

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 May 3rd , 2015 – Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 2 nd	3:30pm +Dorothy Minarchick by the Mitchell & Kalavage Families
Sunday, May 3 rd	10:30am God's Blessings on His People
Tuesday, May 5 th	5:00pm For Baba's Boys by Theresa Krajcirik
Wednesday, May 6 th	8:00am +Olga Kurilla 6:00pm Prayer Meeting
Friday, May 8 th	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, May 9 th	3:30pm In Remembrance of the Deceased Mothers of St Michael's
Sunday, May 10 th	10:30am In Honor of the Living Mothers of St. Michael's

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 2 nd	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm Special Intention for Thomas & Jeanette Stock By Stock Family
Sunday, May 3 rd	8:30am 60 th Anniversary +Victor Toth by Rennert & Toth Families
Monday, May 4 th	8:00am +Kathryn Misstishin by Harold & Mary Albon
Thursday, May 7 th	8:00am +Gregory & +Anastasia Zubar – Legacy Liturgy
Saturday, May 9 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm In Honor of the Living Mothers of St Nicholas
Sunday, May 10 th	8:30am In Remembrance of the Deceased Mothers of St. Nicholas

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, May 2 nd	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, May 3 rd	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Michelle Caputo
Saturday, May 9 th	Acts 16:16-34	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, May 10 th	Acts 16:16-34	Paul Caputo

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, May 2 nd	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Christine Romanko
Sunday, May 3 rd	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Susan Miller
Saturday, May 9 th	Acts 16:16-34	Mike Prokop
Sunday, May 10 th	Acts 16:16-34	Lauralee Sadusky

**There is no future in spending the
present worrying about the past.**

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Pierogie Sale – Thank you to EVERYONE who works to make this fundraiser a success. We made a profit of \$1,723.00 for the April sale. This is the last sale until September. September's sale is already SOLD OUT. Thanks again for your dedication and hard work !

Healing Service- The next healing service will be Wednesday, May 13th.

Memorial Fund- A donation was made in memory of +Julia Dubiansky Hancher by Helen Beddall and Carol Zitka.

St. Nicholas:

Sanctuary Light- Date Available 6/21, 7/12, 7/19, & 7/26.

Both Churches:

Icon Workshop- The Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great invite you to participate in a unique Icon Writing Workshop! Acclaimed iconographer Father Damian Higgins, Abbot of Transfiguration Monastery in Redwood Valley, CA, is presenting two separate workshops at the Basilian Spirituality Center in Jenkintown: May 19-24 or May 26-31. The workshops combine a spiritual and artistic experience, and appeal to people of all abilities. Price is \$425 for 5½ days of classes, including breakfast, lunch and all materials. For more information, go to <http://www.stbasils.com/spirituality-icons.html> or call Sister Charlene at 215-780-1227 or email basilcenter@stbasils.com

Home Missions Collection- Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Your contributions will help strengthen the church at home and help ensure that the Gospel is spread across the United States. To learn more about home missions funding and who the appeal helps, please visit www.usccb.org and search "Catholic Home Missions."

UKRAINIAN SEMINARY DAY: The 81st Annual Ukrainian Seminary Day will be held Sunday, July 26th at St. Nicholas Church Picnic Grounds in Primrose (just outside Minersville) PA. This annual event is sponsored by the 12 parishes and faithful of the South Anthracite Deanery under the leadership of their respective pastors. Plans for the day already include a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, delicious ethnic and regional foods prepared by the parishes of the deanery, a concert and dance performance by the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble, pysanky demonstrations and classes for the youth, polka music by the fabulous John Stevens' Doubleshot Orchestra, a theme basket auction, many vendors selling traditional Ukrainian and Eastern European items and exciting games for the kids. We invite everyone from near and far to attend and support this annual event in support of our St. Josaphat Seminary in Washington, DC. **An initial planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12th at St. Michael's Hall in Frackville beginning at 7:00PM.** Again, we encourage the participation and input from the faithful of all our parishes. Please plan to attend and get involved. Your participation is greatly desired and appreciated!

Food for the poor- We are in need of donations for the needy in our community. Non- expired, Non-perishable foods are needed, as well as personal hygiene products, toilet paper and paper towels. Diapers and wipes are also welcome. Thank you for your giving spirit.

Gardening for God brings peas of mind.

Both Churches:

Chinese Auction. Sunday May 17th at Ss. Peter & Paul Church Hall in Mount Carmel, Doors open at 11:30am and Auction begins at 2:00pm .Great Food, Great Prizes. Browse & Bid- Saturday May 16th from 11:00am to 2:00pm.

Kielbasi Festival – May 16, 2015 Featuring the Shenandoah All Star Polk Band , 3 Kielbasi Kings, Capital Foods, Kowaloneks, Lucky’s and Mrs. T’s Peirogies. Eastern European crafters, games and fun for the whole family.. there will also be a kielbasi making contest for amateurs, call 570-462-2060 to register.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION Trinity Academy Pre-School sponsored by the Divine Mercy Parish is currently accepting students for the 2015-2016 school year. Children must be 4 years of age by October 15. Parents have the option to enroll their child in our regular three-day preschool program OR our five-day Kindergarten Prep program. You can choose either half days or full days for either option. The preschool program provides basic instruction to help your child grow as they prepare for kindergarten. The Kindergarten Prep program is an extension and enhancement of the activities that are used in the preschool program and will include additional activities such as computer, library and gym. For more information, contact Christine Zuber Fannick, Advancement Director, at 570-462-3927. Space is limited so do not delay

RACE FOR EDUCATION The Ninth Annual Race for Education will be held on Friday, May 15, 2015 at Nativity BVM High School. The Race for Education is one of Trinity Academy's largest fundraisers. Students ask friends and family members to sponsor them as they walk or jog around the track for approximately one hour. Race for Education is great fun for the students and fully benefits the school. If you would like to be a sponsor, please contact the school at 570-462-3927 or send sponsorship information to Trinity Academy, 233 West Cherry Street, Shenandoah, PA 17976.

Save the Date and Join the Holiness Revolution! DATE: Saturday, May 16th 2015 SPEAKER: Dan DeMatte MUSICIAN: Aaron Richards LOCATION: St. John the Baptist Church, 10th and Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville COST: Adults-\$20.00, Teens (13-19) \$10.00 without an adult, Teens with an adult, \$5.00. Children 12 and under are free. Ticket price includes free book, CD and join us for FREE lunch after the event. For more information and tickets, please contact St. John’s Rectory 570-622-5470.All are welcome!

American Girl Doll Bingo

Sunday May 3rd, 2015

Doors open at 12 noon

Early Bird at 1:15pm

Bingo starts at 1:30pm

Admission \$25.00

***All Players must purchase an admission ticket**

***Winner receives their choice of doll.**

*** Special Raffles - Bring non-perishable food or paper products to get a chance for special raffles throughout the day – one chance per item**

**St. Michael’s Church Hall- 300 W Oak St , Shenandoah, PA
call 570-462-0809.**

EVENT IS THIS SUNDAY-

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR



POPE FRANCIS

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

The Church of martyrs Tuesday, 21 April 2015

(by *L'Osservatore Romano*, Weekly ed. in English, n. 17, 24 April 2015)

“Today the Church is the Church of martyrs”. And among these martyrs are “our brothers whose throats were cut on the beach of Libya; that young man burned alive by companions for being a Christian; those immigrants on the high seas thrown overboard for being Christians; those Ethiopians assassinated for being Christians”. In the chapel of Casa Santa Marta on Friday morning, recounting the story of the first martyr, St Stephen, Pope Francis recalled the many present-day martyrs: including those whose names we do not know, who are suffering in prisons or who are defamed and persecuted “by so many modern Sanhedrins”, or for living “the faith within their own family”.

The Pontiff began his homily by pointing out what all martyrs have in common: they are those “who in the history of the Church bore testimony to Jesus” without having “need of other bread: for them Jesus alone was enough, because they had faith in Jesus”. And, Francis said, “today, the Church makes us reflect and offers us, in the Liturgy of the Word, the first Christian martyr”, in the Acts of the Apostles, which speak of St Stephen (7:51-8:1a).

“This man did not hunger, he did not need to turn to negotiations, to compromises with other types of bread, to survive”, the Pope stated. With this manner “he testified of Jesus” until his martyrdom. Referring to the previous day’s Liturgy of the Word, Pope Francis recalled that “yesterday the Church began speaking about him: several ‘Freedmen’ of the Synagogue, arose and began to dispute with Stephen but they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke”. In fact, the Pope explained, “Stephen was full of the Holy Spirit and spoke with the wisdom of the Spirit: he was powerful”. And thus these people “instigated a few men to say that they heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God, and gave false testimony”. With these accusations “they stirred up the people, the elders, the scribes: they came upon him, they seized him and brought him before the Sanhedrin”.

The Pope pointed out that “the story of Stephen” is “curious” in that it follows “the same steps as that of Jesus”, meaning the tactics of “false witnesses” were used in order to “stir up the people and bring him to judgement. Today we heard how this story ends, because in the Sanhedrin, Stephen explains the Gospel of Jesus, he gives a long explanation”. However, his accusers “didn’t want to listen, their hearts were closed”. Thus, “in the end, Stephen, with the power of the Spirit, tells them the truth: ‘You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears’ — pagans, in other words — ‘you always resist the Holy Spirit’”.

“One of the characteristics of stiff-necked people before the word of God” is “resistance to the Holy Spirit”, the Pope explained, repeating the words of St Stephen: “As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute?”. Thus, Stephen “recalled many prophets who had been persecuted and killed for being faithful to the word of God”. Then, “when he confessed his vision of Jesus, which God showed him at that moment”, and as Stephen was “full of the Holy Spirit, they were scandalized and cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears”. This, the Pope said, was a “real

sign” that “they didn’t want to listen”. And thus, “they rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him”.

This has always been “the story of martyrs”, even “those of the Old Testament, about whom St Stephen was speaking in the Sanhedrin”. The problem is that “certain hearts never like the word of God; the word of God is bothersome when you have a hardened heart, when you have a pagan heart, because the word of God challenges you to go forth, searching and being fed with that bread that Jesus spoke of”.

“In the history of the revelation”, Francis affirmed, there are “so many martyrs who were killed on account of faithfulness to the word of God, to the truth of God”. Thus “Stephen’s martyrdom really resembles Jesus’ sacrifice”. And as they stoned him, Stephen prayed, saying: “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit”. How can one forget Jesus’ words on the Cross: “Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit”? Then, the Acts of the Apostles tell us that Stephen “knelt down and cried with a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them’”. Again, Jesus said: “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do”. Here is “that Christian magnanimity of forgiveness, of praying for the enemy”.

However, of “those who persecuted the prophets, those who persecuted and killed Stephen and so many martyrs”, Jesus said that “they believed they were giving glory to God, they believed” that in doing so they were being “faithful to God’s teaching”. And, the Pope said, “today I would like to recall that the history of the Church, the true history of the Church, is the history of saints and martyrs: the persecuted martyrs” and also the many who are “killed by those who believe they are glorifying God, by those who believe they have the truth: corrupt hearts, but the truth”.

Even today, “how many ‘Stephens’ there are in the world!”, the Pope exclaimed. He referred to recent accounts of persecution: “Let us think of our brothers whose throats were cut on the beach in Libya; let us think of that young man burned alive by companions for being a Christian; let us think of those immigrants on the high seas who were thrown overboard by the others for being Christians; let us think — the day before yesterday — of those Ethiopians, assassinated for being Christians”. And still, he added, “so many others that we don’t know, who suffer in prisons because they are Christians”.

Today, Francis continued, “the Church is the Church of martyrs: they suffer, they give their lives, and we receive God’s blessing through their testimony”. And then, “there are also hidden martyrs, those men and women, faithful to the power of the Holy Spirit, to the voice of the Spirit, who make way, who seek new ways to help their brothers and sisters and to better love God”. And for this reason they “come under suspicion”, they are “defamed, persecuted by so many modern Sanhedrins who believe themselves masters of the the truth”. Today, the Pontiff stated, there are “so many hidden martyrs”, and among them are many “who, for being faithful, suffer greatly within their families, for their faithfulness”.

“Our Church is the Church of martyrs” Francis reiterated, before returning to the celebration of Mass during which he said “the ‘first martyr’ will come to us, the first who bore witness and, even more, salvation to all of us”. Thus, the Pope exhorted, “let us unite with Jesus in the Eucharist, and let us unite with so many brothers and sisters who are suffering the martyrdom of being persecuted, defamed and killed for being faithful to the one bread that satiates, namely to Jesus”.

Give yourself a high five. Slap your hands together and pray!



Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Introduction

The fifth Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Eastern Church as the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. The day commemorates the encounter of Christ with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. The biblical story of this event and the dialog between Christ and the woman is found in the Gospel of Saint John 4:5-42.

Background

One of the most ancient cities of the Promised Land was Shechem, also called Sikima, located at the foot of Mount Gerazim. There the Israelites had heard the blessings in the days of Moses and Jesus of Navi. Near to this town, Jacob, who had come from Mesopotamia in the nineteenth century before Christ, bought a piece of land where there was a well. This well, preserved even until the time of Christ, was known as Jacob's Well. Later, before he died in Egypt, he left that piece of land as a special inheritance to his son Joseph (Gen. 49:22). This town, before it was taken into possession by Samaria, was also the leading city of the kingdom of the ten tribes. In the time of the Romans it was called Neapolis, and at present Nablus. It was the first city in Canaan visited by the Patriarch Abraham. Here also, Jesus of Navi (Joshua) addressed the tribes of Israel for the last time. Almost three hundred years later, all Israel assembled there to make Roboam (Rehoboam) king.

When our Lord Jesus Christ, then, came at midday to this city, which is also called Sychar (John 4:5), He was wearied from the journey and the heat. He sat down at this well. After a little while the Samaritan woman mentioned in today's Gospel passage came to draw water. As she conversed at some length with the Lord and heard from Him secret things concerning herself, she believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

Concerning the Samaritans we know the following: In the year 721 before Christ, Salmanasar (Shalmaneser), King of the Assyrians, took the ten tribes of the kingdom of Israel into captivity, and relocated all these people to Babylon and the land of the Medes. From there he gathered various nations and sent them to Samaria. These nations had been idolaters from before. Although they were later instructed in the Jewish faith and believed in the one God, they worshipped the idols also. Furthermore, they accepted only the Pentateuch of Moses, and rejected the other books of Holy Scripture. Nonetheless, they thought themselves to be descendants of Abraham and Jacob. Therefore, the pious Jews named these Judaizing and idolatrous peoples Samaritans, since they lived in Samaria, the former leading city of the Israelites, as well as in the other towns thereabout. The Jews rejected them as heathen and foreigners, and had no communion with them at all, as the Samaritan woman observed, "the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (John 4:9). Therefore, the name Samaritan is used derisively many times in the Gospel narrations.

After the Ascension of the Lord, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the woman of Samaria was baptized by the holy Apostles and became a great preacher and Martyr of Christ; she was called Photine, and her feast is kept on February 26.

Icon of the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

The icon of the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman depicts the biblical story of the Christ conversing with the woman at the well. Our Lord is shown sitting beside the well, speaking with and blessing the Samaritan woman. She is shown with her right hand outstretched toward Christ, indicating both her interest in what He is saying, and also as a sign of her faith and her efforts to bring others to hear what Christ has to say. In the background of the icon, the city is visible together with the Mount Gerazim.

St. John Chrysostom...On The Samaritan Woman:

Let us now after this be ashamed, and blush. A woman who had had five husbands, and who was of Samaria, was so eager concerning doctrines, that neither the time of day, nor her having come for another purpose, nor anything else, led her away from asking on such matters; but we not only do not enquire concerning doctrines, but towards them all our dispositions are careless and indifferent. Therefore everything is neglected. For which of you when in his house takes some Christian book in hand and goes over its contents, and searches the Scriptures? None can say that he does so, but with most we shall find draughts and dice, but books nowhere, except among a few. The Scriptures were not given us for this only, that we might have them in books, but that we might engrave them on our hearts. ... I exhort and earnestly pray that you do this, but I desire that from those books you convey the letters and sense into your understanding, that so it may be purified when it receives the meaning of the writing. For if the devil will not dare to approach a house where a Gospel is lying, much less will any evil spirit, or any sinful nature, ever touch or enter a soul which bears about with it such sentiments as it contains. Sanctify then thy soul, sanctify thy body, by having these ever in thy heart, and on thy tongue.

*Thanks
to Mom*

Celebrate the Women who have touched your life !

Mother's Day Memorials & Intentions

In Memory of (deceased)

In Honor of (living)

Given By

LAST WEEK TO SUBMITT NAMES

PLEASE SUBMIT BY TUESDAY MAY 5

Memorial Day Memorials

In Memory of (deceased)



Given By

Please submit by Tuesday, May 19th

A cloudy day is no match for a sunny disposition.

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- \$ 843.25 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contribution \$688.00 Cemetery \$565.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- In Memory of +Nancy Bollerman by Michael & Janet Buchinsky

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 – Thankful for the Blessings God has Bestowed on 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
Dolores Kozie
Martha Hysock
Sandy Bankes*
Edward Sion

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

Peter Kadingo
Jeanette Stock
Mary Kadingo

Laura Seasock
Anna Skrincosky
Catherine Washuta
Elizabeth Gulas

Joseph Salak

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 Church Signs Calendar 2015

God does not make mistakes.