

Saint Michael the Archangel Church

1703 Jackson St. Scranton, PA 18504

Rectory: 570-961-1205 Fax: 570-961-2284

Sacramental Emergencies: 570-780-0910

Octave Day of Christmas

January 1, 2017

Fr. José Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Mass Intentions

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| Sun. Jan. 1st | Octave Day of Christmas (<i>Circumcision of our Lord</i>) |
| 8:00 a.m. | Jesus & Sofia Zepeda |
| 10:15 a.m. | <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Mon. Jan. 2nd | <i>Holy Name of Jesus, II Class</i> |
| 7:45 a.m. | The Pheasant Family - <i>Anon.</i> |
| Tues. Jan. 3rd | Feria in Christmastide, <i>IV Class</i> |
| 7:45 a.m. | † Riggi Family Members - <i>Theresa Burke</i> |
| Wed. Jan. 4th | Feria in Christmastide, <i>IV Class</i> |
| 7:45 a.m. | † Mary Pohowsky-Chiocco - <i>Robert S. McHale</i> |
| Thu. Jan. 5th | Jesus Christ the High Priest, <i>III Class</i> |
| 7:45 a.m. | Souls in Purgatory |
| Fri. Jan. 6th | Epiphany of Our Lord, <i>I Class</i> |
| 6:00 p.m. | <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Sat. Jan. 7th | Immaculate Heart of Mary, <i>III Class</i> |
| 9:00 a.m. | Poor Souls - FOSS |
| Sun. Jan. 8th | <i>The Holy Family, Class II</i> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Christine Lescombe - Elaine Malinowski |
| 10:15 a.m. | <i>Pro Populo</i> |

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday

Low Mass: 8:00 am

High Mass: 10:15 am

Weekdays

Monday-Thursday: 7:45 am

Friday: 6:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Saturday

One half hour before Mass

Sunday: 7:15-7:50 am

& 9:15-10:05 am

DEVOTIONS

Exposition-Benediction

Friday 5:00 pm

Saturdays 8:00 am

DAILY ROSARY

Monday-Thursday - After Mass

Friday-Sunday - Before Mass

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Friday 9 am - 4 pm

THURSDAY - CLOSED

Saturday - 10 am - Noon

Octave Day of Christmas (Circumcision of Our Lord)

INTROIT

Is. 9, 6

A Child is born to us, and a son is given to us: Whose government is upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called the angel of great counsel. *Ps. 97, 1.* Sing ye to the Lord a new canticle: because He hath done wonderful things. *V.* Glory.

COLLECT

O God, Who, by the fruitful virginity of blessed Mary, hast bestowed upon mankind the rewards of eternal salvation, grant, we beseech Thee, that we may evermore experience the intercession in our behalf of her through whom we have been found worthy to receive the author of life, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who with Thee.

EPISTLE

Titus 2, 11-15

Dearly beloved, the grace of God our Saviour hath appeared to all men, instructing us, that, denying ungodliness and worldly desires, we should live soberly, and justly, and godly in this world, looking for the blessed hope and coming of the glory of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and might cleanse to Himself a people acceptable, a pursuer of good works. These things speak, and exhort: in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GRADUAL

Ps. 97, 3, 4, 2

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God: sing joyfully to God all the earth. *V.* The Lord hath made known his salvation: He hath revealed His justice in the sight of the gentiles.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

V. Heb. 1, 1-2

God, Who diversely spoke in times past to the fathers by the prophets, last of all in these days hath spoken to us by His Son. *Alleluia.*

GOSPEL

Luke 2, 21

At that time, after eight days were accomplished that the child should be circumcised, His name was called Jesus, which was called by the angel, before he was conceived in the womb.

OFFERTORY

Ps. 88, 12, 15

Thine are the heavens and Thine is the earth: the world and the fullness thereof Thou has founded; justice and judgment are the preparation of Thy throne.

SECRET

Accept our offerings and prayers, we beseech Thee, O Lord; cleanse us by Thy heavenly mysteries and graciously hear us. Through our Lord.

COMMUNION

Ps. 97, 3

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

POSTCOMMUNION

May this communion, O Lord, cleanse us from sin and, by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, make us partakers of the heavenly remedy. Through the same.

Introduction to the Devout Life (Cont'd)

The Necessity of Purging Away All Tendency to Venial Sins

Part I, Chapter 22

As daylight waxes, we, gazing into a mirror, see more plainly the soils and stains upon our face; and even so as the interior light of the Holy Spirit enlightens our conscience, we see more distinctly the sins, inclinations and imperfections which hinder our progress towards real devotion. And the selfsame light which shows us these blots and stains, kindles in us the desire to be cleansed and purged therefrom.

You will find then, my child, that besides the mortal sins and their affections from which your soul has already been purged, you are beset by sundry inclinations and tendencies to venial sin; mind, I do not say you will find venial sins, but the inclination and tendency to them. Now, one is quite different from the other. We can never be altogether free from venial sin,--at least not until after a very long persistence in this purity; but we can be without any affection for venial sin. It is altogether one thing to have said something unimportant not strictly true, out of carelessness or liveliness, and quite a different matter to take pleasure in lying, and in the habitual practice thereof. But I tell you that you must purify your soul from all inclination to venial sin;--that is to say, you must not voluntarily retain any deliberate intention of permitting yourself to commit any venial sin whatever. It would be most unworthy consciously to admit anything so displeasing to God, as the will to offend Him in anywise. Venial sin, however small, is displeasing to God, although it be not so displeasing as the greater sins which involve eternal condemnation; and if venial sin is displeasing to Him, any clinging which we tolerate to mortal sin is nothing less than a resolution to offend His Divine Majesty. Is it really possible that a rightly disposed soul can not only offend

God, but take pleasure therein?

These inclinations, my child, are in direct opposition to devotion, as inclinations to mortal sin are to love:--they weaken the mental power, hinder Divine consolations, and open the door to temptations;--and although they may not destroy the soul, at least they bring on very serious disease. "Dead flies cause the ointment to send forth a stinking savour," says the Wise Man. He means that the flies which settle upon and taste of the ointment only damage it temporarily, leaving the mass intact, but if they fall into it, and die there, they spoil and corrupt it. Even so venial sins which pass over a devout soul without being harboured, do not permanently injure it, but if such sins are fostered and cherished, they destroy the sweet savour of that soul--that is to say, its devotion. The spider cannot kill bees, but it can spoil their honey, and so encumber their combs with its webs in course of time, as to hinder the bees materially. Just so, though venial sins may not lose the soul, they will spoil its devotion, and so cumber its faculties with bad habits and evil inclinations, as to deprive it of all that cheerful readiness which is the very essence of true devotion; that is to say, if they are harboured in the conscience by delight taken therein. A trifling inaccuracy, a little hastiness in word or action, some small excess in mirth, in dress, in gaiety, may not be very important, if these are forthwith heeded and swept out as spiritual cobwebs;--but if they are permitted to linger in the heart, or, worse still, if we take pleasure in them and indulge them, our honey will soon be spoilt, and the hive of our conscience will be cumbered and damaged. But I ask again, how can a generous heart take delight in anything it knows to be displeasing to its God, or wish to do what offends Him?

St. Francis de Sales

Blessed New Year!

St. Michael Parish wishes to extend to all sincere wishes for a most Blessed and Happy New Year!

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH extends a warm welcome to all visitors and new parishioners in the parish.

APPRECIATION: St Michael's wishes to extend grateful appreciation to the choir, to Juventutum for making the church so beautiful for the birth of the Christ Child, the altar boys, the unsung heroes in the kitchen, and your **generous support** and help to keep the church in good repair. May God reward you all!

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Our annual Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, January 8th, after the High Mass. We are asking parishioners to contribute a potluck main dish for at least 10 people and a dessert. Everyone is welcome!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Some of the parish children will be performing a Christmas Pageant during the Christmas party on the January 8th. We hope you all come and enjoy the food and festivities!

FIRST FRIDAY is January 6th. Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5:00 p.m. and ends with Benediction at 5:40 p.m. May God reward you.

FIRST SATURDAY is January 7th. Stay for 15 minutes and meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary in reparation for sins and blasphemies against Mary's Immaculate Heart.

Epiphany Water Blessing will take place on the evening of Thursday, January 5th. Anyone wishing to have water blessed for their personal use should have their containers of water in the church vestibule by **Wednesday January 4th.**

The Solemn Blessing of Epiphany Water, in commemoration of Christ's Baptism in the Jordan, is the main feature of the Feast of Epiphany. St. Gregory the Wonderworker, says: "The Lord, Who has come upon the Jordan River, through its streams transmitted sanctification to all streams (of water)." And precisely, in our liturgical books, the blessing of water is referred to as *The Blessing of Jordan*, since it is considered as the re-enactment of Christ's baptism. By His baptism in the Jordan, Our Savior imparted upon water a mystical power of sanctification, a "sign of heavenly streams" of divine grace.

ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE: Our Parish Goal is \$10,000. As of today, we have reached 60 percent of our pledged goal. Envelopes can be found in the church vestibule. Please mark your donation to the appeal with our parish code 060.

**OCTAVE DAY
OF CHRISTMAS**

**January 1st
8:00 a.m. Mass**

ACI Timothy Sica
AC2 Peter Sica

TEAM A

MC Matthew Gillenkirk
TH Patrick Seeley
AC1 Andrew Pheasant
AC2 Joseph Seeley
C Brendan Seeley
S1 Sean Michelin
S2 Mathias Morris

WEEK THREE

Monday Patrick Schneider
7:45 a.m.

Tuesday
7:45 a.m.

Wednesday Jack Gardner
Michael Gardner
7:45 a.m.

Thursday Sean Michelin
7:45 a.m.

THE HOLY FAMILY

**January 8th
8:00 a.m. Mass**

ACI Dominic Gardner
AC2 Jack Gardner

TEAM B

MC Francis LaFata
TH Stephen LaFata
AC1 Patrick Schneider
AC2 Sean Michelin
C Brian LaFata
S1 John Skuba
S2 Joseph Skuba