

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

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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 March 29th, 2015 Palm Sunday

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Lazarus Saturday

Saturday, March 28th

3:30pm +Ralph Mohutsky by Family

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29th

10:30am God's Blessings on His People

3:00pm Stations of the Cross – St. Nicholas, Minersville

Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday, April 1st

6:00pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts & Healing Service

Thursday, April 2nd

4:30pm Matins of the Passion of Our Lord

Good Friday

Friday, April 3rd

3:00pm Vespers & Procession with the Holy Shroud

Saturday, April 4th

2:00pm Blessing of Easter Food

4:00pm Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy

Pascha (Easter) Sunday

Sunday, April 5th

10:30am Easter Blessings on God's People

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Lazarus Saturday

Saturday, March 28th

8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary

5:30pm +Roseann Laguna Helman from Mother & Family

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29th

8:30am +John & +Julia Plasha by Russell & Marie Plasha

3:00pm Stations of the Cross- St. Nicholas, Minersville

Holy Week Schedule

Monday, March 30th

8:00am Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

Tuesday, March 31st

5:00pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, April 2nd

6:00pm Matins of the Passion of Our Lord

Good Friday

Friday, April 3rd

6:00pm Vespers & Procession with the Holy Shroud

Holy Saturday

Saturday, April 4th

1:00pm Blessing of Easter Food

8:00pm Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, March 28th

Phil 4:4-9

Winifred Mohutsky

Sunday, March 29th

Phil 4:4-9

Michelle Caputo

Saturday, April 4th

Acts 1:1-8

Alice Breznik

Sunday, April 5th

Acts 1:1-8

Charles Calise

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, March 28th

Phil 4:4-9

Mike Prokop

Sunday, March 29th

Phil 4:4-9

Lauralee Sadusky

Saturday, April 4th

Acts 1:1-8

Bernadette Bremer

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Lenten Fish Dinner- Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this fundraiser a success. A special thanks to those who prepped, cooked and worked the event. Profits for this fundraiser will be in next week's bulletin.

Easter Bread Sale: Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser. A special thanks to those who picked up and distributed the bread. Profit for this fundraiser will be in next week's bulletin.

Pierogie Sale – Thank you to everyone who worked hard and long during this sale. Our profits for this sale were \$2,153.60. Thanks again to everyone for their extra effort this month. April's Pierogie Sale is SOLD OUT ! But we could use your help on April 27th making pierogies. Anyone available to help with the prep work needed for the sale should talk to Winnie or Carol.

Easter Week Services are listed on the first page of the bulletin.

Easter Vigil- The Easter Vigil listing is in the back of the Church. If you are not on the listing , please feel free to add yourself. And if there are any issues , please let the rectory know. The schedule is the same as it was last year .

St. Nicholas:

Sanctuary Light- Dates Available 4/26, 5/10, 5/17.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with the refreshments after the Deanery Stations of the Cross. The service was attended by 80+ parishioners.

Easter Week Services are listed on the first page of the bulletin.

Easter Vigil- Sign up for the Easter Vigil is in the back of the Church. Please join us in this time of reflection with Our Lord.

Both Churches:

Fasting: There are two fasts during Holy Week. On Good Friday, we are to avoid meats, eggs and dairy. On Holy Saturday, we are to avoid meat. Those from the ages of 14 to 59 should participate in these fasts.

Deanery Lenten Raffle Once again this year , the parishes of our deanery are sponsoring a Luck Three Raffle to benefit Ukrainian Seminary Day and St. Josephat Seminary. There are 3 prizes available , \$500.00, \$200.00 and \$50.00. Tickets are \$1.00 each and are available now at the back of the church or at the rectory office . The drawing is Sunday March 29th at Stations of the Cross on Palm Sunday. Envelopes containing 5 tickets each are available at the back of the Church , please return your ticket stubs and money in the same envelope .Please feel free to take as many as you believe you can sell. More tickets are available.

Lenten Services:: Sunday, March 29th Stations of the Cross- St. Nicholas, Minersville.

Theme Basket Auction Trinity Academy's 9th Annual Theme Basket Auction will be held Saturday, April 11, at 7 p.m. at the Annunciation BVM Hall in Frackville. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Over 100 large themed baskets, class baskets, Apple IPAD Mini, four 1-day Disney Hopper Passes and so much more!!! Shop and drop April 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. and April 11 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Great food available night of the auction. For more information contact the school at (570) 462-3927 . Cash and credit cards accepted

“Only one Black Friday offers eternal savings .”

Both Churches

Golden Domed Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral Open for Visitation, Prayer and Veneration Our golden domed Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, 830 North Franklin Street; Philadelphia is now open for visitation, prayer, veneration and meditation. Visiting hours Holy Monday through Holy Thursday are 4 pm. to 6:30 pm; Good Friday 12 noon to 8 pm; Holy Saturday 12 noon to 5:30 pm. Beginning Wednesday, April 8 and thereafter, the Cathedral will be open Wednesdays 11:30 am to 3 pm and Saturdays 2 pm to 4:30 pm. View the Vatican authorized full size replica of the Shroud of Turin, venerate the relics of Blessed Bishop Martyr Mykola Charnetsky, CSsR and Blessed Sister Josaphata Hordashevska, SSMI and experience the traditional Byzantine icons and mosaics. All are welcome and encouraged to visit the golden domed Cathedral in Philadelphia

METROPOLITAN STEFAN WILL CELEBRATE HOLY THURSDAY SERVICES IN ST. ANNE'S CHURCH, WARRINGTON, PA.; ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND On Holy Thursday April 2, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, together with archieparchial priests, will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at 10:30 a.m. in St. Anne's Church, 1545 Easton Road, Route 611, Warrington (Bucks County) Pa. This Divine Liturgy commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. At this Divine Liturgy, Metropolitan Stefan will perform the traditional washing of the feet of twelve priests and the Holy Chrism will also be consecrated. All the faithful are invited and encouraged to attend this Divine Liturgy on Holy Thursday in Warrington..



NBC's Follow –up to “ The Bible “ Premieres: Pascha Sunday, April 5, at 9 pm EDT, NBC begins a 12 part TV series entitled AD--The Bible Continues. The all new 12 part series, which will air each Sunday at 9 p.m. will conclude Sunday, June 21, 2015. This is a YouTube link to the official trailer for the series <http://youtu.be/dSoFbndq0xs>, which was previewed by the USCCB at their 2014 Fall meeting. You will find more information about the series at this link: <http://www.nbc.com/ad-the-bible-continues/about>.

Easter Memorials- a wonderful way to remember those that hold a special place in your heart.

LAST DAY TO SUBMIT *Please have your request submitted by Sunday, March 29th You may place them in the collection basket or contact the rectory.*

In memory of (deceased)

In honor of (living)

Given by

Please Print . Thank You

The Mystery of Holy Unction: Great or Holy Wednesday

Introduction

On the evening of Great and Holy Wednesday, the Sacrament or Mystery of Holy Unction is conducted in Eastern churches. The Sacrament of Holy Unction is offered for the healing of soul and body and for forgiveness of sins. The body is anointed with oil, and the grace of God, which heals infirmities of soul and body, is called down upon each person.

Holy Unction

When one is ill and in pain, this can very often be a time of life when one feels alone and isolated. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, or Holy Unction as it is also known, reminds us that when we are in pain, either physical, emotional, or spiritual, Christ is present with us through the ministry of His Church. He is among us to offer strength to meet the challenges of life, and even the approach of death.

As with Chrismation, oil is also used in this Sacrament as a sign of God's presence, strength, and forgiveness. The priest anoints the body with the Holy Oil. The Church does not view this Sacrament as available only to those who are near death. It is offered to all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit.

Christ came to the world to "bear our infirmities." One of the signs of His divine Messiahship was to heal the sick. The power of healing remains in the Church since Christ himself remains in the Church through the Holy Spirit.

The Sacrament of the Unction of the sick is the Church's specific prayer for healing. If the faith of the believers is strong enough, and if it is the will of God, there is every reason to believe that the Lord can heal those who are diseased.

The biblical basis for the Sacrament is found in James 5:14-16: "Is any among you sick, let him call for the presbyters of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

In ancient Christian literature one may find indirect testimonies of the Mystery of Unction in Saint Irenaeus of Lyons and in Origen. Later there are clear testimonies of it in Saints Basil the Great and John Chrysostom, who have left prayers for the healing of the infirm which entered later into the rite of Unction; and likewise in Saint Cyril of Alexandria. In the fifth century, Pope Innocent I answered a series of questions concerning the Mystery of Unction, indicating in his answers that a) it should be performed "upon believers who are sick"; b) it may be performed also by a bishop, since one should not see in the words of the Apostle, let him call for the presbyters, any prohibition for a bishop to participate in the sacred action; c) this anointment may not be performed "on those undergoing ecclesiastical penance," because it is a "Mystery," and to those who are forbidden the other Mysteries, how can one allow only one?

The express purpose of the Sacrament of Holy Unction is healing and forgiveness. Since it is not always the will of God that there should be physical healing, the prayer of Christ that God's will be done always remains as the proper context of the Sacrament. In addition, it is the clear intention of the Sacrament that through the anointing of the sick body the sufferings of the person should be sanctified and united to the sufferings of Christ. In this way, the wounds of the flesh are consecrated, and strength is given that the suffering of the diseased person may not be unto the death of his soul, but for eternal salvation in the resurrection and life of the Kingdom of God.

It is indeed the case that death inevitably comes. All must die, even those who in this life are given a reprieve through healing in order to have more time on the earth. Thus, the healing of the sick is not itself a final goal, but is merely "instrumental" in that it is given by God as a sign of his mercy and as a grace for the further opportunity of man to live for him and for others in the life of this world.

In the case where a person is obviously in the final moments of his earthly life, the Church has special prayers for the "separation of soul and body." Thus, it is clear that the Sacrament of Holy Unction is for the sick-both the physically and mentally sick-and is not reserved for the moment of death. The Sacrament of Unction is not the "last rites" as is sometimes thought; the ritual of the anointing itself in no way indicates that it should be administered merely in "extreme" cases. Holy Unction is the Sacrament of the spiritual, physical, and mental healing of a sick person whatever the nature or the gravity of the illness may be.

During the service the priest anoints the faithful as he makes the sign of the cross on the forehead and top and palms of the hands saying, "For the healing of soul and body."

Flowery Sunday:

The Feast of the Entrance into Jerusalem

On the Sunday before the Feast of Great and Holy Pascha and at the beginning of Holy Week, the Church celebrates one of its most joyous feasts of the year. Flowery Palm Sunday is the commemoration of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem following His glorious miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead. Having anticipated His arrival and having heard of the miracle, the people went out to meet the Lord and welcomed Him with displays of honor and shouts of praise. On this day, we receive and worship Christ in this same manner, acknowledging Him as our King and Lord.

Biblical Story

The biblical story of Palm Sunday is recorded in all four of the Gospels (Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:28-38; and John 12:12-18). Five days before the Passover, Jesus came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Having sent two of His disciples to bring Him a colt of a donkey, Jesus sat upon it and entered the city.

People had gathered in Jerusalem for the Passover and were looking for Jesus, both because of His great works and teaching and because they had heard of the miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus. When they heard that Christ was entering the city, they went out to meet Him with palm branches, laying their garments on the ground before Him, and shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!"

At the outset of His public ministry Jesus proclaimed the kingdom of God and announced that the powers of the age to come were already active in the present age (Luke 7:18-22). His words and mighty works were performed "to produce repentance as the response to His call, a call to an inward change of mind and heart which would result in concrete changes in one's life, a call to follow Him and accept His messianic destiny. The triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem is a messianic event, through which His divine authority was declared.

Palm Sunday summons us to behold our king: the Word of God made flesh. We are called to behold Him not simply as the One who came to us once riding on a colt, but as the One who is always present in His Church, coming ceaselessly to us in power and glory at every Eucharist, in every prayer and sacrament, and in every act of love, kindness and mercy. He comes to free us from all our fears and insecurities, "to take solemn possession of our soul, and to be enthroned in our heart," as someone has said. He comes not only to deliver us from our deaths by His death and Resurrection, but also to make us capable of attaining the most perfect fellowship or union with Him. He is the King, who liberates us from the darkness of sin and the

bondage of death. Palm Sunday summons us to behold our King: the vanquisher of death and the giver of life.

Palm Sunday summons us to accept both the rule and the kingdom of God as the goal and content of our Christian life. We draw our identity from Christ and His kingdom. The kingdom is Christ - His indescribable power, boundless mercy and incomprehensible abundance given freely to man. The kingdom does not lie at some point or place in the distant future. In the words of the Scripture, the kingdom of God is not only at hand (Matthew 3:2; 4:17), it is within us (Luke 17:21). The kingdom is a present reality as well as a future realization (Matthew 6:10). Theophan the Recluse wrote the following words about the inward rule of Christ the King:

“The Kingdom of God is within us when God reigns in us, when the soul in its depths confesses God as its Master, and is obedient to Him in all its powers. Then God acts within it as master ‘both to will and to do of his good pleasure’ (Philippians 2:13). This reign begins as soon as we resolve to serve God in our Lord Jesus Christ, by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Then the Christian hands over to God his consciousness and freedom, which comprises the essential substance of our human life, and God accepts the sacrifice; and in this way the alliance of man with God and God with man is achieved, and the covenant with God, which was severed by the Fall and continues to be severed by our willful sins, is re-established.”

The kingdom of God is the life of the Holy Trinity in the world. It is the kingdom of holiness, goodness, truth, beauty, love, peace and joy. These qualities are not works of the human spirit. They proceed from the life of God and reveal God. Christ Himself is the kingdom. He is the God-Man, Who brought God down to earth (John 1:1,14). “He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world knew Him not. He came to His own home, and His own people received Him not” (John 1:10-11). He was reviled and hated.

Palm Sunday summons us to behold our king - the Suffering Servant. We cannot understand Jesus' kingship apart from the Passion. Filled with infinite love for the Father and the Holy Spirit, and for creation, in His inexpressible humility Jesus accepted the infinite abasement of the Cross. He bore our griefs and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgressions and made Himself an offering for sin (Isaiah 53). His glorification, which was accomplished by the resurrection and the ascension, was achieved through the Cross.

In the fleeting moments of exuberance that marked Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the world received its King, the king who was on His way to death. His Passion, however, was no morbid desire for martyrdom. Jesus' purpose was to accomplish the mission for which the Father sent Him.

“The Son and Word of the Father, like Him without beginning and eternal, has come today to the city of Jerusalem, seated on a dumb beast, on a foal. From fear the cherubim dare not gaze upon Him; yet the children honor Him with palms and branches, and mystically they sing a hymn of praise: ‘Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to the Son of David, who has come to save from error all mankind.’” (A hymn of the Light.)

“With our souls cleansed and in spirit carrying branches, with faith let us sing Christ's praises like the children, crying with a loud voice to the Master: Blessed art Thou, O Savior, who hast come into the world to save Adam from the ancient curse; and in Thy love for mankind Thou hast been pleased to become spiritually the new Adam. O Word, who hast ordered all things for our good, glory to Thee.” (A Sessional hymn of the Matins)

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called !

“Which road shall I take ?”

In the Sermon on the Mount central to Jesus’ teaching , he speaks of many good essential things in life, but then adds “Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:33) This is a great promise , but don’t we wish he had been a little more specific? How many times in life would it be helpful if we could ask Jesus for help with our specific priorities! Prayer can help us do this, but choosing also takes allot of work.

What road do we take to reach the “Kingdom of God”? We need to think of this as both a long-term and a day-to day question. If we tried to project what we want our life to look like when completed, we probably would look more the kind of person we were than any specific things we accomplished . If so , this is true also for daily decisions. If there are goals we want to reach, what can we do today that will move us towards them? As we look back at the end of a day did we gain some new insight , resist some unworthy impulse , or show love to someone in need? Did we contribute an upward force in our surroundings? If so then today’s road is worth trying again tomorrow.

After choosing our road , now we need to keep looking up, concentrating on our highest hopes, rather than our greatest fears! Can we look at even small gains that were satisfying and worth pursuing again? David Livingstone said, “I will go anywhere, provided it be forward”.

One time, after teaching five thousand people, Jesus realized there was another priority. People needed to be fed. His disciples offered no solution. Jesus, though, knew that people have more inner resources than we might expect. With the help of a little boy, He fed them all. You and I need to share what we have. Step by step, with God’s help we can find nourishment for both the world and ourselves.



PRAYER FOR HOLY WEEK

O Lord, make me generous. Mary, Lazarus’ sister, anointed Your feet with very costly ointment and wiped them with her hair. I am still so much like Judas, who considered this a waste and felt that the money could have been better spent by giving it to the poor. I am so stingy, Lord—especially with my time. I always want to do useful things, and am afraid to waste my “very costly” time. But You want me to sit at Your feet like Mary and just be there, resting with You, listening to Your words. Make me generous with my time, Lord. During this Holy Week let me listen quietly to You. Let me make time for You, and let me forget myself for once. Amen.

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- \$913.55 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contribution \$498.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- Special Intentions by Mr & Mrs Wassil Draovitch

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- In Memory of +Mary Krajcirik by Theresa Krajcirik

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

4 Lamps of the Iconostas – In Memory of +Edward Demanski by Anna, Michael & Lisa .

Lamps of the Crucifix- Remembering the gift of Our Lord, during this Lenten Season

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
Dolores Kozie
Martha Hysock
Sandy Bankes*
Edward Sion

Olga Kurilla
Helen Beddall
Irene Flaherty
Tom Prete
Susan Chernesky
Maya Usewicz

Susan Enders
Dolores O'Connell Leahy

Helen Sims
Mary Mazur
Keilbasa Family*

Christine Lenhart*
& Rosemary (Mother)
Bill McAndrew*
Andrea Pytak

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

“The point of your life is to point to Him”