

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

114 South Chestnut Street, Shenandoah, Pennsylvania 17976

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

North Morris Street, Saint Clair, Pennsylvania 17970

Rectory (570) 462-0809 Fax (570) 462-0517 St. Michael's Oak St. Hall (570) 462-2424

St. Michael's Pierogie Hotline (570) 462-2424

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Like us on Facebook @St Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

Follow us on twitter @stmichaelukr

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

Sunday January 4th, 2015 Sunday before Theophany

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 3 rd	3:30pm +Michael Krajcirik Sr. by Michael & Theresa Krajcirik
Sunday, January 4 th <i>Theophany of Our Lord</i>	10:30am +Stella Stockunas by Albert & Alice Breznik
Tuesday, January 6 th	6:00pm +Mary Lazuzsky & +Anna Lefchick by William & Irene McAndrew & the Blessing of Water No Bible Study
Wednesday, January 7 th	5:00pm Deceased Members of the +Yawornitsky Family by Theresa & Michael Krajcirik 6:30pm Prayer Group
Friday, January 9 th	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, January 10 th	3:30pm +Ed Kalavage by Daughter in Law
Sunday, January 11 th	10:30am God's Blessings on His People

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 3 rd	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30am +Mary Stock by Jeanette & Thomas Stock
Sunday, January 4 th	8:30am God's Blessings on His People
Monday, January 5 th <i>Theophany of Our Lord</i>	8:00am +Andrew Zubar –Legacy Liturgy
Tuesday, January 6 th	9:00am God's Blessing on His People & the Blessing of Water
Thursday, January 8 th	8:00am +John Lutsky – Legacy Liturgy
Saturday, January 10 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30am +Mary Cheripka by George & Linda Cheripka
Sunday, January 11 th	8:30am +John Yaroshak by Helen Seamon

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, January 3 rd	2 Tim 4:5-8	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, January 4 th	2 Tim 4:5-8	Paul Caputo
Tuesday, January 6 th	Titus 2:11-14 & 3:4-7	Charles Calise
Saturday, January 10 th	Eph 4:7-13	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, January 11 th	Eph 4:7-13	Alice Breznik

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, January 3 rd	2 Tim 4:5-8	Andrew Skrincosky
Sunday, January 4 th	2 Tim 4:5-8	Susan Miller
Tuesday, January 6 th	Titus 2:11-14 & 3:4-7	Theresa Panchision
Saturday, January 10 th	Eph 4:7-13	Christine Romanko
Sunday, January 11 th	Eph 4:7-13	Lauralee Sadusky

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Thank you- We were very blessed this year by the amazing Christmas donations given to St. Michael's totaling \$5,552.00. Thank you for your generosity and dedication to our Church.

Pierogie Sale- The next pierogie sale is sold out .. but we still need your help. Any time you can give to help prep and make pierogies is appreciated. The next sale is Monday , February 16th ,

Candles- Light a candle in memory or for intentions of the ones you love. The Iconostas lamps at \$12 a week, the Crucifix lamps at \$6 a week, and the Tabernacle lamps at \$30 a week are all still available for 2015. Please contact the rectory to reserve these candles. Please submit your donation at the time of your request.

St. Nicholas:

Divine Liturgy cancelation- If there is a two hour delay or cancelation of the St. Clair schools due to bad weather , we will not have Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas.

Both Churches:



A Happy and Blessed New Year to St. Nicholas and St Michael's Parishes! May you walk with the Lord this New Year. May you remember His blessings in your life and may he continue to bless you throughout 2015. - Fr. Myron

Holy Day: There is a Fast on Monday ,January 5 for the Feast of Theophany.. Those between the ages of 14-59 should refrain from eating meat on this day. Tuesday January 6th is a Holy Day of Obligation, for the Feast of Theophany & the Solemn Blessing of Water. Please try to attend Divine Liturgy on this day.

Rectory Office Closings- If local schools are canceled due to bad weather the office will be closed. If there is a 2 hour delay opening the office will not open till 11am. Thank you for your understanding.

Food Donations are being taken at the back of the Church. Nonperishable items with unexpired dates are appreciated, pasta, sauce, peanut butter, jelly, fruits, veggies, macaroni & cheese, soups, canned pasta's, tuna, canned meats, rice, cereal, oatmeal, granola bars and snacks, mixes that only need water. Toiletry products such as toilet paper, soap & shampoo are also welcome.

*I know God won't give me more than I can handle.
I just wish He didn't trust me so much.*

Both Churches

Annual Festival of Christmas Carols will be held on Sunday, January 11, 2015 at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. During the Concert a collection will be taken for the needs of the Ukrainian Army. Choirs from different parishes will participate. Everyone is welcome

THE FIVE DAYS OF ALL SOULS (SOROKOUSTY)

We need to update our All Souls Lists 2015.

We will be returning to the traditional listing of only the Family Name of the one making the request and only the first names of the departed.

If you wish your departed loved ones remembered in the Dyptychs on these special days , please fill out the form below and return it in the special offering envelopes marked "Sorokousty" included in your envelope box .

All Requests must be returned by Sun. February 1st.

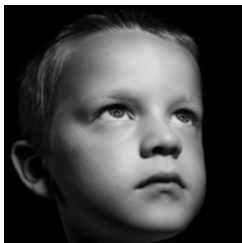
_____ **clip here** _____

Kindly include the following names of these beloved souls in the DYPTYCHS to be commemorated during the Panahyda on the 5 All Souls Days. If your list has not changed since 2014 simply check here. _____ Remember to complete the form with your own name, so we can contact you with any questions.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

use extra paper if necessary — please print!!!

YOUR NAME: _____



Jesus the evangelizer par excellence and the Gospel in person, identifies especially with the little ones. (cf Mt 25:40). This reminds us Christians that we are called to care for the vulnerable of the earth.

POPE FRANCIS

MORNING MEDITATION IN THE CHAPEL OF THE *DOMUS SANCTAE MARTHAЕ*

They shall be first~Tuesday, 16 December 2014

(by *L'Osservatore Romano*, Weekly ed. in English, n. 51, 19 December 2014)

The basic condition for walking the “path of salvation” is a “contrite heart”, one that is capable of recognizing its own sins. Thus, the Lord’s “judgment” will not be one to frighten, but to offer hope. For this reason, the two Readings that Pope Francis reflected on during Mass at Santa Marta on Tuesday, have the very “structure of a judgment”.

The Pope first referred to the passage from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah (3:1-2, 9-13), which begins with a threat: “Woe to the city, rebellious and polluted”, and then a judgment: “to the tyrannical city”, the city that “hears no voice, accepts no correction; In the Lord she has not trusted, to her God she has not drawn near”. Those people are sentenced: the “sentence” is expressed in the term “woe”. For the others, there is instead a promise: “I will change and purify the lips of the peoples”, the prophet writes. “From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia”, those who pray to me “will bring me offerings. On that day you need not be ashamed of all your deeds, your rebellious actions against me”.

Who was Zephaniah talking about? He was speaking about those who drew near “to the Lord because the Lord had forgiven”, the Pope explained. These people were “the saved ones”; the others were “the proud, who didn’t hear the voice of the Lord, who didn’t accept correction, didn’t trust in the Lord”.

To the penitent, who were capable of recognizing: “Yes, we are sinners”, Francis highlighted, the Lord reserved forgiveness and addressed “this word, which is one of those hope-filled [words] of the Old Testament: ‘I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord’”.

Here the Pope identified “the three characteristics of the faithful People of God: humility, poverty and trust in the Lord”. And this is “the path of salvation”. The others, however, “heard no voice, accepted no correction, and did not trust in the Lord”, and therefore “they cannot receive salvation”: they are “closed” to salvation, the Holy Father explained.

The same thing happens today: “When we see the holy People of God, who are humble, who have their treasure in the faith in the Lord, in the trust in the Lord; the humble, poor people who confide in the Lord”, here we meet “the saved ones”, for “this is the path” that the Church must take.

A similar dynamic is found in the day’s Reading from the Gospel of Mathew (21:28-32), in which Jesus also proposes “to the chief priests, to the elders, the elders, of the people”, to the entire “‘network’ of people who waged war”, a “judgment” to reflect upon. He presented them the case of the two sons whom the father asks to go to work in the vineyard. One answers: “I won’t go to the field. I don’t want to”. But then he goes. Meanwhile the other says: “Yes, sir”, but then thinks: “The old man has no strength, I’ll do what I want, he can’t punish me”. And therefore, “he doesn’t go, he doesn’t obey”.

Jesus asks his interlocutors: “Which of the two did his father’s will?”. Was it “the first, the one who said ‘no’”, the rebellious one who later “thought of his father” and decided to obey, or was it the second? At this point Jesus offers his judgment: “Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are

entering the Kingdom of God before you”. They “will be the first”. And He explains why: ““When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him’. You didn’t listen to John: the baptism of penitence.... The tax collectors and prostitutes, however, believed. You, on the contrary, saw these things but then you didn’t repent a bit”.

What “did these people do” to deserve this judgment? “They didn’t listen”, the Pope explained, “to the Lord’s voice, they didn’t accept correction, they didn’t trust in the Lord”. One could ask: “But Father, what a scandal that Jesus said this, that the tax collectors, who betrayed the homeland because they collected taxes to pay the Romans”. Will they really “go first to the Kingdom of Heaven?”. And the same for “the prostitutes, who are throw-away women”? And finally, “Lord, have you gone mad? We are pure, we are Catholics, we partake in communion every day, we go to Mass”. And yet, Francis underscored, they “will go first if your heart is not a contrite heart”. And “if you have not listened to the Lord, haven’t accepted correction, haven’t trusted in Him”, then yours is not a contrite heart.

The Lord, the Pontiff continued, doesn’t want these “hypocrites who were scandalized” by what “Jesus said about the tax collectors and about the prostitutes, but then secretly went to them, whether to unleash their passions or to do business”. They considered themselves “pure”, but in reality, “the Lord doesn’t want them”.

Today’s liturgy makes us think about this judgment which is “a judgment that gives us hope when we look at our sins”. Indeed, all of us, “we are sinners”. Every one of us is well aware of our list of sins; however, Francis said, each one of us can say: “Lord, I offer You my sins, the only thing that we can offer You”.

In order to better understand this, the Pontiff recalled the “life of a saint who was very generous” and offered everything to the Lord: “The Lord asked him for something and he did it”. The saint always listened and always followed the Lord’s will. Yet the Lord once said to him: “You still haven’t given me one thing”. And he, “who was so good”, answered: “But, Lord, what haven’t I given You? I’ve given you my life, I work for the poor, I work for the catechesis, I work here, I work there...”. The Lord pressed on: “You haven’t given me one thing”. And the saint repeated, “What Lord?”. And the Lord concluded, “Your sins”.

And this was the lesson the Pope wanted to highlight: that, when we are able to say: “Lord, these are my sins, they aren’t this man’s or that woman’s.... They’re mine. You take them. This way I’ll be saved”. When we are able to do this, then “we will be that beautiful people — ‘the humble and poor people’ — who trust in the name of the Lord”.



If you count all your blessings, you'll always be in the black !

INACTIVE CHURCH MEMBER'S CALENDAR

January — I hereby resolve to start attending church this year. But first I have to get over the holidays. They really take a lot out of you.

February — Weather's terrible. I'll start when it gets a bit warmer. My blood is just too thin this time of year.

March — Lots of sickness going around now. Guess I'd better stay away from all those bugs.

April — Pascha ... Big crowds They won't miss me.

May — I've been inside all winter. Now that the weather is better, it's time to go to the park.

June — I'll wait until the baby is older. How on earth do some people take their babies to church when they are just a few weeks old?

July — This heat is terrific! That air conditioning in the church probably isn't working right. Besides, we've got that cabin and boat for Sundays.

August The pastor's on vacation. He'll never know I missed. Never liked those guest priests anyway. But when he gets back....

September — School's started. My vacation threw me behind in my work. It'll take me a little time to get back in the swing of things.

October — The leaves are beautiful this time of year. I can worship God outdoors just as well.

November — Getting colder ... can't stand warm church buildings. All stuffy inside. I'll start back when it gets warmer.

December — Christmas! I just don't have time for church this month. I'll resolve now to start going to church next year.

HOUSE BLESSING 2015

Msgr. Myron:

I (we) would like you to come and bless my (our) home if possible this year during the Theophany (Jordan) Season. (2015)

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

Please return this week

The tongue weighs practically nothing, but few can hold it.

Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord

The Feast of Theophany is a celebration of an historic event, the Baptism of Christ. In addition, we celebrate all the different manifestations of God (Theophanies) to men in the Person of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. We celebrate in this Feast His mysterious union with humanity in the Church--a union of faith and love, engendering men to a new spiritual life in Baptism. The event of the Baptism of Christ in the Jordan River (Mk. 1:9-11) serves to reveal this union in a clear and special manner.

In accordance with the Gospel this is the first revelation of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit--the Holy Trinity. The icon brings this revelation to us. At the top of the icon, the opening of heaven is symbolized by the segment of a circle. This circle signifies God's presence and witness at the event. Emanating from the circle are rays of light surrounding the Holy Spirit, depicted in the figure of a dove descending upon our Savior who is being baptized in the Jordan by John. In this graphic manner, the father and the Holy Spirit give testimony to the appearance of the Son of God in the flesh among mankind.

In this icon, we are immediately drawn to the Person of Christ. He stands in the waters of the Jordan. The iconographic imagery expresses that not just a part, but the entire body of Christ is immersed in the Jordan in token of His burial; for in Colossians we read: "In baptism you were not only buried with Him but also raised to life with Him because you believed in the power of God Who raised Him from the dead." (2:12) The icon's illustration of the total immersion of Christ as well as His right hand blessing the waters signifies the sanctification and purification of the waters by Christ. No longer is water an image of death, but an image of birth into a new life which we share with Christ Who took upon Himself the sins of the world. In Christ we celebrate that all of creation is renewed.

A further illustration of our coming to share this new life in Christ is the symbol of Christ undergoing Baptism "clothed" in the nakedness of Adam, the Father of all mankind. Through Christ's sanctification of the waters, He enables us to be raised up with Him and to put on the robes of incorruptibility. The role of John the Baptist is depicted by the placing of his right hand on the head of Christ---a gesture which has always been an integral part of the sacramental ritual of Baptism. With his left hand, John makes a gesture of prayer, symbolizing the trembling awe which overwhelmed him at the sight of the divine manifestation.

Present in the icon are angels with their hands covered. Their heads are bowed as an indication of their role of service to God and their reverence for Him Whom they serve.

The Icon of Theophany brings us visually and symbolically to the presence of the manifestation of God, the revelation of the Trinity, and the deep, spiritually rich significance of Baptism. In its presence we know that God does reveal Himself to us and that through our Baptism, established by the Baptism of Christ, we are made new in Christ.

(God With Us Icon Series)

Church Information

Rectory Hours- Monday – Thursday 10:00am- 3:00 pm - phone 570-462-0809 Closed holidays

Baptisms: Please contact the rectory a week or more in advance.

Confessions: By appointment, before Divine Liturgy or check your bulletin schedule.

Marriages: Those planning marriages must be active members of the parish, and must contact the pastor at least 6 months in advance. Marriage preparation for couples is required

Emergencies & Pastoral Care: Please call the pastor if a parishioner is hospitalized or home bound and is in need of the Eucharist or Anointing of the Sick.

New Parishioners are urged to register in the rectory office. Moving? Change of address? Please notify the rectory.

Letters of Recommendation: for Sponsors of the sacraments will be issued only to active members of the parish who are registered with the parish, receiving sacraments and supporting the parish.

Mass Cards, Sanctuary Lights, and Other Candles etc.: Contact the rectory during office hours for information.

Questions: Please contact the rectory, or see Msgr. Myron.

Weekly Contributions

Parishes Weekly Income: **St. Michael:** Contribution- \$2,562.50 Cemetery \$995.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contribution- \$2,881.45 Cemetery \$525.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- In Memory of +Olga Kulka by Michael Kulka & Son & Daughter

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- In Memory of +Peter & +Anna Slatick by Son, John

Seven Branch Candlestick- God's Blessings for & in Memory of the Blaschak & Wolfe Families

4 Lamps of the Iconostas –

Lamps of the Crucifix

Lights of the Tetrapod- In Memory of the Deceased Members of the +Szczyglak Family by Andrew Szczyglak

Lights of the Tabernacle-

God bless you for your love and devotion to your parish!

Prayer Requests: Please remember our shut-ins and all those who have requested our Prayers:

Our Military Friends Serving Our Country,

St. Michael

Sonya Elchishak
Eva Koch
Pat Sittnick
Martha Hysock
Mary Mazur
Olga Hatchel

Olga Kurilla
Helen Beddall
Irene Flaherty
Irene Yaroma
Dolores Kozié
Edward Sion
Sandy Bankes*
Andrea Pytak

Susan Enders
Dolores O'Connell Leahy
Roseanne Nause
Susan Chernesky
Kelly Jones
Maya Usewicz
Helen Sims
Bill McAndrew*

Christine Lenhart*
& Rosemary (Mother)
Marie Sion
Tom Prete
Keilbasa Family*

Anne Prete

St. Nicholas

Helen Salak
Helen Seamon
Mary Mistishen
Joseph Luckenbill
Robert O'Connor

Peter Kadingo
Jeanette Stock
Mary Kadingo

Laura Seasock
Anna Skrincosky
Catherine Washuta
Elizabeth Gulas

Joseph Salak
Elmer Gulas
Walter Mistishen
Andrew Skrincosky

Items in this bulletin are from Fr. Daniel & St Josephat's Bulletin , Archbishop Chancery, Vatican Website , Father Fields & Mustard Seeds by M. Kelly