



St. Michael

Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church

609 N. Lincoln Ave, Aurora, IL 60505

Church phone: (630) 897-8115

Rev. Remus Orian: (330) 809-2500

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Most Reverend John Michael Botean

Bishop of the Romanian Greek Catholic Diocese of Canton, OH

Diocese website: 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

February 22nd, 2026

1st Sunday in Lent - Orthodoxy Sunday

This Sunday: Tone 4, Epistle Heb 11:24-26, Gospel John 1:43-51

Weekly Liturgy Schedule

Monday, February 23, 2026: No Divine Liturgy. Office closed

Tuesday, February 24, 2026: 8:00 AM: Divine Liturgy for Patricia and Emo Sarich by Jeffrey and Kathleen Matyas

Wednesday, February 25, 2026: No Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, February 26, 2026: 8:00AM: Divine Liturgy for Mary Kuk by Lisa and Marcia Onak

Friday, February 27, 2026: No Divine Liturgy.

Saturday, February 28, 2026: 4:00PM: Divine Liturgy for Karen Reeves by Steve Korody

Sunday, March 1, 2026: 10:00AM: 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, Susan Banks, Emilia Adriana Russo, Mary Ann Signorelli, 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 that your name can be placed on our prayer list.

Collection: February 14 and February 15

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|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Candles: \$576.00 | • Weekly: \$955.00 |
| • Cemetery \$25.00 | • Building Fund: \$2,565.00 |
| • Loose: \$82.00 | • Membership: \$410.00 |
| • Heat: \$1,130.00 | • Placinta Ing.: \$40.00 |

Total Offerings: \$4,948.00

Thank you all for your support!

Sunday of Orthodoxy

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy because it commemorates the restoration of the Holy Icons and the triumph of the True Faith against the terrible heresy of the Iconoclasts, i.e. those heretics who refused to honor the Holy Icons. For more than a hundred years the Church was disturbed by the evil doctrine of iconoclasm.

The first Emperor to persecute the Church was Leo the Isaurian, and the last was Theophilus, the spouse of Saint Theodora (February 11), who reigned after her husband's death and re-established Orthodoxy in the time of Patriarch Methodios (June 14). Empress Theodora proclaimed publicly that we do not kiss the Icons as a sign of worship, nor do we honor them as "gods," but as images of their prototypes.

In the year 843, on the first Sunday of the Fast, Saint Theodora and her son, Emperor Michael, venerated the Holy Icons together with the clergy and the people.

- **Candles:** During the month of **February 2026**, our candles have been graciously donated by Lisa Mickle in memory of Jean Mickle. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

- **Easter Chifla/Colac Bake Sale:** The Easter chifla and colac sale will be on **Saturday, March 21, 2026**. Orders will be taken from Wednesday, February 25 through Wednesday, March 11, 2026. Please place your order by calling the St. Michael Special Event phone line at **331-274-3632**. Verbal or text messages may also be left at this number.

The price of Chifla (nut roll) is \$22.00 , Colac (sweet bread) loaf is \$10.00, and Colac round is \$12.00 Pick up is on Saturday, March 21 from 12 noon-4pm. Sunday parishioners may pick up their chifla and colac on March 22 after the Divine Liturgy. Due to the rising costs of ingredients, any donation would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.

- **Easter pasti donation (bread and wine)**

As we prepare for Easter, we are looking for those who may wish to donate the bread and wine for "pasti". If you feel called to offer this gift, please reach Fr. Remus. May God bless your generosity!

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

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

*****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

A priest was giving a homily about forgiveness. He said,
“We must love our enemies.”

After Mass, a parishioner came up to him and said,
“Father, I’m proud to say I love all my enemies.”

“That’s wonderful!” the priest replied. “How old are you?”

“I’m 98 years old.”

“98! That’s amazing! How do you manage to love all your enemies at your age?”

The parishioner smiled sweetly and said,

“Well, Father... I’ve outlived every single one of them.” 😊

Happy Birthday! La multi ani!

February Birthdays

Feb. 4: Andra Matesan

Feb. 13: Ava Grace Pinelli

Feb. 5: Florica Moga

Feb. 22: Alin Lodina

Feb. 5: Georgeta Naghi

Feb. 22: Erin Tamasi

Feb. 10: Nicolae Carasel

Feb. 25: Teodor Dogaru

Feb. 10: Fr. Remus Orian

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