

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

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Follow us on twitter @ stmichaelukr

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

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**Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> , 2017 –Palm Sunday**

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**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 3:30pm +George Minarchick by the Mitchell & Kalavage Families &  
***Blessing of Palms & Pussy Willows***

Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 10:30am +Mary & +Charles Lazusky by William & Irene Mc Andrew  
***Blessing of Palms & Pussy Willows***  
***3:00pm Stations of the Cross- St. Nicholas, Minersville***

***Holy Week***

Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts & Anointing ( Healing) Service

Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm Matins

Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm Vespers, & Procession with Holy Shroud

Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 8:00am Vespers with Liturgy of St Basil

2:00pm Blessing of Easter Food

3:30pm Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> 10:30am God's Blessings on His People

**SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary

5:30pm +Mary Cheripka by George & Linda Cheripka

***Blessing of Palms & Pussy Willows***

Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 8:30am God's Blessings on His People

***Blessing of Palms & Pussy Willows***

***3:00pm Stations of the Cross- St. Nicholas, Minersville***

***Holy Week***

Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 8:00am Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00am Vespers with Liturgy of St Basil

6:00pm Matins

Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm Vespers and Procession with Holy Shroud

Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm Blessing of Easter Food

8:00pm God's Blessings on His People

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

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> Phil 4:4-9 Nancy Sawka

Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> Phil 4:4-9 Alice Breznik

Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Acts 1:1-8 Winifred Mohutsky

Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> Acts 1:1-8 Michael Fufla

**St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> Phil 4:4-9 Bernadette Bremer

Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> Phil 4:4-9 Leeann Smulligan

Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Acts 1:1-8 Mike Prokop

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

### *St. Michael:*

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**Sanctuary Light** – Dates available 4/23, 4/30, 5/14, 5/28, 6/11 & 6/25.

**Lottery Raffle Basket**- We are currently collecting scratch-offs for a raffle basket. Any donations would be appreciated, even a dollar scratch-off adds up. Thank you for your help with this fundraiser.

**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.

**Easter Basket Raffle: DRAWING THIS WEEKEND** - The basket includes: Ham, Kielbasi, Butter, Cheese, Candle, Pascha, Salt, Horseradish, Eggs & Bacon. Tickets are available after Liturgies or at the rectory. Parishioners are encouraged to sell tickets. See Stephanie Rarick or the rectory with questions, for tickets. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

**Easter Vigil Listing is in the back of the church.** Thank you to everyone who signed up for the Vigil. **If you did not sign up, please feel free to come at any time.** Thank you.

**Pierogie Sale** – will be Monday April 10<sup>th</sup>. We ask that anyone who is available, even for a short time please come out to help. We are sold out for this sale. Thank you for your help with this fundraiser.

### *St. Nicholas:*

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**Sanctuary Light** – Dates available 5/7, 5/14, 6/18.

**Easter Vigil Sign-up**- Please join us for this solemn vigil. The sign-up sheet is in the back of the church.

### *Both Churches*

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**Catholic Home Missions Appeal: Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Right now, over 40% of the Dioceses in the United States are considered Home Missions because they are unable to fund essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support funds programs such as religious education, seminary formation, and lay ministry training to build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).**

**Healing Services** – Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Service immediately following Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts. at St Michael's Church, Shenandoah.

**Fasting** – This Holy Week you are asked to fast on the following days; Good Friday (*meat, eggs & dairy*) and Holy Saturday (*meat*). Fasting is for those between the ages of 14 and 59.

Palm  
Sunday



**Good Friday Collection-** Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity the Church in the Holy Land. **PLEASE BE GENEROUS!** *For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit [www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday](http://www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday).*

**Marriage Workshop-** “Entering the Holy Mystery of Marriage” will take place Saturday, April 29 and Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 1204 Valley Road, Melrose Park PA 19027. Each couple must commit to both days Total cost per couple is \$160.00 which includes materials, lunch & refreshments. Registrations & payment due be April 22<sup>nd</sup> no exceptions. See the rectory for the registration form

**DRAMATIC STATIONS OF THE CROSS PRESENTATION** St. John the Baptist Church, 10th & Mahantongo Sts. Pottsville, is presenting their Annual Dramatic Stations of the Cross on the following dates ... Palm Sunday, April 9th & Good Friday, April 14th Prelude begins at 7:15 p.m. Stations begin 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

**“RESURRECTION: MUSIC FROM THE UKRAINIAN SACRED CHORAL TRADITION”** All are cordially invited to a sacred music concert, “Resurrection: Music from the Ukrainian Sacred Choral Tradition” to be held on Friday, April 21, 7:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 830 N. Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. This concert will feature over 50 professional and amateur singers from Canada, Ukraine and the United States and will led by one of the leading choral directors in North America, Michael Zaugg of Pro Coro Canada. This extraordinary performance is part of a concert series that will showcase the CD recording of a Resurrectional Divine Liturgy composed by Fr. John Sembrat OSBM and other timeless music specific to our Paschal services including music from renowned Ukrainian composers such as Bortniansky, Vedel, and Hurko. The combined male chorus will feature singers from the following ensembles: •Pro Coro Canada •Boyan Ensemble of Kyiv •Chorus of the Armed Forces of Ukraine •National Philharmonic of Ukraine •Homin Municipal Choir of Lviv •Vydubychi Church Choir of Kyiv •Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus of North America •Axios Men's Ensemble of Edmonton •Ukrainian Male Chorus of Edmonton More information about the recording, concert series and tickets, including video and audio highlights, can be found on the website [www.resurrectionalliturgy.com](http://www.resurrectionalliturgy.com) Tickets can be purchased locally at the Ukrainian Educational & Cultural Center, 700 N. Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046 (215-663-1166).

**Food Bank** – As you know we maintain a food bank for those in need, this outreach is run solely on donations. We ask that you find it in your heart to help these families. Please donate non-perishable foods or personal hygiene products to help stock our depleted Food Pantry. Just a few items can be the difference between a child going to bed with a full tummy, or going to bed hungry. Thank you for your giving spirit

## **PRAYER FOR HOLY WEEK**

*O Lord, make me generous. Mary, Lazarus' sister, anointed Your feet with very costly ointment and wiped them with her hair. I am still so much like Judas, who considered this a waste and felt that the money could have been better spent by giving it to the poor. I am so stingy, Lord—especially with my time. I always want to do useful things, and am afraid to waste my “very costly” time. But You want me to sit at Your feet like Mary and just be there, resting with You, listening to Your words. Make me generous with my time, Lord. During this Holy Week let me listen quietly to You. Let me make time for You, and let me forget myself for once. Amen*

Many thanks to Steve Zinski for providing the following reflections for us:

## **THE ENTRY OF CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM**

The entry of Christ into Jerusalem is a celebration of triumph. This is the way the Gospel presents the event Our Church brings us to this moment of glory. Coming at the close of Great Lent, the celebration of the Feast gives a foretaste of Paschal Joy.

According to the Gospel of St. John (12: 1-18) the public celebration which accompanied the Entry into Jerusalem was not only on account of Jesus, but also to see Lazarus whom He had raised from the dead. The people took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him. Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it. The Disciples followed Him and the welcoming crowd met them at the Jerusalem Gate. In the icon, our focus of attention is on the portrait of Christ, seated sideways on the donkey, His head turned toward the Disciples following Him, and His right hand raised in blessing.

Traditionally, children play a prominent role in the representation of the Entry into Jerusalem. Some are depicted: one, high in a tree, cutting the palm branches; another, spreading his cloak along Christ's way. Though the Gospels do not specify the children's presence, the Church sees in them the very embodiment of the Biblical reference: *"Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings You have fashioned praise"* (Psalm 8:3). Related to this is the call of the Palm Sunday Vespers: "Wherefore, like babes, rejoice, carrying branches in your hands, and praise Him, singing, 'Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who comes, the King of Israel.'"

The Icon of the Entry portrays the journey of Christ to His voluntary passion and death. At the same time, it gives us an image of His installation in the Kingdom of His glory, the Kingdom of the New Jerusalem which in terms of the Resurrection Matins, shines in the glory of the Lord.

## **LORD OF THE HEREAFTER**

Imagine the small parade of a not too promising, and not too sophisticated group of ordinary people. Some cut branches from the trees along the road and lay them in the path of a man riding on a colt Others take off their cloaks and lay them along the path. Soon whispers from pages of the Old Testament pass from one to the other. "Fear not, O daughter of Zion, your king approaches you on a donkey's colt" Not really understanding what is happening to them, the people begin to respond to God working in them. "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel." Soon it becomes a "get-on-the-band-wagon" kind of atmosphere. People begin to dance about and to shout out that the kingdom of God is about to start. The reign of the Messiah is finally going to begin and the Romans will be driven out of the sacred land of God's people.

The events which followed this short-lived triumphal procession into the city of Jerusalem show how poorly these people understood what God was saying to them through His Son, Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee. Their reactions could serve as guidelines for us in our response to God communicating with us. A study of them might help us improve our prayer of hope, hope in the hereafter, for this is where these people went wrong. Today we must ask ourselves the question: How does hope for the hereafter influence our lives? What is our response to God communicating eternal life to us?

The problem is a sort of "all-this-and-heaven-too" situation. The people in the first Palm Sunday procession wanted a strong, kingly ruler and a government that would make the Jewish nation the conquerors of the whole world. They were unable, or unwilling, to look beyond their own time. When the procession lost its momentum, and nothing more happened, they drifted away. They concluded that nothing much was going to come of this Jesus of Nazareth and His idealistic teachings. So, it was not difficult for them, on the following Friday, to turn against Jesus. The climax of this rejection is found in the Passion account: "Crucify Him!" What a way to respond to God entering their lives and offering them the promise of eternal life! Even in His trial before Caiaphas when Jesus spoke the truth, He was condemned as a blasphemer. We need God's truth. We need to know with certainty: "Soon you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." It is true we do not easily understand the Jewish figure of speech in which Christ spoke, but nevertheless the truth is that, through Christ, we are to live forever.

In St. John's account of Palm Sunday, he uses all sorts of literary devices to have the early Christians learn the full meaning of this event. They are somewhat complicated, and it takes a scripture scholar to unravel them. The word to use for John's approach to this problem is "eschatological." The word means "at the end of time," or more simply "looking from now into the hereafter." It's the "long term" view of life versus the "short term." The Christian lives his life fully and completely in this world, but with an eye on eternity. The person who "cops out" on either one is not living his life fully, no matter how successfully he may deceive himself. Judas is a good example. Judas took the "short term" view of the situation. Jesus had failed to set up a kingdom. So Judas rejected Him, and made what he could out of the shambles, thirty pieces of silver, the price of a slave. For Judas the "short term" did not pay off.

We must not fall prey to the "short term" view of life. In the Liturgy we should pray for the grace to see through all the problems and duties of this life to the person of Jesus Who gives the promise of eternal life. Let us hail Jesus as our King and recognize that He is Lord of both the here and the hereafter. *O.J.M.*

## **THE MYSTICAL SUPPER**

The Icon of the Mystical Supper stands as a direct expression of the scriptural narrative upon which it is founded. According to the Gospel for the Divine Liturgy of Holy and Great Thursday:

When it grew dark, He reclined at table with the Twelve. In the course of the meal He said, "I assure you one of you is about to betray Me." Distressed at this, they began to say to Him one after another, "Surely it is not I, Lord?" He replied: "The man who has dipped his hand into the dish with Me is the one who will hand Me over" (Matthew 26:20-23).

During the meal, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to His Disciples. "Take this and eat it" He said, "this is My body." Then He took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them. "All of you -drink from it" He said, "for this is My blood, the blood of the covenant to be poured out in behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins"(Matthew 26:26-28).

The Icon of the Mystical Supper portrays Christ and the Apostles seated around a table. The respective gazes and positions of the figures are important. Christ Himself meets the eyes of the Disciples that are directed toward Him. Other Disciples are bewildered about the meaning of the words of the Savior. "The Disciples looked at one another, puzzled as to whom He could mean" (John 13:22). Because of their very postures, the attitudes of two of the Apostles in question must be qualified:

ST. JOHN, the Beloved, to whom the crucified Christ will later entrust the care of His mother, is depicted resting his head on Christ's breast, in keeping with the reference in his own Gospel -"One of them whom Jesus loved reclined close to Him as they ate" (John 13:23). The entire commandment of love which is presented in the Gospel of John is thereby embodied: This is My commandment: 'Love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends'" (John 15:12-13).

JUDAS is the betrayer. He is shown stretching out his hands toward the bread he has been given in order to dip it into the dish, and thus he dramatizes the prophecy:

"Even My friend who had My trust and partook of My bread, has raised his heel against Me"(Psalm 41: 10). The words of Christ in the Gospel are seen in Judas.

With regard to the second theme of the above-mentioned narrative: (that of the institution of the Holy Eucharist), the Icon depicts the sanctified bread -the Body of Christ -as already broken and distributed to the Apostles. The cup of the sanctified wine -the Blood of Christ -is shown resting on the table, awaiting passage to them, so that in the words of the Anaphora of Saint Basil the Great, all may be united "who become partakers of the one Bread and Cup in the communion of the Holy Spirit."

## METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S MEDITATION FOR PALM SUNDAY

Deafness and blindness are great personal tragedies, but deafness and blindness of the soul is more tragic. On Palm Sunday, Jerusalem was blind and deaf. Its people did not recognize the true mission of Jesus. Many in the crowds wanted a revolutionary and conqueror who would fulfill their expectations and help them realize their nationalistic hopes. Their souls were unmoved. In a few days, the crowds of people will change its heart and will call out for the crucifixion of Jesus. The disciples will flee and hide. Peter will deny Jesus three times. Imagine the loneliness felt by Jesus.

In each of our lives, there are Palm Sunday moments. Our Lord visits every soul. There are moments when we feel close to God. We feel Him touching our lives. We can hear Him. Regretfully, there are times when we are blind and deaf to God's visits. We are insensitive to His approaches. These are missed opportunities, personal tragedies. We find ourselves hiding within ourselves and within our day-to-day concerns, hesitant to risk ourselves to respond to Jesus Christ's presence and His inviting love.

On Palm Sunday, we receive blessed pussy willows as a symbol of our commitment to Christ. Remember that the first commitment was made by Jesus for you and for me with His complete love and sacrifice on the cross. Let your commitment be expressed through all your words and actions in life, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord!" Allow your love for Jesus Christ richly expresses itself in your faithful worship with your parish family in His Church. May your enthusiastic faith help others to shed their blindness and deafness to the visits of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in their daily life. Live the peace of Jesus Christ personally and share it with others who desperately need to hear of Christ's promise of unending joy and peace with Him for all who believe and follow His ways! Choose to live as an Easter person!



### LAST WEEKEND TO SUBMIT- *Easter Memorials &*

*Flowers* - A wonderful way to remember those that hold a special place in your heart. Please note if the remembrance is for flowers or a memorial .

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 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 - \$1,490.22 Thank You!

**St. Nicholas:** Contributions \$ 1,041.00 Thank You!

**Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-** Special Intentions by the Panchison Family

**Sanctuary Light: St. Michael-**

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

**4 Lamps of the Iconostas-** In Memory of +John Bagienski by the Bagienski Family

**Lamps of the Crucifix-** In Memory of +Mary Lazusky & +Anna Lefchick by William & Irene Mc Andrew

**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