

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*

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

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Like us on Facebook@St Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

Follow us on twitter @ stmichaelukr

Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest

Sunday, February 19th, 2017 Sunday of Meat Fare

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 18 th	3:30pm 3 rd Anniversary – Anna Smetana by Children
Sunday, February 19 th	10:30am God's Blessing on His People
Tuesday, February 21 st	8:00am Special Intentions for Tracy Grover by Charles Calise & Helen O'Connell
Wednesday, February 22 nd	8:00am +Michael Kulka by Louis Roman Balichi 6:00pm Prayer Group
Friday, February 24 th	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, February 25 th	3:30pm God's Blessing on His People
Sunday, February 26 th	10:30am 40 th Day +Carmella Fonslick by Winifred Mohutsky 3:00pm Forgiveness Vespers - Protection of the Mother of God-McAdoo

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 18 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Ann Uranium by Margaret Mistysyn & Family
Sunday, February 19 th	8:30am +Rita Rehnert by Son, Jim & Anna Rehnert
Monday, February 20 th	8:00am +Butcavage Family- Legacy Liturgy
Thursday, February 23 rd	8:00am +Anna Zucal by Jim & Alexandra Cuono
Saturday, February 25 th	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm 40 th Day +Vinnie Zalonka by David Toth
Sunday, February 26 th	8:30am 40 th Day +Joseph Faenza by Son-in-Law, Michael Kovich 3:00pm Forgiveness Vespers - Protection of the Mother of God-McAdoo

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, February 18 th	1 Cor 8:8-9:2	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, February 19 th	1Cor 8:8-9:2	Charles Calise
Saturday, February 25 th	Rom 13:11-14:4	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, February 26 th	Rom 13:11-14:4	Alice Breznik

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, February 18 th	1 Cor 8:8-9:2	Mike Prokop
Sunday, February 19 th	1Cor 8:8-9:2	Dolores Sadusky
Saturday, February 25 th	Rom 13:11-14:4	David Toth
Sunday, February 26 th	Rom 13:11-14:4	Theresa Panchison

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Pierogie Sale will be Monday February 27th. We are SOLD OUT, but could really use any help that you can provide. Thank you for your efforts to make this sale a success. (weather permitting)

Easter Confessions will be Tuesday, April 4th.

Sanctuary Light – Available dates 3/5, 3/12, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/23 & 4/30

St. Nicholas:

Sanctuary Light – Available dates 3/5, 3/26, 4/2, 4/16, & 4/23.

Divine Liturgy cancelation- If there is a two hour delay or cancelation of the St. Clair schools due to bad weather , we will not have Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas.

Home Blessings will be **POSTPONED UNTIL FEBRUARY 19th** , for Pottsville , Port Carbon , Cressona & Outlying Areas- weather permitting.

Easter Confessions will be Thursday April 6th.

Both Churches

Sorokousty- Anyone who would still like their families remembered should call the rectory office this week during business hours or drop off a list at the rectory. Thank you.

Rectory Office - If the local schools have a two hour delay, or are canceled , this will effect if the rectory office is open. On these days, please call first before coming to the office to be sure it is open. Also please note that the rectory office will be closed the following days – All Fridays in February .

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.

Pysanky Classes will be offered this year at St Michael's Hall. Classes will be Wednesday, April 5th from 6pm to 9:00 pm or Saturday, April 8th from 9:00am to 12noon. Cost is \$45.00 including supplies and you are guaranteed to leave class with an egg. To register please call Paul at 570-668-5789. Additional classes will be offered in the area, call Paul for more information.

Blood Drive- Wednesday, March 1st from 1:00pm to 6:00pm at St. Michael's Church Hall. In memory of Stanley Leonarczyk. Open to the public. For an appointment please visit www.redcrossblood.org Use sponsor code St. Michael or call 1-800-RED-CROSS(1-800-733-2767. Walk in's welcome.

Lenten Dinners. St. John's Church in Pottsville FRESH BAKED HADDOCK/SALMON or FRESH BAKED JUMBO LUMP CRAB CAKE DINNERS Fridays during the Lenten Season from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Russell Building at 9th & Schuylkill Avenue. (no dinner on Good Friday). Full course dinners including New England Clam Chowder, Full Salad Bar, Choice of Macaroni & Cheese, Baked or Mashed Potatoes, Choice of Vegetables, Homemade Dessert, Beverage. (Take outs available) Adults: Baked Haddock / Salmon / Crab Cake \$ 13.00 : 2 Crab Cakes \$ 16.00: Adult Special: Crab Cake & Choice of Fish \$ 16.00: Children: Baked Fish / Salmon / Crab Cake \$ 8.00 (under 12)

Lenten Dinner at St Stephen Hall, in Shenandoah on Tuesday, March 21st (order deadline March 14th) & Wednesday, April 5th (order deadline-March 29th) Pick up from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM Choice of Dinners: Devil Crab Dinner or Fish Dinner or Chicken Finger Dinner Cost: \$8.00 Take out only Order forms available at the rectory or contact Divine Mercy's rectory

Lent- Don't give up chocolate for Lent. Join Dynamic Catholic for the best Lent ever, a free email program designed to help you have a life- changing Lent. You'll get: Short inspirational videos, practical tips and a study guide. Based on Mathew Kelly's latest book "Resisting Happiness. Sign up at www.BestLentEver.com

St Nicholas School, Minersville- REGISTRATION for the 2017-2018 School Year is now taking place! Our registration theme is "Save My Seat!" St. Nicholas School offers...a challenging academic curriculum in a safe and caring environment. For a private tour or to register your child/children...contact Mr. Holland or Mrs. Batz at the school.

Trinity Academy is now accepting students for the 2017-2018 school year. Parents can enroll their child by calling Christine Zuber Fannick at (570) 462-3927 or by attending one of the following events: information session: February 26, 2017 at 4:00pm p.m. Trinity Academy at the Father Walter Cizek Education Foundation; Founded in Faith and Family

Marriage Workshop- "Entering the Holy Mystery of Marriage" will take place Saturday, April 29 and Saturday May 6th 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 22nd no exceptions. See the rectory for the registration form

Deanery Lenten Services: Services at 3:00pm **Forgiveness Vespers:** Sunday, February 26th Protection of the Mother of God , McAdoo **Stations of the Cross:** Sunday, March 5th Transfiguration of Our Lord, Shamokin: Sunday, March 12th St. Michael's, Shenandoah: Sunday, March 19th St. Michael's , Frackville: Sunday, March 26th Ss. Peter & Paul, Mt Carmel: Sunday, April 2nd St. Michael's , Hazelton: Sunday, April 9th St. Nicholas, Minersville

THE SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4) that sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ. Today is the also known as the Sunday of Meatfare. Great Lent begins next Sunday afternoon (3:00). In this final week of preparation for the Great Fast, the traditional discipline suggests that we bid farewell to meat in our diet after today until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent. The way we decide to adapt this discipline to our own situation is a matter of individual choice. Of greater importance is the need formulate a spiritual plan for the coming Holy Season.

Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare Sunday)

Introduction

The Sunday of the Last Judgment is the third Sunday of a three-week period prior to the commencement of Great Lent. During this time, the services of the Church have begun to include hymns from the Triodion, a liturgical book that contains the services from the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, the tenth before Pascha (Easter), through Great and Holy Saturday. On this day, focus is placed on the future judgment of all persons who will stand before the throne of God when Christ returns in His glory.

Biblical Story

The commemoration for this Sunday is taken from the parable of our Lord Jesus Christ concerning his Second Coming and the Last Judgment of all, both the living and the dead. In Matthew 25:31-46, Christ

speaks about what will happen at this specific point in time when He will “come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him” (v. 31). At His coming, “He will sit on the throne of His glory,” and all of the nations will be gathered before Him. He will separate them “as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats” (v. 32). The sheep will be placed on His right hand, and the goats on the left. To the sheep, He will say “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (vv. 33-34)

This kingdom is offered to the sheep because of their compassion and service to those in need. Jesus says, “...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.” The sheep, who are the righteous chosen for the kingdom, will ask how this could be so. They will ask Jesus when was He hungry or thirsty, a stranger, naked, and in prison. He will answer them by saying, “Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to the least of these My brethren, you did it to me” (vv. 35-40).

Christ the King, seated on His throne of judgment, will then turn to the goats on His left and say, “Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels” (v. 41). He will condemn them because they did not feed Him when He was hungry, give Him drink when He was thirsty, take Him in when He was a stranger, clothe Him when



He was naked, visit Him when He was sick or in prison. The goats will ask the Lord, “When did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?” Then He will answer them saying, “Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me” (vv. 42-45).

Jesus concludes His words on the Last Judgment by stating that those on the left “will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life” (v. 46).

On the past two Sundays of this pre-Lenten period, the focus was placed on God’s patience and limitless compassion, of His readiness to accept every sinner who returns to Him. On this third Sunday, we are powerfully reminded of a complementary truth: no one is so patient and so merciful as God, but even He does not forgive those who do not repent. The God of love is also a God of righteousness, and when Christ comes again in glory, He will come as our Judge. Such is the message of Lent to each of us: turn back while there is still time, repent before the End comes.

This Sunday sets before us the eschatological dimension of Lent: the Great Fast is a preparation for the Second Coming of the Savior, for the eternal Passover in the Age to Come, a theme that is also the focus of the first three days of Holy Week. But the judgment is not only in the future. Here and now, each day and each hour, in hardening our hearts toward others and in failing to respond to the opportunities we are given of helping them, we are already passing judgment on ourselves.

Another theme of this Sunday is that of love. When Christ comes to judge us, what will be the criterion of His judgment? The parable of the Last Judgment answers: love—not a mere humanitarian concern for abstract justice and the anonymous “poor,” but concrete and personal love for the human person—the specific people we encounter each day in our lives.

Christian love is the “possible impossibility” to see Christ in another person, whoever he or she is, and whom God, in His eternal and mysterious plan, has decided to introduce into my life, be it only for a few moments, not as an occasion for a “good deed” or an exercise in philanthropy, but as the beginning of an eternal companionship in God Himself.

The parable of the Last Judgment is about Christian love. Not all of us are called to work for “humanity,” yet each one of us has received the gift and the grace of Christ’s love. We know that all persons ultimately need this personal love—the recognition in them of their unique soul in which the beauty of the whole creation is reflected in a unique way. We also know that people are in prison and are sick and thirsty and hungry because that personal love has been denied them. And, finally, we know that however narrow and limited the framework of our personal existence, each one of us has been made responsible for a tiny part of the Kingdom of God, made responsible by that very gift of Christ’s love. Thus, we will be judged on whether or not we have accepted this responsibility, on whether we have loved or refused to love.

Spiritual Regulations for the Great Fast

Although our Church traditionally prescribed abstention from meat and dairy products in days gone by for the entire duration of the Great Fast, the following are the minimal Lenten regulations today:

Abstinence from meat and all dairy products on the First Day of the Great Fast and on Good Friday.

Abstinence from meat only on all Fridays of the Great Fast as well as Holy Saturday. It is also traditional to abstain from meat on Wednesdays during the Great Fast.

Reception of the Holy Mysteries of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during the period from the onset of Great Fast to the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday.

The Fasting and Abstinence regulations are not binding on persons 60 or older, the very poor, sick, nursing or pregnant women, children below the age of 14, and those who engage in physically very hard labor. However, all are urged, if able to do so, to observe the fasting and abstinence regulations.

All the faithful are urged to attend the Lenten services such as the Presanctified Liturgy and the Commemoration of the Deceased (Sorokousty).

Such good deeds as almsgiving, visitation of the sick, Bible reading and praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life are most earnestly recommended to all the Faithful.

Great Fast Liturgical Guidelines

The weekdays of the Great Fast are aliturgical meaning no Divine Liturgy, even for funerals, should be celebrated except for the Feast of the Annunciation. On Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is to be celebrated. Typika may be used the other days. For funerals, the liturgical text used by the New Jersey Protopresbyterate or St. Michael Church in Frackville may be utilized. The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is to be celebrated for Sunday Liturgies during this time.

During Holy Week, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is to be celebrated Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday between both churches. There is no Divine Liturgy celebrated on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On Holy Thursday evening, Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great should be celebrated. On Holy Saturday evening, Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is to be celebrated.

My Brother Clergy and Faithful of our Archeparchy,

Praise Be Jesus Christ!

Soon, the Great Fast will begin. I ask the clergy and faithful of our Ukrainian Catholic Church to participate in celebrating **forgiveness** during the Sunday Divine Liturgies on Cheese-Fare Sunday, the night before the Great Fast begins. This Forgiveness Service is part of our spiritual heritage and tradition. While this is normally done during the evening Vespers Service, I ask that the entire Church celebrate it during the Divine Liturgy immediately following the Homily. The pastor is asked to give a reflection of sincere forgiveness in his homily, and then proceed with the prayers for forgiveness in the language of the Divine Liturgy. It is important to invite all of the faithful to participate by offering the prayers in a calm and meaningful manner.

We all stand in need of forgiveness from God and from one another. It is uncomfortable to admit our sinfulness to ourselves and to others. Heartfelt participation in the forgiveness service during the Divine Liturgy allows us to humble ourselves. We face one another with sorrow, admitting our failings with one another, and asking forgiveness. Any delusions of superiority are challenged as we humble ourselves before one another, priest to his faithful, faithful to the priest and to one another. Healing comes not only to the person who says the painful words, "I'm sorry", but also to the one who receives them. Healing comes not only to the one who hears the words, "I forgive you", but also to the one who offers them. We prepare ourselves to enter the Great Fast. I too beg the forgiveness of my brother hierarchs, clergy, religious and faithful for my failings. I forgive and pray for all who have failed or offended me.

I thank the reverend clergy and faithful for your anticipated heartfelt embracing of this forgiveness service within the Divine Liturgy. It is a time when the entire parish family gathers. The entire parish family is encouraged to participate in mutual forgiveness for the benefit of our spiritual growth and well-being.

God bless you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+Stefan Soroka". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

+Stefan Soroka
Metropolitan-Archbishop of Philadelphia

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 - \$2,806.00 Cemetery \$20.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contributions \$ 661.00 Cemetery \$525.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- In Memory of +Michael & +Mary Leschick & +Mary Kritak by Cuono Family

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael In Memory of +Jean Depsky Poppert by Toni Poppert Huntzinger

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

St. Michael

Ruth's Mom *

Eva Koch

Dolores Kozie

Mary Goodlunas*

Sandy Bankes*

Shannon's Mom*

Matthew Morrisey

Helen O'Connell

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

Peter Kadingo

Margaret Skrincosky

Mary Mistishen

Joseph Luckenbill

Laura Seasock

Mary Kadingo

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 Mustard Seeds by M. Kelly & The Church Signs Calendar 2016

Check out our updated website at www.first-ukrainian.com