

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, November 29th , 2015 ~ 27th Sunday after Pentecost

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 28th 3:30pm +Kate Norman by Winifred Mohutsky & Family
 Sunday, November 29th 10:30am God's Blessings on His People
 Tuesday, December 1st 5:00pm +Ann Wildey & Family
 Wednesday, December 2nd 8:00am God's Blessing on Chuck and Dolores
 6:30pm Prayer Group
 Friday, December 4th 8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
 Saturday, December 5th 3:30pm +Annette Sawka by J. Sawka Family
 Sunday, December 6th 10:30am God's Blessings on His People

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 28th 8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary
 5:30pm 2nd Anniversary +Olga Kulka by Family
 Sunday, November 29th 8:30am Birthday Remembrance +Julia Salak by her Children
 Monday, November 30th 8:00am +Mary Toth by Jeanne Euler
 Thursday, December 3rd 8:00am +Rose, +Mary & +Katherine Porchik- Legacy Liturgy
 Saturday, December 5th 8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary
 5:30pm +Katherine, +Mary & +Rose Porchik by Andrew & Anna Skrincosky

Feast of St. Nicholas

Sunday, December 6th

11:00am +Catherine & Joseph Panchison by Panchison Family

Divine Liturgy to be celebrated by Fr. Wysochansky , Banquet to follow

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, November 28 th	Eph 6:10-17	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, November 29 th	Eph 6:10-17	Michelle Caputo
Saturday, December 5 th	Col 1:12-18	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday December 6 th	Col 1:12-18	Paul Caputo

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, November 28 th	Eph 6:10-17	Bernadette Bremer
Sunday, November, 29 th	Eph 6:10-17	Susan Miller
Saturday, December 5 th	Col 1:12-18	Andrew Skrincosky
Sunday December 6 th	Col 1:12-18	Lauralee Sadusky

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Construction update: 11/25/15 The electrical work is continuing. Please be careful around the scaffolding and construction equipment. If you have any questions, please contact the rectory

Candles for the 2016 year are now available, the sign up sheet for the Sanctuary Light (donation \$15.00) is now in the back of the Church. If you are interested in the Tetrapod (donation \$6.00) Iconostas (donation \$12.00) Crucifix (donation \$6.00) or the Tabernacle Lamps (donation \$30.00) Please contact the rectory .

Pierogie Sale will be Monday December 7th. We appreciate any time you are able to give to help with this fundraiser. We are sold out for this sale. This will be the last sale for 2015. The next sale will be in February.

ORDERS DUE THIS WEEK Christmas Bread Sale- Rolls available are Nut, Poppy, Poppy/Raisin and Apricot. Cost is \$13.00 each. The rolls are 13 to 14”long. They are baked by a local church and are frozen. Orders only. Orders are due by Wednesday, December 2nd. Pick up on Saturday, December 19th at 12:00noon. Order forms in the back of the church, or contact the rectory.

Confession Schedule- Confessions at St. Michael’s will be Tuesday, December 15th from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Complete confession schedule available at the back of the church or flyer included in this week’s bulletin.

Fundraising Meeting- Sunday December 13th, after Divine Liturgy(11:30) . We are asking anyone interested in helping with St. Michael’s fundraising to please attend this meeting. We hope to lay out a plan for the new year. If you are unable to attend , please let Steffy Rarick or Msgr. know that you wish to be involved. Thank you.

St. Nicholas:

Feast of St. Nicholas – Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St. Nicholas will be at 11:00am on Sunday, December 6th.

Sanctuary Light- Reservations for the Sanctuary Candle for “2016” may be submitted at your convenience. Envelopes for this special offering are available in the vestibule of our church.

Confession Schedule- Confessions at St. Nicholas will be Wednesday, December 16th from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Complete confession schedule available at the back of the church or flyer included in week’s bulletin.

Both Churches:

Rectory Office Hours- Due to a family emergency the rectory office will only be open for limited hours for the next few weeks. Please call the office before coming down to avoid an unnecessary trip. Please feel free to leave a message or send an email during this time. Emails & phone messages will be checked on a daily basis. We are sorry for this inconvenience.

Liturgy requests for 2016 will be taken as of November 1st. Please contact the rectory during normal business hours, submit a request in writing, or email a request to stmichaelsukrainian@verizon.net

Murphy Jewelers Bingo- St. Nicholas School will be holding a Murphy Jewelers Bingo on Sunday, December 6th at St. Nicholas Hall Primrose. Doors open at 11am, Bingo starts at 1pm. Ticket are \$25 and include 16 reg. games and 4 specials. Pre-sale ticket holders will be entered to win \$100 gift card to Murphy Jewelers. For more info/tickets call 570-544-4581 or 570-527-0899

Food for the poor- 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.

Nuremberg Community Players Present- "The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus" Saturday and Sunday December 5th & 6th. At the theater located at 283 Hazle St. in Nuremberg. Show starts at 2pm, Tickets are \$10.00 and will include a visit from Santa! For more info or to make reservations please call (570) 276-6263

"Senior version of Jesus Loves Me"

JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME.. YES, JESUS LOVES ME..
YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I'll go
On through life, let come what may,
He'll be there to lead the way.

When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song.
Telling me in words so clear,
"Have no fear, for I am near"

When my work on earth is done,
And life's victories have been won.
He will take me home above,
Then I'll understand His love

I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.



POPE FRANCIS

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

Our identity up for auction Monday, 16 November 2015

(by *L'Osservatore Romano*, Weekly ed. in English, n. 47, 20 November 2015)

We mustn't put our Christian identity "up for auction", or align ourselves with the worldly spirit that can lead to apostasy and persecution. Pope Francis identified these hazards during Mass at Santa Marta on Monday morning.

The Pontiff dedicated his entire reflection to the First Reading, taken from the First Book of the Maccabees (1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-64), summarizing the contents in "three words: worldliness, apostasy, persecution". Rereading the text, Francis pointed out "that the passage begins like this: 'In those days there sprang a sinful offshoot'". He then explained that "the image of the root which is underground, unseen, seems to do no evil, but then grows and exposes, reveals its true reality". This image is also seen in the Letter to the Hebrews, whose "author admonished his own in the same way: 'that among you no root of bitterness spring up and cause trouble and by it the many become defiled'".

In this regard the Pope described "the phenomenology of the root", which "grows, it always grows", even when — as in the case of the day's passage — it may seem like a "reasonable root: 'Let us go and make a covenant with the Gentiles round about us' — Why are there so many differences? — 'for since we separated from them many evils have come upon us'. Let us go to them, we are all alike". And thus, he continued, "'some of the people eagerly went to the king, who authorized them to introduce the way of living of the Gentiles. Where? In the chosen people, that is to say, in the Church of that time".

However, Francis noted, in that act "there is worldliness. We do what the world does, the same thing: we put our identity card up for auction; we are the same as everyone". Just like the people of Israel, who "began to do this: 'they built a gymnasium in Jerusalem according to Gentile custom', pagan custom; 'and removed the marks of circumcision', in other words, they denied the faith, 'they abandoned the holy covenant. They joined with the Gentiles and sold themselves to do evil'". However, the Pontiff warned, this act, "which seemed so reasonable — 'we are like everyone, we conform' — became destruction". Because, he reaffirmed, "this is worldliness. This is the path of worldliness, of that sinful, bitter root".

On this topic Francis shared that he has always been struck by the fact "that at the Last Supper the Lord prayed for the unity of his own and asked the Father to free them from every worldly spirit, from all worldliness, because worldliness destroys identity; worldliness leads to singular thinking, there is no difference".

The first consequence of this is apostasy. The Pope showed this by rereading the passage: "'Then the king wrote to his whole kingdom that all should be one people' — singular thinking, worldliness — 'and that each should give up his customs. All the Gentiles accepted the command of the king. Many even from Israel gladly adopted his religion; they sacrificed to idols and profaned the sabbath'". Thus, said the Pope, "apostasy. That is, worldliness leads you to singular thinking and to apostasy. Differences are not permitted, we are not allowed differences". We end up becoming "all alike. In the history of the Church, in the history we have seen", the Pope offered a particular example in which "the

name of a religious feast was changed — the Birth of the Lord has a different name — in order to erase identity”.

It must also be remembered, the Reading seems to say, that persecution follows apostasy. “The king”, the Pontiff read, “erected the horrible abomination upon the altar of burnt offerings and in the surrounding cities of Judah they built pagan altars. They also burned incense at the doors of the houses and in the streets. Any scrolls of the law which they found they tore up and burnt. Whoever was found with a scroll of the covenant, and whoever observed the law, was condemned to death by royal decree”. Here then is “the persecution” which “begins from one root” that is “small, and ends with the abomination of desolation”. This, he said, “is the deceit of worldliness”. And this is why, at the Last Supper, Jesus prayed to the Father: “I ask not that you remove them from the world but that you protect them from the world”, in other words, protect “from this mentality, from this humanism, which comes to take the place of the true man, Jesus Christ”. To protect them from this worldliness “that comes to take from us our Christian identity and lead us to singular thinking: ‘Everyone does this, why don’t we?’”.

Here then the Holy Father applied the day’s Reading, which, “in these times makes us think” about our identity. We should ask ourselves: “Is it Christian or worldly? Do I say I am Christian because I was baptized as a child or because I was born in a Christian country, where everyone is Christian?”.

According to Pope Francis it is important to answer these questions, because “worldliness that enters slowly” continues to grow, and then “it justifies itself and infects”. How? “It grows like that root” described in the Reading; “it justifies itself — ‘let us do like all the people, we are not so different’ — it always seeks justification, and in the end it infects, and so many evils arise from it”.

At the end of the homily the Pope highlighted that all of “the Liturgy, in these last days of the liturgical year”, leads us to ponder these things, and especially today it tells us “in the name of the Lord: look out for the bitter roots, for the sinful roots that lead you astray from the Lord and cause you to lose your Christian identity”. It is an exhortation to steer clear “of worldliness” and to ask in prayer that the Church be protected “from every form of worldliness. That the Church always have the identity that Jesus Christ commanded; that we all have the identity” received in baptism; “and that this identity not be thrown away” out of wanting “to be like everyone, for reasons of ‘normalcy’”.

In short, Francis concluded, “may the Lord give us the grace to keep and protect our Christian identity against the spirit of worldliness that always grows, justifies itself and infects”.

**An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief,
finally asked him "How do you expect to get into Heaven?"**

**The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll run in and out and in and
out and keep slamming the door until St Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake,
Dylan, come in or stay out!'"**

The more you are thankful,
the more you attract things to be thankful for.

The Wooden Bowl

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered.

The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor.

When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth. The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. 'We must do something about father,' said the son. 'I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor.'

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, 'What are you making?' Just as sweetly, the boy responded, 'Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up.' The four-year-old smiled and went back to work.

The words so struck the parents so that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done. That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles four things: a rainy day, the elderly, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that making a 'living' is not the same thing as making a 'life.'

I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back sometimes.

I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But, if you focus on your family, your friends, the needs of others, your work and doing the very best you can, happiness will find you.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day, you should reach out and touch someone. People love that human touch -- holding hands, a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

Jn 18:33b-37

Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?"

Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here."

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?"

Jesus answered, "You say I am a king."

For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

THANKFUL TO CHRIST THE KING FOR OUR LIFE, LIBERTY AND PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS· ON EARTH AND IN HEAVEN by Msgr. Ralph Cheiffo

In this Gospel, we see the great paradox of Jesus showing His power by suffering. At a superficial level, it seems that Pilate is the one in power. And Jesus seems like the failed leader, whose supporters were not with Him. But, with sacred wisdom, we see the reverse. The seemingly powerful Roman governor is in fact cowering before the mobs, allowing a death he knows is unjustified, and in general only keeping the pretense of order. By contrast, Jesus, fulfilling the ideal of kings leading their armies into battle, heads triumphantly to confront sin and death, preparing to defeat them. Like Rome, this nation has a glorious ideal. The United States has become great because of her noble vision, of the rights given by God and of the willingness to accept different traditions, whether religious or national, into our common quest. Pope Francis called attention to America's tradition of pluralism at Independence Hall, saying, "I ask you not to forget that, like those who came here before you, you bring many gifts to this nation By contributing your gifts, you will not only find your place here, you will help to renew society from within. Do not forget what took place here over two centuries ago. *Do not forget that Declaration which proclaimed that all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights and that governments exist in order to protect and defend those rights.* "

Religious liberty was ever central to this notion of American human rights. The Magna Carta and the Constitution's Bill of Rights guarantee the free exercise of religion which promotes a moral society. However, as Pilate faltered in the face of worldly pressure, so this nation is faltering from its dedication to religious liberty in face of the pressure of secularization. More government policies are directly opposed and even hostile to core moral teachings of the Judeo-Christian tradition, In the face of such challenges, the Church and all people of good will must stand firm in defending this right to live out our faith in practice. Pope Francis encouraged American Catholics in his White House speech: "American Catholics are committed to building a society which is truly tolerant and inclusive, to safeguarding the rights of individuals and communities, and to rejecting every form of unjust discrimination. With countless other people of good will, they are likewise concerned that efforts to build a just and wisely ordered society respect their deepest concerns and their right to religious liberty. That freedom remains one of America's most precious possessions. And, as my brothers, the United States Bishops, have reminded us, all are called to be vigilant, precisely as good citizens, to preserve and defend that freedom from everything that would threaten or compromise it." The question is not whether the Church will survive these threats. She has ever outlasted her persecutors, for as Jesus promised, the jaws of death cannot prevail against His Church. See Matt. 16: 18. The question is about the future of this nation, whether, as we celebrate 250 years of independence, the vision of our beginning will falter, or whether this nation will continue to be a shining example of a land that can Welcome people of all faiths united together in the rights that God has given us, especially the right to uphold His worship and His law. This Thanksgiving are you thanking Pilate or Jesus for your life, liberty and pursuit of happiness which is only fulfilled in heaven?

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 - \$ 1,750.40 Building Donation \$125.00
Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contributions \$982.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- In Memory of +Katherine, +Mary &+ Rose Porchik by Mr & Mrs Andrew Skrincosky

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- In Memory of +Susan Bereschak by Daughters, Mary & Helen

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

4 Lamps of the Iconostas – God's Blessings on the People of St. Michael's this Thanksgiving.

Lamps of the Crucifix- In Memory of +Charles Henninger Jr by Annie Cragen

Lights of the Tetrapod- Deceased Members of +Szczyglak Family by Andrew Szczyglak

Lights of the Tabernacle- Thanksgivings for my Friends & Family & our Many Blessings.

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 Bereschak
Helen Sims
Mary Mazur
Keilbasa Family*

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

St. Nicholas

Helen Salak
Margaret Skrincosky
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

Faith is like electricity. You can't see it, but you can see the light.