



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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JANUARY 20, 2019

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

Sun., Jan. 20 *Sunday after Theophany. Synaxis of St. John the Baptist.*

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Special Intention: Margaret Hixon - family.

Fri., Jan 25 Martyr Tatiana
9:00 AM *Perpetual:* Steve Stegena

Sun., Jan. 27 *Last Day of Theophany.* Queen Nina of Georgia, Equal-to-the-Apostles. Archbishop Sava I of Serbia. Bishop Kentigern of Glasgow

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Annual Parish Meeting

Holy Mystery of Confession: Before Divine Liturgy. After Divine Liturgy or any other time, just ask.

PEOPLE STUFF

Prayer List: *Deceased:* Helen Ferencz. Madalynn Allshouse. Mary Jane Alm.

Living: Pani Patricia Patrick. Pani Donna Smoley, Dana Andrade. Gloria Andrade. Michael Artim. Gregory Michael Aurilio. Barbara Banosky. Jane Barclay. Donald Bodnar. Charlene Borsic. Jaime Budes. Barbara Chappie. Steve Bournius. Rebecca, David & Bradley Noah Cozad. Mary Ann Crouse. George & Margaret Dorogy. 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. Margaret Stemler. Milton and Thelma Supak. Diana Terezis. Paul & Valerie Yednak. Jeanne Zajac. *Prosphora Bakers:* Trudy Trifanoff. Delores Cubakovic, and their intentions.

Prayer List Adjustments: To pray for the living and the deceased is one of the most important things that we do. Sometimes, however, the prayer list becomes outdated, as folks forget to make corrections. Now, at the beginning of the New Year, we ask you all to go over the Prayer List and let me know if any adjustments need to be made. You can email me or hand me a note after Liturgy to make corrections. Thanks for helping out with this!

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

WE BLESSED THE NEW JORDAN WATER this past Friday evening. Don't forget to *bring your Holy Water bottles* to church so that you can take some of the newly blessed Jordan Water home! If you can't find yours, we have some for sale in the hall for \$2 each. See Carole Bushak.

The *Next Feast Day* is *The Three Holy Hierarchs Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom*, on Tuesday, Feb. 12. Divine Liturgy will be at 9 AM.

PARISH STUFF

Re-New! The *Lottery Jackpot* at the Parish Bazaar last October went so well that we would like to run another one on March 3, 2019, (before Lent begins) as a Fund-raiser. Here is how you can help:

- We are asking folks to help us out by donating lottery tickets again from now until March, just like you did for the Bazaar drawing.. Each time you go to buy lottery tickets, please consider buying one for the Parish.
- We will be selling the raffle tickets for the *Lottery Jackpot* soon. Tickets will again be \$5 each.
- Thanks in advance for your support of this project.

Reminder! For Sale! We have for sale the following items. Please see Carole Bushak to order yours.

- Orthodox License Plate frames. These are really nice. There are 3 different styles. They are only \$5.00 each.
- Holy Water Bottles: as in the past, we are selling Holy Water bottles for \$2.00 each.

Important! And Updated Official Announcement: The Parish Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 27, immediately after the Divine Liturgy. You will find in the vestibule copies of a brief statement of an issue which will be on the Agenda of the Annual Meeting next week. Please read and consider carefully.

Reminder! House Blessings: Yes, believe it or not, it is time to start thinking about House Blessings! I would be very happy to bless everyone's house if you would want it. But, I know that sometimes it does not work out well. If you would prefer that I not call you to arrange House Blessing, please let me know. You can email me, text me, or hand me a note, and I will be happy to accommodate you. *[just don't tell me on Sunday at Liturgy or in the hall and expect me to remember. It doesn't work. Ask Pañi Joanna.]*

Update! Agape Offerings: A New Sign up List is now available for **the New Year!** Please look over the dates and help us with this important weekly event!

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! **Donations toward Repairs:** So far, we have **\$2601** 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

Super-Special Brandy New! Sarma/Holubki (Stuffed Cabbage) Dinner will be TODAY, Sunday, January 20th from 12-noon to 5pm at the Rankin Croatian Home (236 Fourth Avenue, Rankin, PA 15104). Cost is \$10 and includes: 2 generous homemade cabbage rolls, vegetable, mashed potatoes, salad, dessert, and coffee/tea. Other beverages will be available for purchase. Eat-In or Take-Out is available (If taking out, please bring your own container, if possible.) Additional cabbage rolls will be available for purchase!

Our Gifts to God and our Church

January 13, 2019

Attendance	23
Communions	13

Collections

Monthly	
Sunday	1765.00
All Candles	113.00
Christmas	50.00
Building Maintenance	140.00

Total Offerings: 2068.00

*Building and Repairs Donations to Date
\$2601! God bless your generosity!*

Reminder! Orthodoxy on Tap! Join us for Pens Hockeuy and Orthodoxy Tuesday, Feb. 5, 7 PM at Primanti Bros., 1539 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228

IOCC Upcoming Events! Soup Tasting and Youth Emergency Kit Assembly - February 9, 2019 - Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church (Mt Lebanon).

2019 Diocesan Events Now Being Scheduled! Don't miss out! Check it out!

- **Diocesan Parenting Workshop Series Launches** - The title of the series is "Raising Believing Children". The first Workshop in the Series will be hosted by Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Rockaway, NJ on March 2, 2019. For info, visit our Diocesan Website- acrod.org.
- **Second Annual Senior Retreat at Camp Nazareth!** From May 13-16, 2019. Online Registration begins February 1, 2019. For more information, contact Camp Nazareth: (1) visit acrod.org; (2) call 724-662-4840; (3) email campnazareth@acrod.org.
- **7th Annual Camp Nazareth Family Camp 2019!** Friday, May 31 - Sunday, June 2. Registration closes after Friday, May 24. Visit campnazareth.org for more information.
- **Camp Nazareth Summer Camp 2019!** The time for Summer Camp is Rapidly Approaching!!! The clock is ticking!! REGISTER ONLINE STARTING MAR. 1, 2019!!! Pittsburgh Deanery will be on Week 1: July 14-20, 2019. Register Online Starting March 1, 2019, at - campnazareth.org.
- **DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT**, sponsored by the National ACRY. St Nicholas Church, Homestead, PA, Sat April 6, 2019, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. *Presenters will be* Metropolitan Gregory, “Focusing on the Ladder of Divine Ascent and Our Spiritual Journey One Step at a Time”, and Fr. David Urban, “Windows to Heaven – Icon of Divine Ascent and the Feasts of the Church.”. *Registration Deadline is* March 31, 2019.

A NEW YEAR'S REFLECTION: "HAPPINESS"

Happiness is finding a pencil.
Pizza with sausage.
Telling the time.
Happiness is learning to whistle.
Tying your shoe for the very first time.
Happiness is playing the drum in your own school band.
And happiness is walking hand in hand.
Happiness is two kinds of ice cream.
Knowing a secret.
Climbing a tree.
Happiness is five different crayons.
Catching a firefly.
Setting him free.
Happiness is being alone every now and then.
And happiness is coming home again.
Happiness is morning and evening,
Daytime and night time too.
For happiness is anyone and anything at all
That's loved by you.
Happiness is having a sister.
Sharing a sandwich.
Getting along.
Happiness is singing together when day is through,
And happiness is those who sing with you.
Happiness is morning and evening,
Daytime and nighttime too.
For happiness is anyone and anything at all
That's loved by you.
---from "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown"
U-tube video from "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKKjqzkGo3o>

THE BEATITUDES

(from: *Those Whom God Calls Blessed*, by Anthony M. Coniaris

"When Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is at hand," He was announcing that something new was going to happen, and everything was going to change because of it...This forms the background for the Beatitudes. To prepare people for the coming of the kingdom, Jesus began by saying that because the kingdom of God is coming, we must repent. We must start to live a different kind of life—the sanctified life of those for whom the kingdom has already come. (*So now refer to Matthew 5:3-12*)

Verses 3 through 12 make up the Beatitudes...In Greek the word for blessed is makarios, the exact Greek word Jesus used in introducing each Beatitude. Thus, the Beatitudes, known in Greek as the makarismoi, describe the new life the disciple will experience when the Triune God comes to dwell in him or her. Christianity is not a philosophy taught by Jesus; it is a new life which He imparts to those who unite themselves to Him.

Some translations translate the word makarios or blessed, with a word that is a total mistranslation of makarios. They use the word "happy." Happy comes from a root word, meaning "chance." Blessedness, however, is never dependent upon chance or luck. "Happy" refers to one whose sufficiency comes from chance or happenstance. The New Testament defines a person who is "blessed" as one who is God-sufficient, in whose heart the Triune God dwells. Outside circumstances do not affect the inner peace and poise of such a God-possessed person. By contrast, the "happy" person must depend on outer circumstances or happenstance to keep him smiling.

THE WAY TO BLESSEDNESS

Jesus describes the way to blessedness very specifically in the Beatitudes:

- Poor in Spirit** recognizing our spiritual bankruptcy without God and our spiritual wealth with Him
- Mourning** realizing the awfulness of sin and being genuinely sorry for it.
- Meek** demonstrating self-control, or rather Christ-control, even when we are mistreated.
- Hungry and thirsty for righteousness** longing to be holy and pure.
- Merciful** showing mercy to others, just as God shows mercy to us.
- Pure in heart** being single-minded, pure and sincere in our devotion to Christ.
- Peacemakers** sharing the peace Christ offers, and promoting peace with one another.
- Persecuted** being willing to suffer for Jesus' sake.

Their blessedness causes them to be "the salt of the earth" and the "light of the world."

SPECIAL LENTEN EVENTS

These events are designed to help us keep the Lenten Fast in the proper spirit, both in our self-denial and in our charity toward others. This is the lineup for these special events:

1. **DEANERY MISSIONS.** As you know, we hold a series of Deanery Missions during Lent. All Missions consist of *Lenten Vespers* at 3:00 PM on Sunday afternoon. Vespers is followed by a fellowship meal. This year's Schedule is different from previous years. Our parish will hold the *1st* Mission on Sunday, March 24. Here is the Schedule:
 - a. *Rankin, St. Michael's, March 24.*
 - b. *East Pittsburgh, St. John's, March 31.*
 - c. *Homestead, St. Nicholas, ACRY Lenten Retreat, Saturday, April 6, 9 AM – 5 PM*
 - i. *Sunday, April 7, there is no Lenten Mission.*
 - d. *North Side, St. John's, April 14.*

We (all the clergy, not the Royal We) encourage everyone to participate in these events this year. Most are on Sunday afternoon when most of us have some time on our hands, now that football season is over. All of the parishes are within easy driving distance, as you all know. The spiritual encouragement and joy that we can receive from these events is well worth the effort. So, come on out and be a part of something bigger than we are!