

**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)*

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

*Follow us on twitter @ stmichaelukr*

*Msgr. Myron Grabowsky – Parish Priest*

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**Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Sunday After the Exaltation of the Cross**

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**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, September 16 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm God's Blessing on His People
Sunday, September 17 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am +John & +Mary Yawornitsky by Daughter, Theresa Krajcirik
<b>Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO DIVINE LITURGY</b>
<b>Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO DIVINE LITURGY</b>
Friday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3:30pm +Ralph Mohutsky by Wife, Winnie and Family
Sunday, September 24 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am God's Blessing on His People

**SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Saturday, September 16 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm Deceased Member of the +Zucal Family by Bernadette Bremer & Family
Sunday, September 17 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am +Helen Krolick & +John Yaroshak by Son, Ronald
Monday, September 18 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am +Anna Brennan by Harold & Mary Albon & Family
<b>Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>NO DIVINE LITURGY</b>
Saturday, September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	8:00am Reparation of the Immaculate & Sorrowful Heart of Mary 5:30pm +Mary Toth by Rennick & Toth Families
Sunday, September 24 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am +John Yaroshak by Ronald Krolick

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

Saturday, September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Gal 2:16-20	Nancy Sawka
Sunday, September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Gal 2:16-20	Alice Breznik
Saturday, September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2 Cor 6:1-10	Winifred Mohutsky
Sunday, September 24 <sup>th</sup>	2 Cor 6:1-10	Michael Fuflla

**St. Nicholas Lector Schedule:**

Saturday, September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Gal 2:16-20	Bernadette Bremer
Sunday, September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Gal 2:16-20	Susan Miller
Saturday, September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2 Cor 6:1-10	Christine Romanko
Sunday, September 24 <sup>th</sup>	2 Cor 6:1-10	Lauralee Sadusky Marshall

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

### *St. Michael:*

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**Holiday Bingo** – The Bingo will be Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in helping with the event should talk to Michelle Caputo, Theresa Krajcirik or Stephanie Rarick. Work has begun already in the hall to set up for this event. **Flyers are available in the back of the church – please hang up at your favorite places** 😊

**Donations for Holiday Bingo**-The Holiday Bingo Fundraising Committee is seeking donations or new unused decorative of holiday entertaining items still in their original packaging,

**Items needed include:**

- Fall, Thanksgiving, Christmas or winter themed decorations
- Hostess and entertaining stemware. serving dishes etc..
- Bakeware & cookware
- Edible gift baskets
- Any elegant pieces such as Lenox, Princess House or Waterford which may be showcased.
- Donations will be combined into 25 valuable gift themed groupings to be used as prizes.
- Monetary donations are also graciously accepted.

**Boscov's Fundraiser**- Coupons are available for a donation of \$5.00 each. The coupon gives 25% off most items on Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions please contact the rectory. Please feel free to take some to sell to friends and family.

**Sanctuary Light** – Available Dates: 10/1 & 11/19.

**Roaster Pans**- There are old roaster pans (NOT THE COMPLETE ROASTER) available downstairs for anyone who would like them. They are from the roasters that we no longer have and do not fit in the roasters we use. They are on carts at the bottom of the stairs. Please see Fr. with any questions.

### *St. Nicholas:*

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**Sanctuary Light** – Available Dates: 10/22, 10/29

### *Both Churches:*

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**Msgr. Myron will be unavailable Tuesday September 19 through the 21<sup>st</sup>. If you have an urgent issue- please leave a message on the rectory phone and someone will call you back as soon as possible.**

**Rectory Hours**- The hours for this week will be Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to 2:30 Please call the rectory before coming down to be sure someone will be there to meet your needs.

**Special Collection**-We are taking up a special collection for those effected by the Hurricanes When donating – please be sure to clearly mark your envelope so the donation can be properly applied. Thank you.

## ***Both Churches:***

**DATE CHANGE Wedding Anniversary Celebration** will be held Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. All married couples are invited to attend the 11am Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia followed by a dinner. Flyers/ registration forms are in the back of the church. Please register by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Festival** - On Saturday, September 16 Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Church will be hosting their 4th annual Ukrainian Day Festival. Would you please inform your parishioners of our special. The festival will be from 11am until 5pm at 401 Fairview Street. The Kazka Dancers will perform at 12pm with more entertainment throughout the day. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either through email or my cell phone at 484-429-4787.

**Basket/Gift Auction!** Sunday, October 1, 2017 at Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall, 131 N. Beech St in Mount Carmel. Doors open at 11:30 AM, auction begins at 2 PM. Browse & Bid on Saturday, September 30 from 11 AM to 2 PM. Need not be present to win. Lots of great prizes...Nintendo Switch, Apple Watch, Amazon Echo, Holiday Decorations Baskets, Fine Jewelry Cabinet, and so much more! Great food to eat in or take out.

**Harvest Fest** at St. Mary Church, 94 Walnut Road, Hamburg, PA. Friday, October 6 (4-9 pm) and Saturday, October 7 (12-9 pm). Ongoing entertainment both days; Saturday – Polka Mass 4:30. Homemade food, fun, activities and games for all ages, corn hole tournament. Free admission, rain or shine, plenty of parking, no coolers. 610-562-7657, [www.stmaryhamburg.org](http://www.stmaryhamburg.org)

**St. John's Curiosity Shop / Yard Sale** St. John's R.C. Church, 10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts. in Pottsville will host its Curiosity Shop/Yard Sale on ... Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Russell Building on 9<sup>th</sup> St. & Schuylkill Ave., Pottsville. Various items including ... Dishes, Knick-Knacks, Toys, Games, Books, Vases, Kitchen Items, Candles, Jewelry, Glass Items, Holiday Decorations, Appliances, Linens, Video/DVD's, Religious Items, Framed Prints, and our Special Vintage / Collectibles Section ... Cut Glass, Silver, Depression Glass, Lenox, Stoneware, Pottery, Bone China, Milk Glass, Cake Plates, and much, much more. Food items also available ... Hot Dogs, BBQ, Pierogies, Baked Goods, Refreshments.

**The Fifth Annual Rusyn Genealogy and Heritage Conference** "Rusyn History and Culture from A to Z". Join us on Saturday (9/30/2017) from 9AM-4PM at King's College Campus Center, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Speakers include Father Joseph Bertha; Dr. Paul Robert Magocsi ; John Righetti and Dr. Paula Donson . They will provide an array of thought provoking presentations such as Father Bertha's talk on "The Lachrymose Mariapocs icon, an American connection?!" Professor Magocsi will address "Carpatho-Rusyns: Myths & Stereotypes". John Righetti will focus on "Rusyn history from Immigration to the present." Finally, Dr. Paula Donson will explore what it meant "Growing up Rusyn". This conference costs \$45.00 and includes a breakfast buffet and lunch. An Eastern European Market, translators, and a basket raffle will be available. Please RSVP by September 22 to: Sharon Jarrow ([shangp@rcn.com](mailto:shangp@rcn.com) • call 610-759-2628) or mail check made to C-RS Eastern PA to Sharon Jarrow~599 Fehr Rd. ~Nazareth, PA 18064. We look forward to seeing you!

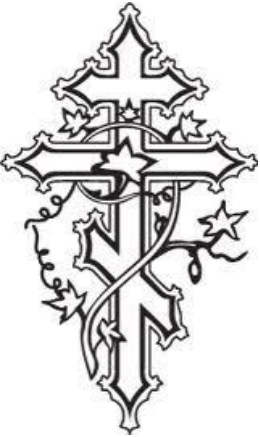
**Food Bank** – PLEASE HELP – OUR CUPBOARDS ARE BARE. We appreciate everyone who donates to our food bank. This good work helps many people in the community. The issue is that it is the end of summer and our donations are down. We have very little food to offer those in need. Please help us continue this community service. Please remember that we not only need non- perishable food , but toilet paper & hygiene products .Gift cards for grocery stores and gas cards are also always welcome. Thank you for helping to bring a little light into someone's day. God Bless.

# POPE FRANCIS

MORNING MEDITATION IN THE CHAPEL OF THE DOMUS SANCTAE MARTHAE

## **In the sign of the Cross - Tuesday, 4 April 2017**

(by L'Osservatore Romano, Weekly ed. in English, n. 17, 28 April 2017)



“Making the sign of the Cross” in a distracted way, and showing off “the symbol of Christians” as if it were “the emblem of a football team” or an “ornament”, with precious stones and gold, has nothing to do with the “mystery” of Christ. Pope Francis offered this reflection in his homily on Tuesday morning, 4 April. The Pontiff called for an examination of conscience to consider precisely the Cross, to reflect on the way that each of us brings the only “instrument of Salvation” into our daily lives.

Referring to the day’s reading from the Gospel according to John (8:21-30), the Pope observed how striking it was that, “in this short Gospel passage, Jesus tells the teachers of the law, the scribes, several Pharisees three times: ‘you will die in your sins’”. He repeats this three times “because they did not understand the mystery of Jesus, because their hearts were closed and they were not capable of opening up a little, to try to understand that mystery which was the Lord”. In fact, the Pontiff explained, “dying in one’s own sin is a bad thing”, he continued, as “it means that everything ends there, in the filth of sin”.

However, “this dialogue, in which Jesus repeats three times: ‘you will die in your sins’, continues and, in the end, Jesus looks back to the story of Salvation and reminds them of something: ‘When you have lifted up the Son of man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority’”. Thus, “the Lord actually says, ‘when you have lifted up the Son of Man’”, Francis pointed out.

Jesus’ words, the Pontiff observed, recall “what happened in the desert, which we heard about in the first reading (Num 21:4-9). The weary people, the people who cannot bear the journey, drift away from the Lord, speak ill of Moses and the Lord, and find those snakes which bite and kill”. Thus, “the Lord tells Moses to build a serpent out of bronze ‘and set it on a pole; and every one who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live’”.

The serpent, Francis explained, “is the symbol of evil; it is the symbol of the devil: he was the most astute of all the animals in the earthly paradise”. Indeed, “the serpent can seduce with lies”; he is the “father of lies: this is the mystery”. Thus, “should we look to the devil to be saved?”, the Pontiff asked. “The serpent is the father of sin, the one who caused humanity to sin”. In reality, “Jesus says: ‘When you have lifted up the Son of man, then you will know that I am he’. Obviously this is the mystery of the Cross”, the Pontiff stressed.

“The bronze serpent brought healing, but the bronze serpent was a sign of two things”: on the one hand, “the sin committed by the serpent, the seduction by the serpent, the astuteness of the serpent”; and on the other, “the sign of Christ’s Cross. It was a prophecy”, Francis explained. “This is why the Lord says to them: ‘when you have lifted up the Son of man, then you will know that I am he’”. We could say,

the Pope added, that “Jesus ‘made himself to be serpent’; Jesus ‘made himself to be sin’, and took upon himself all of humanity’s filth, all the filth of sin; and ‘he made himself to be sin’; he let himself be lifted up so that all people could look at him, the people wounded by sin: us. This is the mystery of the Cross. Paul says: ‘he made himself to be sin’, and he took the appearance of the father of sin, of the astute serpent”.

“Those who did not look at the bronze serpent after being bitten by a serpent in the desert, died in their sin, the sin of grumbling against God and against Moses”, Pope Francis explained. At the same time, “those who, like the serpent, do not recognize in that upraised man the strength of God who

made himself to be sin in order to heal us, will die in their sins”. Because “salvation comes only from the Cross, but from this Cross which is God made flesh: there is no salvation in ideas; there is no salvation in willingness, in wanting to be good”. In fact, the Pope continued, “the only true salvation is in Christ Crucified, because”, as symbolized by the bronze serpent, “only He could take on all the poison of sin, and thereby, healed us”, Francis explained.

“But what is the Cross for us?”, the Pontiff asked. “It is the sign of Christians; it is the symbol of Christians, and we make the sign of the Cross, but we do not always do so correctly. Sometimes we do it like this ...”, the Pope gestured, “because we do not have faith in the Cross”, the Pope said. “For some people, it is a badge of belonging: ‘yes I wear the Cross to show that I am Christian’”. And “this is fine”, he said; however, “not only as an emblem, as if it were a team, a team emblem”, but rather, “as a reminder of the One who made himself to be sin, who made himself to be devil, serpent for us; who abased himself to the point of complete annihilation”.

“Others wear the Cross as an ornament; they wear crosses with precious stones to be seen”, Francis said. But, he continued, “God said to Moses, ‘whoever looks at the serpent shall be healed’; Jesus tells his enemies, ‘when you have lifted up the Son of man, then you will know that I am he’”. Therefore, “those who do not look at the Cross with faith shall die in their own sin, they will not receive salvation”.

“Today, the Church suggests a dialogue with this mystery of the Cross, with this God who made himself to be sin, out of love for me. Each one of us can say, ‘out of love for me’”, the Pontiff continued, adding that we should ask ourselves the following questions: “How do I carry the Cross? — as a reminder? When I make the sign of the Cross, am I aware of what I am doing? How do I wear the Cross? — only as a symbol of belonging to a religious group? How do I wear the Cross? — as an ornament, a piece of gold jewelry with many precious stones?”. Or, “have I learned to carry it on my shoulders, where it hurts?”.

The Holy Father concluded with a prayer that “each of us today look at this God who made himself to be sin so that we do not die in our sins, and answer these questions which I have suggested to you”.

***It is when we forget ourselves  
that we do things that will be remembered.***

## **Why do we give the the Body and Blood of Christ on a spoon?**

Our Church fervently believes when Jesus said “take this and eat...” and “drink of this all of you....” He meant for us to receive His Sacred Body and Precious Blood when we “go to Communion.” For centuries the Church has maintained a way for that command to “eat” and “drink” to be carried out in a most symbolic and convenient manner: together as a whole. What looks like bread is no longer simply that – what looks and tastes like wine also is transformed. Their physical, chemical properties remain, yet their substance is changed.

When the priest repeats Jesus’ words [note – in the first person singular] first over the bread and again over wine – our faith “informs” us that what was previously bread and wine becomes the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ. Here the Sacrifice of Christ is made real. Body and Blood are separated. This recalls Christ’s words on the Cross: “it is consummated.” Yet during the course of the Divine Liturgy, the Gifts (Christ’s Body and Blood) are re-joined to show that Christ was not destroyed by His sacrifice. He is alive, whole and entire, body, soul, humanity and divinity!

The chalice is the repository of the victorious Jesus. [This is why some people venerate it after receiving the “Holy Gifts”.] The Christ, Messiah, is there for our nourishment. It is no coincidence that the chalice and the spoon are gold plated precious metal. They give a visual impression that what they contain is something of great value. The spoon which is used to distribute the Holy Eucharist is a special instrument – reminiscent of the tongs which the Angel used to take a burning coal from the Altar in order to touch the lips of Isaiah to purify him of his sins (Isaiah 6:7). [Note the words of the priest after the last person receives the Holy Eucharist. He is quoting Isaiah 6:7.]

From a purely spiritual perspective, the Holy Gifts are exactly that: sacred, imbued with the fullness of Gods presence and grace, and are divine (not human) gifts. “for every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from You the Father of lights” (Prayer behind the Ambon – Divine Liturgy). If we truly believe in God, we know quite well that God would never allow harm to come to us, most especially in the [worthy] reception of Holy Communion.

Historically early Christians received Communion from the celebrant, a portion of the consecrated Bread placed into their hands. They then drank from the chalice. Some ancient liturgies – the Alexandrian Liturgy of St. Mark and the Jerusalemite Liturgy of St. James – still commune the laity this way. (The Roman Church sometimes uses this option). [However the Byzantine Church has developed a much deeper understanding of the Eucharist and just what is really happening.] Because of the fear of accidents, the Byzantine Church adopted the use of tongs with which the elements were mingled and placed carefully into the mouths of the communicants. By the ninth century, the Church changed to the Communion spoon for the same practical reasons, a practice that remains in use today, which has become for us the “better” way.

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***It pays to raise your praise!***

***Get rich quick – count your blessings!***

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## THE FATHERS SPEAK:

On the Meaning of the Cross The cross is the door to mysteries. Through this door the intellect makes entrance in to the knowledge of heavenly mysteries. The knowledge of the cross is concealed in the sufferings of the cross. And the more our participation in its sufferings, the greater the perception we gain through the cross. For, as the Apostle says, 'As the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. -*The Ascetical Homilies of St. Isaac of Syria*

Of course, it would be easier to get to paradise with a full stomach, all snuggled up in a soft feather-bed, but what is required is to carry one's cross along the way, for the kingdom of God is not attained by enduring one or two troubles, but many! -*Elder Anthony of Optina*

The Most High planted in the middle of Paradise The thrice blessed wood, the gift of life for us, In order that, in approaching it, Adam might find eternal and immortal life; But he did not strive earnestly to know this life, And he failed to attain it, and revealed death. However, the robber, seeing how the plant in Eden Had been beautifully transplanted in Golgotha, Recognized the life in it and said to himself: "This is what my father lost formerly In Paradise." -*St Romanos the Melodist*



## Holiday Spectacular Bingo

**Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Doors open at 12 noon**

**Early Bird at 1:15pm**

**Bingo starts at 1:30pm**

**Admission \$25.00 (20 games)**

*Five additional "special" games available. Door Prizes!*

Valuable themed Holiday Spectacular prizes include: Pfaltzgraff Winterberry dinnerware & serving sets, illuminated fall & winter décor, lawn decorations, nativity set, Waterford crystals, fine china, lighted Christmas trees, wreaths, holiday baking and entertaining items, linens, giftwrap & trim essentials, Lenox, Mikasa, Lego sets and toys, lights & ornaments, themed baskets, figurines, florals, and more.

*Advanced tickets to be entered into a special drawing*

**\*All Players must purchase an admission ticket**

**St. Michael's Church Hall  
300 W Oak St , Shenandoah, PA  
tickets / info 570-462-0809.**

## Church Information

**Rectory Hours-** Please call for appointment. 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 -\$ 800.00 Thank You!

**St. Nicholas:** Contributions \$ 776.00 Cemetery \$30.00 Thank You!

**Sanctuary Light: St. Nicholas-** Special Intentions by Michael & Janet Buchinsky

**Sanctuary Light: St. Michael-** In Memory of +Jason Mitchell by Carol Kalavage

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

**4 Lamps of the Iconostas-** God's Blessings on all the Victims of the Recent Hurricanes.

**Lamps of the Crucifix-** God's Blessing on all the Rescue Personnel Helping the Hurricane Victims

**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

Eva Koch	Helen O'Connell	Susan Enders	Jane Sittnick**
Demetrius Grabowsky*	Helen Beddall	Dolores O'Connell Leahy	Dolores Kozie
Mary Goodlunas*	Irene Flaherty	Helen Bereschak	Bill McAndrew*
Sandy Bankes*	Tom Prete**	Helen Sims	Andrea Pytak
Shannon's Mom*	Susan Chernesky	Mary Mazur	Annie Cragen
Matthew Morrisey	Pat Sittnick**	Charlie Calise	Irene Yaroma

### St. Nicholas

Peter Kadingo	Laura Seasock	Joseph Salak	Jim Rehnert
Margaret Skrincosky		Anna Skrincosky	Walter Mistishen
Mary Mistishen		Catherine Washuta	Andrew Skrincosky
Joseph Luckenbill	Metro & Helen Tarris	Elizabeth Gulas	

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