



# 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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APRIL 14, 2019

## COMMEMORATION OF OUR HOLY MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT

### Sun., Apr. 14 Commemoration of our holy mother Mary of Egypt

8:15 – 8:45 AM Holy Mystery of Confession

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

*Panachida*: Robert Belavic – 40 day memorial

**2:30 PM Holy Mystery of Confession**

**3:00 PM Lenten Mission at St. John's on North Side, Pittsburgh**

Wed., Apr. 17 Monks Joseph the Humnographer & George of Maleon

6:30 PM Holy Mystery of Confession

7:00 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Fri., Apr. 19 *Bishop Methodius, Apostle to the Slavs.* Archbishop Eutyches of Constantinople

**Last Day of Great Lent**

6:30 PM Holy Mystery of Confession

7:00 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

### SAT., APR. 20 LAZARUS SATURDAY

8:15 – 8:45 AM Holy Mystery of Confession

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**Morning: Church Cleaning for Easter.**

### SUN., APR. 21 PALM (FLOWERY) SUNDAY

8:15 – 8:45 AM Holy Mystery of Confession

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

The **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE** I printed in the bulletin had a couple of minor mistakes. The revised version is reprinted here again, and is posted on the hall bulletin board.

**Holy Mystery of Confession:** See Schedule.

## PEOPLE STUFF

**Prayer List:** *Living:* Fr. Joseph Cervo. Pañi Dorothy Hutnyan. Pañi Donna Smoley. Dana Andrade. Gloria Andrade. Michael Artim. Gregory Michael Aurilio. Brooklyn Grace Banosky and her parents Chris and Katie. Jane Barclay. **Walter Bolbat.** Donald Bodnar. Charlene Borsic. Jaime Budesá. Barbara Chappie. Steve Bournius. Rebecca, David & Bradley Noah Cozad. Mary Ann Crouse. George & Margaret Dorogy. Margaret Dufalla. Christina Duranko. Breanne Glass. Dorothy Glass. Eddie Gombos. Jennifer Hartrick. Shirley Hrubic. Kevin Ianni. Gary Ingelido. Alisha Krass. Carson Krass. Savanna Lee Krass. Joan Martell. Brian Masterovsky. Michael Mehalik. Zoe Mehalik. Helen Mihalik. Bill & Patti Novotnak. Frank Palmieri. Diane Phillips. Millie and Edward Phillips. Michael Platt. Anna Senich. Bernice Sindak. Terry Slezak. Bill and Andrea Sovick. Margaret Stemler. Milton and Thelma Supak. Diana Terezis. Bobby and Dee Triffanoff. Paul & Valerie Yednak. Jeanne Zajac. *Prosphora Bakers:* Trudy Trifanoff. Delores Cubakovic, and their intentions.

**Reminder!** *All are invited!* TODAY!!!! To a Birthday Party celebrating the *90<sup>th</sup> birthday* of Eddie Gombos and the *83<sup>rd</sup> birthday* of John Varosek, after the Divine Liturgy. *Many years to Eddie and to John!*

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

## F(E)ASTING

### LENTEN FASTING:

#### Traditional Guidelines:

- On **weekdays (Monday through Friday inclusive)** in the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth weeks, one meal a day is permitted, to be taken in the afternoon following Vespers, and at this one meal xerophagy [*Strict Fast*] is to be observed.
- On **Saturdays and Sundays in Lent**, with the exception of Holy Saturday, two main meals may be taken in the usual way [i.e., cooked], around mid-day and in the evening, with wine and olive oil; but meat, animal products and fish are not allowed.
- **On Palm (Flowery) Sunday**, fish is permitted as well as wine and oil, but meat and animal products are not allowed.

**A Pastoral Interpretation:** Try to fast and pray more than last year, with more focus and concentration. Who knows, in fifty or sixty years, if we keep trying, we may become more perfect!

This coming Friday is the **Last Day of the Great Fast!** We end our *preparation* for the celebration of the greatest event the world has ever known!

**This Saturday we celebrate Lazarus Saturday**, the *first day* of the celebration of our Salvation in Our Lord Jesus Christ. At the Divine Liturgy, we read the account of Jesus raising Lazarus after he had been dead for four days. *Lazarus Saturday* and *Palm Sunday* are part of **Holy Week**, even if they are more joyful than the rest of

## Our Gifts to God and our Church

March 31, 2019

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Attendance | 31 |
| Communion  | 20 |

### Collections

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Monthly                 | 20.00          |
| Sunday                  | 1285.00        |
| Holy Days:              |                |
| Annunciation            | 145.00         |
| Palm Sunday             | 20.00          |
| Good Friday             | 60.00          |
| Easter                  | 60.00          |
| All Votive Candles      | 147.00         |
| Paschal Candles         | 195.00         |
| St. Cyril Food Pantry   | 5.00           |
| Building Maintenance    | 45.00          |
| Diocesan Membership     | 12.00          |
| Patriarchal Pence       | 15.00          |
| <b>Total Offerings:</b> | <b>2048.15</b> |

*Building and Repairs Donations to Date*  
**\$3366!** *God bless your generosity!*

the week. Things started out very well that week, for Our Lord, and then quickly turned south. Let us celebrate the beginning as we celebrate the end!

## PARISH STUFF

**New! Thomas Sunday Dinner!** Will be, as always, on Thomas Sunday, May 5, after the Divine Liturgy. A new *Sign Up Poster* is now available in the hall. Please sign up and let us know what you are bringing!

**New! Tomb Vigil Sign Up:** As we usually do, we have put a Poster in the Vestibule, asking folks to sign up for the Vigil at the Tomb on **Holy and Great Saturday**. The Church will be available from 7 AM until 10 PM on Saturday. Please plan to come and spend an hour with Our Lord in the Tomb.

**Cleaning Redux:** We need to reschedule the Church Cleaning for *next Saturday, April 20, beginning in the morning*. We will be celebrating Divine Liturgy at 9:00 AM, but folks can work downstairs until Liturgy is over. We really need some help with this job. Please plan to come down and lend a hand.

**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 **\$3366** 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

**Update!** *Please remember and come to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Deanery Mission TODAY, at St. John's on the North Side. Confessions will be at 2:30 PM. Lenten Vespers begins at 3:00 PM, followed by a Lenten meal. Make this Lent your Best!*

For those who have difficulty with steps, here is how to park on the upper side of the church, with only a few steps in:

From Pittsburgh, take Rte 65 toward Mckees Rocks. Take the exit for California Ave., turn right at the end of the ramp to California Ave. Now you have two choices:

- 1) When you reach a Y in the road, stay to the LEFT on California. Drive *past* the Church. Turn RIGHT on Dickson St. Take the 1<sup>st</sup> RIGHT onto Holbrook Ave. (It is actually an alley). The church is at the end of the alley. Fr. Dave is going to try to make parking available on that street. ELSE
- 2) *OR*, you can bear RIGHT onto Woodland Ave. The rectory is on this street. You can park on Woodland, and then walk down past the rectory and to the side door of the church. There are a few more steps this way, but it is way way better than the front steps.

**New! Pittsburgh Area Sunday Evening Vespers at St. George, Bridgeville, PA, at 5:00 PM.** *(If you can't make ours)* You will get to see their new church, which is right on Washington Pike (Rte 50) just south of Bridgeville on the right. At the conclusion of Vespers, a relic of St. John Maximovitch, Wonderworker of Shanghai and San Francisco, will be offered for veneration. Following vespers, a lenten repast will be served in the parish hall. A Sister from the St. Elisabeth Convent in Belarus will be a special guest. She will be with us during and following vespers.

**Reminder! 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ukrainian Pysanky Sale!** Ss Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, Carnegie, PA. Today! Sunday, April 14, 11 am – 4 pm. See the flyer on the hall bulletin board for details!

**Reminder! Designer Purse Bash!** St. Nicholas Church, Homestead. Saturday, May 18. Doors open at 4 PM. Tickets are \$30 and include meal and 4 chances. More information on the bulletin board in the hall! Don't miss this one!

**New!** Registration Opens For **2019 Young Women's Encounter:** *From JOHNSTOWN, PA -- [Diocesan Chancery]* - Registration is now open for the SIXTH Annual Diocesan Young Women's Encounter which will take place from Sunday, June 30th to Wednesday, July 3rd, 2019 at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Windber, PA. We encourage our young women, ages 12 to 18 to attend.

This engaging experience will highlight how young women can live our Orthodox Faith and serve the Church with their own unique gifts. The YWE is designed specifically for our young women to provide them an opportunity to spend time in fellowship with each other, have fun, and pray together. This year we will have the blessing to spend some time at the Orthodox Monastery of the Holy Transfiguration in Ellwood City, PA.

Registration will be primarily online and is open now! A link to register is on the home page at [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org). You can find more information about this event by looking through past photo albums which can be found at <https://www.acrod.org/ministries/youth/ywe/>

Space will be limited to the first thirty respondents, so participants are urged to register in a timely manner. Registration Deadline is Friday, June 7, 2019.

There is a \$100.00 participation fee. Kindly have registration fees paid by the registration deadline. Checks can be sent to: Young Women's Encounter , 66 Beach Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866

Questions about the event may be directed to YWE Director, Pani Eleni Stagon at [acrodywe@gmail.com](mailto:acrodywe@gmail.com) or by calling 304-777-9403.

**New! Science and Nature Camp** at Camp Nazareth, Sunday, August 4 - Saturday, August 10. Camp Nazareth is pleased to announce its THIRD ANNUAL Science and Nature Camp which will take place August 4-10, 2019!!! Camp participants will learn all about Astronomy, Biology, Earth Science, Geology, Meteorology and SO MUCH MORE!

Participants will have the opportunity to use telescopes, microscopes, and other equipment used to study and learn about nature. But most importantly, they will explore the trails, waterfalls, streams and geography of the Camp. Special emphasis will be placed on appreciating the beauty of nature and the wonder of the fields of science they will study.

The Science and Nature Camp is a resident (sleepaway) Camp with a Day Camp option for ages 8-18. It will take place on the 289 beautiful acres of Camp Nazareth property located at 339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA.

Online Registration is now open. Visit [campnazareth.org](http://campnazareth.org) to register for the Science and Nature Camp.

Email [campnazareth@acrod.org](mailto:campnazareth@acrod.org) or call 724-662-4840 for more information.

In addition to the Science and Nature program, participants will enjoy the many amenities Camp Nazareth has to offer including a Junior Olympic-size swimming pool, the High and Low Ropes Course including a 750 foot Zip Line, climate-controlled cabins, sports fields and basketball courts, a large Rec Room, a volleyball court, and more.

A Schedule of events can be found on the hall bulletin board.

## **WHAT DID CHRIST SAVE US FROM?**

By Carole A. Buleza

On a Sunday morning a few years ago, we were getting ready to visit an Orthodox Church in the region. "Where are we going?" my daughter asked. "To Christ our Savior Church," I replied. After a moment she inquired, "Mom, what's a savior?" "A savior is someone who saves people." "What did Christ save us from?" she asked, puzzled. After responding, I mused over the fact that she had sung the Paschal troparion by heart for several years. She had attended church school regularly. I tried hard to remember when I knew the answer to that question, and decided I definitely knew it by age seven. I believe now that she didn't know the answer because "savior," "salvation" are not so widely understood as when I was young and most people believed in sin. Kenneth Woodward lamented this state of our society, in a recent review of "The Passion." To make a point about western Christians who have forsaken the cross, he quoted H. Richard Niebuhr: "A God without wrath brought men without sin into a kingdom without judgment though the ministrations of a Christ without a cross."

It is not difficult to fall into that way of thinking. Our ancestors no doubt thought more about salvation than we did, especially if they were poor or oppressed. Today we enjoy so much material prosperity that it is easy to get lulled into thinking we have few needs, and only ourselves to thank for what we have.

In the Old Testament there are many stories of salvation. God saved Noah and his family. God saved His people from slavery in Egypt. God saved Daniel in the Lion's Den. Our Holy Saturday Vespers service is filled with the stories of God's mighty acts of salvation. They remind us that our God is a God of salvation—of life. They set the stage, so to speak, for the definitive act of salvation, Christ's death and resurrection, to be experienced that night.

Of all the Old Testament stories of salvation, the Passover and the Exodus is the most significant, and Moses is the most important person. After the Pharaoh had repeatedly gone back on his promises to release the Hebrews, God told the people what to do. A lamb was to be slaughtered and hyssop dipped in its blood. The lintel and doorsteps were to be sprinkled with the blood. "You shall observe this as a perpetual ordinance," said the Lord, "for yourselves and your descendants...When your children ask you, 'What does this rite of yours mean?' You shall reply, 'This is the Passover sacrifice of the Lord, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt; when he struck down the Egyptians, he spared our houses'" (Exodus 12:24, 26-27). And so it happened. The Lord slew every first-born in the land of Egypt.

The Passover ("pesach" in Hebrew) for the Jewish people set the stage for Christ, the "New Moses." The New Moses shed his own blood, not just for the Jews, but for all people, that we may pass from death to new life. "Pascha" is taken from the work, "pesach." Jesus has saved us from eternal death. Jesus has saved us for eternal life. We who are baptized have passed over from death to life.

Orthodox Christianity has kept salvation at the forefront. For us, life is about salvation—consider how many times in the Divine Liturgy we say the words "save, Savior, salvation?" Yet, how often do we reflect on our need to be saved? We say, "Lord, have mercy" during the litanies, but do we realize that without God's mercy we don't stand a chance of eternal life?

At Forgiveness Vespers my seven-year old son hesitated when it came time for the prostrations, despite the fact that he had done them for years. "What are we doing?" he asked.

"A prostration," I answered. "Jesus is our savior. He saved us from eternal death. He is our Lord and Master. We are showing with our bodies that we are His servants; this is what a servant might do in front of a king," I explained not quite articulately in between all the going downs and getting ups. That evening, I told both children that we would be fasting. My first-grade son, finally eating lunch at school, has developed a love of corndogs. He wasn't happy to learn they were on the "no" list.

"We fast to remind ourselves that our lives depend on God, not food," I explained. He still grumbled. When they told me they were invited up the street Friday for a play date, I told them we would be attending services every Friday during Lent. Having been lax about this over the years, due in part to children who did not do well at evening services, I could understand their amazed looks.

"The Lenten services let us spend more time with God," I explained. "We need quiet time to think about how we've sinned, and to ask God to have mercy on us. Jesus has brought us from death to life eternal. He alone is our Lord and Savior. We need time to grow closer to God."

Would I say the word "salvation" to my children except for their protests in regard to Lent? Probably not. Will they hear it in the media or in school? Definitely not. Is it really necessary for them to know that this life is first and foremost about salvation? Yes, even at a young age.

Let us meditate often in these days, on what salvation means to us, so that we are ready when the questions come. To paraphrase from the Lord's command to the Israelites after the Passover "...On this day you shall explain to your son, 'This is because of what the Lord did for me when I was still a slave to sin and death'" (Exodus 13:8).

## HOLY WEEK AND BRIGHT WEEK SCHEDULE

*Revised Version April 14, 2019 (just a couple of minor mistakes)  
Suitable for framing, or for posting on your refrigerator just in cases*

- SUN., APR. 21** **PALM (FLOWERY) SUNDAY.** Apostle Herodian. Agabus of the 70  
8:45 AM Liturgical Hymns  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy – Red Pew Book, pp 210–214
- TUE., APR. 23** **HOLY & GREAT TUESDAY.** Martyrs Terence, Pompilus et al. Patriarch Gregory V of Constantinople.  
6:30 PM Holy Mystery of Confession  
7:00 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
- WED., APR. 24** **HOLY & GREAT WEDNESDAY.** Martyred Bishop Antipas of Pergamum  
6:30 PM Holy Mystery of Confession (*note: Last Scheduled Confessions*)  
7:00 PM Holy Mystery of the Anointing of the Sick (*Special Note: this is only the Mystery of the Anointing of the Sick*)
- THU., APR. 25** **HOLY & GREAT THURSDAY.** Confessor Basil of Parium  
9:00 AM Last Supper Liturgy - Vespers and Liturgy of Basil  
7:00 PM Matins of the Passion – Great Friday Matins of the 12 Gospels  
*Set up the Tomb*
- FRI., APR. 26** **HOLY & GREAT FRIDAY.** Martyred Priest Artemon and companions  
12 Noon Royal Hours  
7:00 PM Vespers and the Burial Procession with the Holy Shroud
- SAT., APR. 27** **HOLY & GREAT SATURDAY.** Confessor Martin, Bishop of Rome  
7:00 AM Tomb Vigil Begins  
10:00 AM Paschal Vigil Liturgy – Great Vespers and Liturgy of Basil  
*Tomb Vigil continues until 10:00 PM. Please sign up for your hour!*
- SUN., APR. 28** **PASCHA!**  
8:30 AM Resurrection Matins  
Divine Liturgy  
Blessing of Baskets
- MON., APR. 29** **BRIGHT MONDAY!** Virgin Martyrs Agape, Irene, and Chionia  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy and Paschal Procession
- SUN., MAY 5** **THOMAS SUNDAY** Monk Theodore Sykeot  
8:45 AM Liturgical Hymns  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets  
*Thomas Sunday Paschal Brunch!*

**Holy Mystery of Confession:** See the Schedule above. If you cannot make a scheduled time, please let me know and we can make arrangements.