

**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

Follow us on twitter @ stmichaelukr

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

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**Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

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**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3:30pm God's Blessings on His People
Sunday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am +Michael Krajcirik by Theresa Krajcirik
<b>Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:30am</b> God's Blessings on Howard Wildey & Family
Wednesday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +Ann Wildey
	6:30pm Prayer Group
<b>Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary</b>
	3:30pm +Mr & +Mrs Michael Uranium by Daughter, Mary Ann
Sunday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	10:30am +Anna Thomas by John & Dolores Sion

**SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary
	5:30pm +Steve Mistysyn by Elizabeth Jansson
Sunday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am + John Yaroshak by Dr & Mrs Michael Halupa
Monday, April 25 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am 35 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary +Rose Prokop by Mike & Susan Prokop
Thursday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Weiss Daily Families- Legacy Liturgy
<b>Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus</b>
Saturday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm +Steve Mistysyn by Jeanette & Thomas Stock
Sunday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	8:30am God's Blessings on His People

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

Saturday, April 23rd	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, April 24th	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Charles Calise
Saturday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 16:16-34	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Acts 13:16-34	Alice Breznik

**St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, April 23rd	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Andrew Skrincosky
Sunday, April 24th	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	Susan Miller
Saturday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 16:16-34	Christine Romanko
Sunday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Acts 13:16-34	Lauralee Sadusky

**“Don't make me come down there.” – God**

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

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

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**Sanctuary Light**- Available Dates 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/22, 5/29, 6/12 6/26, 7/3 & 8/7 If you are interested in these candles, please sign up at the back of the Church.

**Candles Available**- Candles are available. Lamps or the Iconostas (\$12) , Tetrapod (\$6), Crucifix(\$6) are all available for may dates in the future. Please contact the rectory if interested.

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

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**Sanctuary Light** – Available Dates- 5/15, 7/3, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31.

**Divine Liturgies**- We have a backlog of Divine Liturgies that have not been able to be scheduled. We would like to send some of these requests to other priests so that prayers and intentions for your loved ones be addressed as quickly as possible. Msgr. will approach some of you about this issue, or you may contact the rectory if we may forward your requests. Thank you.

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

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**Food for the poor- WE NEED YOUR HELP – OUR CUPBOARDS ARE BARE** ☹ 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.

**Catholic Home Missions Appeal**- Many dioceses right here in the United States do not have enough priests and trained lay ministers to serve their parishes. These dioceses are known as *home missions*. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which will take place this weekend in the second collection, supports these dioceses by funding essential ministries, including seminary education and lay ministry training. Please be generous in this appeal and share your resources to strengthen the Church at home. **Please use the envelopes in the back of the church or those handed out last week . Our Chancery receives a grant from the Catholic Home Missions on a yearly basis- this grant is used for Seminary, Vocations, Communications ( the Way, website etc.) Mission Parishes, Human Life Ministries, Religious Education, Evangelization & Youth Ministries. EVERY DOLLAR YOU DONATE COUNTS-** Thank you for your generosity !

- Did you know that almost half of the United States is considered Mission Territory? Check out this map of mission territory and learn more! Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal at Mass on April 23-24! #ChurchAtHome <http://ow.ly/ZLPzH>

**Graduates**- The Divine Liturgy in Honor of our Graduates at both Churches on Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you have someone graduating from Kindergarten, 6th Grade, 8th Grade, High school, College, Vocational School or Advanced Educational Programs, please let us know so that we might recognize their accomplishments. 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.

***Thank-you to all the volunteers from both churches! Your fundraising efforts, cleaning, church repairs & improvements and so many more things you do have not gone unnoticed! Thank you for your heartfelt gifts to the church. You are blessings to these parishes!***

**Ukrainian Day- Pictures Needed!**- The Ukrainian Day Committee is requesting that if you have pictures of Seminary Day at LAKEVIEW PARK that you please bring them in so we can scan the pictures and return them to you. If you know the people in the picture, please include that information with your pictures. The Committee requests that all submissions be received by the end of April. Your help with this project is appreciated.

**UKRAINIAN DAY MEETING:** The first planning meeting for the upcoming 82nd Annual Ukrainian Day is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 10th at St. Michael's Hall in Frackville beginning at 7:00PM.** This is a very important meeting as we begin to lay the groundwork for this year's event. The faithful from all the parishes of our deanery are cordially invited to attend, to offer input and suggestions and to convey information back to each parish. Please feel free to bring your children along as there will be supervised activities for them during the meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity to get involved, get to know each other and support a very important cause---our seminary. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend. Refreshments will be served following the meeting. We hope to see you there!

**Roast Beef or Stuffed Boneless Chicken Breast Dinner** on Sunday, May 1st from 11:00am to 1:30 pm in St. Stephen Church Hall, corner of East Oak St. & South Main St. You will have a choice of Roast Beef or Stuffed Boneless Chicken Breast. Each dinner will include: Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cole Slaw & Roll. The cost of the dinner will be \$ 8.00 - take out only. The dinner will be provided by A & C Catering. Order forms are available at the parish office, 108 West Cherry St., Shenandoah, PA. Any questions, please call the office at 570-462-1968.

**SUMMER CAMP** What: Summer Camp for Children Age 8-13 "Vacation with God: Embroidery for Jesus Christ" When: August 15 – 19, 2016 (8:30 AM – 3:30 PM) Where Basilian Spirituality Center, 710 Fox Chase Road, Fox Chase Manor, PA 19046 Sponsored by: The Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great in cooperation with the Saint Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics, Inc. The camp seeks to pass on both aspects of Ukrainian spirituality and cultural tradition. During this "year of mercy" the children will weave into their design the aspects of mercy – love, forgiveness, compassion, sacrifice and justice. The day includes catechesis, songs, crafts, embroidery and fun. For more information contact 215.379.3998

**God's Mercy given through Care for the Elderly** ; Compassionate and quality care of our elderly parents and family members is offered by the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate at St. Joseph's Home in Sloatsburg, N.Y. The need for such facilities among our elderly parents and family members, and within our Ukrainian American community is great. The addition of a new wing and the upgrading of the existing facilities will enable the Sisters Servants to offer elevated medical care and service for the elderly. There will be increased capacity to admit more people needing care. The Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate have historically offered such quality and compassionate care throughout our history in America (75 years in 2017). We need to help them to continue to fulfill this mission and to enable a much needed expansion of St. Joseph's Home in Sloatsburg. Please help by providing your generous donation to enable the building of the expanded facility to care for our elderly. Please choose to be an instrument of God's mercy for those who are in need of His care. Thank you! Kindly send your (tax deductible) donation to: St. Joseph's Adult Care Home, Inc. P.O. Box 8 Sloatsburg, New York 10974

*Thanks Mom* **Celebrate the Women who have touched your life !**  
*Mother's Day Memorials & Intentions*

*In Memory of (deceased)*

*In Honor of (living)*

*Given By*

**PLEASE SUBMIT BY TUESDAY MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>**

# POPE FRANCIS

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

## *The lifeblood- Thursday, 7 April 2016*

(by *L'Osservatore Romano*, Weekly ed. in English, n. 15, 15 April 2016)

The Church needs the witness of martyrs, of “consistent” Christians who “live their life in earnest”. In his reflection during Mass at Santa Marta on Thursday morning, Pope Francis pondered the vital lymph of the Church, the “lifeblood” which carries her forth day by day: testimony.

His meditation was inspired by the liturgy of the day, beginning with the first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles (5:27-33), which presents “a passage from this long narrative” that began when John and Peter healed “the lame man who was at the beautiful door of the temple”. Everyone, the Pontiff recalled, “saw this healing”, and no one could deny that it was exceptional, because “everyone knew this 40-year-old man”. Yet the leaders, the priests, were angry and forbade the Apostles “to teach, to preach in Jesus’ name”. They ordered Jesus’ name never to be used, using “this man” instead. They stated: “you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you intend to bring this man’s blood upon us”. They were challenged by a reality that “everyone was facing. Everyone knew the lame man for many years, and now they see him dancing for joy, praising God, because he has been healed”.

Peter stood before them, “strong in his testimony”. The Pope then recalled, by contrast, the different attitude Peter had taken when he denied Christ: “let us think about the cowardly Peter”, Francis said, on “the night of Holy Thursday, when, filled with fear, he denied the Lord three times”. On the contrary, in this new circumstance the Apostle affirms: “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior... and we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him”. We have to say: “How courageous!”. Francis then remarked: “This Peter has nothing to do with Thursday’s Peter, nothing!”. This Peter is “a Peter full of strength, who testifies”.

But that courageous testimony has consequences: “At hearing these things they — the leaders, the high priests — become angry and want to put him to death”. After all, the Pope explained, “Christian testimony” follows “the same path as Jesus: giving one’s life. In one way or another, true testimony puts life at stake”.

At this point the Pontiff delved into the concept of testimony, beginning with a question: “Why had Peter become so strong in his testimony?”. After healing the lame man, the Apostle said: “We cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard”. In other words, Francis explained, “consistency between life and what we see and hear, is precisely where testimony begins”. But, he added, Christian testimony has another feature: “it is not only about the one who gives it: Christian testimony is always done in pairs”. St Peter explains this: “we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit”. Thus, “without the Holy Spirit there is no Christian testimony. Because Christian testimony, Christian life, is a grace that the Lord gives us with the Holy Spirit” and “without the Spirit we cannot bear witness”. Consistency is a fundamental characteristic: “a witness is one who is consistent in what he says, what he does and what he has received, that is, the Holy Spirit”.

One such understanding also comes from the Gospel (Jn 3:31-36). In this regard the Pope recalled the passage in which Jesus speaks to a disciple who comes to him by night. Jesus states that the one who is sent by God “speaks the words of God. He does not ration his gift of the Spirit”. Likewise, “the one who comes from heaven... testifies to what he has seen and heard”. This is the very testimony of Jesus: “He testifies to what he has seen and heard with the Spirit whom he gives to his disciples”. This, the Pope explained, “is Christian courage, this is testimony”.

This testimony, the Pope said, is what we find in “our martyrs today, so many forced from their land, displaced, slaughtered, persecuted”. They “have the courage to profess Jesus right up to the moment of death”. But it is also the testimony “of those Christians who live their life in earnest and say: ‘I cannot do this, I cannot do harm to another; I cannot cheat; I cannot live life halfway; I must give my testimony’”. It all boils down to a single concept: testimony is saying what in faith “is seen and heard, namely, the Risen Jesus”, with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

So often, Francis added, “in difficult times throughout history” it has been said: “Today the country needs heroes”. On a similar note we can ask: “What does the Church need today?”. The answer is: “witnesses, martyrs”, those “everyday saints”, those who “live ordinary life with consistency”, but also those who have the courage to be “witnesses to the very end, unto death”. They all are “the lifeblood of the Church”. They are, the Pope continued, “the ones who lead the Church forward, witnesses; those who testify that Jesus is risen, that Jesus lives, and they testify with consistency in life and with the gift of the Holy Spirit”.

In conclusion the Pontiff prayed “that the Lord give us, all of us, this courage and above all faithfulness to the Holy Spirit whom he has given to us”.

## **Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**



### **Introduction**

The fifth Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Eastern Church as the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. The day commemorates the encounter of Christ with the Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well. The biblical story of this event and the dialog between Christ and the woman is found in the Gospel of Saint John 4:5-42.

### **Background**

One of the most ancient cities of the Promised Land was Shechem, also called Sikima, located at the foot of Mount Gerazim. There the Israelites had heard the blessings in the days of Moses and Jesus of Navi. Near to this town, Jacob, who had come from Mesopotamia in the nineteenth century before Christ, bought a piece of land where there was a well. This well, preserved even until the time of Christ, was known as Jacob’s Well. Later, before he died in Egypt, he left that piece of land as a special inheritance to his son Joseph (Gen. 49:22). This town, before it was taken into possession by Samaria, was also the leading city of the kingdom of the ten tribes. In the time of the Romans it was called Neapolis, and at present Nablus. It was the first city in Canaan visited by

the Patriarch Abraham. Here also, Jesus of Navi (Joshua) addressed the tribes of Israel for the last time. Almost three hundred years later, all Israel assembled there to make Roboam (Rehoboam) king.

When our Lord Jesus Christ, then, came at midday to this city, which is also called Sychar (John 4:5), He was wearied from the journey and the heat. He sat down at this well. After a little while the Samaritan woman mentioned in today's Gospel passage came to draw water. As she conversed at some length with the Lord and heard from Him secret things concerning herself, she believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

Concerning the Samaritans we know the following: In the year 721 before Christ, Salmanasar (Shalmaneser), King of the Assyrians, took the ten tribes of the kingdom of Israel into captivity, and relocated all these people to Babylon and the land of the Medes. From there he gathered various nations and sent them to Samaria. These nations had been idolaters from before. Although they were later instructed in the Jewish faith and believed in the one God, they worshipped the idols also. Furthermore, they accepted only the Pentateuch of Moses, and rejected the other books of Holy Scripture. Nonetheless, they thought themselves to be descendants of Abraham and Jacob. Therefore, the pious Jews named these Judaizing and idolatrous peoples Samaritans, since they lived in Samaria, the former leading city of the Israelites, as well as in the other towns thereabout. The Jews rejected them as heathen and foreigners, and had no communion with them at all, as the Samaritan woman observed, "the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (John 4:9). Therefore, the name Samaritan is used derisively many times in the Gospel narrations.

After the Ascension of the Lord, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the woman of Samaria was baptized by the holy Apostles and became a great preacher and Martyr of Christ; she was called Photine, and her feast is kept on February 26.

## **Icon of the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

The icon of the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman depicts the biblical story of the Christ conversing with the woman at the well. Our Lord is shown sitting beside the well, speaking with and blessing the Samaritan woman. She is shown with her right hand outstretched toward Christ, indicating both her interest in what He is saying, and also as a sign of her faith and her efforts to bring others to hear what Christ has to say. In the background of the icon, the city is visible together with the Mount Gerazim.



## **Treat yourself! Buy a Chance on the INDULGENCE BASKET!**

*Included : a blue tiffany- style lamp, a small brown dragon fly pattern tiffany-style lamp, pearl pendant necklace, a \$30.00 gift certificate to Hair Waves, A manicure & pedicure gift certificate to Alexandria's, scarves, a candle, a frame and more!*

*Basket is valued at more than \$300.00.*

Tickets available now! \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. For sale after Divine Liturgy. See Steffy , Nancy or contact the rectory! Drawing May 15<sup>th</sup> , 2016

## April 24 : All I Ask



At the Last Supper, Jesus gave us what could be called his final, “death bed” request.

It sums up the entire sense of his incarnation, teaching, passion, death and resurrection in these few words:

“Love one another.

As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.

This is how all will know that you are my disciples,

if you have love for one another.”

This might also be the greatest message of the Jubilee Year of Mercy—that we can be assured God loves us.

St. John Chrysostom, the revered Archbishop of Constantinople and Church Father, pointed out that for St. Paul, “The most important thing of all was that he knew himself to be loved by Christ. Enjoying this love, he considered himself happier than anyone else.”

There is a beautiful song often heard in our churches. Its refrain: “All I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you.”

If we can live a life rich in love for God, self and one another, as Jesus instructs, we will be blessed to have these poetic and saving words as our epitaph.

Our prayer today: *Dear Jesus, grant us the grace and perseverance to love one another as you love us.*

(Modern icon of Jesus Christ, High Priest)

## Church Information

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

**Baptisms:** Please contact the rectory to arrange a date with the pastor.

**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 - \$ 889.00 Thank You!

**St. Nicholas:** Contributions - \$ 584.00 Thank You!

**Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-** Special Intentions by Mr & Mrs Wassil Draovitch

**Sanctuary Light: St. Michael-** God's Blessings on the Home Missions Collection

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

**4 Lamps of the Iconostas –** God's Blessings & Good Health for my Friends and Family

**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 those who are shut-ins, those in need, or who are ill or suffering and all those who have requested our prayers. Please pray for those who put themselves in harm's way to serve others such as those that serve in the military protecting our country, firefighters, police, and emergency personal.*

### 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  
Jeanette Stock

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)