



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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AUGUST 4, 2019

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- Sun., Aug 4** **7th Sunday after Pentecost.** *Myrrh-bearer Magdalene, Equal to the Apostles*
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 6, pp 111–114
Panachida: Jane Barclay – 40 day Memorial
Semi-Annual Parish Meeting after the Divine Liturgy (rescheduled from 7/21)
- Sun., Aug 11** **8th Sunday after Pentecost.** Martyr Callinicus
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 7, pp 114–117
Panachida: Perpetual: Michael Sovic, and the Sovic and Skerly families
- Sun., Aug 18** **9th Sunday after Pentecost.** *Pre-Feast of the Transfiguration.* Martyr Eusignius
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Panachida: August Perpetuals: Michael and Mary Banosky (8/2). John Belanchik (8/4). Mary Kozlowsky (8/6). Michael Ragan, Sr. (8/14). Andrew Bonga, Jr. (8/15). Andrew, Helen and Andy Sofilkanich (8/21). Alexander Vorobok (8/23). Paul Horgas (8/25). Elizabeth Wogel (8/29).
- MON., AUG 19** **FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD ON MOUNT TABOR**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Blessing of the First-Fruits of the Harvest

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. Pañi Dorothy Hutnyan. Pañi Donna Smoley. Pañi Eleanor Pribish. Dana Andrade. Gloria Andrade. Michael Artim. Gregory Michael Aurilio. Walter Bolbat. John Bonga. Donald Bodnar. Charlene Borsic. Jaime Budeska. 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. Helen Mihalik. Bill &

Patti Novotnak. Frank Palmieri. Diane Phillips. Millie and Edward Phillips. Michael Platt. John Righetti. Anna Senich. Bernice Sindak. Terry Slezak. Margaret Stemler. Milton and Thelma Supak. Diana Terezis. Bobby and Dee Triffanoff. Josh Walendziewicz. Paul Worst. Paul & Valerie Yednak. Jim 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

Upcoming Feast Days: Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord on Mount Tabor.

Blessing of the First-Fruits of the Harvest: All are encouraged to bring a basket of 1st Fruits (and Veggies) from your garden (even if your garden is ‘The Market District’). We will bless baskets at the end of the Divine Liturgy in the church. We will also bless grapes that day, the “fruit of the vine” from which we make the wine that becomes Our Lord’s own most precious offering - his Holy Blood.

Upcoming Fast: Dormition Fast begins Wednesday, August 14 and goes through Tuesday, August 27. In the middle of summer, the Church provides us the opportunity to re-connect with our spiritual life, as we fly through all the distractions that summertime brings. The traditional fast requires a Strict Fast (no meat, dairy, wine or oil) for those fourteen days, with these exceptions: the fast is mitigated (lessened) on Saturdays. There is no fast on Sundays or on the Feast of the Transfiguration (Aug. 6/19). Diocesan rules require only the usual fast from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays.

PARISH STUFF

Reminder! The **Semi-Annual Parish Meeting** has been rescheduled to *TODAY, Sunday, August 4*, after the Divine Liturgy. The Agenda has been slightly adjusted, so please pick up a new copy today. (I did not reprint a lot of copies of the minutes of the last meeting, so make sure to bring yours if you have any concerns. Please plan to attend this meeting. We have a couple of things to talk about that you may find interesting.

The revised 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.*)

Thanks & God bless! To those who took it upon themselves to offer a brunch for the meeting! This way, we will be able to stay strong during the hours and hours of the meeting (I’m kidding) (I hope).

Reminder! The next **Lottery Ticket Raffle** will be held at the Parish Bazaar, Sunday, October 20.

Update! Agape Offerings: *Today:* The *Semi-Annual Meeting Brunch*. *August 11:* Sandy Carnahan in memory of the Sovic and Skerly families. *August 18:* In memory of Jane Barclay. *August 25:* Carole Bushak in memory of her mother Mary.

Our Gifts to God and our Church		
July 21 & 28, 2019		
	7/21	7/28
Attendance	27	17
Communions	17	15
Collections		
Monthly	880.00	
Sunday	535.00	725.00
All Votive Candles	127.00	92.00
Building Maintenance	40.00	30.00
Diocesan Member.	102.00	26.00
Donation		15.00
Total Offerings:	829.00	888.00
<i>Building and Repairs Donations to Date</i>		
\$441! God bless your generosity!		

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:** *More new stuff to fix:* we will talk about it at the meeting.

Prayer to God is always profitable. But precisely how, we do not know. He is the One Righteous Judge, but we can mistake a lie for the truth. Pray and believe.
– St. Anatoly

DIOCESE, DEANERY AND ADDITIONAL STUFF

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.**

- **Sun., Aug 4:** *The Semi-annual Parish Meeting here at St. Michael's is rescheduled from July 21 to this date, due to circumstances beyond our control.*
- **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.
- **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!**

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

Reminder! St. Catherine Philoptochos of Ypapanti (**Presentation of Our Lord parish, East Pittsburgh**) presents: **Talent Show.** September 15, 2019 at Edgewood Country Club, 100 Churchill Road, Pittsburgh, Pa 15235. Doors Open: 2:00 PM. Cocktails, Luncheon, Desserts. Silent Auction, Talent Show. Adults: \$30.00 Students: \$15.00 Children 7 Yrs and Under: \$7.00. For Tickets and Reservations Contact: *Gail* 412-260-0886 or *Tina* 412-244-3215. Join Us for an Afternoon of Good Food, Good Friends, Wonderful Talent and Entertainment!!! Paid Reservation by September 10, 2019. A portion of the proceeds to benefit "Lending Hearts"

New! St. Michael's Mediterranean Buffet Sunday, September 8, 2019. St. Michael's Antiochian Orthodox Church, 1182 Ashland St., Greensburg (use Cedar St Exit off of Rte 30). 734-834-1311. More info on flyer in hall.

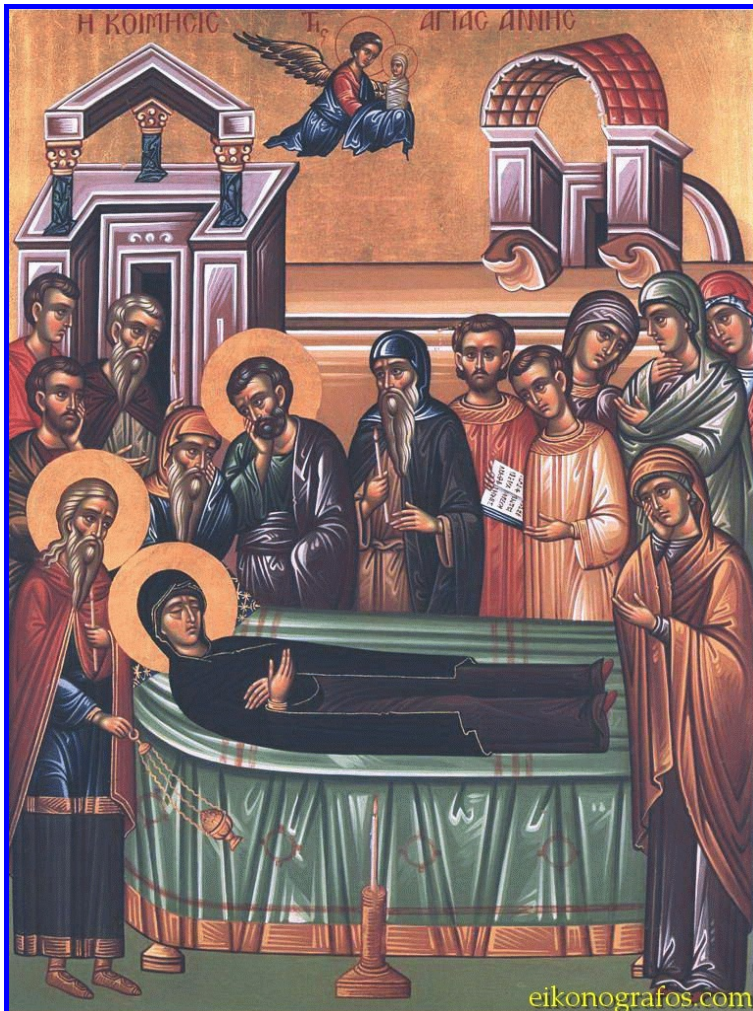
New! Konevets Quartet: Concert of Sacred and Secular Musical Selections Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church, 901 Hartman St., McKeesport, PA 15132. Thursday, September 12, 2019, beginning at 7 PM and followed by a reception in the church hall – see the flyer in hall for details.

PRAYER

When you begin to pray, begin to think of your sins and weep for them—this is how you should pray. Afterwards, you sometimes feel peace and joy, and you think that this is from the enemy. But, according to the holy fathers, this joy is from the enemy if it is discordant, not bringing peace and quiet to the soul. And do not be surprised that the Lord grants peace and quiet during prayer, for it does not always happen according to our worthiness, but according to the inscrutable judgments of God. Therefore, when you feel such joy and peace, consider yourself to be entirely unworthy of this gift from God and reproach yourself before the Lord that because of your carelessness you cannot preserve within yourself this gift and soon you will lose it. – St. Joseph

THE FALLING-ASLEEP (DORMITION/USPENIJE) OF RIGHTEOUS ANNA, MOTHER OF MARY, THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

July 25/August 7. [Adapted from *The Menologion*]



Icon of the Dormition of St. Anna, mother of Holy Mary Theotokos. Note that the icon is very similar to that of the Dormition of Holy Mary herself. The major distinguishing feature is that the soul of St. Anna is shown as being taken to heaven by an angel (*top center*), whereas in the icon of the Dormition of Mary, Our Lord himself is depicted as taking the soul of his Mother to heaven.

The God-wise, God-blest and Blessed Anna was the daughter of the priest Nathan and his wife Mary, from the tribe of Levi by descent of Aaron. and through her mother of the tribe of Judah.

Anna and her husband Joakim lived at Nazareth in Galilee. They were childless into their old age and all their life they grieved over this. They had to endure derision and scorn, since at that time childlessness was considered a disgrace. But they never grumbled and only but fervently prayed to God, humbly trusting on His will. Once during the time of a great feast, the gifts which Righteous Joakim took to Jerusalem for offering to God were not accepted by the priest Ruben, who considered that a childless man was not worthy to offer sacrifice to God. This pained the old man very much, and he, regarding himself the most sinful of people, decided not to return home, but to settle in solitude in a desolate place.

His righteous spouse Anna, having learned, what sort of humiliation her husband had endured, in prayer and fasting began sorrowfully to pray to God for granting her a child. In his desolate solitude and with fasting Righteous Joakim also besought God for this. And the prayer of the saintly couple was heard: to both of them an Angel announced, that there would be born of them a Daughter, Who would bless all the race of mankind. By order of this Heavenly Messenger, Righteous Joakim and Anna met at Jerusalem, where through the promise of God was born to them the Daughter, named Mary.

Saint Joakim died a few years later after the Entry into the Temple of his Blessed Daughter, at about age 80. Saint Anna died at age 70, two years after him, spending the time in the Temple alongside her Daughter. So, the Theotokos had been orphaned of both her parents already when she was eleven years of age, when she was living in the Temple. Saint Anna is invoked for conceiving children, and for help in difficult childbirth.

During the reign of the holy Saint Justinian the Emperor (527-565), a church was built in her honour at Deutera. And emperor Justinian II (685-695; 705-711) restored her church, since Righteous Anna had appeared to his pregnant wife. And it was at this time that her body and omaphorion (veil) were transferred to Constantinople.