



Saint Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

146 Third Avenue, Rankin, PA 15104
Pastor: Very Reverend Nicholas Ferencz, PhD
Cantor: Professor Jerry Jumba
Parish President : Carole Bushak

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!
Slava Isusu Christu! Slava vo v'iki!



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JUNE 2, 2019

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

Sun., June 2 **Sunday of the Man Born Blind.** Martyr Thaleleus

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Panachida: Gregory Bodrog – Shirley Hrubic.

Family Day at Camp Nazareth!

Mon., June 3 Emperor Constantine and his mother Helen, Equals-to-the-Apostles.

7:00 PM *Monthly Parish Council Meeting*

THU., JUNE 6 **THE FEAST THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD**

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Special Remembrance: Margaret Hixon – family.

Sun., June 9 **Remembering the Fathers of the 1st Council of Nicea in 325.** Martyred Bishiop Therapontus of Sardis. Monk Bede.

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Panachida: June Perpetuals: Fr. Stephen & Pañi Anna Varzaly (June 3). Stephen Kozlowsky (June 8). Michael Hudak & George Horgas (June 16).

Holy Mystery of Confession: Before Divine Liturgy and other services. If you cannot make a scheduled time, please let me know and we can make arrangements.

PEOPLE STUFF

Prayer List: *Deceased:* Margaret Dufalla.

Living: Fr. Joseph Cervo. Fr. Robert Popichak. Pañi Dorothy Hutnyan. Pañi Donna Smoley. Pañi Eleanor Pribish. Dana Andrade. Gloria Andrade. Michael Artim. Gregory Michael Aurilio. Brooklyn Grace Banovsky and her parents Chris and Katie. Jane Barclay. Walter Bolbat. John Bonga. Donald Bodnar. Charlene Borsic. Jaime Budesá. Barbara Chappie. Steve Bournius. Rebecca, David & Bradley Noah Cozad. Mary Ann Crouse. Martha Danchak. George & Margaret Dorogy. Christina Duranko. Breanne Glass. Dorothy Glass. Eddie Gombos. Jennifer Hartrick. Shirley Hrubic. Kevin Ianni. Gary Ingelido. Andrea Kerkentzes. Joan Martell. Brian Masterovsky. Zoe Mehalik. Helen Mihalik. Bill & Patti Novotnak. Frank Palmieri. Diane Phillips. Millie and

Edward Phillips. Michael Platt. John Righetti. Anna Senich. Bernice Sindak. Terry Slezak. Bill and Andrea Sovick. Margaret Stemler. Milton and Thelma Supak. Diana Terezis. Bobby and Dee Triffanoff. Josh Walendziewicz. Paul & Valerie Yednak. Jeanne Zajac. *Prophora Bakers*: Trudy Trifanoff. Delores Cubakovic, and their intentions.

Welcome! We welcome to our church this morning all visitors, guests, relatives, and friends of Saint Michael Church. We invite *everyone* present today to chant the Liturgy along with the cantor. We pray your visit with us is spiritually rewarding, holy and life-giving. Visit often!

F(E)ASTING

THE FEAST THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD will be on Thursday, June 6. This is a Major Holy Day of the Church. Divine Liturgy will be at 9 AM.

PARISH STUFF

Reminder! Lottery Ticket Raffle: Lottery goes off on *Sunday, July 7*. You can buy your tickets from Carole Bushak et al. – they are still \$5.00 each. *Also*, we are asking for donations of lottery tickets to be included in the prize. Anytime you have a chance to pick up one or more tickets, of various denominations, please give them to Carole and help us out with this fundraiser!

Reminder! Parish Council Meeting. The regular monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday, June 3, at 7 PM.

Church Repairs: *We thank all of our parishioners* for your ongoing, active interest in the well-being of our parish. God bless us every one! So far, we have **\$3941** donated toward this new work. Total cost of this work was **\$3800**. *We thank you for your generosity. God bless!*

DIOCESE, DEANERY AND ADDITIONAL STUFF

New! Upcoming Events this year: in our Parish, the Deanery and the Diocese. Please mark your calendars:

Sun., July 7: here at St. Michael's: Lottery Tickets Raffle Drawn.

Sat., Aug 10: St. John's, East Pittsburgh, Annual Golf Tourney at Valley Green Country Club.

Sun., Sep. 8: here at St. Michael's: **Bring a Friend Sunday**

Sat., Sep. 28: St. John's, East Pittsburgh, Annual Food Festival.

Sun., Sep. 29: 2nd Annual Deanery Picnic!

Sun., Oct. 6: Distinguished Diocesan Donors Dinner

Sun., Oct. 13 through Wed., Oct. 16: Triennial Diocesan Sobor

Sat., Nov. 16 & Sun., Nov. 17: St. Johns's, East Pittsburgh, 100th Anniversary Parish Celebration.

Sun., Dec. 8: Annual Deanery St. Nicholas Charity Dinner, to benefit Christ the Saviour Seminary

As new information comes in, we will be adding dates to the list. Keep it in mind!

Our Gifts to God and our Church

May 26, 2019

Attendance	38
Communions	21

Collections

Monthly	55.00
Sunday	761.00
Easter	100.00
All Votive Candles	126.00
Diocesan Membership	111.00
Total Offerings:	1153.00

Building and Repairs Donations to Date
\$3941! *God bless your generosity!*

Update! Faith Night at PNC Park - Ticket prices are only **\$25, which includes a \$5 voucher at the concession stands.** Th game is on **Saturday, June 22nd at 4:05** (Pittsburgh Pirates vs. San Diego Padres). Our sister parish of St. John the Baptist on the North Side is organizing a group of tickets. Wendy Martellotti at martellotti11@verizon.net or 412-583-6254 to reserve your tickets. (Please plan to pre-pay.) And Let's Go Bucs!

From Metropolitan Gregory, received May 31, 2019:

May 30, 2019

TO: THE REVEREND FATHERS AND PARISHES

RE: SOBOR SPECIAL YOUTH PROJECT

Christ is Risen!

Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers:

It pleases me to announce a special Diocesan project in conjunction with the XXIV Diocesan Council – Sobor. We are inviting all high school juniors and seniors as well as college students to participate in writing an essay, maximum 1,500 words, about the Orthodox Christian perspective on one of the following topics:

Abortion
End of Life Issues
Same-sex Marriage
Wealth and Poverty
Violence, Conflict and War

All submissions will be printed in the Sobor Journal which will be issued at the XXIV Council. Students are asked to submit their essays as a WORD document to the Chancellor at:

fpniloro@atlanticbb.net, no later than August 31st. *Please note: applicants names should not be included on their essays so that essays can be judged without bias.*

Three monetary awards will be given as follows:

First Place - \$500
Second Place- \$400
Third Place- \$300

I am urging all our pastors to encourage our young people to consider this invitation and give their best effort in this special project.

With my blessing and every good regard, I remain sincerely
Working in His Vineyard,



+ Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa
Diocesan Bishop

New! From Fr. Jim Dutko, St. Michael's Orthodox Church, 296 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905, (607) 725-3672, frjimd@stny.rr.com. Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Christ is Risen!

I am writing to inform you of a wonderful event to benefit the annual Science and Nature Camp Program at Camp Nazareth in Mercer, PA this summer. The 2nd Annual t Camp Nazareth Classic Colf Tournament will begin with a Shotgun start at 1 PM on Saturday afternoon, September 7, at the Traditions at the Glen Resort in Johnson City. We would be grateful if golfers and friends would like to participate. The cost per golfer is \$100 per person, \$400 for a team of four. This includes the Green Fees, Cart, and the Awards Banquet at St. Michael's,

catered by Orlandos. We would also be appreciative for any advertising support you might be able to offer. Checks for such should be made payable to "St. Michael's," with "CNC Golf Tournament" in the memo line. They are to be sent to the tournament chairman, Dr. Nicholas Seketa, 1104 Tamara Lane, Johnson City, NY 13790. (Telephone is: (607) 798-9455; E-mail: 2019camperclassic@gmail.com)

Sincerely in Christ, Fr. James Dutko

THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST

By Matthew the Poor, *The Communion of Love*

Let us rejoice in the feast of the ascension at which Christ seated us with Him in heaven and prepared for us the happy abode that He had formerly promised, on the right hand of power in the highest, for we became forever reconciled in Christ with the Father, and preserved by the grace and mercy of the Almighty. Unlike the first Adam who dwelt merely in a paradise with trees and fruits and was visited by God from time to time, we in our beloved Redeemer—the second Adam—abide always with God. Though we are now exiled from our heavenly home, slightly suffering so our faith can be justified and so we can be worthy of this splendid portion, we live by faith as though we were permanently settled in heaven with the hope poured in us by Christ and the love that turns pain into pleasure and invisible into visible through our inner vision, patiently and gratefully expecting the moment of union when we enjoy beholding the face of our beloved Christ that will never be taken away from us.

It was the pleasure of Christ, before He went off to the Father, which He prayed for (cf. Jn. 17), so we would be where He abides forever, so we could behold His glory and live in it. After His ascension this glory became a living reality, which St. Stephen the martyr witnessed with his own eyes and after seeing it readily quit his earthly tabernacle, beholding with the certitude of faith and sight the place prepared for him by Christ, a wonderful house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, the body of Christ which is encompassing.

We now eat His body and drink His blood with closed eyes. We cannot see the splendor of this body or the glory of this blood without being terrified, without falling on our faces and being speechless receiving the awesome live coal of divinity. But why can we not see ourselves united with this body in the full light of divinity, and the blood of Christ permeating through us, transmitting to us the Spirit of divinity and pouring it into our being, so that we can become kings and priests to God His Father and reign with Him in the heritage of the boundless sonship to the Father?

But this sense of being in the presence of God is not mere fun to be enjoyed. Rather, it is prayer in the fullness of its warmth, tranquility, and sobriety, the perfect prayer in which the body calms down, the soul finds rest, and the spirit rejoices in the remembrance of the Trinity, the glorification of the Father, the reiteration of the Savior's name, and the ceaseless call of the Holy Ghost with hope and boldness derived from the cross and the shed blood.

We are bound to groan within ourselves because of the burden of the flesh, which is like a tent torn apart by wild winds, and we yearn to put on over it clothing from heaven. But this is not possible, since we must first take it off so we may put on Christ and abide in Him uninhibited, for the corruptible cannot inherit incorruptibility. Hence will our prayers remain mixed with tears, and will our joy of abiding in the divine presence be tinged with groans of grief on account of our inability to put on the heavenly raiment here and now. But we trust that just as we have put on the earthly so shall we put on the heavenly and never be found naked of divine grace, because He Who created us has Himself recreated us and prepared us for renewal in the fullness of holiness and righteousness of God.