



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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JULY 14, 2019

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sun., July 14 **4th Sunday after Pentecost.** Unmercenary Healers Cosmas and Damian
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Panachida: Mary Gombos by Eddie Gombos

Sun., July 21 **5th Sunday after Pentecost.** Great-martyr Procopius
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Panachida: July Perpetual Remembrances: Max and Anna Malkos 7/10. John Vasko 7/14.
Anna Lesko 7/22. George Stovar 7/24. Michael Belanchik 7/30.
Semi-Annual Parish Meeting after the Divine Liturgy

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:* Pañi Charlotte Conjelko. Jane Barclay

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 Banovski and her parents Chris and Katie. Walter Bolbat. John Bonga. Donald Bodnar. Charlene Borsic. Jaime Budesza. Barbara Chappie. Steve Bournius. Rebecca, David & Bradley Noah

Cozad. Mary Ann Crouse. Martha Danchak. George & Margaret Dorogy. Breanne Glass. Dorothy Glass. Eddie Gombos. Jennifer Hartrick. Shirley Hrubic. Kevin Ianni. Gary Ingelido. Andrea Kerkentzes. Joan Martell. Brian Masterovsky. 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 Worst. Paul & Valerie Yednak. Jim Zajac. *Prosphora Bakers:* Trudy Trifanoff. Delores Cubakovic, and their intentions.

New! July Birthdays: 7/3 Rebecca Cozad. 7/7 Michael Trifanoff. 7/8 Pat Vargo. 7/11 Nick Fedak. 7/12 Margaret Artim. 7/17 Pañi Joanna and Patty Ferrence. 7/24 Sydney Chappie. ***Many Years!!!***

On Reverence

One must treat holy books and holy objects with reverence. Above all, one must have fear of God, for it teaches reverence, and it teaches everything good. Careless and irreverent treatment of holy things can become a habit. This must not happen. – St. Nikon, from *Spiritual Teachings of The Optina Elders*

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

Upcoming Feast Days: Holy Prophet Elias, Friday, August 2.

PARISH STUFF

3rd Announcement! Official Announcement: The Semi-Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Sunday, July 21, 2019, after the Divine Liturgy. Please plan to attend this meeting. We have a couple of things to talk about that you may find interesting.

The Agenda for this Meeting and the Minutes of the January Meeting are now available in the vestibule. Please pick up your copy and review them before the meeting. (*Note: the Minutes will be presented, but not read, at the meeting.*)

Update! Lottery Ticket Raffle drawn last Sunday, was won by Bill & Patti Novotnak! Congratulations! **Profit on this fundraiser was near \$2000!** Super! The next Lottery Ticket Raffle will be held at the Parish Bazaar, Sunday, October 20.

Update! Agape Offerings: Today: Bobby and Dee Trifanoff. July 21: Semi-Annual Meeting.

Reminder! 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 **\$441** donated toward new repairs on the church. *A summary of repairs currently in the works or at least on the list:*

- **CHURCH & Rectory:**
 - Find and repair all leaks in the roof, windows, etc., etc. in the church and rectory.
 - Repair leaks in drain in Rectory 2nd floor Bath.
 - Repair all the plaster in the church and rectory which was damaged by the leaks, then paint it as needed.
 - *not really on the list, just fyi:* the AC in the rectory has been broken since 2016 and cannot be fixed.

We hope to have bids on a couple of these jobs by the Semi-annual meeting, if possible. At this time, total cost of this work is unknown. *We thank you for your generosity. God bless!*

DIOCESE, DEANERY AND ADDITIONAL STUFF

Reminder! Christmas in July! Vendor/Craft Show Saturday, July 20, 2019, 10 AM to 2 PM. St. Nicholas Church, Homestead. "Over 20 of your favorite Vendors and Crafters. Russian Auction. Café Nikolaj. 50/50.

Reminder! St. John's in East Pittsburgh is celebrating their 100th Anniversary this coming November 16 and 17. This is a great opportunity for our parish to show its love and support for one of our sister parishes. So, in conjunction with this happy event, we would like to encourage all of our parishioners to offer their congratulations and support to St. John's. Here is how:

- **St. John's Anniversary Ad Book** You can participate in congratulations
 - by offering to be a *Patron* (\$10), or a *Booster* (\$5) in their ad book. A sign up sheet is in the hall.

Our Gifts to God and our Church

July 7, 2019

Attendance	30
Communion	20

Collections

Monthly	60.00
Sunday	1015.00
Holy Day John the B	185.00
All Votive Candles	446.00
Building Maintenance	25.00
Diocesan Membership	20.00
Reimb. Pañi's Health Ins	10.67
Raffle Profit	2045.00

Total Offerings: 3806.67

Building and Repairs Donations to Date
\$441! God bless your generosity!

- If you want to do a little more, you can donate for a full page ad (\$100), ½ page (\$50), or 1/4 page (\$25). See Carole Bushak if you want to make this kind of donation.
- *Deadline is August 15!!!*
- ***Update! Anniversary Celebratory Brunch Banquet:*** Sunday, November 17, Edgewood Country Club, 11:30 preprandials, Noon brunch. Ticket prices: *Adult: \$35. Children 3-12 \$15 OR Chicken Finger Plate \$10. Children 2 and under no charge.* There will be assigned seating. For reservations, please call DeBorah Hutnyan at 412 288 3299. *Absolute Deadline for Ticket Purchases is October 4, 2019 - this is a real deadline, so be sure to get your tickets soon!*

New! Annual Garage Sale - St John the Baptist Orthodox Church (2688 California Ave., Pgh, PA 15212) will have their Annual Garage Sale on Friday & Saturday, September 6th & 7th from 9am-3pm each day. Tax-deductible clean donations for the sale are now being accepted. Please contact Fr Dave (OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com / 412-748-0148) to arrange dropping off your extra items that will be a treasure to someone else!

Update! Upcoming Events this summer: in our Parish, the Deanery and the Diocese.

- ***Sat., July 20: Christmas in July – Vendor/Craft Show, St. Nicholas, Homestead***
- ***Sun., July 14 – Sat., July 20. Camp Nazareth Week for the Pittsburgh Deanery.***
- ***Sun., July 21: here at St. Michael’s: Semi-annual Parish Meeting.***
- ***Sat., Aug 10: St. John’s, East Pittsburgh, Annual Golf Tourney at Valley Green Country Club.***
- ***Fri., Sep. 6 and Sat., Sep 7: Annual Garage Sale, St. John’s, North Side.***

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

RIGHTEOUS VERONICA

July 12/25

From *The Menologion*

The Righteous Veronica was, according to tradition, that woman with the issue of blood, who received healing by a touch to the hem of the robe of Christ (Mt. 9: 20-22). She gave the Lord a veil, with which the Lord wiped His face, when He went to crucifixion. On the veil was imaged the Face of the Lord. *[Editor’s note: The name Veronica is from the Latin and Greek words “Vera Icona,” which means “The True Icon.”]*

Grace

The action of grace never leads anyone to despair, but grants the gift of tenderness, joy, long-suffering and spiritual peace. St. Leo, from *Spiritual Teachings of The Optina Elders*

Blessing

That which is done with a blessing is greatly pleasing to God, so let us live that every small step of our lives is blessed. St. Anthony, from *Spiritual Teachings of The Optina Elders*

One should not do anything without a blessing. If lay people seek the advice of a more experienced person in matters that are of greater or lesser importance, all the more must a monk seek advice and remain in obedience. St. Barsanuphius, from *Spiritual Teachings of The Optina Elders*

REMEMBRANCE OF THE MIRACLE OF SAINT EUPHEMIA THE ALL-PRAISEWORTHY

July 11/24

From *The Menologion*

The holy GreatMartyress Euphemia (the account about her is located under 16 September) suffered martyrdom in the city of Chalcedon in the year 304, during the time of the persecution against Christians by the emperor Diocletian (284-305). One and an half centuries later, -- at a time when the Christian Church had become victorious within the Roman empire, God deigned that Euphemia the All-Praiseworthy should again be an especial witness and confessor of the purity of the Orthodox teaching.

In the year 451 in the city of Chalcedon, in the very church wherein rested the glorified relics of the holy GreatMartyress Euphemia -- there took place the sessions of the Fourth OEcumenical Council (the account about it is under 16 July). The Council was convened for determining the precise dogmatic formulae of the Orthodox Church concerning the nature-composition of the God-Man Jesus Christ. This had been necessitated because of the widely-dispersed heresy of the Monophysites ["mono-phisus" meaning "one nature"], who opposed the Orthodox teaching about the two natures in Jesus Christ -- the Divine and the Human natures [but in one Divine Person as Son of God within the Holy Trinity of three Divine Persons]. The Monophysites falsely affirmed that within Christ was only one nature -- the Divine [i.e. that Jesus is God but not man, by nature], causing discord and unrest within the Church. At the Council were present 630 representatives from all the Local Christian Churches. On the side of the Orthodox in the conciliar deliberations there participated Sainted Anatolios, Patriarch of Constantinople (Comm. 3 July), Sainted Juvenalios, Patriarch of Jerusalem (Comm. 2 July), and representatives of Sainted Leo, Pope of Rome (Comm. 18 February). The Monophysites were present in large numbers, headed by Dioscoros, the Alexandrian patriarch, and the Constantinople archimandrite Eutykhios.

After prolonged discussions the two sides could not come to a decisive agreement.

The holy Patriarch of Constantinople Anatolios thereupon proposed that the Council submit the decision of the Church dispute to the Holy Spirit, through His undoubted bearer Saint Euphemia the All-Praiseworthy, whose wonderworking relics had been discovered during the Council's discussions. The Orthodox hierarchs and their opponents wrote down their confessions of faith on separate scrolls and sealed them with their seals. They opened the tomb of the holy GreatMartyress Euphemia and placed both scrolls upon her bosom. Then, in the presence of the emperor Marcian (450-457), the participants of the Council sealed the tomb, putting on it the imperial seal and setting a guard to watch over it for three days. During these days both sides imposed upon themselves strict fast and made intense prayer. After three days the patriarch and the emperor in the presence of the Council opened the tomb with its relics: the scroll with the Orthodox confession was held by Saint Euphemia in her right hand, and the scroll of the heretics lay at her feet. Saint Euphemia, as though alive, raised her hand and gave the scroll to the patriarch. After this miracle many of the hesitant accepted the Orthodox confession, while those remaining obstinant in the heresy were consigned to the Council's condemnation and excommunication.

After an invasion by the Persians during the VII Century, the relics of Saint Euphemia were transferred from Chalcedon to Constantinople, into a newly built church dedicated in her name. Many years later, during the period of the Iconoclast heresy, the reliquary with the relics of the saint was cast into the sea -- by order of the Iconoclast emperor Leo the Isaurian (716-741). The reliquary was rescued from the sea by the ship-owning brothers Sergios and Sergonos, who gave it over to the local bishop. The holy bishop ordered that the relics be preserved in secret, beneath a crypt, since the Iconoclast heresy was continuing to rage. A small church was built over the relics, and over the reliquary was put a board with an inscription stating whose relics rested therein. When the Iconoclast heresy was finally condemned at the holy Seventh OEcumenical Council (in the year 787), -- during the time of Sainted Tarasios, Patriarch of Constantinople (784-806) and the emperor Constantine VI (780-797) and his mother Saint Irene (797-802), -- the relics of the holy GreatMartyress Euphemia were once again solemnly transferred to Constantinople.