

**DOEPA – PARISH ANNUAL REPORT**  
**for the 2023 Diocesan Assembly**

Parish name and Address	Photo
	St. Michael's Orthodox Church 131 N. Willow Street Mt. Carmel, PA 17851
Clergy	
Vacant Administrator – Father Vjekoslav Jovicic	
Committees/Societies	
Since January 2022	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) St. Michael's and Veterans Day celebration during which a Liturgy is held and living and departed veterans are honored at the end of the service. Patriotic songs are sung in the hall before breakfast is served. This year a local nursing home brought several veterans to the service and breakfast. The parish had several visitors from the community as well as clergy from other parishes in the area. There were 50 in attendance.</li> <li>(2) Annual summer parish picnic was held in August. Nearby parishes and friends of the parish were invited. The event was well attended and all enjoyed the annual visit from the local ice cream truck.</li> <li>(3) Adult Education was provided at times during the year and Sunday School was restarted in November 2022.</li> <li>(4) Christmas caroling thru the community and in the hall.</li> </ol>	
Outreach Directed to Growth, Adult Education and Charitable Activities ( <i>Fundraisers are not Outreach</i> )	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The community and friends of the parish are invited to all special events; and visitors are always welcomed and if they provide contact information we follow-up with them.</li> <li>(2) The Annual St. Nicholas Day Preparation continues with a coat drive to support Central Susquehanna Opportunities work (10 coats and \$350 provided). Over 200 Christmas cards were sent to parishioners, friends of the parish and nursing homes with children of the parish making cards for our shut-ins. A small army of elves decorated the church for Christmas and practiced singing carols. Cookies were baked and delivered to the local nursing homes and breads will be baked to distribute to all in attendance at Nativity Liturgy and delivered to our home bound parishioners.</li> <li>(3) Cards are provided to parishioners and friends of the parish for every holiday, birthday, anniversaries, get well, and thinking of you. Cards are also prepared for nursing homes on special occasions along with flowers for Mother's Day.</li> <li>(4) Periodically treats from the parish are provided to nursing homes.</li> <li>(5) Meals are provided to home bound parishioners after events and projects.</li> <li>(6) The parish supports two local food banks, a mobile soup kitchen, and United Way at Risk Children's program.</li> </ol>	

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- (7) 10% of the profit from perogie projects were provided to the Ukrainian Refugee Relief effort. In addition an appeal was also held. The parish provided \$2,150 in funds to this effort.
- (8) Nativity, Lenten, and Special Appeals were held and directed to various needs.
- (9) Resumed Paska Baking this year and distributed as a gift to our parishioners - 60 Paskas were made and distributed.

### Major Challenges Faced

- (1) Currently do not have an assigned rector.
- (2) Economically depressed area.
- (3) Some parishioners and families have not resumed attending services since COVID and some not attending on a regular basis.

### Upcoming Special Events/ Anniversaries – January 2023 to December 2023

- (1) Winter Community Soup Day**
- (2) Paska Baking class and baking for the parishioners**
- (3) Summer Annual Parish Picnic**
- (4) Choir education classes for the youth**
- (5) Women’s appreciation breakfast**
- (6) Hopefully at least one Lenten Mission will be scheduled for the coal region parishes**
- (7) St. Nicholas Activities – local caroling and distributing cookies**
- (8) St. Michael’s and Veterans Day annual celebration**

#### As of October 1, 2022

**Active Members Count**                      60

**Children (under 18)**                              9

#### January 1 thru December1, 2022

**Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance**                      25

**Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants**                      9

**Average Saturday Vigil Attendance**                      10

**Number of Catechumens**                              0

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	January 1, thru December 1, 2022
<b>Baptisms</b>	0
<b>Funerals</b>	0
<b>Marriages</b>	0
<b>Receptions into Orthodoxy</b>	0
<b>Church School/Number Enrolled</b>	4
<b>Adult Education/Number Enrolled</b>	6 (possibly more attending via You Tube)