

**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 *Email – [stnicholassc@verizon.net](mailto:stnicholassc@verizon.net)*

*Rectory (570) 462-0809 Fax (570) 462-0517 St. Michael’s Oak St. Hall (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 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women**

**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm 40 days +Helen Venusti by Bob Leggo
Sunday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am God’s Blessings on His People
Tuesday, June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:00am +Russell Seasock by Albert & Sarah Shimkus
Wednesday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8:00am +Robert Glovich by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Romanko 6:30pm Prayer Meeting
Friday, June 5 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm +Dorothy Minarchik by the Mitchell & Kalavage Family
Sunday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am +Mary Lazusky & +Anna Lefchick by William & Irene McAndrew

**SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Theodore & +Mary Stock by the Stock Kubeika Family
Sunday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am +Frank Homa by Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Skrincosky
Monday, June 1 <sup>st</sup>	8:00am +George Jansson by Andrew & Anna Skrincosky
Thursday, June 4 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +Gregory & +Anastasia Zubar – Legacy Liturgy
Saturday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Mary Cheripka by George & Linda Cheripka
Sunday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am God’s Blessings on His People

**St. Michael’s Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	Michelle Caputo
Saturday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 9:32-42	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 9:32-42	Paul Caputo

**St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	Bernadette Bremer
Sunday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 6:1-7	Lauralee Sadusky
Saturday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 9:32-42	Andrew Skrincosky
Sunday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 9:32-42	Dolores Sadusky

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

### *St. Michael:*

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**Sanctuary Light** – Dates available 5/14, 5/28, 6/11, 6/25, 7/9, 8/6, 8/27.

**Lottery Raffle Basket**-We are asking for donations to our Lottery Scratch-Off basket. We would like to start selling tickets for this basket at Kielbasi Fest, and need to have the basket ready for display at the event. Any donation you would like to make – even a dollar ticket would be appreciated, it all adds up. If you would prefer not to donate tickets monetary donations are also appreciated. Thank-you.

**Kielbasi Festival**- will be May 20<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who is interested in helping or making food for the event should contact the rectory.

**Sick calls** will be Wednesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### *St. Nicholas:*

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**Sanctuary Light** – Dates available 5/7, 5/14, 6/18, 7/2, 7/16, 7/23, 7/30

**Sick calls** will be Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### *Both Churches*

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**PLEASE NOTE**- The church secretary will be away June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup>. The rectory office will be open for limited hours during her absence. Because of this, we are asking for Father's Day Memorials early this year. The flyer needs to be prepared prior to May 30<sup>th</sup>. Msgr. Grabowsky will be available during this time. Emails and phone messages will be checked daily. During these 2 weeks please call the rectory prior to coming to the office to be sure someone will be available to meet your needs. If you have any questions please contact the rectory or see Msgr. Grabowsky.



**Graduates** – We would like to honor our graduates again this year. If you have someone graduating from kindergarten, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, High school, College, Graduate programs or Vocational Schools please let us know as soon as possible. We are requesting a brief summary of their awards, further educational goals, job prospects etc. for a flyer to be handed out at the recognition Liturgy to be held Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> at both Churches. If possible emailing ([stmichaelsukrainian@verizon.net](mailto:stmichaelsukrainian@verizon.net)) the information is preferred, but it may also be submitted in writing to the rectory. If you have any questions please contact the rectory 570-462-0809.

**Food Bank** – We would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to our food bank. Please remember that we not only need non- perishable food , but paper goods and hygiene products .Gift cards for grocery stores and gas cards are also always welcome. Thank you for helping to bring a little light into someone's day. God Bless.

**Eastern European Food Festival** Saturday May 20th. 12:00noon to 5:00pm Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall 411 Crestmont St. Reading PA. Authentic Slovak- Polish –Ukrainian Foods. Hosted by Slovak Catholic School & BVM Ukrainian Church. Dobre Chut! For more information contact : [kathi@readingsokol.org](mailto:kathi@readingsokol.org)

# POPE FRANCIS

MORNING MEDITATION IN THE CHAPEL OF THE DOMUS SANCTAE MARTHAE

## *God's Dreams and Disappointments- Thursday, 30 March 2017*

(by L'Osservatore Romano, Weekly ed. in English, n. 15, 14 April 2017)

In reference to the day's reading from Exodus (32:7-14) on Thursday morning, 30 March, Pope Francis suggested that the passage could appropriately be entitled "God's Dreams and Disappointments". Because, the Pontiff observed, "God dreamt, and in the end was disappointed".

Indeed, "God had dreamt of a people and he dreamt of them from the beginning", the Pontiff explained. "He chose a man, Abraham; He made him walk for years, and one day He showed him the stars: 'Look, toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them'", it will be likewise for "your descendants, my people", Pope Francis explained. This is "God's dream; he dreamt because he loved". God's love was — and is — so great "that He could not keep it only to Himself. It was to be shared".

"With great kindness", God "promised this people to Abraham who was already elderly, married to a barren woman; 'you will have a son and this son will be your descendancy, as numerous as the stars', and so it was", Pope Francis paraphrased. "Over the years, in time, this people became enslaved in Egypt and the Lord went and set the people free". Indeed, "He set them free and made them cross the ocean as if it were land, because He loved and had this hope for this people". In other words, He was "a father who loved his children".

But they "were a difficult people", the Pope continued. "On the journey toward the definitive land that He wanted to give them, He had Moses climb a mountain in order to give him the Law". And "God begins to feel disappointed: 'Go down; go on, go down — He says to Moses — for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt — whom I brought out with your help — have corrupted themselves". In fact, Francis explained, "the people did not have the patience to wait for God, to wait just 40 days; they even ended up saying: 'this God, let us make ourselves another'". Thus, "they made a [molten] calf" as their god, the Pope said; and "it was for their own entertainment, so as to not get bored", he explained. "They had forgotten about God, who had saved them", he stressed.

"The Prophet Baruch has a phrase which depicts these people very well: 'you forgot the One who brought you up'", the Pope continued, and it is this "forgetting about God who created us, who brought us up, who accompanied us in life: this is God's disappointment".

"Many times in the Gospel Jesus talks about that man who plants a vineyard and then fails because the workers want to take it for themselves", Francis continued. "In the heart of man, there is always this anxiety; He is not satisfied with God, with His faithful love". Indeed, "the heart of man is always

inclined towards unfaithfulness. This is temptation”, the Pontiff warned. For this reason, the Pope explained, “Through a prophet, God scolds these people who have no steadfastness, do not know how to wait, ‘have corrupted themselves; they have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them’”. “In fact, they made a calf out of molten metal, they bowed before it, made sacrifices and said: ‘There is your God; they forgot the other’”, the Pontiff explained.

Thus, God, “through His prophet, tells the heart of these people: ‘you are always looking for another God’”, Francis said. “When the Lord speaks, he speaks forcefully and says some harsh things to us”, he stressed.

Here, then “is God’s disappointment, the unfaithfulness of the people”, the Pope explained. “We too are People of God and we know well how our heart is; and each day we must continue our journey in order to not slip slowly toward idols, toward fantasy, toward worldliness, toward unfaithfulness”, he said.

“Today, it will do us good to think about the disappointed God: ‘Tell me Lord, are you disappointed with me?’. In some things, yes, certainly”, Pope Francis said. It is a good idea “to think about and ask this question”, with the certainty that “He has a tender heart, the heart of a father; let us remember when Jesus saw Jerusalem and he cried over her: ‘O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, ... how often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings’, and you did not want it!”. Francis explained that God is saying these words “to me, to you, to you ... to all of us”. Thus we must ask: “Does God weep for me? Is God disappointed by me? Have I moved away from the Lord? — No! I go to Mass every Sunday, every day”. And again, “How many idols do I have which I am unable to rid myself of and which enslave me?” In this way, we can recognize “that idolatry we have inside us”, the reason that “God weeps for me”.

In light of this examination of conscience, Pope Francis said, “let us think today about this disappointment of God, who made us out of love”, while “we seek love, wellbeing, entertainment in other places and not in our love for him: we distance ourselves from this God who brought us up”, Francis said. “This is a reflection for the Lenten period; it will do us good”. It is an exercise, he explained, that we should do “every day, a small examination of conscience: ‘Lord, you who have had many dreams about me, I know I have distanced myself, but tell me where, how to return. The surprise will be that He always waits for us, like the father of the prodigal son who, from far off, saw his son arrive, because he was waiting for him’”, Francis observed.

The Pope ended his reflection by suggesting a prayer to be recited “today and tomorrow, every day: ‘Lord, may I not stray from you. Help me. May I be afraid of idols and thus serve you and be happy’ because God wants all of us to be happy”.

## *Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women and Joseph of Arimathea*



About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed after Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came to the sepulchre, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to anoint His body. It is because of the myrrh-oils, that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called the Myrrh-bearers.

Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most holy Virgin Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called "the

mother of James and Joses" (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silence (Matt 27:55-56; 28:1-10. Mark 15:40-41. Luke 8:1-3; 23:55-24:11, 22-24. John 19:25; 20:11-18. Acts 1:14).

Together with them we celebrate also the secret disciples of the Saviour, Joseph and Nicodemus. Of these, Nicodemus was probably a Jerusalemite, a prominent leader among the Jews and of the order of the Pharisees, learned in the Law and instructed in the Holy Scriptures. He had believed in Christ when, at the beginning of our Saviour's preaching of salvation, he came to Him by night. Furthermore, he brought some one hundred pounds of myrrh-oils and an aromatic mixture of aloes and spices out of reverence and love for the divine Teacher (John 19:39). Joseph, who was from the city of Arimathea, was a wealthy and noble man, and one of the counselors who were in Jerusalem. He went boldly unto Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and together with Nicodemus he gave Him burial. Since time did not permit the preparation of another tomb, he placed the Lord's body in his own tomb which was hewn out of rock, as the Evangelist says (Matt. 27:60).



## ***Memorial Day Memorials – Grave Blessings***

In Memory of (deceased) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***Please note which cemetery:*** \_\_\_\_\_

Given By \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

***Please submit by Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> Please Print- Thank- You***



## ***Mother's Day Memorials & Intentions***

*Celebrate the Women who have touched your life !*

In Memory of (deceased) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of (living) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given By \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

***Please submit by Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> Please Print- Thank- You***



## ***Father's Day Intentions & Remembrances***

*Remember the Men in Your Life on Father's Day*

In Memory of (deceased) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of (living) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given By \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

***Please submit by Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> Please Print- Thank- You***

## **Holy Nicodemus and the Righteous Joseph of Arimathea are also commemorated on this Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.**

Holy Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin, who, according to the Gospel of John, showed favor to Jesus. He appears three times: the first is when he visits Jesus one night to listen to his teachings (John 3:1–21); the second is when he states the law concerning the arrest of Jesus during the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:45–51); and the last follows the Crucifixion, when he assists Joseph of Arimathea in preparing the corpse of Jesus for burial (John 19:39–42).

Though there is no clear source of information about this Nicodemus outside the Gospel of John, the Jewish Encyclopedia and many Biblical historians have theorized that he is identical to Nicodemus ben Gurion, mentioned in the Talmud as a wealthy and popular holy man reputed to have had miraculous powers. Christian tradition asserts that Nicodemus was martyred sometime in the first century.

The relics of Sts Stephen, Gamaliel (another member of the Sanhedrin who, according to a Christian tradition, converted to Christianity, Abibas, and Nicodemus were transferred from Jerusalem to Constantinople in 428 and placed in the church of the holy deacon Laurence.

The Righteous Joseph of Arimathea was a secret disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ. As a member of the Sanhedrin he did not participate in the “counsel and deed” of the Jews in passing a death sentence for Jesus Christ. After the Crucifixion and Death of the Savior he made bold to go to Pilate and ask him for the Body of the Lord, to which he gave burial with the help of Righteous Nicodemus, who was also a secret disciple of the Lord.

They took down the Body of the Savior from the Cross, wrapped it in a winding-cloth, and placed it in a new tomb, in which no one had ever been buried, in the Garden of Gethsemane, in the presence of the Mother of God and the holy Myrrh-Bearing Women (St Joseph had prepared this tomb for himself). Having rolled a heavy stone before the entrance of the tomb, they departed (John. 19: 37-42; Mt. 27: 57-61; Mark 15: 43-47; Luke. 24: 50-56). St Joseph traveled around the world, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ. According to tradition, he died peacefully in England.



## 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 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 - \$ 1,984.50 Thank You!

**St. Nicholas:** Contributions \$ 915.00 Thank You!

**Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas** In Memory of +Nancy Bollerman by Michael & Janet Buchinsky

**Sanctuary Light: St. Michael-**

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

**4 Lamps of the Iconostas-**

**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 who serve in the military protecting our country, firefighters, police, and emergency personal.*

### St. Michael

Ruth's Mom \*  
Eva Koch

Helen O'Connell  
Helen Beddall  
Irene Flaherty  
Tom Prete\*\*  
Susan Chernesky  
Pat Sittnick\*\*

Susan Enders  
Dolores O'Connell Leahy  
Helen Bereschak  
Helen Sims  
Mary Mazur

Jane Sittnick\*\*  
Dolores Kozie  
Bill McAndrew\*  
Andrea Pytak  
Annie Cragen  
Irene Yaroma

Mary Goodlunas\*  
Sandy Bankes\*  
Shannon's Mom\*  
Matthew Morrisey

### St. Nicholas

Peter Kadingo  
Margaret Skrincosky  
Mary Mistishen  
Joseph Luckenbill

Laura Seasock  
  
Metro & Helen Tarris

Joseph Salak  
Anna Skrincosky  
Catherine Washuta  
Elizabeth Gulas

Jim Rehnert  
Walter Mistishen  
Andrew Skrincosky

Items in this bulletin are from Fr. Daniel & St Josephat's Bulletin , Archbishop Chancery, Vatican Website , Father Fields & The Church Signs Calendar 2016