



# **St. Michael**

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## 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

**January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican**

This Sunday: Tone 8, Epistle 3 Tim, 3:10-15, Gospel Luke 18:10-14

**Weekly Liturgy Schedule**

**Monday, January 26, 2026:** No Divine Liturgy. Office closed.

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026:** 8:00 AM: Divine Liturgy for Lori and Carmen Rotolo by Jeffrey and Kathleen Matyas

**Wednesday, January 28, 2026:** No Divine Liturgy.

**Thursday, January 29, 2026:** 8:00AM - Divine Liturgy for Charles and Olivia Onak by family

**Friday, January 30, 2026:** No Divine Liturgy.

**Saturday, January 31, 2026:** 4:00PM: Divine Liturgy for Lena Bolde by Lisa and Marcia Onak

**Sunday, February 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: January 17 and January 18**

- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Candles: \$25.00          | • Weekly: \$1,640.00         |
| • Cemetery \$45.00          | • Building Fund: \$ 1,160.00 |
| • Loose: \$17.00            | • Membership: \$200.00       |
| • Heat: \$285.00            | • Theophany: \$20.00         |
| • Initial offering: \$40.00 |                              |

**Total Offerings: \$3,432.00**

*Thank you all for your support!*

**The Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee** begins the Lenten Triodion, the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent. It is the Sunday before the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This is the pre-Lenten start of the Easter cycle of worship in the Byzantine Church.

The focus this Sunday is on the Gospel of Luke 18:10-14, in which two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, an externally decent and righteous man of religion, and the other was a publican, a sinful tax-collector who was cheating the people.

Though the Pharisee was genuinely righteous under the Law, he boasted before God and was condemned. The publican, although he was truly sinful, begged for mercy, received it, and was justified by God.

On this Sunday in the preparation for Great Lent, Byzantine Catholic Christians are to see that they should not have the religious piety of the Pharisee, but the repentance of the publican. They are called to think about themselves, in the light of Christ's teaching, as they really are and to beg for mercy. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and everyone who humbles himself will be exalted. (Luke 18:14)

### **2025 Tax Donation Letters:**

Thank you to everyone who helped support our church with your time, talents, and treasures throughout the year. May you be blessed with good health and happiness! The 2025 Tax Donation Letters are available in the narthex. Letters not picked up will be mailed on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Any questions about your letter, please email Father at [saintmichaelchurchaurora@gmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelchurchaurora@gmail.com)

- **Candles:** During the month of **January 2026**, our candles have been graciously donated by the Ionutas family in memory of Claudiu's and Monica's grandparents and family members who are no longer with us.

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.

- **Cemetery:** We kindly ask all families to please remove and clean up Christmas decorations from the cemetery on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>. This helps us keep the cemetery respectful, safe, and well maintained for everyone. Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and care for our shared sacred space.

- **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 man goes to confession and says: Father, I've sinned. I gossip a lot.

The priest thinks for a moment and says: For your penance, I want you to take a feather pillow, go outside, and shake it until all the feathers fly away. Then come back.

The man is confused but obedient. He shakes the pillow until feathers are everywhere and returns to the confessional.

The priest asks: Now go and gather all the feathers.

The man says: Father, that's impossible! The wind has taken them everywhere.

The priest smiles gently and says: So, it is with gossip. Once your words are released, you can't take them back. Do your best to speak with charity—and leave the rest to God.

### **Happy Birthday! La multi ani! January Birthdays**

**Jan 2: Diana Pinelli**

**Jan 6: Jessica Moga**

**Jan. 8: Claudiu Ionutas**

**Jan. 11: Marius Misca**

**Jan. 13: Anastasia Dogaru**

**Jan. 13: Tatiana Dogaru**

**Jan. 14: Marian Matesan**

**Jan. 17: Sofia Olaru**

**Jan. 21: Madelyn Naghi**

**Jan. 26: Jason Welsch**

**Jan. 27: Emily Adriana Russo**

**Jan. 27: Gert Saros**

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