

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

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Follow us on twitter @ stmichaelukr

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

Sunday, February 28th 2016 Third Sunday of the Great Fast- Veneration of the Cross

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 27 th	3:30pm 2 nd Anniversary +Anna Smetana by Children
Sunday, February 28 th	10:30am God's Blessings on His People 3:00pm Stations of the Cross –St. John's -Maizeville
Monday, February 29 th	8:00am Typica
Wednesday, March 2nd	8:30am Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts & Syrokousty (Time Change) 6:30pm Prayer Group
Thursday, March 3 rd	8:00am Typica
Saturday, March 5 th	3:30pm + Mary Lazusky & +Anna Lefchick by Irene & Bill Mc Andrew
Sunday, March 6 th	10:30am 40 th Day + Edna Unuscavage by Diane, Sammy & John 3:00pm Stations of the Cross – Ss Peter & Paul, Mt. Carmel

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 27 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Michael Skrincosky by Brother, Andrew & Anna Skrincosky
Sunday, February 28 th	8:30am + John Yaroshak by Jim & Alexandra Cuono & Family 3:00pm Stations of the Cross – St. John's -Maizeville
Tuesday, March 1 st	9:00am Typica
Friday, March 4th	4:00pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts & Syrokousty (Time Change)
Saturday, March 5 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Mary Panchison by Elaine Naradko
Sunday, March 6 th	8:30am God's Blessings on His People 3:00pm Stations of the Cross – St. John's -Maizeville

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, February 27 th	Heb 4:14-5:6	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, February 28 th	Heb 4:14-5:6	Michelle Caputo
Saturday, March 5 th	Heb 6:13-20	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, March 6 th	Heb 6:13-20	Paul Caputo

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, February 27 th	Heb 4:14-5:6	Mike Prokop
Sunday, February 28 th	Heb 4:14-5:6	Theresa Panchison
Saturday, March 5 th	Heb 6:13-20	David Toth
Sunday, March 6 th	Heb 6:13-20	LeeAnn Smulligan

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Pierogie Sale Our next sale is in March 7th and we are already sold out. We could really use your help at the next sale.

Lenten Confessions will be Wednesday, March 15th at St. Michael's.

Soup Sale – Our soup sale was a big success. Thank you to everyone who donated their soups & the containers, their generosity made this a pure profit fundraiser. Our current total is \$570.00 but we have more soup to sell. There are still frozen soups available; Lasagna, Cabbage, Bean w/ Ham, Zuppa Toscana, Potato, Chicken Noodle and Kapusnak w/Pork. If interested please see Steffy or Nancy after Liturgy. The soups will be \$6.00 a quart. Thanks again to everyone for their hard work!

Easter Bread Sale – **LAST WEEKEND FOR ORDERS** _ Nut, Poppy, Apricot & Poppy/ Raisin rolls \$13.00 each . Paska with or without raisins \$8.50. Orders Only- Deadline March 1st. pick up Saturday March 19th at 12 noon. order forms in the back of the church or call the rectory. Help needed on Pick- up day , please see Fr. if you can help.

Donations to the Construction Account were made in Memory of Edna Unuscavage by Nancy Sawka & Helen & John Sims. Thank you.

Easter Basket Raffle- Raffle tickets are being sold for a Traditional Easter Basket, the basket will include: Ham, Kielbasi, Bacon, Horseradish, Pascha, Butter, Salt , Eggs, Cheese & a Candle. Drawing Palm Sunday. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. See Nancy or Steffy after Divine Liturgy to purchase tickets .

Blood Drive –. Wednesday, March 2nd 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm Please Donate Blood In Memory Of Stanley Leonarczyk St. Michael Church Hall 300 West Oak Street - Shenandoah Sponsored by St. Michael Ukrainian Church Open To The Public - Walk-Ins Welcome! For An Appointment, Please Visit redcrossblood.org Or Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). All Presenting Donors Will Receive A Saint Patrick's Day T-Shirt- while supplies last

St. Nicholas:

Lenten Confessions will be Thursday, March 17th at St. Nicholas

Sanctuary Light – Available Dates- 3/27, 4/3,4/10,4/17, & 4/24.

Both Churches:

Food for the poor- Please, help by donating to our food pantry. Non- expired, Non-perishable foods are needed. Personal hygiene products, toilet paper and paper towels, laundry detergent etc.. Diapers and wipes are also welcome. Thank you for your giving spirit.

Divine Liturgy- on March 25th, the Feast of the Annunciation, a holy day of obligation, occurs on Good Friday. Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom, concluding with the procession and placement in the tomb of the Plaschanitza is to be celebrated on Good Friday.

Graduates- If you have someone graduating from Kindergarten, 8th Grade, High school , College, Vocational School or Advanced Educational Programs, please let us know . We would like to have a Divine Liturgy in their honor in June and would like to recognize them. Please contact the rectory and include a list of their accomplishments, where the plan to attend or work etc. If you have any questions please contact the rectory.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE. To be held on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. This year Dr. Scott Hahn, Msgr. Charles Pope, and Michael McGlynn will be the speakers. The Bishop of Scranton (Bishop Joseph Bambera) will celebrate the closing mass for the day. For on-line information and to register go to: www.BeAManConference.com or, for other questions, go to: Office for Parish Life (570) 207-2213 or contact Mike Kilmer (570) 746-0100 or michaelkilmer71@gmail.com

Lenten Fish Bake-Ss. Peter and Paul, Mt. Carmel is sponsoring a Lenten Fish Bake on Friday, March 4th from 3:00pm to 6:00pm in the Church social hall. Dinner includes: Baked Haddock, Mac & Cheese, Stewed Tomato's, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Coffee or Tea. Soft drinks & Desserts will be available for an additional charge. This is a Pre-Order Only Event. Tickets are \$8.00 eat in or \$8.25 Takeout. Tickets can be purchased or reserved by calling the parish office at 570-339-0650

Stations of the Cross: will be held at 3:00pm *Sunday, February 28th at St. John's, Maizeville *Sunday, March 6th at SS Peter & Paul, Mt. Carmel *Sunday, March 13th at St. Michael's , Shenandoah *Sunday, March 20th at St. Nicholas, Minersville

Metropolitan Stefan All are Invited to Attend. On Holy Thursday March 24, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, together with archieparchial priests, will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at 10:30 a.m. in the golden-domed Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia, Pa. This Divine Liturgy commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. At this Divine Liturgy, Metropolitan Stefan will perform the traditional washing of the feet and the Holy Chrism will also be consecrated. All the faithful are invited and encouraged to attend this Divine Liturgy on Holy Thursday in our Cathedral in Philadelphia during this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Women as Caregivers- Sunday March 6, 2016 at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington D.C. or April 24th 2016 at St. Vladimir Ukr. Catholic Church at 430-Noth Seventh Ave, Scranton Pa. Come join the women of the Archeparchy as our speakers address, within the framework of Sacred Scripture and the tenets of Eastern Christian Spirituality, the pastoral and practical aspects of caring for family members with special need and of suggestions for caregivers on how to care for themselves spiritually, pastorally & practically. Both sessions begin at 10:30. to register please pick up a form at the rectory or the back of the church

Lenten Dinners - Divine Mercy Parish is sponsoring three Lenten Dinners which will be held at St. Stephen Church Hall 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM. All dinners will be take out only. The choices will be a fish platter, a devil crab platter or chicken finger platter. Cost of each platter: \$ 8.00. All dinners will be catered by A & C Catering, Mahanoy City You may contact the rectory for an order form .

Lenten Dinners- St. John's in Pottsville will be sponsoring their annual Lenten Dinners, Fridays during Lent from 4 to 7pm in the Russell Building at 9th & Schuylkill Ave. Dinners include NE Clam Chowder, Salad, Choice of Mac. & Cheese, Baked or Mashed Potato, Vegetable, Dessert, Beverage. Adult meals are \$13.00 for Baked Haddock/Salmon/Crab Cake or \$16.00 for 2 Crab Cakes or Adult Special of Crab Cake & Choice of Fish. \$8.00 Children (under 12) Baked Fish / Salmon / Crab Cake

Special Offerings at the Basilian Spirituality Center:

Msgr. Peter D. Waslo, a priest of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia, currently is Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal of Philadelphia and serves as Chaplain for the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great, Manor College, and St. Basil Academy. He will offer The Byzantine Understanding of the Old Testament, a program that looks at various topics: creation, sin, hope, compassion, etc. in the milieu of the theology of the Byzantine Tradition in light of today on February 28, March 6, and March 13 from 2-4 PM.

LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS OF AMERICA ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT March 11 to 13, 2016 ST. MARY'S VILLA RETREAT CENTER, SLOATSBURG, NY This year's theme is "Merciful, like the Father". This is the motto of Pope Francis' Jubilee Year of Mercy. It is a time of exploring the meaning of mercy and our allowing God's unconditional love and limitless mercy to transform our lives. We will explore prayer and forgiveness and our own ability to reconcile and forgive as well as expand our capacity to trust. This spiritual event will be our "door to mercy" through which we choose to pass, trusting in the power and love and mercy of God to transform our lives. Retreat Director is Archpriest Father Daniel Troyan.

IHM Sisters-Everyone in all of our local parishes is cordially invited to "Vocation-Storytelling with the IHM Sisters" on Wednesday, March 9, at 6:30 in Divine Mercy Church in Shenandoah. Trinity Academy's IHM Sisters will share their personal vocation stories using slides and story-sharing. Afterwards, refreshments consisting of some of the Sisters' favorite foods will be served in the school hall for all to enjoy. A free-will offering to support the "IHM Sisters' Are Worth More Than A Million (Pennies)" collection would be appreciated! Please come out and support our local Religious IHM Sisters--their beautiful stories will inspire you!

Third Sunday

Today is “Shot in the Arm Sunday” – a day on which the Church encourages us to keep up our practice of the Fast by displaying the precious cross. We look at the cross and remember what the Fast is all about: God’s gift of Himself for us.

We do not focus on Christ’s sufferings today as we do in Holy Week. Instead we look at the effect of His saving death. Every day this week the Church prays the following: “The angel’s fiery sword will no longer guard the gate of Paradise for the cross of the Lord has put it out wondrously. The power of Death has been broken, the victory of Hades wiped out and You, my Savior, have stood up and called out to all those bound in hell: ‘Come now; enter into Paradise.’”

We express our faith in the joyful victory of Christ over Death by surrounding the cross with flowers. In many churches people take one of these flowers home and put it in their icon corner as a reminder of Christ’s triumph. We are no longer captive to the power of Death which has been defeated by the cross.

- If you have a cross at home, decorate it with flowers today.
- Take a cross to church and participate in the procession and veneration of the cross.
- In the hymn above we hear: “The angel’s fiery sword will no longer guard the gate of Paradise.” To what does this refer? Read Genesis 3:24 to find out. Then read all of Genesis chapter 3 to learn more.

We bow in worship before Your cross, O Master, and we give praise to Your holy resurrection.

Fourth Monday

We all like some physical expression of our inner feelings. In our personal lives we exchange flowers or jewelry; in our public life we fly the flag on civil holidays, decorate pumpkins in the fall or display harvest fruits on Thanksgiving. Even non-Christians decorate Christmas trees as signs of mid-winter cheer.

Like the Jews when the Temple was still standing, both Eastern and Western Churches offer incense in their services as an expression of their prayer. Psalm 140 gives us the meaning: “Let my prayer rise like incense before You: the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice” (v.2). As the smoke of the burning incense goes up in the air, may our prayers go to God and be accepted. Eastern Christians also burn incense at home in small hand censers.

Some people do so every Sunday or feast day, taking the censer from room to room, sanctifying the entire house.

The Presanctified Liturgy during the Great Fast contains a solemn incensation of the holy place while Psalm 140:2 is sung. Burn incense in your icon corner chanting this verse as part of your family Lenten evening prayer time (see Lenten prayer page).

- Learn to chant Psalm 140:2 as sung in your parish.

Let my prayer rise like incense before You: the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Fourth Tuesday

As we continue to observe the Great Fast we draw strength from our spiritual ancestors who were known for their fasting. In the time before Christ three Old Testament figures come to mind. We see how they fasted and in what their fasts resulted.

In the Bible we read that Moses "... was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments. When Moses came down from Mount Sinai... the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God" (Exodus 34:28-29).

When Elijah had destroyed the power of the idol-worshipping priests of Baal he fled from the forces of the queen Jezebel who had protected them. During his flight Elijah fasted for forty days and forty nights journeying to Mount Horeb. There he was rewarded by experiencing the presence of God and receiving directions from Him (see 1 Kings 19).

Just before we read the story of Christ's ministry in the Gospel we learn about the preaching of St John the Baptist. He lived in the wilderness, eating only "locusts and wild honey" (Mt 3:4), the simplest foods found in nature. The Lord said that John was the greatest of the prophets.

□ Fasting was one of the difficult choices these prophets made following God. Talk about other difficult choices people have made for God.

Let my prayer rise like incense before You: the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Fourth Wednesday

Have you attended the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts during this Fast? Then you noticed how the first half of this service is a Lenten vespers. The second half is a Communion service modeled in part on the Divine Liturgy... with one essential difference.

After the usual litanies there is a Great Entrance. In this Entrance there are no gifts of bread and wine carried to the holy table. Instead it is the Gifts sanctified last Sunday which are carried and we sing: "Behold, the completed mystical sacrifice in procession!" People bow and prostrate before the Eucharist as the procession enters the holy place.

The service continues with the litany before the Lord's Prayer. The entire heart of the Divine Liturgy is skipped – the Creed, the anaphora, the offering and consecration of the Gifts – because the Gifts we receive at this service are "pre-sanctified." The rest of the service follows much of the usual form of the Liturgy.

When we find ourselves tired by Lenten fasting we should remember that Christ is there in the Presanctified Gifts to refresh us spiritually and renew our commitment to Him through the Great Fast.

Let my prayer rise like incense before You: the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Fourth Thursday

During the Great Fast we are called to increased sharing of what we have received. For many people, especially in families, their most jealously guarded treasure is time. People use precooked eggs and bacon or precut salad greens to save a few moments. Our almsgiving should certainly include giving of this precious treasure.

Much of our time is spent at (or preparing for) work or school. We spend some time on Church, family and social responsibilities. But we also "kill time" on TV, games or hobbies. Can some of that time be given to God?

Reflect on how much time each day is given to the various aspects of your life. Then focus on how much time is given to recreation: sports, movies, etc. Finally determine how much time is given to God and others.

Each person's state in life determines how much spare time is at their disposal. Students and retired people, for example, probably have more free time than working parents, so each person's answer will be different. In any case, each person's gift of time is unique – because you are the only one who can give it.

We frequently put off giving of our time to God and others, assuming that we'll get around to it. But none of us knows exactly how much time God has actually given to us. Use today for Him – we may not have a tomorrow.

Make a 24-hour pie chart of your average day to determine where your time goes. See how much of your day can be available for God and others.

Let my prayer rise like incense before You: the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Fourth Friday

The Gospels tell us that signs and wonders were an important part of the Lord Jesus' work on earth. By doing things that people ordinarily could not do He led people to see Him as especially close to God. They came to see Him as more than a wise teacher. Some saw Him as a prophet; others came to believe that He was the Messiah.

In Mark 4:35-41 we read how the Lord calmed the troubled sea during a storm. The startled disciples, who had thought they were going to drown, began wondering, "Who this can be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?"

Note that the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke often tell the same story, sometimes with little differences. This means that such stories were cherished in many early Church communities as important details in their picture of Jesus. Read Matthew 8:23-27 and Luke 8:22-25 and compare their versions with Mark's.

When people saw the great things that Jesus was doing they worshipped God who gave Him such power. Talk about some ways that we worship God and why.

Not everyone thought Jesus was from God. Read Mt 12:24-28 to see what some Pharisees felt was the source of His power. How did Jesus react?

In Church we pray that the Lord exercise His power over water today by transforming it, making it holy. Obtain holy water from church and drink it at your time of prayer.

Let my prayer rise like incense before You: the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Fourth Saturday

At every Divine Liturgy, vespers and other services we remember two groups of people to whom we are all indebted: the clergy of our Church and those who work in the service of our country: its public servants, its government and its armed forces. On Saturdays we have been praying for the dead; today let us remember our departed clergy and public servants.

Begin the list with our departed former hierarchs. List any departed priests and deacons who had served at your parish or school. List any parishioners who may have died in the service of our country.

Place this list in your icon corner.

Light a candle and offer this prayer for them:

O our Savior, the Giver of life, bring to their eternal rest our fathers and brethren whom You have taken from this passing world, for they lift up their voices, crying, "O Lord, glory to You!"

Let my prayer rise like incense before You: the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice..

Don't wait to cram for finals. Read the Bible now!

Feb 28: Pilgrimage of the Heart



In proclaiming the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis invites us to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica or to one of the Holy Doors in cathedrals and designated churches throughout the world.

There is another kind of pilgrimage we can make, one that doesn't involve travel. We can make a pilgrimage of the heart this year.

We've already started out on the Lenten journey, a kind of pilgrimage whose destination is the glorious resurrection of Christ.

During such a pilgrimage, we endeavor to come closer to Christ. It happened to St. Paul during his now-famous journey to Damascus, where he had been planning to continue his persecution of Christians. But Christ caught him up short, and Saul was transformed to Paul—a new man.

Saint John Chrysostom says this about Paul's conversion: "The most important thing was that he knew himself to be loved by Christ. Enjoying this love, he considered himself happier than anyone else."

Our entire life, in fact, is a pilgrimage during which we seek to learn the ways of God. This is why the Psalmist says: "When will I come to the end of my pilgrimage and enter the presence of God?"

Our prayer today: *Merciful Jesus, we pray to become more and more aware, like St. Paul, of how much we are loved by you.*

(The image is the Hill of Crosses, a Lithuanian pilgrimage site symbolic of the nation's Catholic faith and national identity)

Easter Memorials— a wonderful way to remember those that hold a special place in your heart.

Please have your request submitted by Monday March 21st. You may place them in the collection basket or contact the rectory. Thank –you. Please Print

In memory of (deceased)

In honor of (living)

Given by

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 - \$1,674.50 Construction - \$140.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contributions - \$1,328.00 Cemetery - \$525.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- In Memory of +Michael & +Mary Uranium by Daughter Mary Ann

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael- God's Blessings on the People of St Michael's and their Fundraising Efforts.

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

4 Lamps of the Iconostas – God's Blessings on my Family during this Lenten Season.

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
Annie Cragen
Irene Yaroma

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