

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

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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, March 12th, 2017 2nd Sunday of the Great Fast

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

- Saturday, March 11th 3:30pm God’s Blessings on His People
- Sunday, March 12th 10:30am +Nicholas Bereschak by Daughters, Mary Mazur & Helen Bereschak
3:00pm Stations of the Cross- St. Michael’s, Shenandoah
- Tuesday, March 14th 8:00am Typica
- Wednesday, March 15th 8:00am Typica **& Syrokousty**
6:00pm Prayer Group
- Saturday, March 18th 8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
3:30pm +John”Jake” Litwak by Charlotte Litwak
- Sunday, March 19th 10:30am +Michael Krajcirik by Wife, Theresa
3:00pm Stations of the Cross- St. Michael’s, Frackville

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

- Saturday, March 11th 8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary
5:30pm +John & +Anna Skrincosky by Andrew & Anna Skrincosky
- Sunday, March 12th 8:30am Special Intentions & Health for Joseph Yakobosky by Ronald Krolick
3:00pm Stations of the Cross- St. Michael’s, Shenandoah
- Monday, March 13th 8:00am Typica
- Thursday, March 16th 8:00am Typica
- Friday, March 17th 4:00pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts & **Syrokousty**
- Saturday, March 18th 5:30pm +Mary Cheripka by George & Linda Cheripka
- Sunday, March 19th 8:30am God’s Blessings on His People
3:00pm Stations of the Cross- St. Michael’s, Frackville

St. Michael’s Lector Schedule:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Saturday, March 11 th | Heb 1:10-2:3 | Nancy Sawka |
| Sunday, March 12 th | Heb 1:10-2:3 | Sam Litwak |
| Saturday, March 18 th | Heb 4:14-5:6 | Winifred Mohutsky |
| Sunday, March 19 th | Heb 4:14-5:6 | Michelle Caputo |

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Saturday, March 11 th | Heb 1:10-2:3 | Andrew Skrincosky |
| Sunday, March 12 th | Heb 1:10-2:3 | Susan Miller |
| Saturday, March 18 th | Heb 4:14-5:6 | Christine Romanko |
| Sunday, March 19 th | Heb 4:14-5:6 | Lauralee Sadusky |

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Easter Confessions will be Tuesday, April 4th.

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

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 20th. Anyone who is interested in helping or making food for the event should contact the rectory.

Easter Basket Raffle- We will be doing another Easter Basket Raffle this year. The basket will include: Ham, Kielbasi, Butter, Cheese, Candle, Pascha, Salt, Horseradish, Eggs & Bacon. Tickets will be available after Liturgies or at the rectory. Parishioners are encouraged to sell tickets and distribute the flyers in the back of the church. See Stephanie Rarick or the rectory with questions or for tickets or flyers. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Blood Drive- Congratulations on another successful blood drive in memory of +Stanley Leonarczyk. We collected 34 pints on a 35 goal or 97%. Your drive will help save up to 102 patient lives.

St. Nicholas:

Sanctuary Light – Available dates 4/16, 4/23, 5/7 & 5/14.

Easter Confessions will be Thursday April 6th.

Both Churches

Healing Services – Wednesday, March 29th & Wednesday, April 12th at 6:00pm. Service immediately following Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts. At St Michael's Church, Shenandoah.

Seminary Raffle- Raffle Tickets for the 'Lucky Three Raffle' are now available at the back of the church. Each envelope contains 5 tickets. Each ticket costs \$1.00. Please return ticket stubs and money in the envelope. Drawing will be held Sunday, April 9th, Thank- you.

Sermon on the Mount- Featuring TV Star Frank Runyeon will be performed March 22nd, 23rd & 24th at 7:00pm at St. John the Baptist 10th & Mahantongo St Pottsville 570-622-5470- Free will offering. The performance will be followed by Hollywood vs. Faith : the 3 Other Beatitudes.

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.

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

Designer Purse Bingo – Sunday March 12th at St Nicholas Hall, Minersville. Doors open at 11:00am, Bingo starts at 1:00pm. \$25.00 for 16 games and 4 specials . Presale ticket holders will be entered in a special drawing. Homemade foods, refreshments & fun. Tickets available at St. Nicholas rectory, Reliable Home Supply, Styles buy Sherri and Mike Watchers in Pottsville. For more info or tickets call 570-544-2800, 570-544-4581 or 570-527-0899.

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 570-544-2800.

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 **Stations of the Cross:** 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

Lenten Confession Schedule- From 6:00 to 7:00pm

Monday April 3rd- Assumption- Centralia, SS. Peter & Paul – Mt. Carmel, Nativity- Middleport, Transfiguration- Shamokin.

Tuesday April 4th- St. John- Maizeville, Protection- Marion Heights, St. Nicholas- Minersville, St. Michael- Shenandoah

Thursday April 6th St. Michael-Hazelton, Protection- Mc Adoo, St. Michael- Frackville, St. Nicholas- S.t Clair

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

The joyfulness which accompanies the celebration of the Divine Liturgies of St. Basil the Great and St. John Chrysostom was regarded by the early Church as not suitable for the penitential season of the Great Fast. For this reason, the Synod in Laodicea (363 AD) forbade the performance of the Divine Liturgies during the Great Lent, except on Saturday, Sunday, the Feast of the Annunciation, and Holy Thursday.

The Christians of that time were in the habit of receiving Holy Communion almost daily and now were deprived of the strengths derived from Holy Communion for about a week. The greatly saddened them.

The Church, desiring Her children to continue their pious habit of daily receiving the Holy Communion, permitted its reception but from Holy Gifts that had been consecrated in a preceding Liturgy. Thus the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts was formed, and was celebrated on evenings from Monday through Friday during Great Lent. There is no consecration of the Sacred Elements at the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, but those who desire to communicate receive the Holy Gifts which have been consecrated at the previous Divine Liturgy, celebrated on Sunday. The Christians did not eat anything all day.

It received its present form from St. Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome in the sixth century. It became a Canon at the Trullo Quinisext Council in 692 AD. The Canon reads:

On all days of the holy fast of Great Lent, except on the Sabbath (i.e. Saturday), and the Lord's Day (i.e. Sunday) and the holy day of the Annunciation, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is to be served (Canon 52, Quinisext Council, 692 AD).

As the years passed, however, the Christians unfortunately lost their original zeal and ignored the benefits from Holy Communion, and so they did not receive it every day or even every Sunday. They received it at long intervals. Therefore the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts lost its original and main meaning to those celebrating it. Today, it is used only during the Great Fast, on Wednesdays and Fridays; on Thursday in the fifth week of Great Fast; and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Passion (Holy) Week.

The Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts consists of Vespers, with special Prayers together with a portion of the Divine Liturgy, omitting its most important part, the consecration of the Holy Gifts; and the Third, Sixth and Ninth Hours (with the Typical Psalms) are used in a particular manner at the beginning.

The Sacred Elements, consecrated at the Divine Liturgy on Saturdays and Sundays, are preserved on the holy Altar in the tabernacle. The priest places the Gifts on the diskos with prayer and incensing after the Great Litany, during the chanting of the psalms (kathisma). He carries them in solemn procession around the back of the Altar, and to the Table of Oblation.

The evening psalm, **Lord I call upon You**, is then sung with the special hymns for the day. This is followed with the evening entrance, the hymn Gladsome Light, and two Biblical readings; from Genesis and from Proverbs. The Bible readings are punctuated by the Priest blessing the faithful with

the censer and a lighted candle proclaiming "The Light of Christ illumines all!". This blessing symbolizes the light of Christ's Resurrection, which illumines the Old Testament Scriptures and the entire life of mankind. This is the very Light with which Christians are illuminated in the life of the Church through Holy Baptism.

The evening psalm "Let my prayer rise in Your sight as incense" is sung with special melodies. The augmented litany is chanted, and the Presanctified Gifts are brought solemnly and to the altar table. This is when the following special entrance hymn is chanted:

Now the powers of heaven do serve invisibly with us.

Lo, the King of Glory enters.

Lo, the mystical sacrifice is upborne, fulfilled.

Let us draw near in faith and love, and become communicants of life eternal.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

A litany and a special prayer before Holy Communion (Eucharist) follows. "Our Father Who art in heaven ..." is sung and the faithful receive Holy Communion to the singing of:

"O taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia"

The communicants "depart in peace" with thanksgiving to God for His Coming. The special dismissal prayer asks God for a successful fulfillment of Lent and to worthily celebrate the Great Feast of Pascha - the Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Almighty Lord ... Who has brought us to these all-holy days for the purification of the soul and body, for the controlling of carnal passions ... and the hope of the resurrection ... enable us to fight the good fight, to accomplish the course of the Fast, to preserve inviolate the Faith ... to be accounted victors over sin ... and uncondemned, to attain unto and to adore Thy Holy Resurrection...

The evening reception of Communion is fulfilled after a day of prayer and fasting, with the total abstinence from food and drink at least from the early morning hours of the day - not an easy task.

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is one of the great masterpieces of Eastern Christian piety and liturgical creativity. It reveals the central Christian doctrine and experience in its form and content; namely that our life must be spent in prayer and fasting in order to be in communion with Christ who will come like 'a thief in the night'. It tells us that all of our life, and not only on fast periods, is completed with the Presence of the Victorious Christ who is risen from the dead. It witnesses to the fact that Christ will come at the end of the ages to judge the living and the dead, and to establish God's Kingdom "of which there will be no end". It tells us that we must be ready for His arrival, and to be found watching and serving; in order to be worthy to "enter into the joy of the Lord".

“SIX LITTLE STORIES” - well worth your 30 seconds to read!

{1} Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That’s FAITH.

{2} When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That’s TRUST.

{3} Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That’s HOPE.

{4} We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That’s CONFIDENCE.

{5} We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children. That’s LOVE.

{6} On an old man’s shirt was written a sentence ‘I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.’ That’s ATTITUDE. {SS}



Easter Memorials- *a wonderful way to remember those that hold a special place in your heart*

In memory of
(deceased) _____

In honor of (living) _____

Given by _____

Please have your request submitted by Monday April 10th . You may place them in the collection basket or contact the rectory. Thank –you. Please Print

METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S GREAT FAST MEDITATION FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

A meaningful journey through Lent ought to unsettle our comfort zones. One of these comfort zones might be an attitude of living with an attitude of entitlement. Recall how some of the apostles were arguing among themselves as to who was the most important. Jesus sat them down and said, "If anyone wishes to rank first, he must remain the last one of all and the servant of all" (Mk. 9:36). How do you and I approach Jesus?

Recall how the Gospels tell of us people jeering, insulting and mocking Jesus on the cross. When you and I judge others, laugh or bully others for what we perceive as different in the way they do things or present themselves, are we not like those unpleasant persons at the foot of the cross? Are we setting ourselves as more important than others just as the apostles did? The friends of the paralytic in today's Gospel reveal to us how we ought to witness to Jesus Christ. They were so motivated that they even made a hole in someone's roof to get their friend to Jesus for healing. Jesus tells them that the paralytic is healed because of the faith of these friends. They vividly reveal what being a servant to one another calls us to do. Others around us are thirsting to hear the healing words of Jesus Christ, and not demeaning, critical or bullying words. Dare to be a servant of others, presenting them to Jesus Christ for healing in our prayers, with our words of love and encouragement, and forgiveness. *Take the challenge!*

The Fathers Speak....On Prayer:

...be not afraid, for He Who said: 'Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid;' (Matt. 14:27) is Himself with us, He Whom we seek and Who always protects us. So in calling to God we must neither fear nor sigh. -*St. Gregory of Sinai (Instructions to Hesychasts no. 7)*

...he who loves God cultivates pure prayer, driving out every passion that keeps him from it. -*St. Maximos the Confessor (Second Century on Love no. 7 Lecture 9 no. 2)*

Abba Macarius was asked, 'How should one pray?' The old man said, 'There is no need at all to make long discourses, it is enough to stretch out one's hands and say, "Lord, as You will, and as You know, have mercy." And if the conflict grows fiercer say, "Lord, help!" He knows very well what we need and He shows us His mercy.' -*Sayings of the Dessert Fathers by Benedicta Ward*

Brethren, let us also occupy ourselves with prayer..., and seeking God's mercy, cry out with a humble heart from morning till night and if possible all night long, saying constantly: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us." -*Saint John Chrysostom*

Let no one think, my brother-Christians, that it is the duty only of priests and monks to pray without ceasing, and not of laymen. No, no; it is the duty of all of us Christians to remain always in prayer. So, my Christian brethren, I too implore you, together also with St. Chrysostom, for the sake of saving your souls, do not neglect the practice of this prayer. Imitate those I have mentioned and follow in their footsteps as far as you can. -*St Gregory Palamas, from "Early Fathers from the Philokalia,"*

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 - \$840.00 Cemetery- \$1,200.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contributions \$1,423.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas- In Memory of +John & +Anna Skrincosky by Andrew & Anna Skrincosky

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 "Jake" Litwak by Charlotte Litwak

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

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

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