

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 10th , 2015 – Sunday of the Man Born Blind / Mother's Day

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

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
Tuesday, May 12 th	5:00pm +Mary Lazusky & +Anna Lefchick by Irene & William Mc Andrew
<i>Ascension of Our Lord</i>	
Wednesday, May 13 th	6:00pm God's Blessings on His People & Healing Liturgy
Friday, May 15 th	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, May 16 th	10:00am God's Blessings on Jacob Anthony Petritsch
	3:30pm God's Blessings on His People
Sunday, May 17 th	10:30am +Michael Dudish by Wife Catherine & Family

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

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
Monday, May 11 th	8:00am + Mary Butcavage- Legacy Liturgy
Wednesday, May 13 th	8:00am +Patricia Toth by Leah & David Toth
<i>Ascension of Our Lord</i>	
Thursday, May 14 th	9:00am God's Blessings and Good Health for Jim Rehnert by Wife, Anna
Saturday, May 16 th	5:30pm + Paul Naradko by Ted Naradko
Sunday, May 17 th	8:30am 40 th day +Thomas Talpash by Talpash Family

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, May 9 th	Acts 16:16-34	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, May 10 th	Acts 16:16-34	Paul Caputo
Saturday, May 16 th	Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, May 17 th	Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38	Charles Calise

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, May 9 th	Acts 16:16-34	Mike Prokop
Sunday, May 10 th	Acts 16:16-34	Lauralee Sadusky
Saturday, May 16 th	Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38	David Toth
Sunday, May 17 th	Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38	Dolores Sadusky



Choosy Moms- Choose Jesus

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

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

American Girl Doll Bingo- Thank you to everyone who's hard work made this event a success. A special thank you to Mary & Ed and the fundraising committee for all their hard work, we couldn't have done this without you! Thank you to everyone again.

Additions to the American Girl Doll Program: We want to thank everyone who donated to the American Girl Doll Bingo. A few donations did not make the program and we would like to recognize them now. Donations were received from: Charlotte Litwak in memory of +John "Jake" Litwak and from First National Bank. A doll was given the Honorary name or "Claire" in memory of +Vito Rinaldi & +Claire Abell by Vito Rinaldi Chevrolet & Rinaldi Chrysler, Dodge & Jeep. Thank you to everyone for your generosity. !

St. Nicholas:

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

Sick Calls- will be on Wednesday May 13th .

Both Churches:

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!

Seminary Day Raffle tickets are available in the back of the Church.

Seminary Day Ad & Patron Forms are available in the back of the Church.

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.

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

Both Churches:

PENTECOST COLLECTION FOR MISSIONS “Go and Make Disciples of All Nations” (Mt. 28:19)

Our Ukrainian Catholic Church is responding to Christ’s command to “go and make disciples of all nations”.(Mt28:19) Patriarch Sviatoslav and the Bishops of our Church endeavor to provide ministry to people residing in developing missions in eastern Ukraine, in Europe, in areas of the Middle East and Africa, and North America. Your generous assistance is needed to support clergy and religious to serve these missions and to aid in the development of these new missions. An annual collection will be taken at Pentecost for this purpose. Please use the specially prepared envelopes provided for this purpose in your parish. You may also send your gift to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, 827 N Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Tax receipts will be issued. God bless all who generously care for the souls of others!

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.

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!

MAY PROCESSION Trinity Academy's annual May Procession and crowning of the Blessed Mother will take place on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. The Procession will begin at St. Joseph’s Church, Girardville, and conclude with the crowning of the Blessed Mother at St. Vincent’sChurch, Girardville. All are welcome! In case of rain, the procession will take place at St. Vincent’s Church.

GOLF TOURNAMENT Trinity Academy's eighth annual golf classic will be held on Sunday, June 7 at Mountain Valley Golf Club. Shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. 4-person team play format. Cost is \$75.00 per player which includes cart, green fees, picnic lunch, team cash awards, door prizes and closest to pin contest. There will also be a special surprise drawing at the end of the tournament. To enter your team or to sponsor a hole, contact Mike Nieddu, Director of Development, at 570-462-3927, ext 5 or email at trinitymike@yahoo.com.



Memorial Day Memorials

In Memory of (deceased)

Given By

Please submit by Tuesday, May 19th

POPE FRANCIS

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

Open to surprises Tuesday, 28 April 2015

(by *L'Osservatore Romano*, Weekly ed. in English, n. 18, 1 May 2015)

Ask the Lord for “the grace to not be afraid when the Spirit, with confidence, tells me to take a step forward”. Also ask for “apostolic courage to live life and not to make a museum of memories of our Christian life”. With this twofold advice Pope Francis concluded his homily for the Mass at Santa Marta on Tuesday morning.

The Pontiff focused in particular on the First Reading of the day, taken from the Acts of the Apostles (11:19-26), which tells that “after the first times of joy, after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, there were beautiful moments in the Church, but also many problems”. One of these is seen in the fact that a few were preaching “the Gospel to Greeks, to pagans, to those who weren’t Israelites”. In fact, Francis explained, “this was so curious, it seemed a new doctrine”. After all, he noted, there had already been the episode in which Peter was rebuked after going to Cornelius’ house: “You went there, you entered a pagan house! You have become unclean!”.

Here something similar was happening: “after the persecution, after the martyrdom of Stephen”, the disciples scattered and only the Apostles remained in Jerusalem. Some of the disciples went to “Antioch and were preaching in the synagogues to Jews”. But “others, who came from Cyprus and Cyrene, spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord”.

Thus, when “‘news of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem’, it created apprehension”. At this point the Apostles dispatched “a sort of ‘canonical visit’, saying to Barnabas: ‘Go, pay a visit there and then we’ll see what is to be done’”. However, “when Barnabas came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he brought back tranquillity and peace to Jerusalem”. For the Pope, this narrative from the Acts of the Apostles speaks once again of “newness”, which bursts “into that mentality” according to which Jesus came only “to save his people, the people chosen by the Father”. This mentality was still unable to grasp the idea “that other peoples were to take part” in the divine plan of salvation.

“But it was there in the prophecies”, the Pontiff indicated, referring to the Book of Isaiah. Yet they “didn’t understand. They didn’t understand that God is the God of newness: ‘I make all things new’”. They didn’t understand “that the Holy Spirit came precisely for this reason, to renew us and He constantly works to renew us”. Instead, the Pope observed, “this caused fear. In the history of the Church we can see from then until today how much fear arose from the surprises of the Holy Spirit”. Some might object, “But Father, there is newness and there is newness! Some newness can be seen as God’s, others cannot”. Francis responded to them with Peter’s words to his brothers in Jerusalem, when they rebuked him for entering Cornelius’ house: “When I saw that they were given what we had received, who was I to deny baptism?”.

The same idea is present in the passage from the day’s Reading regarding Barnabas, who is described as “a good man” and “full of the Holy Spirit”. This highlights that “in both there is the Holy Spirit, who lets the truth be seen”, something which we cannot do “on our own”. We can’t see it “with our intelligence”, the Pope said, explaining: “We can study all of salvation history, we can study all of

theology, but without the Spirit we cannot understand. It is precisely the Spirit who lets us understand the truth or — to use Jesus’ words — it is the Holy Spirit who enables us to know Jesus’ voice: ‘My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me’”.

In short, to Francis “the Church’s going forth is the work of the Holy Spirit. It is he who is at work”. Similarly “Jesus said to the Apostles: ‘I will send the gift of the Father and He will remind you and teach you’”. How? By recalling what Jesus says and by referring to the prophecies: “This is why, in the first discourses, even that of St Stephen, there is a re-reading”, the Pontiff clarified, “of all the prophecies. It is the work of the Holy Spirit, who makes us recall history with the Risen Jesus as the key: ‘and He will teach you the way’”.

In this regard the Pope also suggested how to be certain that the voice we hear is Jesus’ voice, and that whatever we feel we have to do is the work of the Holy Spirit. It is necessary, he said, “to pray. Without prayer, there is no room for the Holy Spirit”. We must “ask God to send us this gift: ‘Lord, give us the Holy Spirit, that we may discern in every moment what we have to do’”. However, this “doesn’t mean always repeating the same thing. The message is the same: but the Church goes forth, the Church goes forth with these surprises, with this newness of the Holy Spirit”.

Thus “it must be discerned, and to discern it one must pray, ask for this grace” — just like Barnabas, who “was full of the Holy Spirit and who understood straight away”. Also like Peter, who “saw and said: ‘who am I to deny baptism here?’”. Indeed, the Holy Spirit “doesn’t let us make mistakes”.

In this case too, the Pope said he was well aware of the objections that could be raised against his reasoning: “Father, why create so many problems? Let’s do things as we have always done them, that way we are more certain”. He responded that this hypothesis might be “an alternative”, but it would be “a sterile alternative; a ‘dead’ alternative”. What is much better, he concluded, is “with prayer, with humility, to take the risk of accepting what the Spirit asks us to change according to the time in which we live: this is the way”.



Sunday of the Man Born Blind

Introduction

The sixth Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Eastern Church as the Sunday of the Man Born Blind. The day commemorates the miracle of Christ healing the man who was blind since birth. The biblical story of this event is found in the Gospel of Saint John 9:1-41.

Background

The Lord Jesus was coming from the Temple on the Sabbath, when, while walking in the way, He saw the blind man mentioned in today's Gospel. This man had been born thus from his mother's womb, that is, he had been born without eyes (see Saint John Chrysostom, Homily LVI on Matthew; Saint Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book V:15; and the Second Exorcism of Saint Basil the Great). When the disciples saw this, they asked their Teacher,

"Who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" They asked this because when the Lord had healed the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, He had told him, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14); so they wondered, if sickness was caused by sin, what sin could have been the cause of his being born without eyes. But the Lord answered that this was for the glory of God. Then the God-man spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle. He anointed the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam." Siloam (which means "sent") was a well-known spring in Jerusalem used by the inhabitants for its waters, which flowed to the eastern side of the city and collected in a large pool called "the Pool of Siloam."

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.

Therefore, the Savior sent the blind man to this pool that he might wash his eyes, which had been anointed with the clay-not that the pool's water had such power, but that the faith and obedience of the one sent might be made manifest, and that the miracle might become more remarkable and known to all, and leave no room for doubt. Thus, the blind man believed in Jesus' words, obeyed His command, went and washed himself, and returned, no longer blind, but having eyes and seeing. This was the greatest miracle that our Lord had yet worked; as the man healed of his blindness himself testified, "Since time began, never was it heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind," although the Lord had already healed the blind eyes of many. Because he now had eyes, some even doubted that he was the same person (John 9:8-9); and it was still lively in their remembrance when Christ came to the tomb of Lazarus, for they said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have caused that even this man should not have died?" Saint John Chrysostom gives a thorough and brilliant exposition of our Lord's meeting with the woman of Samaria, the healing of the paralytic, and the miracle of the blind man in his commentaries on the Gospel of Saint John.

The icon of the Sunday of the Blind Man depicts the biblical story of Christ healing the man who was blind since birth. Our Lord is shown placing the clay on the eyes of the man. He is with his disciples who are questioning Christ about the source of the man's affliction. The blind man is shown with his hand outstretched toward Christ expressing his faith and willingness to receive healing and grace from the Son of God. Our Lord has in His hand a scroll, which directs us to His statements, "I am the light of the world," (John 9:5), and "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed," (Luke 4:18). This are clear statements of the Gospel of salvation that comes through Christ. The scroll may also represent the role of Christ as Judge as depicted in Matthew and Revelation, and also later in the same passage on the healing of the blind man (John 9:39), "Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."

*May God Bless All Mothers on this Day,
and May We Remember Those Mothers That Wait
for us in Heaven! Happy Mother's Day!*



Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord



The Acts of the Apostles records the Ascension of Christ in a very simple narrative. *"He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from their sight."* (1:9). Our Church celebrates this event of Christ's glorification. It celebrates all that Christ has done and accomplished for us. The Kontakion of the Feast summarizes all of Christ's work:

When You fulfilled the plan of salvation for us and united all things on earth to those in heaven, O Christ our God, you ascended in glory, never leaving us but remaining ever-present. For You proclaimed to those who love You; "I am with you and no one else has power over you."

The Icon of the Ascension is an icon of joy. It celebrates the meaning of this event for the Church and the world. The Ascension took place on the Mount of Olives. Thus, the mountainous background of the panel, dotted with images of scattered olive trees. The figure of Christ

ascending in glory is surrounded by a circular nimbus composed of various bands of color, symbolic of the heavens. This nimbus itself is supported by angels whose presence is yet another indication of the glory and divinity of Christ. It recalls the Old Testament image of God enthroned upon the Cherubim.

In the foreground of the Icon, the image of the Mother of God is seen surrounded by two groups of apostles. Of prime importance is her position--directly below Christ. This entire grouping, the Mother of God and the Apostles, stands as an expression of the establishment and role of the Church. The Icon includes not only those who actually witnessed the Ascension. It also includes the Apostle Paul, in the Icon at the head of the group on the right, who historically could not have been there. What is intended is that the Church witnesses to this event.

The Mother of God, she who had once carried the Christ within herself and was therefore the temple of the Incarnate Son of God, stands here as a personification of the Church, the body of Christ, whose head is the ascending Savior. The gesture of her hands, uplifted in faith and prayer, expresses the role of the Church, ceaselessly interceding for the salvation of the world. The direction of movement of this whole group, their gestures, the focus of their eyes and postures, everything is directed upward: toward the Source of Life of the Church, its head Who abides in heaven.

For: *He led them out near Bethany, and with hands upraised, blessed them. As He blessed, He left them and was taken up to heaven. They fell down to do Him reverence, then returned to Jerusalem filled with joy. There they were to be found in the temple constantly, speaking the praises of God.* (Lk. 24:50-53) Our worship of the Father is one with Christ. Through the Church we are joined with Christ, our hope of glory.

(God With Us Icon Series)

Church Information

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Weekly Contributions

Parishes Weekly Income: **St. Michael:** Contribution- \$1,154.00 Cemetery \$50.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contribution \$1,047.00 Cemetery \$60.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- God's Blessings and Good Health for Jim Rehnert

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- In Memory of + Ralph Mohutsky by Family

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

4 Lamps of the Iconostas –Thank You to the Blessed Mother & all Mothers Who Have Touched my Life.

Lamps of the Crucifix- In Memory of+ Anna Lefchick and +Mary Lazusky by Irene & William Mc Andrew

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 Kozié
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
Jim Rehnert
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

After all is said and done, usually more is said than done .