew Soncodi, Emily Thill, Carol Bristow, Gabriel Manu and all others who are confined to their homes or are in nursing homes.

\*\*\*Please let Father Remus know if you have an upcoming surgery, illness, etc., so we can place your name on our prayer list.

**Collection: December 14 and December 15, 2024**

- Weekly Offerings: \$1,015.00
- Building Fund: \$1,680.00
- Candles: \$29.00
- Loose: \$107.00
- Cemetery: \$180.00
- Martyred Bishop Collection: \$20.00
- Heat/AC: \$185.00
- Christmas flowers: \$40.00

**Total Offerings: \$3,256.00**

*Thank you for your generosity!*

The 2025 Donation Envelope Packets are on the table in the narthex. If you were not assigned a packet and would like one, please contact Father.

## The Blessing of Homes

The blessing of homes is done each year on or after the Feast of Theophany. This act is the central sign of God's sanctification of all things through Christ's baptism in the River Jordan and His Epiphany to the world.

When the priest arrives, all who are present in the house should gather around an icon with a candle and a bowl of water. They should, if they are able to join in and sing the Troparion of the Feast of Epiphany. Then a family member leads the priest through the house with the candle. As the priest moves through the house, he sprinkles holy water, and prays for a blessing upon each room and the activity that occurs there. When they have gone through the entire house, the family gathers again around the table and the priest blesses each person present.

### **General guidelines should be observed:**

- A candle with an icon and holy water should be put in a suitable place.
- A list of first names for whom prayers are to be offered, including members of the family and all those living in the house.
- If it is the practice to give the priest a gift, it should not be placed with the holy objects on the table. It can be prepared in advance but given at the conclusion of the service, preferably in an envelope or a card.

*A signup sheet is available at the front of church for you to schedule a time with Father Remus to bless your home.*

**Holiday Chifla & Colac Sale Update:** The church received a very generous donation of \$2,245.00 to pay the cost of all the ingredients for the bake sale plus additional funds toward the total profit of the sale. All other donations received for the ingredients added to the profit of the sale. With these funds we were able to pay the entire cost of the repairs to the church front steps with additional funds to cover future repair projects. May God bless the donors and all those that labored and supported this sale.

## 2024 Donations

There is still time to make your charitable deductible 2024 donation to church. We are asking parishioners to make their donations by Dec. 31, 2024, to be included in their 2024 donation letter.

## Candles

During the month of **December 2024**, our candles have been graciously donated anonymously.

We are also in need of donations for future months. The total cost for altar candles, incense, and another liturgy supplies for one month is \$100.

• **Office**

\*\*\*To facilitate accurate accounting, please make sure that you use separate checks/cash for the Special Collection, Candles, Heat and A/C, Building Fund, Cemetery, and Saturday and Sunday collection envelopes.

\*\*\*For Holy Baptism, contact the Parish Office at least one month prior to the date requested.

\*\*\*For Weddings, contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the date requested. No exceptions!

\*\*\*For Funerals, please contact Fr. Remus **before** making the arrangements with the funeral home.

• **Online donations:** Check out our online offering page! You can also sign up for Online donations to St. Michael Church by scanning the QR Code below.



**To Tickle Your Funny Bone 😊**

Bent over and obviously in pain, an old man with a cane hobbled laboriously through the sanctuary and into the pastor's office while the choir practiced.

Ten minutes later, the old man came out, walking upright and moving gracefully and quickly.

"Good gracious," the choir director exclaimed. "Did the pastor heal you by faith?"

"No," the old man said with a smile. "He just gave me a cane that wasn't six inches too short!"

**Happy Birthday! La multi ani!**

**Dec 2: Nina Matesan**

**Dec 6: Lauren Welsch**

**Dec 5: Florin Iuhas**

*If you would like your birthday in the bulletin, please inform Father, so it will be listed in the future.*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**CRACIUN FERICIT!**