

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, September 20th, 2015 Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 19 th	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus 3:30pm +John Sawka by Paula Sawka
Sunday, September 20 th	10:30am God's Blessings on His People- <i>Catechetical Sunday</i>
Tuesday, September 22 nd	9:00am His Beatitude, Josyf Cardinal Slipyj
Wednesday, September 23 rd	5:00pm +Victor Prep by Betty Ann Bugden & Staff Healing Service immediately following Divine Liturgy
Friday, September 25 th	NO Divine Liturgy
Saturday, September 26 th	3:30pm +George Horas by Edward A. & Mary Bickowski
Sunday, September 27 th	10:30am God's Blessings on His People

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 19 th	5:30pm +Kristin Prokop by Andrew & Anna Skrincosky
Sunday, September 20 th	8:30am 2 nd Anniversary +Mary Toth by Toth & Rennick Families <i>Catechetical Sunday</i>
Monday, September 21 st	8:00am +Rev Basil Hrvak- Legacy Liturgy
Thursday, September 24 th	8:00am +Kristin Prokop by Ann & Tom McGee & Family
Saturday, September 26 th	5:30pm +Mary Naradko by Ted Naradko
Sunday, September 27 th	8:30am+ 30 th Anniversary +Mrs. Helen Krolick & 2 nd Anniversary Stepfather, + John Yaroshak by Ronald Krolick

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, September 19 th	Gal 2:16-20	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, September 20 th	Gal 2:16-20	Michelle Caputo
Saturday, September 26 th	2 Cor 9:6-11	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, September 27 th	2 Cor 9:6-11	Paul Caputo

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, September 19 th	Gal 2:16-20	Christine Romanko
Sunday, September 20 th	Gal 2:16-20	Susan Miller
Saturday, September 26 th	2 Cor 9:6-11	Michael Prokop
Sunday, September 27 th	2 Cor 9:6-11	Lauralee Sadusky

A clean conscience makes a soft pillow.

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Construction update: 9/16/15 The front steps are finished. The workers are finishing up on the domes, and will be starting the shingles in a few weeks. The electrician will be starting his preliminary work next week. Please be careful around the scaffolding and construction equipment. If you have any questions, please contact the rectory. .

DATE CHANGE Pierogie Sale- The first fall Pierogie Sale will be **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST** We are already **sold out** ! Help is needed on the 21st . Please donate your time (no matter how limited) to this worthy fundraiser.

Healing Service- There will be a Healing Service on Wednesday, September 23rd .

Lego Bingo- Our Fall Fundraiser will be on Sunday October 25th . 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 Lego Kit *Advanced ticket holders will be entered in a drawing for an Lego Accessory . * Special Raffle - Bring non-perishable food or paper products to get a chance for a special raffle – one chance per non-expired item. For tickets or info call 570-462-0809

Lego Bingo – Help is needed with the Lego Bingo the day of the event. If you are able to help, please contact Steffy Rarick at 570-590-5878, or contact the rectory.

St. Nicholas:

Sanctuary Light – Dates available for Sanctuary Candle 9/20, 10/4 & 10/25 & 11/1

Condolences – Our Parish extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of +Frank Homa Jr. 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 +Frank be eternal. Vichnaya pamyat!

Sick Calls will be Wednesday September 30th .

Both Churches:

Food for the poor- **OUR PANTRY IS BARE.** Please, help by donating to our food pantry. 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

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY Today, our teachers and students witness the value and power of prayer. The Church prays for their wisdom, understanding, knowledge of truth and love. As they are blessed we congratulate them, not with applause but with prayers that beseech God to grant them peace, health and happiness for many (spiritually fruitful) blessed years! Our children's classes begin TODAY! We will be offering Bible study for adults in October .

Pope's Visit – Ribbons have been included on the artwork arch created for the Papal visit later this month for the intentions of St. Michael's & St. Nicholas Parishes. If you would like more information please see Msgr.

Harvest Fest- St Mary's Church -94 Walnut Rd, Hamburg Friday October 2nd & Saturday October 3rd. Food , Fun & Activities for all ages. Friday oldies band, Saturday Golden Tones Polka Band, 4:30 Polka Mass. Rain or Shine. For info call 610-562-7657 or www.rc.net/allentown/stmaryhamburg

Soup Sale- Downtown Shenandoah will be having a there Soup Sale on October 15th from 10:00am to sell out . \$5.00 per quart \$2.50 per pint . Soups include- Chili, Pasta Fagioli , Split Pea, NE Clam, Chicken Noodle, Kielbasi, Beef Vegetable, and Sausage Hoagies for \$3.50 each .

The Fruit of the Lord is always in season.

84th Annual Pilgrimage to the Mother of God Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great This year's 84th Annual Pilgrimage honoring the Mother of God will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2015 on the grounds of the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great in Fox Chase Manor, PA. The theme of this year's Pilgrimage is "A Reflection of God's Love." The day begins with the opportunity for confession starting at 9:00 am. A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 11:00am by Archbishop Stefan Soroka and accompanying hierarchy and clergy. The homilist for the Divine Liturgy and Moleben will be His Grace, Bishop Bohdan Danylo, Eparchial Bishop at St. Josaphat in Parma. Lunch will be available afterwards, featuring traditional Ukrainian food. The day will conclude with a prayer service (Moleben) at 4:00 pm in the Grotto. For further information, please call 215.379.3998 x17 or visit the Sisters' website at www.stbasils.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Sisters-of-the-Order-of-St-Basil-the-Great-Jenkintown-PA/280623061977867?fref=ts.

St. John's Curiosity Shop / Yard Sale St. John's R.C. Church, 10th & Mahantongo Sts. in Pottsville will host its Curiosity Shop/Yard Sale on ... Friday, October 2nd from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, October 3rd from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Russell Building on 9th St. & Schuylkill Ave., Pottsville. Various items including ... Dishes, Knick-Knacks, Toys, Games, Books, Vases, Kitchen Items, Candles, Jewelry, Glass Items, Holiday Decorations, Appliances, Linens, Video/DVD's, Framed Prints, and our Special Vintage / Collectibles Section ... Cut Glass, Silver, Depression Glass, Lenox, Stoneware, Pottery, Bone China, Milk Glass, Cake Plates, and much, much more. Food items also available ... Hot Dogs, BBQ, Burgers, Pierogies, Baked Goods, Refreshments.



LOVE IS OUR MISSION –THE FAMILY FULLY ALIVE Mother, Teacher, Family:

The nature and role of the Church The Church is the Bride of Christ, "our mother and teacher, our comforter and guide, our family of faith. Even when her people and leaders sin, we still need the Church's wisdom, sacraments, support, and proclamation of the truth, because she is the body of Jesus himself in the world" (Saint John XXIII).

As our Mother, she gives birth to us her sons and daughters who are "born from above" and have a new identity in Christ, which we cannot give ourselves. (Jn. 3:3,5). When we are born of the Church as of our Mother, we are born of this love of Christ. The Church is always being transformed in Christ's love until Christ is fully formed in all of us.

The Church's basis in Christ means that sin in the Church cannot invalidate the identity of the Church or her holiness, because the identity of the Church does not come from any of us, but from Christ.

The Church, as our Mother, also has the responsibility of teaching and forming us by preserving the truth of the Gospel. These include such truths as the dignity of human persons, the goodness of creation, the nobility of married state and its orientation toward a life-giving communion of love.

Christian spouses have the key role in proclaiming these very truths. They are not naïve; they know life's problems and temptations. But they are not afraid to be responsible before God and before society. Of course, it is difficult to form a family and bring children into the world. That is why we need the grace that comes from sacrament. Grace is not given to decorate life – what a beautiful marriage, or ceremony, or banquet... But to make us strong in life, giving us courage to go forwards.

Pope Francis is calling Christian spouses to be kind of teachers that contemporary people listen to, teachers who teach by their witness and display its persuasiveness in their openness to new life, in their mutual love and in the readiness of their hospitality, as oases of love and mercy in contemporary culture.

The witness of Christian spouses can bring light into a world and be witnesses to his love.

The Church is an institution, but always she is mother, a bride, a body, a family, and a covenant. The Church's essence depends on Jesus, a foundation, which is deeper and more secure than any human achievement or failure. Despite her many failures, the Church cannot shirk the responsibility to preach the Gospel, and so we carry forward her mission of love.

CATECHISM THEN, CATECHISM NOW *From the Way: (Edited for the Bulletin)*

Have you ever wondered, “To whom may our present day religious education teachers trace their legacy?” Some say, “stemming from the days of the early Church founded by Jesus Christ, the Teacher.

The nun Etheria wrote in her diary during the fourth century, about the role of the bishop and the teaching of religious education. She tells us that back then, bishops were the catechists who conducted the catechism classes. Their classes were held in the middle of the church, during the eight weeks of Lent and Passions Season. [You have to remember that pews are not part of our church.] They kept a list of their students. The students had a “dress code” and a “behavior code” which directed them to remove their outer garments, to be barefoot and put on an outer garment of symbolic penance. And yes, there was a “final exam.” The “graduates” were permitted to receive the Holy Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist.)

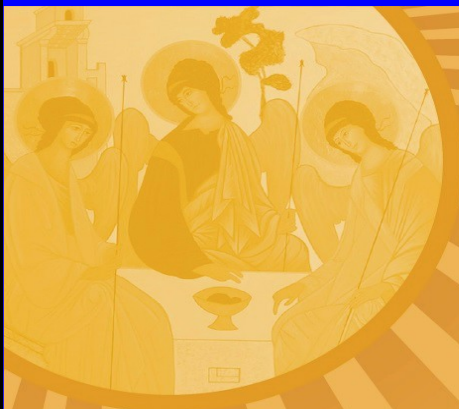
The bishops taught special students called “catechumens.” They were not permitted to remain in the church for the entire Divine Liturgy. You will notice that this practice is recalled during the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, when the priest, to this day, dismisses the catechumens. These people who wanted to become members of “The Way” as the Christians first called themselves, before they called themselves Catholic or Orthodox. Each catechumen appeared before the Bishop with his or her Godparent, whose mission was to ensure that the catechumen was both learning and living their new found faith, i.e. “doing their homework” and then finally serving as witnesses that their Godchild was adequately prepared and disposed to embrace the Christian life. Catechumens were to repent and learn ways of being good, while learning about God and the teachings of the Church.

During each “class” the Bishop-Teacher also prayed “exorcisms” for his students, so that they would become strong in living their faith, especially in their challenges with Satan. These prayers remain in the ceremony of Baptism to this day. Outside “class time” Godparents helped their Godchild to repent and believe the message of the Gospel thus filling them with grace. The nun Etheria tells us that these students needed to always keep learning more about their faith, thus becoming more one with God, together as “living saints” in their daily lives.

Today, bishops offer their teaching to the members of the Church and others throughout the world. Their teaching methods have adapted to the changing circumstances of the Church. They teach by their preaching, writings, and letters to the baptized.

Since it is infants who usually receive the Mysteries of Initiation today, parents, and Godparents and all those already baptized are called to teach and mentor these Christians as they are educated and formed. Our ECF teachers serve as a key catalyst in the religious education/formation process. They have come to replace the bishop in the formation process. They have inherited this awesome responsibility from the bishop who in turn has inherited the responsibility from Jesus Christ. Next to the clergy and cantor, they are the most important people in any community (i.e. parish).

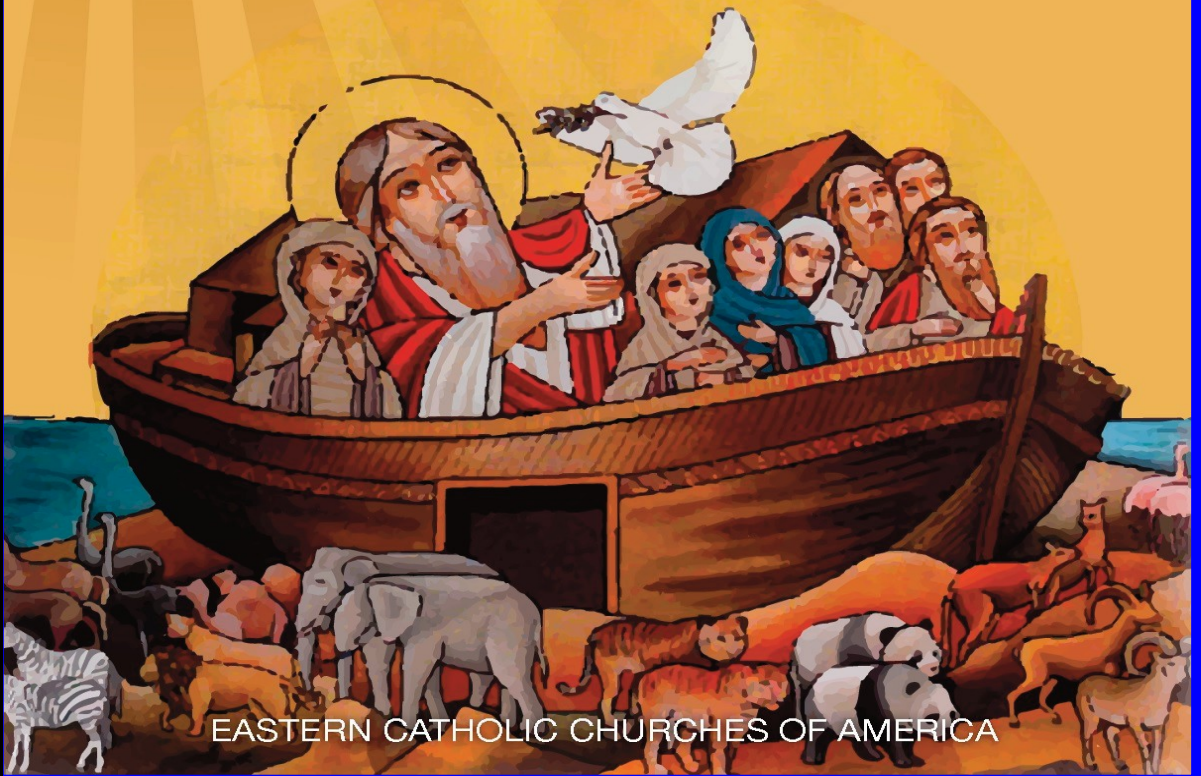
We spend many years of education and training for secular careers. How much more important it is that we invest our best in our careers as Christians, which lasts beyond the grave. This leads to the question, “How can one or a few years of ECF instruction be sufficient?” For what is secular is important, but what is spiritual is vital.



Family

In the Image of God

Catechetical Sunday 2015



EASTERN CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF AMERICA

Catechetical Sunday, September 20, 2015

Catechetical Sunday has its roots in a 1935 Vatican publication “On the Better Care and Promotion of Catechetical Education”, a document that asks every country to acknowledge the importance of the Church’s teaching ministry and to honor those who serve the Christian community as catechists.

Beginning in 1971, the USCCB’s Department of Education began producing materials to help parishes celebrate the event at the local level. Now the Committee of Evangelization and Catechesis publishes Catechetical Sunday materials each year.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday.

In the early years of the Twenty-first Century educators of the various Eastern Catholic Churches began to provide posters, prayers, announcements and other related material reflective of the distinctive charisms of Eastern Christians’ faith-experience and expression for Catechetical Sunday.

Annual themes have been developed to complement the concept of USCCB guidelines, but with a look and feel more tuned to a spiritual wavelength that speaks to their somewhat different approach to faith.

This year’s theme “Family: In the Image of God” capitalizes on the notion that the family is the basic unit of society. It is the “domestic Church” where God’s presence is made known “where two or three are gathered” and consequentially encounter a model of the Triune God—united in substance, distinct in persons.

The family is the first schoolroom wherein the parents exercise their role as primary educators of their children. Here is where values are learned, virtues practiced and lessons of patience, sharing, compassion and tolerance put into action.

As noted by Pope Francis, not only is each individual “made in the image of God”, each family is endowed with that “image of God” as well.

As part of a family each individual has worth as a human being, a contributor to the well-being and welfare of the rest of creation.

Catechetical Sunday is not meant to be a one-day experience, but a springboard to a fulfilling lifetime. It is a single step on a journey made new with each successive day. We have a mission, as did Noah’s family to restore God’s plan of salvation and renew the face of the Earth. Certainly that takes effort and dedication and focus.

Posters are meant to attract attention. They convey a message, give information, and invite you to an activity. So it is with the poster for Catechetical Sunday. Its well-known biblical theme is colorful in places, monochromatic elsewhere and quite sparse in written information. “Family: In the Image of God” is prominent, “Catechetical Sunday 2015” and “Eastern Catholic Churches in America” almost an understated second thought. Rather than be satisfied with glancing at it, thinking “that’s nice” or “that’s pretty” and walking on—stop, look, and wonder how it ties together.

Before that, consider the circumstances of Noah. The account in the Book of Genesis (*cfr.* chapters 6-10) are early in the revealed truths about God. This is before the Psalms, before great prophecies, before Christ's birth as the Son of the Father—referred to as “Sun of Justice”; His life, death, resurrection, sending of the Holy Spirit—as Comforter before the Apostles' missionary work; the profession of faith—the Nicene Creed—and two thousand years of Church history.

Yet Noah undertook a great task to safeguard his family—the basic unit of human society, made up of sacred personages, created in the Image of God, as noted in the first chapter of Genesis. He did this as an act of obedience to God—who he could not see, but could sense in his spiritual being.

As reminded recently by Pope Francis, the family, too, is created “in the Image of God” with the Holy Trinity its prototype.

As Noah was commissioned to protect his family from peril, and to extend that protection to other living things in his environment, we have the same responsibilities.

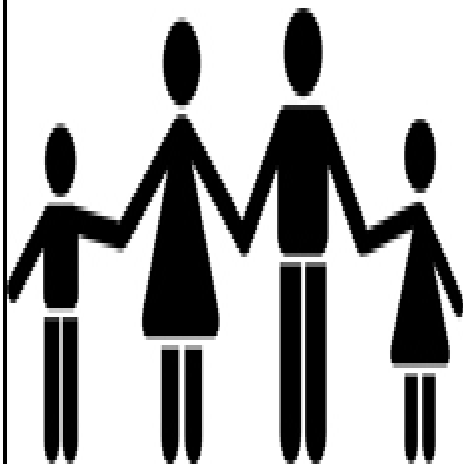
Stable families are under attack from outside sources. The environment is besieged by avoidable abuse by the “highest of God's creatures (mankind)” through greed or even ignorance or carelessness.

Our awareness as Eastern Christians of things gone awry should reflect the advantage we have through revelation of God's reality—pre-eternal, omniscient, omnipotent, alive in omnipresence extending into eternity.

That same God depicted on the poster as emitting rays of divine love looking over Noah's fateful and faithful journey is the God we are to serve in our journey.

Catechetical Sunday draws our attention to the need we have to learn to know and exercise our great gift of faith and to teach it to others.

We are, individually and collectively, Images of God. Here is our opportunity to show our vocation as “other Christs” through faithfulness to the commands we receive from God, with an obedient Noah as an inspiration. That's the message and invitation to act—all on this poster.



A Prayer for the World Meeting of families

God and Father of us all,
in Jesus, your Son and our Savior,
you have made us your sons and daughters
in the family of the Church
May your grace and love
help our families
in every part of the world
be united to one another in fidelity to the Gospel
May the example of the Holy Family,
with the aid of your Holy Spirit,
guide all families,
especially those most troubled,
to be homes of communication and prayer
and to always seek your truth and live in your love.
Through Christ our Lord. 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:** Contributions - \$1,220.38 Cemetery \$10.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contributions \$593.00 Cemetery \$20.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- In Memory of +Jean Depsky Poppert by Toni Poppert Huntzinger

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

4 Lamps of the Iconostas – God's Blessings on St. Michael's & our construction project.

Lamps of the Crucifix- God's Blessings on Msgr. Myron on his Birthday

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

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

Kind words make good echoes.