

**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](mailto:stmichaelsukrainian@verizon.net) Website- [www.first-ukrainian.com](http://www.first-ukrainian.com)

Like us on Facebook@St Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

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Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

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**Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Sunday After Theophany**

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**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, January 9 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm + Mary Lazusky & +Anna Lefchick by Irene & Bill McAndrew
Sunday, January 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am +Leonard Kozlosky by Son, Leonard & Dolores Kozlosky
Tuesday, January 12 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm +Ann Wildey by Men's Prayer Group
Wednesday, January 13 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am God's Blessings on Chuck & Dolores 6:30pm Prayer Group
Friday, January 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday, January 16 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm +Ed Kalavage by Daughter-in-Law, Carol
Sunday, January 17 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am +Edward Sion by Ty & Mary Ellen Krigbaum

**SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, January 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +William Covach Sr. by Thomas & Jeanette Stock
Sunday, January 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am God's Blessings on His People
Monday, January 11 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +William Covach by Jack & Mary Leary
Thursday, January 14 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +Olga Lutsky – Legacy Liturgy
Saturday, January 16 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm Birthday Remembrance +Walter Salak by his Children
Sunday, January 17 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am God's Blessings on His People

**St. Michael's Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Eph 4:7-13	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, January 10 <sup>th</sup>	Eph 4:7-13	Michelle Caputo
Saturday, January 16 <sup>th</sup>	2 Tim 3:10-15	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, January 17 <sup>th</sup>	2 Tim 3:10-15	Paul Caputo

**St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Eph 4:7-13	Andrew Skrincosky
Sunday, January 10 <sup>th</sup>	Eph 4:7-13	Lauralee Sadusky
Saturday, January 16 <sup>th</sup>	2 Tim 3:10-15	Christine Romanko
Sunday, January 17 <sup>th</sup>	2 Tim 3:10-15	Dolores Sadusky

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As long as you know that God is for you,  
it doesn't matter who is against you.

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## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

### ***St. Michael:***

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**Candles for the 2016** year are now available, the signup 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) Crucifix (donation \$6.00) or the Tabernacle Lamps (donation \$30.00) Please contact the rectory .

**Pierogie Sale.** Our next sale will be Monday, February 8th , and we are already sold out.

**2016 Offering Envelopes** are in the back of the church. If the information is incorrect, or if you do not have envelopes please notify the rectory.

**Sick Calls** – Sick calls will be on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Home Blessings** – Home blessings will begin on Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> for Shenandoah.

**Memorial Fund:** Donations have been received in memory of +Joseph Lesko by John & Helen Tulenko. A donation has also been received in memory of Attorney +Kathleen Paulubinsky by her Family

**Religion Classes** start next week, Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in the Church Hall. If you have not registered your child, you may do so at this time. Please see Alice Breznik with any questions.

**Lenten Confessions** will be Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at St. Michael's.

### ***St. Nicholas:***

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**Easter** - Lent begins on Monday February 8<sup>th</sup>

**Home Blessings** – Home blessings will begin on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> for St. Clair & Port Carbon , weather permitting.. Home blessings will be done by Fr. Roman in the St. Clair Area on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> weather permitting. Please contact the rectory to request a home blessing.

**Lenten Confessions** will be Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at St. Nicholas

### ***Both Churches:***

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**Msgr. Myron will be away from January 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 27<sup>th</sup> at a conference. Fr Roman Sverdan will be covering for Msgr. while he is away, and the rectory will be open for normal business hours.**

**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.

**Annual Festival of Christmas Carols** will be held on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the golden-domed Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. Choirs from different parishes will participate. Everyone is welcome.

**Christmas Display-** Traditional Ukrainian Christmas at the treasury of Faith Museum 810 N Franklin St Philadelphia 215-627-3389 Sunday January 10th , 12:30-2:30pm.

**Soup Sale-** Downtown Shenandoah will be having their soup sale on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to sellout. \$5.00 per quart, \$2.50 per pint. Soups include – Chili, Pasta Fagioli, Split pea, NE Clam, Chicken Noodle, Kielbasi, Beef Vegetable, and Sasuage Hoagies for \$3.50 each

## **St. Joseph**

Good St. Joseph, strong and quiet, Lifts up his arms in morning prayer, Bows down his back in daily toil, lays down his head in dream-filled sleep.

Good St. Joseph, strong and mild, Steward of the Fathers house, Guardian of the Virgin's Child, Protector of the Spirit's spouse.

Good St. Joseph, strong yet weary, lays down his head for final sleep, Attended by the Spouse and Child, Grateful yet with tears of grief.

Good St. Joseph, strong and brave, Inspires his name-sake for to give His tortured Son a fitting grave, Teaching us still how best to live.

Good St. Joseph, strong and tender, Greets his Son on Friday Good, With glorious kisses Him back sends, To comfort gentle grieving Mother.

Good St. Joseph, Terror of demons, Protect us in our earthly toils. Good St. Joseph, Companion of the dying, Call us home to live with you.

## **THE DAYS OF ALL SOULS (SOROKOUSTY)**

*We need to update our All Souls Lists 2016.*

*We will be returning to the traditional listing of only the Family Name of the one making the request and only the first names of the departed.*

*If you wish your departed loved ones remembered in the Dyptychs on these special days , please fill out the form below and return it in the special offering envelopes marked "Sorokousty" included in your envelope box .*

**All Requests must be returned by Sun. January 31<sup>st</sup> .**

**clip here**

Kindly include the following names of these beloved souls in the DYPTYCHS to be commemorated during the Panahyda on the All Souls Days. If your list has not changed since 2015 simply check here. \_\_\_\_\_ Remember to complete the form with your own name, so we can contact you with any questions.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

use extra paper if necessary — please print!!!

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

# POPE FRANCIS

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

## *Three traits Tuesday, 15 December 2015*

(by *L'Osservatore Romano*, Weekly ed. in English, n. 51, 18 December 2015)

What are the features of the People of God? What should the Church be like? This was the theme of Pope Francis' homily for the Mass at Santa Marta on Tuesday morning.

In the day's passage from the Gospel according to Matthew (21:28-32), Jesus states to the chief priests and elders: "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you". The Pontiff pointed out Jesus' "energy" in reproaching those who were considered masters of "how to think, judge, and live". The prophet Zephaniah too, in the First Reading (3:1-2, 9-13), "takes on the voice of God and says: 'Woe to her that is rebellious and defiled, the oppressing city! She listens to no voice, she accepts no correction. She does not trust in the Lord, she does not draw near to her God'". It is basically "the same reprimand" aimed "at the chosen people, at the clerics of those times". Moreover, the Pope emphasized, "to say to a priest, to a chief priest, that a harlot is holier than he in the kingdom of Heaven" is a very strong charge.

Jesus "had the courage to speak the truth". However, Francis said, considering certain reprimands, one has to wonder: "What should the Church be like? The people we read about in the Bible were indeed "men of the church". They were "heads of the Church". Jesus came, John the Baptist came, but those men "didn't listen". In the passage, the prophet recalls that although God chose his people, "this people became a rebellious city, an impure city. They did not accept how the Church should be, how the People of God should be".

However, the prophet Zephaniah communicates God's promise to the people: "I will forgive you". That is, the Pope explained, in order "for the People of God, the Church, all of us to be faithful, the first step is to feel we are forgiven.

After the promise of forgiveness, there is also the explanation of "how the Church is supposed to be: 'For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord'". Thus, the faithful People of God, Francis continued, must "have these three traits: humble, lowly, with trust in the Lord". At this point the Pontiff began his analysis of each of the three fundamental features.

First of all the Church has to be "humble". In other words a Church should "not show off her powers, her grandeur". However, the Pope advised, "humility doesn't mean a lethargic, weary person" with a demure expression, because this "is not humility, this is theatrics! This is feigned humility". True humility, instead, begins "with the first step: 'I am a sinner'". Francis explained that if "you are not able to tell yourself that you are a sinner and that others are better than you, you are not humble". Thus, "the first step for a humble Church is feeling that she is a sinner" and the same is true for "all of us". On the other hand, if "any of us has the habit of looking at others' defects and gossiping", this is not humility. It is instead "thinking that you are the judge of others". The prophet says: "I will leave in the midst of you a humble people". This, the Pontiff advised, is a grace, and "we must ask for this grace, that the Church may be humble, that I may be humble, that each one of us may be humble".

His meditation then passed on to the second trait: the People of God “is poor”. In this regard Pope Francis recalled that poverty is “the first of the Beatitudes”, but what does it mean to be “poor in spirit”? It means “being attached only to God’s treasures”. It definitely does not mean “a Church that exists attached to money, that thinks about money, that thinks about how to earn money...”. For example, the Pope explained, there was someone who “innocently” said to the people that in order to pass through the Holy Door “you have to make an offering”. This, the Pontiff clarified, “is not the Church of Jesus, this is the Church of those chief priests, attached to money”.

To further explain his thoughts, Francis recalled the story of Deacon Lawrence — the “treasurer of the diocese”, — who, when the emperor asked him to “bring the riches of the diocese” to turn them over in order to avoid being killed, St Lawrence returned “with the poor”. Thus the poor are actually “the treasure of the Church”. You can even be “the head of a bank”, as long as “your heart is poor, not attached to money” and you place yourself “at the service” of others. “Poverty”, the Pope added, is characterized by “this detachment” which leads us to “serve the needy”. He concluded this line of reasoning by directing a question to each person: “Am I or am I not poor?”.

Lastly, the third trait: the People of God “shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord”. This too brings up a very direct question: “Where do I place my trust? In power, in friends, in money? In the Lord!”.

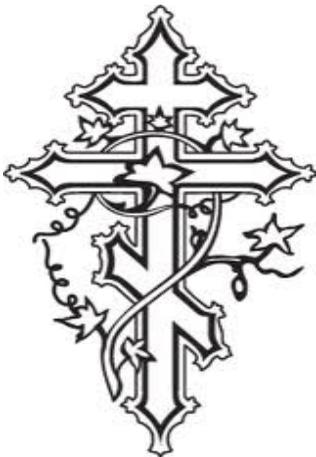
Thus it is this “legacy that the Lord promises us: ‘I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord’. Humble because they feel they are sinners; poor because their heart is attached to God’s treasures, and if they have them it is only to administer them; seeking refuge in the Lord because they know that the Lord alone can guarantee what is good for them”. This is why Jesus had to tell the chief priests, “who did not understand these things”, that “a harlot would enter the kingdom of God before them”. And, the Pontiff concluded, as we await the Lord this Christmas, let us ask that he give us “a humble heart”, a heart that is “poor” and above all that seeks “refuge in the Lord”, because “the Lord never disappoints”.

## Theologian of the Trinity

DID YOU MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS today? Or say a prayer to the Holy Trinity? Eastern Christians and most Western ones as well did so. Few recognize, however, that we have St Gregory the Theologian to thank for expressing with such clarity the Church’s teaching on the Triune nature of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

### Scholar and Ascetic

Raised in a devout and well-to-do Christian family in Cappadocia (his father was the bishop of Nazianzos), Gregory (329-389) received a superior classical education in Cappadocia, then in Alexandria and finally in Athens, the Oxford or Harvard of his day. In Athens he befriended two fellow students who affected his life in vastly different ways. The first, whom we know as St. Basil the Great, became a friend and mentor. When the second, Julian the Apostate, became emperor he sought to restore paganism in the



empire thus becoming Gregory's enemy.

Besides studying rhetoric and Greek philosophy, Gregory and Basil also studied the existing Christian literature. They collaborated on a *Philokalia* or anthology of the writings of Origen and shared an interest in asceticism and monasticism. At the completion of his studies Gregory taught rhetoric for a time then joined Basil in the community which he had organized in Pontus. Gregory's father wanted him to assist in pastoring the Church at Nazianzos and ordained his son a presbyter. Gregory was reluctant to leave his solitude in Pontus but found his place in the Lord's service at Nazianzos. That Church had been divided by theological differences but Gregory was able through his skillful oratory and tactful approach to reconcile the opposing groups. He would use these same abilities to confront the persistent problem of Arianism in the wider Church.

## **Gregory and Arianism**

The First Ecumenical Council (AD 325), following the lead of St Athanasius, had clarified the Church's faith in the unity of the Father and the Son in the face of the Arian challenge. The Arians continued to dominate the Church in certain areas even after the council, due in great measure to the support of two pro-Arian emperors, Constantius and Valens. St Gregory would be the one who turned the tide against them in the Christian East.

From the mid 360s Gregory and Basil were involved in combating Arianism in Cappadocia, including public debates with the agents of Emperor Valens. The two were successful and, in 369, Basil was chosen to become Archbishop of Caesarea, the provincial capital. In 372 Basil created a bishopric in Sasima and persuaded Gregory to become its bishop. Basil was "stacking the deck" in support of his position in the local controversies.

Gregory resented being sent to what he would later describe as an "utterly dreadful, pokey little hole; a paltry horse-stop on the main road ... devoid of water, vegetation, or the company of gentlemen ... this was my Church of Sasima!"

Gregory's stay there was very short as later the same year his father became ill and Gregory returned to Nazianzos to assist him in his final days. When his father died in 374 Gregory refused to succeed him. Instead he retired to a monastery in Seleukia where he remained for three years. Under Emperor Valens the Church in Constantinople had come firmly under Arian control. In 378 Valens died and was succeeded by Theodosios I, a strong supporter of the Nicene Council. The supporters of Nicaea were encouraged to return and they requested Gregory's help in reestablishing the Nicene faith in their Church. Gregory reluctantly agreed and established a chapel in his cousin's villa where he taught Nicene Orthodoxy. He endured much opposition and even physical attacks for almost two years. Finally Theodosios decided to expel the Arians once and for all and appointed Gregory as Archbishop of Constantinople.

The emperor also resolved to further clarify the Church's teachings. In 381 he convoked the Second Ecumenical Council (I Constantinople). Gregory was a controversial figure at the council over which he briefly presided. He was frequently challenged and ultimately resigned his see. "I was not happy when I ascended the throne," he told the council, "and gladly would I descend it." He returned to Nazianzos but resigned that office in 383 because of poor health and retired to his family's estate where he lived in seclusion until his death in 389.

## **Gregory as Theologian**

Gregory's writings, especially his five Triadic Homilies, did much to affirm the Nicene Council's teachings on the Trinity. He was one of the first to attempt a systematic theology of the one God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Gregory was particularly instrumental in clarifying Orthodox teaching on the Holy Spirit, affirming that He was of one essence with the Father and the Son. "If he has the same rank as I have," Gregory taught, "how can he make me God, or how can he join me with deity?" He affirmed that salvation is nothing less than a sharing in the transforming presence of the Holy Spirit who makes the light of God present in the world. Gregory was also the first to speak of the Spirit as proceeding from the Father, a concept which the Second Council would add to the Nicene Creed.

Since "theology" in the usage of the day referred to the specific study of God, and since Gregory's teachings on the subject were so seminal, the Fourth Ecumenical Council (Chalcedon) accorded Gregory the title "*The Theologian*." In Eastern Christianity only John the Theologian, first-century author of the fourth Gospel, and Symeon the New Theologian, eleventh-century teacher on the Holy Spirit's presence within the believer, have received this recognition.

## **Gregory as Poet**

Gregory often wrote in the forms of classical Greek poetry. Later writers in turn would recast Gregory's teachings in their own poetry. Thus the beginning of his Paschal Homily below would become part of St John of Damascus' Paschal Canon which we still use at Orthros on Pascha.

"Yesterday, I was crucified with Him; Today, I am glorified with Him;

Yesterday, I died with Him; Today I am quickened with Him;

Yesterday, I was buried with Him; Today, I rise with Him....

"Let us offer ourselves, the possession most precious to God, and most fitting. Let us give back the image that is made after the Image. Let us recognize our Dignity; let us honor our Archetype. Let us know the power of the Mystery and for what Christ died. Let us become like Christ, since Christ has become like us. Let us become gods for His sake, since He for ours became Man."

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## **Stations of the Cross: *will be held at 3:00pm***

**Forgiveness Vespers-** Sunday February 7<sup>th</sup> at Protection of the Mother of God , McAdoo

### **Stations of the Cross:**

Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at Patronage of the Mother of God, Marion Heights.

Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Nicholas , St. Clair

Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at St. John's, Maizeville

Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at SS Peter & Paul, Mt. Carmel

Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at St. Michael's , Shenandoah

Saunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Nicholas, Minersville

## 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.

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## Weekly Contributions

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**Parishes Weekly Income:** **St. Michael:** Contributions - \$ 1,792.51 Construction - \$1,050.00 Thank You!

**St. Nicholas:** Contributions - \$ 2,556.50 Cemetery - \$68.00 Thank You!

**Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-** In gratitude for all blessings from Our Lord Jesus Christ

**Sanctuary Light: St. Michael-** Praise the Lord!

**Seven Branch Candlestick-** God's Blessings for & in Memory of the Blaschak & Wolfe Families

**4 Lamps of the Iconostas –** God's Blessing on my Family & the People of St. Michael's.

**Lamps of the Crucifix**

**Lights of the Tetrapod-**

**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\*

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

### St. Nicholas

Helen Salak

Margaret Skrincosky

Mary Mistishen

Joseph Luckenbill

Peter Kadingo

Jeanette Stock

Mary Kadingo

Metro & Helen Tarris

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

Check out our updated website at [www.first-ukrainian.com](http://www.first-ukrainian.com)