

**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

---

**Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 Thomas Sunday**

---

**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	3:30pm +Ralph Mohutsky by Wife & Children
Sunday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10:30am + Bishop Jaroslav Gabro
Tuesday, April 5 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am +Olga Kurilla
Wednesday, April 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +Katherine Kumis & +Stephen Crepack 6:30pm Prayer Group
Friday, April 8 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, April 9 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm +Mary & Charles Lazusky by Irene & Bill Mc Andrew
Sunday, April 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am +Joseph Lesko by William Snyder Jr.

**SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Mary Cheripka by Linda & George Cheripka
Sunday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8:30am God's Blessings on His People
Monday, April 4 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +John Plasha Jr by Marlene Plasha Dana & Family
Thursday, April 7 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +Gene Chattin by Wife, Rosie
Saturday, April 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm 40 <sup>th</sup> Day +Steve Mistysyn by Wife, Margaret & Family
Sunday, April 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am God's Blessings on His People

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

Saturday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Acts 5:12-20	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Acts 5:12-20	Sam Litwak
Saturday, April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	Michelle Caputo

**St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Acts 5:12-20	Mike Prokop
Sunday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Acts 5:12-20	Dolores Sadusky
Saturday, April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	David Toth
Sunday April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	Theresa Panchison

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

### *St. Michael:*

---

**Pierogie Sale-** The next sale is April 11<sup>th</sup>, are we are already sold out. Please come out and help with this worthy fundraiser.

**Sanctuary Light-** Available Dates 4/17, 4/24, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/22, 5/29, 6/12 6/26, 7/3 & 7/10. 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.

**Fundraising Committee Meeting –** There will be a Fundraising Committee Meeting on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> following Divine Liturgy.

### *St. Nicholas:*

---

**Sanctuary Light** – Available Dates- 5/15, 5/29, 6/19, 7/3, & 7/17.

### *Both Churches:*

---

**Food for the poor- WE NEED YOUR HELP** - 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.

**Graduates-** If you have someone graduating from Kindergarten, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, 8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](mailto:michaelkilmer71@gmail.com)

**Marriage Preparation Workshop-** on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> At Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 1204 Valley Road , Melrose Park PA . The cost of the workshop is \$140.00 which includes materials, lunch & refreshments. For more information or registration forms please see the rectory.

**Polka Spring Fling:** The Boys from Baltimore at St. Mary's Church, 94 Walnut Rd. Hamburg on Sunday April 17th. Music 1-5 pm. Doors & kitchen open at 12pm. Tickets \$25.00 includes hot buffet. Cash bar available. For tickets or more information call 610-562-7657 or [www.rc.net/allentown/stmaryhanb](http://www.rc.net/allentown/stmaryhanb)

**Catholic Home Missions Appeal-** The Catholic home missions appeal will take place next week. One way that this appeal works to support home mission dioceses in the United States is by supporting seminarian formation in poor dioceses. The blessing of seminarians places a financial burden on these dioceses, because educating each seminarian costs \$35 – \$40K per year. Your support is needed for these young men so that they might go back and serve their parishes. Please **strengthen the Church at home** by making a generous gift to next week's appeal.

**Rock bottom provides a solid foundation for building a new life.**

**The Jubilee Year of Mercy Celebration:** The pastor and parishioners of Assumption BVM Parish in Centralia extend a cordial invitation to the faithful of the parishes of the South Anthracite Deanery, their families and friends, as well as to all our neighbors, to gather in Assumption Church on Sunday, April 10th--The Sunday of the Ointment-Bearers---at 11:00AM for Divine Liturgy and "The Opening of the Doors in Commemoration of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy inaugurated by His Holiness Pope Francis, Pope of Rome, and the Solemn Blessing of Holy Water." Additionally, these ceremonies will conclude with the veneration of the historical 18th century jeweled replica of the Icon of Our Lady of Pochoiv and solemn anointing with the oil of gladness. Our Holy Father invites us to experience and to share, in a personal and intimate way, the Divine Mercy of God during this Jubilee Year. Assumption Parish has been graced to be chosen as a "place of pilgrimage" wherein special blessings can be received by all pilgrims who pass through the "doors of mercy". We open our doors to all pilgrims and look forward to praying with you on that day and throughout the remainder of the year.

**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

**Theme Basket Auction** Trinity Academy's 10th Annual Theme Basket Auction will be held Saturday, April 16, at 7 p.m. at the Annunciation BVM Hall in Frackville. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Over 100 large themed baskets, class baskets, four 1-day Disney Hopper Passes and so much more!!! Shop and drop Friday, April 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. and April 16 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Great food available night of the auction. For more information contact the school at (570) 462-3927 . Cash and credit cards accepted. Benefits Trinity Academy at the Father Walter J. Ciszek Education Center, Shenandoah.

**10th year Anniversary Gala** You are cordially invited to attend Trinity Academy's 10 year Anniversary Gala, April 23, 2016 at the Fountain Springs Country Inn, Ashland. Cocktails and Hors-D'oeuvres 5 p.m. ~Dinner 6 p.m. ~Cash Bar~Entertainment provided by "Another Side"~Semi Formal Attire~ 21 and over. Tickets are \$45 per person, \$85 per couple or \$340 per table of 8. Dinner includes your choice of stuffed chicken breast, broiled haddock or beef. Seating is limited. RSVP by April 6, 2016. For more information please contact the school at 570-462-3927 or visit our website at [www.trinitymatters.com](http://www.trinitymatters.com) for RSVP card.

## **On The Belief of Thomas by St. Gregory the Great**

Dearly beloved, what do you see in these events? Do you really believe that it was by chance that this chosen disciple was absent, then came and heard, heard and doubted, doubted and touched, touched and believed? It was not by chance but in God's providence. In a marvelous way God's mercy arranged that the disbelieving disciple, in touching the wounds of his Master's body, should heal our wounds of disbelief. The disbelief of Thomas has done more for our faith than the faith of the other disciples. As he touches Christ and is won over to belief, every doubt is cast aside and our faith is strengthened. So the disciple who doubted, then felt Christ's wounds, becomes a witness to the reality of the resurrection. Touching Christ, he cried out: "My Lord and my God." Jesus said to him: "Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed."

When Thomas saw and touched, why was he told: "You have believed because you have seen me?" Because what he saw and what he believed were different things. God cannot be seen by mortal man. Thomas saw a human being, whom he acknowledged to be God, and said: "My Lord and my God."

Seeing, he believed; looking at one who was true man, he cried out that this was God, the God he could not see. What follows is reason for great joy: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

There is here a particular reference to ourselves; we hold in our hearts One we have not seen in the flesh. We are included in these words, but only if we follow up our faith with good works. The true believer practices what he believes. But of those who pay only lip service to faith, Paul has this to say: "They profess to know God, but they deny him in their works." Therefore James says: "Faith without works is dead."

# EASTER MESSAGE OF HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV

**Most Reverend Archbishops and Bishops, Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers,  
Venerable Brothers and Sisters, Dearly Beloved in Christ of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic  
Church**

*Christ is Risen!*

*The first-born male from the virginal womb – Christ,  
who, as a man, has been called Lamb  
and unblemished, not having the stain of sin.  
He is our Pasch and, as true God, is called perfect.  
Paschal Canon, Ode 4, Second Hymn*

*Beloved in Christ!*

Once again we gather in Ukraine and throughout the world to greet one another on the glorious feast of our Lord's Resurrection: "Christ is risen!" This joyful greeting for us Christians is the beginning and end of our preaching, the core of our faith, the foundation of our hope, and fulfillment of our love. Although this is already the third time that we celebrate Christ's Pasch in the context of a new way of the cross for the Ukrainian people—war and cruelty by the forces of evil—time and again this feast renews us in the joy and hope of God's children, assured of God's victory over diabolical treachery, mendacity, and malice.

*The first-born male from the virginal womb – Christ, who, as a man, has been called Lamb*

How mysterious is the depth of divine mercy to humankind! Our Lord "did not utterly turn away from His creature, which He made, nor did He forget the work of His hands" (see Anaphora of St. Basil the Great). At a critical moment in human history the Eternal God, Creator of the Universe, quietly, without great fanfare, entered into human history in an unheard of and unexpected manner. The Only-begotten Son of God became the first-born of the Virgin from Nazareth so that, as the only Holy and Pure One, without the stain of sin, He might offer Himself as a sacrifice for our salvation.

Does God truly require human sacrifice? Certainly not! It is we, created in the image and likeness of God, who need to offer our life to God, order our life according to His commandments, and acknowledge before God that everything we are belongs to Him. The only One who was capable of offering such a perfect sacrifice to God the Father was the God-man, Jesus Christ, the Immaculate Lamb, who, even though He was Innocent, offered Himself to God on behalf of all humankind, and thus opened for us the path to eternal life by His resurrection from the dead.

*He is our Pascha and, as true God, is called perfect.*

The Pasch-Passover of the Old Testament remembers a remarkable event, when the Almighty Lord liberated His chosen people from Egyptian bondage, and the angel of death "bypassed" every home, which was marked on its doorpost by the blood of the paschal lamb. That is, in fact, the first meaning of the Hebrew word for the feast, *pesach*, which conveys the image of divine punishment "passing over," or "passing by." Thus, when we sing that Christ is "our Pasch," we magnify the One,

through whom we have been given the possibility to avoid the consequences of our sins, provided we make a determined decision to leave the captivity of sin and passions, repent and follow His Gospel. For He has saved us by His own blood! “Know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you” (1 Peter 1:18-20).

Not all are able to receive this message of salvation. To speak of the Christ-Lamb, crucified on the cross, in today’s world seems as problematic as it was in the times of the earliest Christians. This was St. Paul’s understanding when he wrote: “For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart’” (1 Corinthians 1:18-19). Even though Christ’s Gospel is being preached now for almost two thousand years, often it seems that the world, even one that calls itself “Christian,” still understands only the language of riches, affluence, power, weaponry, and might. Manifestations of the folly of the mighty of this world never disappear from the arena of history. They take on different forms: empires, reichs, unions, federations, led by individuals, who propose themselves instead of God, and impose on others their own depravation as a measure of truth.

However, in every generation there will also be those, who understand God’s ways, know how to be gentle lambs of God in the history of their people, who follow God’s gentleness, humility, meekness, spirit of sacrifice, who understand that not only do crosses and suffering pass, but that without them there is no resurrection. In our circumstances among such individuals are thousands of the best sons and daughters of our people, who sacrifice their lives for our freedom and independence. Precisely in the Risen Christ, our Unblemished Lamb, we come to understand the paschal value of their pure sacrifice, which leads us out of the house of captivity, the meaning of Ukraine’s suffering at the start of the new millennium.

Most often, it is in weakness and infirmity that God’s power and God’s wisdom is revealed. What is important is not to allow oneself to be tempted, or deceived, or discouraged in our fight, for that, against which we struggle, is merely a manifestation of the unclean spirit, who shakes, falls to the ground, foams at the mouth and convulses, for it knows that by the blood of the unblemished Paschal Lamb its end is near (see Mark 9:17-27). The Risen Christ, who through suffering and death carries us over to resurrection and eternal life, comes to us today showing us the wounds on His glorified body. As then he spoke to his frightened apostles, so today he says to us, his disciples: “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?” (Luke 24:38).

How much have we already experienced the “impossible” made possible for those, who firmly kept their faith in the Risen Lord! Seventy years ago the evil one decided once again to crucify our people and drag our Church into the grave. However, to the surprise of the entire world, she rose and became stronger than at any time in her history. At the Lviv pseudo-sobor of 1946 the enemy attempted to forcibly separate us from unity with the successor to the apostle Peter. Today we are living witness to how the blood of the martyrs and confessors of our Church has forever sealed this Catholic unity and become a force of resilience and resurrection for Ukraine, a force for the unity of its people, and a catalyst for social renewal. Indeed, through such a witnessing of faith in the resurrection an authentic unification of the Churches of Ukraine is possible, a restoration of the unity of the Churches of Kyivan Christianity, which we have received as an inheritance from Prince Volodymyr, equal-to-the-apostles.

Beloved in Christ! The Risen Lord calls us to perfection. Indeed, He Himself is the only source of every perfection—our Saviour, who completes and makes precious and lasting the fruit of our efforts. If we are still far from perfection, if our state is not yet that of which we dream, we do not have reason to abandon our effort: to build, live and struggle for God and Ukraine, for Christ is our Pasch.

I greet all of you with today's feast, or rather, with Christ's spiritual victory this day over the power of the enemy and the realm of evil. Once again to all of you, in Ukraine and throughout the world, I send my heartfelt festive greeting, and sincerely wish you the blessings of the Resurrection of our Lord, a tasty sharing of our traditional blessed egg, and a Paschal joy that is full of light.

The grace of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*Christ is risen! – Truly, He is risen!*  
+ SVIATOSLAV

Given in Kyiv at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, March 20, 2016 A.D.

### **April 3: Those Who Have Not Seen** *prepared by Mr. Peter Yaremko*



In his first letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul recounts the number of persons who saw the risen Christ. In addition to the Apostles and the women, “he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time.” [1 Cor 15: 3-8]

Even with this witness, Jesus gave great encouragement directly to us 2,000 years later when he said, “Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

But is it true that we in the 21<sup>st</sup> century cannot see Jesus? Don't we see him in the poor and the imprisoned, in the hungry and thirsty?

Pope Francis, in a 2014 general audience, reminded us: “It is through our brothers and sisters that he comes to us and makes himself known. This is what belonging to the church means.”

Perhaps we get the greatest glimpse of him in his acts of mercy, the Pope adds. When Thomas refuses to believe the other Apostles, Jesus does not abandon Thomas in his stubborn unbelief. He waits.

As St. Thomas Aquinas said: To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.

Our prayer for today: *Lord, help us always see your face in our brothers and sisters and reflect your mercy toward them through our faith.* (Image by Carl Heinrich Bloch)

# *Sunday of Saint Thomas*



The Sunday after Pascha is called the Sunday of Thomas. The name comes from the gospel that is read on this Sunday. The Gospel begins with Jesus appearing to His Disciples on the evening of His Resurrection.

When it was late that same day, the first day of the week. . . Jesus came and stood in the midst and said to them, "Peace be to you".

. . . And after eight days, his Disciples were again inside and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being closed, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be to you!" (Jn. 20:19-27)

Thomas was not present when Jesus first showed Himself to His Disciples. When the Apostles told Thomas of the Lord's appearance, he said that he would not believe until he saw Jesus Himself. Eight days later, Jesus again appeared and called Thomas to Him and showed His hands and side that Thomas might believe.

The Church remembers this gathering of the Disciples and celebrates Thomas' confession on the eighth day after the feast of The Resurrection. Thomas' brief but pointed affirmation of belief "My Lord and my God," (Jn. 20:28) is the title often given to the Icon of St. Thomas. It portrays the greatest confession of anyone in the Gospels. Thomas, who has seen Christ in His earthly existence, now is transformed to see Christ through the eyes of faith.

In the Icon, Christ shows Himself to Thomas. Christ, the dominant figure at the center, initiates the activity in the Icon as He bends toward Thomas and shows him His side. Thomas is called to see and believe. The remaining Apostles stand as witnesses to the Risen Lord. This event takes place in the upper room where the Disciples gathered, and the closed doors witness to Christ's entering even though the doors were locked. This Icon is a witness of the Resurrection. It is a witness to us and a call to believe and profess our faith in Christ, our Lord and our God.

□

*(God With Us Icon Study)*

**To the world you are just one person,  
but to one person, you may be the world.**

## 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.

---

## Weekly Contributions

---

**Parishes Weekly Income:** **St. Michael:** Contributions - \$6,693.00 Thank You!

**St. Nicholas:** Contributions - \$3,212.00 Thank You!

**Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-** In Memory of +Elmer Gulas by Wife Elizabeth Gulas

**Sanctuary Light: St. Michael-** In Memory of +Ralph Mohutsky Sr. by His Family

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

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

**Lamps of the Crucifix –** In Memory of +Mary Lazusky & +Anna Lefchick by Bill & Irene McAndrew

**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)