



# PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

No. 72 / 13 August 2017



**Tenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Leavetaking of the**  
**Transfiguration of our Lord**

## Troparion, Tone 7

*You were Transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God, / Revealing Your glory to Your disciples as far as they could bear it. / Let Your everlasting Light shine upon us sinners! / Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to You!*

## Kontakion, Tone 7

*On the Mountain You were Transfigured, O Christ God, / And Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it; / So that when they would behold You crucified, / They would understand that Your suffering was voluntary, / And would proclaim to the world, / That You are truly the Radiance of the Father!*

**Prokeimenon. Mode 4.**  
**Psalm 18.4,1**

Their voice has gone out into all the earth.  
Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 4:9-16

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted,

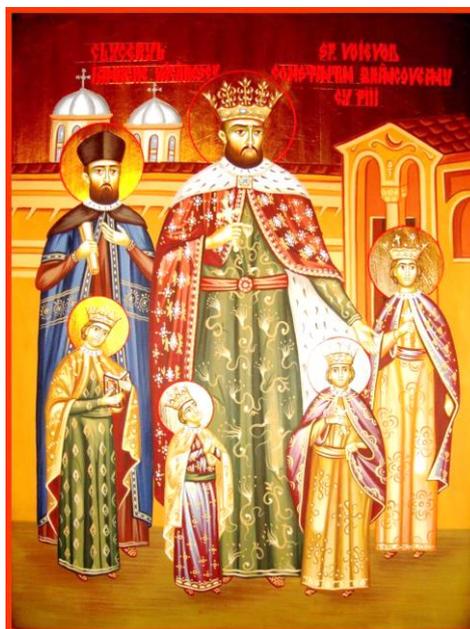
we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.



### **The Gospel According to Matthew 17:14-23**

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and

the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."



**St. Martyr Constantine Brancoveanu  
and his sons: Constantine,  
Stefan,  
Radu and Matei**

The holy Prince Constantine Brancoveanu, the son of Prince

Matthew Basarab, was born in 1654. When his parents died, he was raised and educated by his uncle, Constantine Cantacuzino. When another uncle, Prince Serban Cantacuzino died on on October 19, 1688, Constantine was chosen to succeed him as Prince of the Romanian Land (Wallachia). Saint Constantine was a wise and just ruler who was guided by Christian principles, and worked for the benefit of his people. He also built and restored many churches and monasteries. His philanthropy extended even into Transylvania and Moldavia, which were ruled by others.

In 1714, after a reign of twenty-five years, Saint Constantine, his sons, and his sons-in-law were arrested by soldiers sent to Bucharest by Sultan Ahmed III (1703-1730).The prisoners were brought to Constantinople, where they were tortured for four months. Prince Constantine was told that if he and his sons wanted to escape death, they would have to convert to Islam and pay a large sum of money. Constantine did not have the money required by the Turks, and he did not wish to convert to the Moslem faith.

Seeing that neither tortures nor threats would induce the prisoners to forsake Christ, the Turks sentenced them to death.

Before his own execution, Saint Constantine had to watch as his sons were beheaded before his eyes.

On the Feast of the Dormition (August 15), the sixty-year-old prince, his sons, and his counsellor Ianache Vacarescu died as martyrs for Christ. Their bodies were left unburied for three days, then they were thrown into the sea. Their relics were recovered by Orthodox Christians who brought them to the Monastery of the Theotokos on the island of Chalki.

Saint Constantine's wife Marica brought his holy relics back to Bucharest and placed them in the church of Saint George the New, which he had founded. He was glorified by the Orthodox Church of Romania in 1992.





## Liturgical Schedule for this week

<b>Sunday</b> <i>August, 13</i>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Paraklesis of Theotokos</b>
<b>Monday</b> <i>August, 14</i>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Vespers at Holy Dormition Albanian Church, Worcester</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>August, 15</i>	<b>8:00am</b> <b>9:00am</b>	<b>Matins</b> <b>Divine Liturgy - Holy Dormition of the Holy Theotokos</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <i>August, 16</i>	<b>9:00pm</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy for Holy Martyr Constantine Brancoveanu and his sons</b>
<b>Saturday</b> <i>August, 19</i>	<b>8:30am</b> <b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b> <b>Vespers</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <i>August, 20</i>	<b>8:30am</b> <b>9:30am</b>	<b>Matins</b> <b>Divine Liturgy</b>

### Announcements:

- Our Metropolitan confirmed his visit on our Church's feast celebration in November. We should finish our Church's beautification projects by then.
- The following icons were ordered from the Holy Protection Monastery in PA: St. Parascheva, St. Ecaterini, St. Apostle Andrew (The Apostle of Romania) , St. Martyr Minas, and Jesus Pantocrator. Donations are kindly requested.
- Margaret Grabosky's baptism – August 19, 2:00pm
- Movie night has been moved to Friday 25 August, 7:00pm

