

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*

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 Website- 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, November 20th, 2016 27th Sunday After Pentecost

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 19th 3:30pm +Michael & +Anna Smetana by Daughter, Ann
Sunday, November 20th 10:30am God's Blessings on His People
Entrance of the Mother of God
Monday, November 21st 9:00am +Michael & +Ruth Howard by George & Sharon Niel
Tuesday, November 22nd 8:00am God's Blessings on James by Mother, Susan
Thanksgiving
Wednesday, November 23rd 6:00pm +Rev. Fr. James Szupa
Friday, November 25th 8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, November 26th 3:30pm +Ann Wildey by Paul Kerrick & Ann Krusinsky
Sunday, November 27th 10:30am +Helen Mitchell by Richard & Kathy Szczerbowicz

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 19th 5:30pm +Jeanette Stock by Doris Chizmar
Sunday, November 20th 8:30am +Mary Toth by Ron & Diane Kalyan
Entrance of the Mother of God
Sunday, November 20th 4:00pm God's Blessings on His People
Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 24th 8:30am God's Blessings on Andrew & Anna Skrincosky on their 61st
Wedding Anniversary
Saturday, November 26th 8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary
5:30pm +Walter Salak by Daughter, Colleen & Eddie Fox
Sunday, November 27th 8:30am God's Blessings on His People

St. Michael's Lector Schedule:

Saturday, November 19 th	Eph 6:10-17	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, November 20 th	Eph 6:10-17	Michelle Caputo
Monday, November 21 st	Heb 9:1-7	Charles Calise
Saturday, November 26 th	Col 1:12-18	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, November 27 th	Col 1:12-18	Paul Caputo

St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:

Saturday, November 19 th	Eph 6:10-17	Andrew Skrincosky
Sunday, November 20 th	Eph 6:10-17	Dolores Sadusky
Sunday, November 20 th (Holy Day)	Heb 9:1-7	Theresa Panchison
Saturday, November 26 th	Col 1:12-18	Christine Romanko
Sunday, November 27 th	Col 1:12-18	LeeAnn Smulligan

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

St. Michael:

Christmas Bingo- Thank you for everyone who helped with our Christmas Bingo – Your hard work helped to make this a wonderful event. Special thanks to the Fundraising Committee who did a great job pulling this event together !

American Girl Doll Basket Raffle – Tickets for our American Girl Doll Basket Raffle are now available. Please see Stephanie Rarick or the rectory for Tickets. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The basket includes: Lea Clark- the Girl of the Year Doll, Lea's Hiking outfit, Lea's Hike Accessories, Lea's Accessories, Softball Set, Summer Hoodie Set, & Chocolate Glasses. Good Luck !



Christmas Confessions- at St. Michael's will be Tuesday, December 13th from 6 to 7 pm.

Pierogie Sale- The next Pierogie Sale will be December 12th. We are already SOLD OUT, but any help you can give prepping , or working the day of the sale would be appreciated. Thank you.

Shenandoah Catholic War Veterans Post 1107 is looking for new members. Any members of the Catholic Faith is eligible to join. Call 570-462-9560 or 570-985-4968 for more information. Thanks – Joe Chowanes

Candles are now available for 2017. For Sanctuary Lights, please sign up in the back of the church (offering \$15.00) For Iconostas (offering \$12.00) , Tetrapod (offering \$6.00) , Crucifix (offering \$6.00) and 7 Branch Lights(offering \$21.00) please contact the rectory. Please place your offering in the collection basket in a clearly marked envelope.

St. Nicholas:

St Nicholas Banquet- The traditional St Nicholas Banquet will be held on Sunday, December 4th, 2016. The dinner will be served at noon by the wait staff of the TNT Deli. The dinner will consist of roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy, cole slaw and bread with butter. Dessert will be cake and coffee and soda are included. Donation is \$12.00 Children 12 and under are free. Tickets available form Janet Buchinsky beginning 10/23/16.

Christmas Confessions- at St. Nicholas will be Wednesday, December 14th from 6 to 7 pm

Sanctuary Light – Reservations for 2017 are being accepted. Please submit your requests in an envelope with the \$15.00 offering..

Fr. Myron would like to thank everyone for their concern & prayers

Christmas confession Schedule- From 6pm to 7pm

Monday, December 12	Assumption, Centralia	Ss. Peter and Paul, Mt. Carmel
	Nativity BVM, Middleport	Transfiguration, Shamokin
Tuesday, December 13	St. Michael, Shenandoah	St. John, Maizeville
	Patronage, Marion Heights	St. Nicholas, Minersville
Wednesday, December 14	St. Nicholas, St. Clair	St. Michael, Hazelton
	Protection, McAadoo	St. Michael, Frackville

Both Churches:

Liturgies for 2017. We are now taking request for Divine Liturgies for 2017. We ask that when possible requests be submitted in writing with a daytime phone number. Requests will also be taken by email- stmichaelsukrainian@verizon.net or stnicholassc@verizon.net. If placing the requests by phone, please do so between the hours of 10-3 Monday –Thursday. Thank you for your help in this matter.

5th Annual Murphy Jewelers Bingo- Sunday, Dec. 4th .St. Nicholas Hall, Primrose. Doors open 11:00am, bingo starts 1:00pm. admission \$25.00 includes 16 reg. games& 4 Specials. Special drawing for advanced ticket holders! call 570-527-0899; 570-544-2800. Tickets also available at the door. Proceeds benefit St. Nicholas School.

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.

The Kurious – Friday Nov. 25th St. Nicholas Hall, Primrose. Doors open 7:00pm show starts 8:00pm. Admission \$10.00. e-mail mmahal@comcast.net call 570-544-4581. Proceeds benefit St. Nicholas School.

Monthly Caregivers Support Group- Wednesday December 21st – Stages of Grief and Loss during the Holidays. RSVP at 570-621-7200 or Melissa.E.Clark@consulatehc.com Luther Ridge at Seiders Hill 160 Red Horse Road , Pottsville PA

Meatball and Sausage Hoagie (with peppers & onions) sale sponsored by Divine Mercy Parish to be held on Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 3:30 to 6:30 pm in St. Stephen Hall, corner of East Oak St. & South Main Streets. The cost of each hoagie is \$ 5.00 take out only. Order forms are available at the parish office, 108 West Cherry St., Shenandoah, PA 17976. DEADLINE FOR RETURN: Sunday, November 27th

Parish Mission- This year we will be having a Parish Mission/modified to 40 Hours celebration. This spiritual program will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 PM on Sunday, November 20th with the opportunity for the Sacrament of Penance. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 7:00 PM at Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, PA. Immediately after Benediction, part one of the Parish Mission will begin, led by Frank Runyeon who has starred in over 1,000 television shows over the last 20 years...opposite Meg Ryan on AS THE WORLD TURNS, on SANTA BARBARA, FALCON CREST, GENERAL HOSPITAL, LA LAW and MELROSE PLACE. He is also an honors graduate of General Theological Seminary and Princeton University. Part One is entitled “Luke: Stories of Mercy.”The Parish Mission/modified 40 Hours will continue on Monday, November 21st with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 PM with the opportunity for the Sacrament of Penance. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 7:00 PM.The Parish Mission will continue with Part Two immediately after Benediction with Frank Runyeon. Part Two is entitled “John: Signs of Mercy.”

Christmas Craft Fair Saturday December 3rd from 10am to 4pm. at Nativity of BVM Church at 211 Grace St. Reading PA. Christmas Crafts & Gifts: Pyrohy: Haluski: Rolls: Holubchi: Pastry & Homemade Bread: Potato Pancakes: Wreaths: Eat-in & Take Outs: Treasure Hunt Game .

Longaberger Basket Bingo- Sunday December 4th at the William Penn Fire Company. Doors open at 12:30 ,bingo starts at 2:00pm . Tickets are \$25.00 and include 20 regular games and 5 specials. In addition a lunch buffer and dessert table will also be included. All Specials will be played as Good Neighbor Games and there will be a special drawing for advanced ticket holders. As always baskets will be filled and there will be numerous door prizes. If you would like to reserve tickets or need additional information please call Lisa at 590-9075.

I'm not Ebenezer Scrooge- presented by the Nuremberg Community Players- December 2nd & 3rd at 7pm and December 4th at 3pm. Tickets \$10.00 Reservations are suggested. for info and tickets call 1-877-718-7894. Theatre location: 283 Hazel Street Nuremberg PA 18241.

POPE FRANCIS

MORNING MEDITATION IN THE CHAPEL OF THE *DOMUS SANCTAE MARTHAE*

Flour and yeast--Tuesday, 25 October 2016

(by <http://www.osservatoreromano.va>)

“Docility” was the keyword of Pope Francis’ homily in the Mass he celebrated on Tuesday morning, 25 October, in the Chapel of Santa Marta. Indeed, docility ought to be the principle characteristic not only of the “path” of each individual Christian, but also of the wider path that distinguishes the kingdom of God.

The Pope first made a brief reference to the liturgy of the previous day: “Yesterday we repeated, and also prayed: ‘Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord’”. We must “walk in the law”, he said, and “not only see it; not only study it”. The law, in fact, “is for life, it helps build the kingdom, to make life”.

This was the theme that Pope Francis expanded upon in his homily on Tuesday. His starting point was the passage from the Gospel of Luke (13:18-21) in which, through the similarities between the mustard seed and yeast, “the Lord tells us that the kingdom is on a path”. But “what is the kingdom of God?”. Someone might think, the Pope suggested, that it is “a well-made structure” with “good establishment plans” and “everything in order”, and that that which does not enter into this organization does not belong to the kingdom of God. But to think in such a way would incur the same error into which one might fall with regards to the law: being “fixated”, the “rigidity”.

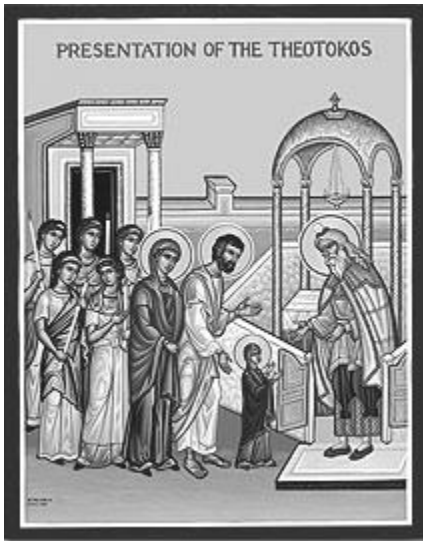
Instead, Francis explained, using an unusual but effective transitive verb, “the law is for walking”. And “the kingdom of God is on its way”. The kingdom “is not stagnant”, but, even more, “the kingdom of God ‘is built’ each day”. To clarify this concept, the Pontiff said, “Jesus speaks of two things of everyday life: the yeast does not remain as yeast, because eventually it will ruin; it is mixed with flour, it is on its way and develops the bread”; and likewise “the seed does not remain a seed: it dies and gives life to a tree”. Therefore: “the yeast and the seed are on the path to ‘making’ something”. And “the kingdom is also this way”. The Pope wished to reiterate the concept: “Yeast and seed die. The yeast is no longer yeast: it mixes with the flour and becomes bread for all, a meal for everyone. The seed will no longer be seed: it will become a tree and will become a home for all, for the birds”.

This is not an “issue of smallness”, Francis said, for which one might think: “it is small, it is a small or big thing”. It is, rather, “a problem along the way”, and it is precisely on the way that “the transformation happens”. Referring again to the homily he gave on the previous day — in which he highlighted “the attitude of the person who observes the law but does not walk, who was fixated”, and that “being fixated, was an attitude of rigidity” — the Pope then passed to the level of the personal involvement and commitment of every Christian: “what is the attitude that the Lord asks us to have, so that the kingdom of God may grow and be bread for everyone and shelter for all?”. The answer is clear: “docility”. In fact, he added, “the kingdom of God grows, with docility to the strength of the Holy Spirit”. In this regard Pope Francis took the symbolism proposed in the Gospel passage: “the flour ceases to be flour and becomes bread, because it is docile to the strength of the yeast”; and again: “the yeast is left to mix with the flour”. And even though “flour does not have sentiments”, we know that in allowing it to be “knead”, there is “some pain”, as there is later when you “allow it to cook”. The same dynamic is found, the Pope said, regarding the kingdom of God, which “grows in this way, and then eventually becomes food for everyone”. As “the flour is docile to the yeast”, and “grows”, so too does the kingdom of God: “The man and the woman who are docile to the Holy Spirit grow and are a gifts for everyone. The seed is also docile in order to be fruitful, loses its size as a seed, and becomes something else, something much bigger: it transforms”.

For this reason the kingdom of God “is like the law: on a path”. It is “on a path towards hope, it is on a path towards fullness” and, above all, “it is made every day, with the docility to the Holy Spirit, who is the one who unites our little yeast, or small seed, to strength, and transforms them to grow”. On this point the Pontiff outlined another connection to the reflection he gave the previous day, when he spoke about the relationship with the law: when we do not walk the law, he said, we become “rigid and the rigidity makes us orphans, with no Father”. This is because those who are rigid “have only masters, not a father”. In this way, the kingdom of God, which is realized by walking, “is like a mother who grows fruitful” and “gives herself so that her children are nurtured and have a dwelling, according to the example of the Lord”.

Therefore, Francis concluded, we must “ask for the grace of docility to the Holy Spirit”. Indeed, we are often “docile to our whims, our judgments”, and we think: “I do what I want”. But “the kingdom does not grow in this way”, and “we ourselves do not grow”. It is, rather, “docility to the Holy Spirit that will make us grow and transform as the yeast and seed”.

November 21 -The Feast of the Presentation of the Mother of God in the Temple



The commemoration of the Presentation of Mary in the Temple is on 21st November. It has been kept at least from the 7th century in the Eastern church tradition. Emperor Justinian built a splendid church dedicated to Mary in the Temple area in Jerusalem. It was dedicated on November 21, 543 but was destroyed by the Persians within a century. Many of the early church Fathers such as St. Germanus, Patriarch of Constantinople and St. John Damascene, his contemporary, preached magnificent homilies on this feast referring to Mary as that special plant or flower which was being nurtured for better things. "She was planted in the House of God, nourished by the Holy Spirit and kept her body and soul spotless to receive God in her bosom. He Who is all-holy rests among the holy."

In the Byzantine Church this feast is considered one of the twelve great feasts of the liturgical year, called the Dodecaorton. By the 9th century it is celebrated in the monasteries of southern Italy which had been influenced by the traditions of the Byzantine churches, and by the 14thC. it had spread to England. However it was not until 1472 that Pope Sixtus IV extended its celebration to the Western church.

The source for the presentation is the Protoevangelium of James. Like Hannah, Anna has promised that any child she had would be offered as a gift to the Lord and presented in the Temple to serve Him. Tradition tells us that the Anna and Joachim took Mary to the Temple when she was three years old. In the Orthodox icon for this day the high priest Zachariah in his robes greets Mary and her parents at the doorsteps of the Temple. Behind Zachariah is the veil of the temple hiding the ark of the covenant. Mary is on the first step, and he takes her through the veil. From now onwards she will be the living ark. So in the scene in the upper left corner of the icon Mary is seated in the place of honor where only the ark should rest, alone as though in anticipation of the same throne where in more familiar icons she will be holding the Christ child on her knees. Her parents are in the outer courtyard making the traditional offering, but the whole focus is on the child who in the main part of the icon is stretching out her arms in willingness to perform whatever duties

the Lord has entrusted with her. Mary is accompanied by twelve virgins carrying their lamps. Zachariah is shown to be both priest and prophet, for he sees what God intends for her. Her name will be blessed by all generations, and through her redemption will be revealed.

Mary served in the Temple where she was fed miraculously by the angels until she was twelve. Then Zachariah, prompted by the message of an angel, betrothed her to one of the widowers who was indicated by the Lord.

Thanksgiving to Whom?

During November, the month when the bright scarlet and orange leaves fade to a lifeless sienna, when morning frosts give way to snow flurries and thoughts of winter, and the sun hides its bright warm rays giving us long dark nights, our thoughts turn to Thanksgiving Day and the traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings we will enjoy with family and friends.

Surveys show, Thanksgiving Day is the most traveled day of the year. Relatives traverse great distances to be with fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, aunts and uncles, grandsons and granddaughters. The inconveniences of driving or flying pale in comparison to the warmth and togetherness of being together with loved ones and maintaining this tradition. People do not travel hundreds of miles for a turkey dinner and pumpkin pie, they travel to share the love and togetherness of family and friends.

Thanksgiving Day, observed on the fourth Thursday in November is a time when our nation pauses to give thanks. But give thanks to whom? When you give thanks, you give them to someone. You express gratitude to another. On Thanksgiving Day we do give thanks, and what makes it special, is that we, as a nation give thanks to GOD. (We better not tell the ACLU, or someone may try to find a court to stop the celebration of Thanksgiving Day.)

A day of Thanksgiving to God is a tradition in this nation, going back to the first Thanksgiving observance in Virginia. Virginia? Yes Virginia. On December 4, 1619, the 38 English settlers who arrived on the banks of the James River placed in their charter that this day of arrival be observed yearly as a day of thanksgiving with prayer and feasting.

A year later, in 1620, the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth. The following fall, in 1621, Governor William Bradford arranged a three-day harvest festival to give thanks to God for delivering the colonists through the harsh winter.

In 1789, our first president, George Washington by proclamation declared November 26 a day of national Thanksgiving to God.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as “a day of thanksgiving to our beneficent Father” a tradition that continued until 1939, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt set the date as the fourth Thursday in November. In 1941 Congress made it a federal legal holiday, the custom we follow today.

Thanksgiving Day is special because as a nation we give thanks to God. It is special because it is our national holy day. It is special because, regardless of how an atheist may try to conceal the fact, it is a day when our nation formally acknowledges the existence of God. It is a day we thank Almighty God for His blessings upon this great nation, penned so aptly by the lyricist with these words, “*America, America, God shed His grace on thee. . .*”

Take time this Thanksgiving Day to attend religious services, to pray a meaningful grace before the meal, and to reflect upon the many blessings God has bestowed upon us, our families and our great nation.

Happy Thanksgiving Day!

Nov 20- Don't Leave It To The Priests



In this final column of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, which ends today, the message is to the point. Our call—as individuals—is nothing less than to spread the news of God’s mercy.

It was Vatican Council II that issued this call to us, the laity, because we “live in the midst of the world and its concerns.”

Recalling that after Jesus had sent out the Twelve (Luke 9:2), he sent seventy-two others to spread his kingdom throughout the earth to offer all people a share in god’s mercy.

In the Church there is a diversity of ministry but a unity of mission, with the laity sharing in the priestly office of Jesus. The Council fathers stated flatly that we, the laity, are called by God to exercise our mission by openly bearing witness to Christ and promoting the salvation of humankind.

We are challenged to do this with the ardor Jesus himself demonstrated. This means with passion, fervor, zeal, intensity, fire, emotion, enthusiasm, eagerness.

A tall order. But one we cannot walk away from now that the Year of Mercy has ended.

Our prayer today: *Lord, enkindle in us a missionary zeal so we may boldly proclaim Jesus in our daily lives and ceaselessly promote the salvation of our brothers and sisters in every corner of the world.* (Image: World Youth Day, Rio de Janeiro)

In this Season of Advent, St. Philip’s Fast, we are in a time of fasting and abstinence as we prepare spiritually for the season of Christmas and the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Our Church has spiritual bouquets available and may be purchased in the memory of or in honor of a loved one. They will be remembered in the Divine Liturgy on Christmas Day.

Poinsettias will also be purchased to beautify our church during this season of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. Donations will also be accepted in memory of or in honor of a loved one and will help defray the cost of the flowers.

Spiritual Bouquet- In Memory of / In Honor of (living)

Christmas Flowers- In Memory of / In Honor of (living)

From

Please print your requests, and circle in Memory of or in Honor of . Feel free to use additional paper if more room is needed. **Please submit by December 19th** , if your requests are not received by the 19th they will not appear in the Christmas bulletin. You may place your envelope in the collection basket, or contact the rectory.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

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 - \$ 643.00 Thank You!

St. Nicholas: Contributions - \$625.00 Cemetery - \$400.00 Thank You!

Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas God's Blessing on the 61st Anniversary (11/26) of Andrew and Anna Skrincosky

Sanctuary Light: St. Michael In Memory of + Sam, +Mike,+ Peter, +John & +Mike Jr Unuscavage by Niece, Nancy

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

4 Lamps of the Iconostas –. In Thanks for Prayers and Blessings by Fr. Myron

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

Martha Hysock

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