

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

Email- stmichaelsukrainian@verizon.net Website- www.first-ukrainian.com

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

Follow us on twitter @stmichaelukr

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

Sunday January 18th, 2015 Sunday of Zacchaeus

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

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
Tuesday, January 20 th	5:00pm +Metropolitan Constantine Bohachevsky No Bible Study
Wednesday, January 21 st	5:00pm +Barbara Davies by Betty Ann & Staff 6:30pm Prayer Group
Friday, January 23 rd	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, January 24 th	3:30pm +Anna Smetana by Robert & Lois Patrick
Sunday, January 25 th	10:30am God's Blessings on His People

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

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
Monday, January 19 th	8:00am +Kathryn Misstishin by Harold and Mary Albon
Thursday, January 22 nd	8:00am +Helen Wochok Urenko by Marlene Plasha Dana & Family
Saturday, January 24 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Rita Renhert by James & Anna Renhert
Sunday, January 25 th	8:30am +Mary Toth by Bob & Susan Prokop

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, January 17 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, January 18 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	Michael Fufia
Saturday, January 24 th	2 Tim 3:10-15	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, January 25 th	2 Tim 3:10-15	Stephanie Rarick

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, January 17 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	Michael Prokop
Sunday, January 18 th	1 Tim 4:9-15	David Toth
Saturday, January 24 th	2 Tim 3:10-15	Bernadette Bremer
Sunday, January 25 th	2 Tim 3:10-15	Dolores Sadusky

Those who wish to sing always find a song .

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 ,

Memorial Fund- Donations were received in memory of +Marie Sion by Joseph Sawka, Pat & Dan Bubnin, Bob & Joan Nowak, Anna & Bill Boychak, Mary Ann Selvocki and Stephen & Bradley Oravitz.

Condolences – Our Parish extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of +Marie Sion who fell asleep in the Lord.. We pray Almighty God grant them a place of rest where there is no sorrow or mourning but life everlasting. May the memory of +Marie be eternal. _Vichnaya pamyat!

St. Nicholas:

Divine Liturgies- Msgr. would like to send some of the older Liturgy requests that have not been filled to the Archbishops Chancery. This would allow these older requests to be said in a timelier manner. If you have requests that are still open please contact the rectory if you wish for them to be sent to the Chancery. Thank you for your help and understanding on this issue.

Home Blessings- Msgr. will be blessing homes in St. Clair , Pottsville and Port Carbon Sunday afternoon weather permitting.

Sanctuary Light- Dates Available 1/25, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22

Memorial- A donation was received from Mr.& Mrs Hugh Miller in memory of +John Washuta that passed to the hands of the Lord on January 6, 2015.

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:

Msgr. Grabowsky will be away at a conference from Sunday, January 25th to Thursday January 28th. We welcome Fr. John Wysochansky to celebrate Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 25th. If you have an emergency, please leave a message on the rectory phone and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. Fr. Michael Hutsko and Fr. Mark Fesniak will be covering urgent issues during Msgr's absence. All other issues will be handled by the rectory. The rectory is open from 10am to 3pm Monday to Thursday, weather permitting.

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 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.

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.

Both Churches

Special Collection - Next week we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports Catholic organizations that provide affordable shelter and train seminarians in a region that still struggles from the effects of Soviet rule. By providing pastoral care, catechesis and funding for building renovations, your donations help to **restore the Church and build a future** in the region. Please give generously to the collection next week. Visit www.usccb.org (search "Church in Central & Eastern Europe") to learn more.

Café- You are cordially invited join us on Sunday, January 25, 2015 for the 9:00 a.m. mass at Divine Mercy Church located on West Cherry Street in Shenandoah as Trinity Academy begins the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Immediately following mass, all are invited to "The Trinity Academy Cafe". A full-service coffee bar along with a variety of breakfast treats will be available for your enjoyment. Tours of the school and an opportunity to see first-hand the work of our amazing students will be available. This is Trinity Academy's way to say "THANKS-A-LATTE" for believing in us, believing in our school and believing in the positive role Catholic Education plays in our student's lives. Please RSVP to our "Thanks-A Latte" by emailing Christine at cfannick@trinitymatters.com or by calling the school at 570-462-3927.

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: _____

POPE FRANCIS

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

Thursday, 8 January 2015

The Holy Father celebrated the morning Mass at Santa Marta in suffrage for victims of the cruel terrorist attack in Paris:

The attack in Paris yesterday makes us think of so much cruelty, human cruelty; of so much terrorism, both of isolated acts of terrorism and state-sponsored terrorism. The cruelty that man is capable of! Let us pray at this Mass for the victims of this cruelty. So many! And let us also ask for the cruel ones, that the Lord may change their hearts

May the Lord change the hearts of the cruel

(by L'Osservatore Romano, Weekly ed. in English, n. 2, 9 January 2015)

In these days, the Pope noted in his homily, “the key word in the liturgy is ‘manifestation’: the Son of God manifests Himself in the Feast of the Epiphany, to the Gentiles; in Baptism, when the Holy Spirit descends upon Him; in the wedding at Cana, when he performs the miracle of changing water into wine”.

Indeed, “these are the three signs that the liturgy brings in these days in order to speak to us about the manifestation of God: God makes Himself known”. But “the question is this: how can we know God?” And with this, Francis referred to the day’s First Reading (1 Jn 4:7-10), specifically, “the theme that the Apostle John takes up in the First Reading: knowledge of God”. Thus, “what does it mean to know God? How can one know God?”.

To these questions, the Pope answered, “a first reply would be: one can know God through reason”. But really, “can I know God through reason? Somewhat, yes”. Indeed, “through my intellect, reasoning, looking at worldly things, one can begin to understand that there is a God and the existence of God can be understood in some of God’s personality traits”. However, the Pope stated, “this is insufficient for knowing God”, in so far as “God is known totally in the encounter with Him, and reason alone does not suffice for the encounter, something more is needed: reason helps you to reach a certain point, then He accompanies you onward”.

In his letter, “John clearly states what God is: God is love”. For this reason, “only on the path of love can you know God”. Of course, the Pope added, “reasonable love, accompanied by reason, but love”. Perhaps one could ask at this point “how can I love whom I don’t know?”. The answer is clear: “Love those whom you have near”. In fact, “this is the doctrine of two commandments: the most important one is to love God, for He is love”. The second “is to love your neighbour, but to get to the first, we have to climb the steps of the second”. In a word, Pope Francis explained, “through love of our neighbor, we come to know God, who is love” and “only by loving reasonably, but by loving, we can reach this love”.

Francis then repeated the words that John wrote: “Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God”. But, the Pontiff recalled “you cannot love if God doesn’t give the love, doesn’t generate this love for you” because “he who loves knows God”. On the contrary, St John writes, “he who does not love does not know God; for God is love”. The Pope pointed out that this is not “soap opera love”, but rather “sound, strong love”, an “eternal love that manifests itself — these days the word is ‘manifest’ — in his Son who has come to save us”. It is, therefore, a “concrete love, a love of works and not of words”. It is here, then, that “it takes a lifetime to know God: a journey, a journey of love, of knowledge, of love for our neighbor, of love for those who hate us, of love for all”.

Pope Francis then indicated that Jesus himself “gave us the example of love”. And, indeed, “in this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us first and sent his Son to be the victim of expiation for our sins”. This is why “we are able to contemplate the love of God in the person of Jesus”. And “by doing what Jesus taught us about love for our neighbor, we reach — step by step — the love of God, knowledge of God who is love”.

The Pope pointed out that the Apostle John, in his letter, “goes a little ahead” when he states that “in this is love” and “not that we loved God, but that He loved us first: God precedes us in love”. In fact, Francis noted, “when I meet God in prayer, I feel that God loved me before I began to seek Him”. Yes, “He is always first, He waits for us, He calls us”. And “when we arrive, He is there!”.

In this regard, the Pope referred to another passage from Scripture (Jer 1:11-12), and said: “How beautiful were God’s words to Jeremiah: ‘Jeremiah, what do you see?’ — ‘a rod of almond, Lord’ — ‘You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it’”. Francis explained that “the flower of the almond tree is the first to blossom in spring, the first”. This signifies that “the Lord is there, watching over”, and He is always “the first, like the almond tree, He loves us first”. And we, too, the Pope assured us, “will always have this surprise: when we draw near to God through works of charity, through prayer, in Communion, in the Word of God, we find that He is there, first, waiting for us, this is how He loves us”. And just “like the flower of the almond tree, He is the first”. Truly, Francis remarked, “that verse from Jeremiah tells us so much”.

A similar proposal can be gleaned from the episode presented in today’s Reading from the Gospel according to Mark (6:34-44), which first says that “Jesus had compassion on the crowd of people, it is the love of Jesus: He saw a large crowd, like sheep without a shepherd, confused”. But today as well, Francis recalled, there are “so many confused people in our cities, in our countries: so many people”.

When “Jesus saw these confused people He was moved: He began to teach them the doctrine, the matters of God and the people heard Him, listened to Him very closely because the Lord was good at speaking, He spoke to the heart”.

Then, Mark recounts in his Gospel that, realizing that those 5,000 people hadn't eaten, Jesus asks his disciples to see to it. Thus, Christ "is first to go meet with the people". Perhaps on their part, "the disciples got somewhat upset, felt annoyed, and their response was harsh: 'shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?'". Thus, "God's love was first; the disciples hadn't understood". But God's love is really like this: "He is always waiting for us, He always surprises us". It is "the Father, our Father who loves us so much, who is always ready to forgive us, always. And not once, but 70 times seven. Always!". Indeed, "like a Father full of love". Therefore, "in order to know this God who is love, we must climb the steps of love for our neighbor, by works of charity, by the acts of mercy that our Lord has taught us".

Francis concluded by praying "that the Lord, in these days in which the Church makes us ponder the manifestation of God, grant us the grace to know Him on the path of love".

January

January can be considered a transitional month as far as the movable Eastern Christian calendar is concerned. I consider it is time to use up the meat in my freezer for the Great Lent will soon be here. The Triodon or Pre-Lenten period is to begin. The Triodon consists of the Sundays of the Publican and Pharisee, the Prodigal Son, and Meat-fast or the Last Judgment. This is followed by Cheese-fast Sunday, or the Sunday of Forgiveness, which ushers in the weeks of Great Lent. These Lenten Sundays are given names: Sunday of Orthodoxy, St. Gregory Palamas, Veneration of the Cross, St. John of the Ladder, St. Mary of Egypt, and Palm Sunday or the Entrance into Jerusalem. Then the great day of Holy Pascha or Easter which stands alone. The Sundays following are counted as Sundays of Pascha or Easter. St. Thomas is the 2nd Sunday, followed by the Myrrh-bearing Women, the Paralytic, the Samaritan Woman, the Blind Man, Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council and Pentecost. Following Pentecost, we have numbered Sundays: 1st Sunday after Pentecost and so forth. Readings are specific for each Sunday until we hit transitional January. Here is where the variable number of Sundays between the two Paschas is handled by a complicated formula.

A man with a broken-down cuckoo clock wandered into a shop downtown, operated by a noted European craftsman. "Can you fix it?" asked the client, "it just goes 'tick, tick, tick, tick.'" Looking over the timepiece with a "hmmm" of acknowledgement of the problem, the shopkeeper from the old world took his finger from his chin, pointed to the errant clock and said: "Ve haf vays of making you 'tock.'"

Jesus turns a mess into a message.

THE SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

The Sunday of Zacchaeus reminds us that we will soon be entering the time of the Holy Great Fast which in turn prepares us for the passion and death of Jesus through which our salvation is secured and promised in the Holy resurrection.

Before we enter the Great Forty-Days, we already get a glimpse of the Feast of feasts – Pascha as we hear the words of our Lord to Zacchaeus: “Today salvation has come to this house....” Salvation is not just a word but rather a person – the person of Jesus Christ! Isn’t it a feeling of joy for us to realize that Jesus comes to be the guest of one of us? Zacchaeus, a public swindler, welcomed Him with great joy. And yet, today’s holy gospel account tells us that when Jesus was asked to stay with Zacchaeus, everyone began to murmur, because He was entering the house of a known sinner, a publican – a puppet tax collector for the Roman occupation forces in Israel.

Isn’t it a pity that we seem to be kinder to people in their times of adversity than in their times of joy? The twins of envy and jealousy hidden within us try to prevent us from rejoicing in the good fortunes of neighbors. We ourselves have received many blessings, but often we would deny the same to others. We see this same attitude on the part of the Pharisees and scribes as described in the holy gospels.

The gospel lessons of the pre-great fast Sundays give us the guidelines to complete the great fast journey successfully. The desire to see Jesus is one of the key attitudes that we must take along on our journey to Pascha. Obviously the desire of Zacchaeus to see the Lord was so great that he gave no thought to the people around him as they tried to prevent him in his quest. Desire is our lesson for this first pre-great fast Sunday. This is the first step toward repentance.

The next four Sundays of the pre-great fast season will also give us lessons and attitudes as conveyed through the holy epistles and gospels that will help us along the way. Envy and jealousy are not the vehicles of travel for us. But rejoicing in the Lord for the abundance of His blessings is an excellent means to reach the goal. Jesus’ words directed towards Zacchaeus are meant for all of us: Today salvation has come to this house....”

You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

You cannot lift the wage earner up by pulling the wage payer down.

You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.

You cannot build character and courage by taking away people’s initiative and independence.

You cannot help people permanently by doing for them, what they could and should do for themselves.” *[Abraham Lincoln]*

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- \$1,929.50 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contribution- \$1,211.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- In Memory of +John Fonslick by Wife Carmella

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 Sittnick

Martha Hysock

Mary Mazur

Olga Hatchel

Anne Prete

Olga Kurilla

Helen Beddall

Irene Flaherty

Irene Yaroma

Dolores Kozie

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*

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