

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 11th, 2015 Sunday after Theophany

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 10 th	3:30pm +Ed Kalavage by Daughter in Law
Sunday, January 11 th	10:30am God's Blessings on His People
Tuesday, January 13 th	5:00pm +Joseph Flamini by Betty Ann & Staff No Bible Study
Wednesday, January 14 th	5:00pm Deceased Members of the +Kopie Family by Theresa & Michael Krajcirik
	6:30pm Prayer Group
Friday, January 16 th	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, January 17 th	3:30pm +Ellen Evans by Ann Evans
Sunday, January 18 th	10:30am 40 th Day +Chuck Sophy by Wife Jeanette & Children

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

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
Monday, January 12 th	8:00am Birthday Remembrance for +Martha Homovich by Tom Shoopak
Thursday, January 15 th	8:00am +Olga Lutsky – Legacy Liturgy
Saturday, January 17 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm 3rd Anniversary +Robert Corby by Wife Helen and Family
Sunday, January 18 th	8:30am God's Blessings on His People

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, January 10 th	Eph 4:7-13	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, January 11 th	Eph 4:7-13	Alice Breznik
Saturday, January 17 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, January 18 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	Michael Fufila

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, January 10 th	Eph 4:7-13	Christine Romanko
Sunday, January 11 th	Eph 4:7-13	Lauralee Sadusky
Saturday, January 17 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	Michael Prokop
Sunday, January 18 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	David Toth

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

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.

Home Blessings will be on done on Sunday afternoon in Ringtown, Shenandoah, and Frackville if the weather permits.

St. Nicholas:

Divine Liturgy cancellation- 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:

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

Championship Sunday Beef & Brew: The Holy Name Society of Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Mt. Carmel is sponsoring a Championship Sunday Beef and Brew for the NFC Championship Game on Sunday, January 18, 2015. Cost is \$10 per person and includes all food and drink. Doors open at 2pm. The game starts at 3pm. Tickets are available at the church office or from any Holy Name Society Member. Pre-sale preferred but walk-ins welcome. For more info. Call 570-339-0650.

Practice Forgiveness



Identify the person closest to you-spouse, family member, friend neighbor, co-worker- for whom you harbor the most hurt, and take as much time and energy necessary to find a way to completely forgive them. That is the core of what it means to be a Catholic Christian, to learn how to forgive. The saints tell us now is the time to start over.

“ Jesus spoke of forgiveness very often and in various ways. When Perter asked him how often her should forgive his neighbor, Jesus answered that he should forgive seventy times seven. That means in practice , always. In fact seventy times seven is symbolical, and it means more than a given quantity, and incalculable, infinite quantity” *Pope John Paul II*

Live to express, not to impress.

Both Churches

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: _____

Words from Mother Theresa on Moments of Silence:

- “In the silence of our hearts God speaks of His love; with our silence we allow Jesus to love us”
- “ Souls of prayer are souls of great silence. We cannot put ourselves directly in the presence of God if we do not practice internal and external silence”
- “We to... must learn that “silence” which will enable us to ponder His words in our hearts and so grow in love. We cannot love nor serve unless we learn to ponder in our hearts. “

POPE FRANCIS

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

We are history Thursday, 18 December 2014

(by L'Osservatore Romano, Weekly ed. in English, n. 1, 2 January 2015)

In those “bad times” which inevitably arise in life, you must take on problems with courage, placing them in the hands of a God who makes history even through us, and corrects it even though we are unable to understand and we make mistakes. Pope Francis offered this suggestion during the Mass celebrated on Thursday, 18 December, in the chapel of Casa Santa Marta.

In yesterday’s liturgy, we reflected on the genealogy of Jesus, the Pontiff began. And with the morning’s passage from the Gospel of Matthew (1:18-24) this reflection concludes by telling us “that salvation is always in history: there is no salvation without history”. Indeed, to arrive at the point we have reached today, he explained, “there has been a long history, a remarkably long history which, yesterday, the Church symbolically chose to tell us in the Reading of the genealogy of Jesus: God wanted to save us in history”.

“Our salvation, the one God wanted for us, is not an aseptic, manufactured salvation”, but “historical”. And God, Francis affirmed, “made a journey in history with his people”. The First Reading, taken from the Prophet Jeremiah (23:5-8), “says something beautiful about the phases of this history”, the Pope pointed out, rereading the words of the Scripture: “the days are coming, says the Lord, when men shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt’, but ‘As the Lord lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them’”.

This was “another step, another phase”, Francis explained. Thus, “history is made step by step: God makes history”, and “we too make history”. And “when we make mistakes, God corrects history and leads us onward, onward, always walking with us”. After all, if this isn’t clear to us, “we will never understand Christmas, we’ll never understand the mystery of the incarnation of the Word, never”. For “it’s all a history of walking”, the Pope commented, and obviously, it doesn’t end with Christmas, because “now, the Lord is still saving us in history and walking with his people”.

Here then, is why we need “the sacraments, prayer, preaching, the first proclamation: in order to continue with this history”. We also need “sins, for they aren’t lacking in the history of Israel”: in Jesus’ own genealogy “there were many considerable sinners”. Yet “Jesus went forward. God goes forward, despite our sins”.

However in this history “there are a few bad moments”, Francis noted: “bad times, dark times, troublesome times” which bring problems “for the chosen ones, for those people whom God chooses to guide history, to help his people move forward”. The Pope recalled “Abraham, a calm 90-year-old, with his wife: he had no son, but a beautiful family”. However, “one day the Lord disturbed him” and commanded him to leave his land and set out on a journey”. Abraham “was 90 years old” and that was definitely “a troublesome time” for him. But this is how it was for Moses too, “after he fled from Egypt: he married, and his father-in-law had a huge flock, and he shepherded that flock”. He was 80 years old and “he was thinking about his sons, about the inheritance he would leave them, about his wife”. And then the Lord commanded him to return to Egypt to free his people. However, “that time

was uncomfortable for him there, in the land of Midian. But the Lord bothers” and it’s useless for Moses to ask “But who am I to do this?”.

So, Francis said, “the Lord bothers us in order to make history, He makes us go so many times on the path that we don’t want”. And he then recalled the story of Elijah: “the Lord impels him to kill all the false prophets of Baal and then, when the queen threatens him, he’s afraid of a woman”; but “that man who killed 400 prophets, is afraid of a woman and could die of fear, he doesn’t want to continue moving”. It was truly “a bad moment” for him.

In the passage from the Gospel of Matthew, the Pontiff continued, “today we’ve read of another bad time in the history of salvation: there are so many of them”. In the day’s Reading, the main character is “Joseph, betrothed: he really loves his bride-to-be, and she goes to help her cousin. And when she comes back the first signs of pregnancy can be seen”. Joseph “suffers, he sees the women of the village gossiping at the market”. And suffering, he says to himself about Mary: “This woman is good, I know her! She is a woman of God. What has she done to me? It isn’t possible! But I have to accuse her and she will be stoned. They will say all sorts of things about her. But I can’t lay this weight on her, about something I don’t understand, because she isn’t capable of infidelity”.

Therefore, Joseph decides to “take the problem upon his shoulders and leave”. And “this is what the ‘gossipmongers’ at the market will say: ‘look, he left her with child, and then ran away so he wouldn’t have to take responsibility’”. Joseph instead “prefers to look like a sinner, like a bad man, in order to avoid casting a shadow on his betrothed, whom he really loves”, even though “he doesn’t understand”.

Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Joseph, God’s chosen ones, make history in their difficult times, by “taking the problem upon their shoulders, without understanding”. The Pope continued, returning to the story of Moses, “when, on the shore, he saw Pharaoh’s army approaching: the army over there, the sea over here”. He might have said: “What do I do? You misled me, Lord!”. But then he takes the problem upon himself and says: “Either I go back and negotiate or fight and be defeated, or I kill myself and trust in the Lord”. Facing these alternatives, Moses chooses the second and “the Lord makes history”, through Moses and “in moments just like this, like a bottleneck”, the Pontiff described.

The Pope then referred back to the story of another Joseph, “the son of Jacob: out of jealousy, his brothers wanted to kill him, then they sold him, he became a slave”. And from this story the Pope highlighted the suffering of Joseph, who also had “that problem with the administrator’s wife, but he doesn’t accuse the woman. He is a noble man: because it would destroy the poor administrator to know the woman was unfaithful”. And so Joseph “shuts his mouth, takes the problem on his shoulders and goes to jail”. But “the Lord goes to free him”.

Returning the Gospel, the Pontiff again highlighted that “Joseph, in the worst time of his life, in the darkest moment, takes the problem upon himself”, up to himself being accused “in the eyes of the others in order to cover his bride”.

And, Pope Francis noted, “perhaps some psychoanalyst” would say this is “compressed anguish” trying to get out. But, he added, “the say what they want!”. In reality Joseph took his bride with him, saying: “I don’t understand a thing, but the Lord told me this, and this one is going to appear as my son!”.

That is why “for God, making history with his people means walking and putting his chosen ones to the test”. Indeed, “in general, his chosen ones went through dark, painful, bad times, like these that we have seen”; but “in the end the Lord comes”. The Gospel, the Pope recalled, tells us that He “sends the

angel”. And “this is — let’s not say it’s the end, because history continues — precisely the moment before: one history before Jesus’ birth; then comes another history”.

In consideration of these reflections, Francis recommended: “Let us always remember to say, with trust, even in the worst of times, even in moments of illness, when we realize that we have to ask for extreme unction because there is no way out: ‘Lord, history did not begin with me nor will it end with me. You go on, I’m ready”. And thus we place ourselves “in the hands of the Lord”.

This is the attitude of Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Joseph, and also of so many other chosen people of God: “God walks with us, God makes history, God puts us to the test, God saves us in the most difficult moments, because He is our Father”. Indeed, “according to Paul, He’s our dad”. Francis ended his homily with a prayer “that the Lord enable us to understand this mystery of his journey with his people in history, of his testing his chosen ones who take upon themselves their suffering, the problems, even appearing as sinners — let’s think of Jesus — in order to carry on with history”.

WHAT THE SIMPLE BELIEVER EXPERIENCES IN CHURCH

Just as he did a thousand years ago, so today the simple believer goes to church in order primarily to touch other worlds. There, he breaths in the holy atmosphere of heaven. In a ‘sense,’ he is not interested in worship, in the way in which the ‘experts’ and ‘connoisseurs’ of all liturgical details are interested in it. And he is not interested because by simply standing in God’s temple, he receives all that for which he thirsts and seeks; the light, the joy, and the comfort of the kingdom of God, the radiance that, in the words of Chekhov, beams from the faces of the old people who have just returned from Church. What use could such a believer have for complex and refined explanations of what this or that rite presents, of what the opening and closing of the royal doors is supposed to mean? He cannot keep up with all symbolisms, and they are unnecessary for his faith. All he knows is that he has left his everyday life and has come to a place where everything is different and yet so essential, so desirable, so vital that it illumines and gives meaning to this entire life. Likewise he knows, even if he cannot express it in words, that this other reality makes life itself worth living, for everything proceeds to it, everything is referred to it, everything is to be judged by it ... by the kingdom of God it manifests. And, finally, he knows that even if individual words or rites are unclear to him, the kingdom of God has been given to him in the church; in the common standing before God in the assembly of believers, in unity and in love. [Fr. Alexandar Schmemman]

Note: Children are, in fact, simple believers but they are experiencing all that was said above. Over the years they gradually begin to understand intellectually what they already understand spiritually in their souls. That is why the Ukrainian Church does not believe in having so-called “children’s liturgies.” They are unnecessary, not part of the Christian Tradition, and serve only to divide up the family and the people of God.

***If you pause to think ,
you’ll have cause to thank***

NAMES OF THE THREE WISE MEN

The Gospel according to Saint Matthew is the only Gospel that speaks of “Magi.” The evangelist does not call them, “kings,” nor does he say how many there were. It is assumed that they were three in number because they brought three gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The historian Tertulian is the first to call them kings and in later tradition they are given the names: Melchior, Balthasar and Gasper. The Ukrainian Church commemorates their memory on the Day of the Nativity of our Lord December 25.

The Magi (*magos*) are astrologers of the Persian priestly caste, and some believe that they practiced the Zoroastrian religion. They served as interpreters for the kings and were experts in the study of the heavens. They were led to Bethlehem by a bright star that pointed the way to the infant Jesus.” (Matthew 2:9)

Various names have been given to the Magi: Hormizdah, Yazdegerd and Perozdh are mentioned in one account; in another: Hor, Basanater and Karsudan. The Western tradition names: Balthasar, Melchior and Gasper. These names were first used by Origen (+254) and became popular in the Sixth Century.

Tradition states that the Mother of God let each of the Magi hold Jesus in their arms. They were given some of His baby clothes to bring back to the East. Remember, they arrived some two or three years after the first Christmas. The magi at the “crib” is historically incorrect. When they returned to the East, they were baptized by the Apostle Thomas in the year 40.

The Church of *Santo Appollinare Nuovo* in Ravenna, Italy contains a majestic mosaic which depicts Balthasar as a middle aged man with a black beard, Gasper as old and with a white beard and Melchior as young and beardless man. Latin tradition states that they were martyred for the faith. Their relics were brought to Constantinople and then to Milan, Italy. In the 12th century, they were placed in the Cathedral of Cologne, Germany where they are venerated by the faithful. [Rboh]

“Wise men still seek Him.”

Prayer It is not surprising to think of prayer as an important step on the path to put God first in our lives. Prayer is the way to place God in the center of our lives, knowing that God is there first. “Your Father knows what you need before you ask him,” Jesus tells us, and then we are taught the Lord’s Prayer (see Mt 6:8-13). By ordering our day around prayer, our days take on a more ordered tone. We are able to clearly keep the challenges, activities and responsibilities of life in perspective, and realize again and again that God is both the path and the destination of our walk step by step. “

In bringing us to the reality of our life, prayer introduces us to the reality of God’s life. We are put in touch with the persons of the Holy Trinity not through words but on a deeper level. We feel that we are from the Father and that our whole life is a journey towards God. We discover a sense of solidarity with the Word, in our being bonded with the person of Jesus and in our union with all the saints”, Abbot Michael Casey writes in “Toward God.” “We experience the presence of the Holy Spirit, inciting us to good, turning our thoughts to God, directing our actions, supplying for our weaknesses and like a homing beacon for an incoming plane, guiding our steps toward the very heart of God.” Learning from Jesus by Leisa Anslinger from Our Sunday Visitor, Jan 9th 2011

How might you take a step toward beginning or deepening prayer as the cornerstone of your day’s activities?

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- \$ 1,412.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contribution- \$2,669.00 Cemetery \$50.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- God's Blessings upon Tyrus, Aaron & Curtis Huntzinger by Toni Poppert Huntzinger

Seven Branch Candlestick- God's Blessings For & In Memory of the Blaschak & Wolfe Families

4 Lamps of the Iconostas – God's Blessings and Good Health for my Family.

Lamps of the Crucifix

Lights of the Tetrapod- Deceased Members of +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 Sitnick
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