

# Saint Michael the Archangel Church

1703 Jackson St. Scranton, PA 18504

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

Emergency: 570-561-4011 (or just call Rectory and press 7)

Website: [www.saintmichaelsrcc.org](http://www.saintmichaelsrcc.org)

## Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2015

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

### Mass Intentions

Sun. Aug. 30th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, <i>II Class</i> Mrs. Carolyn Vierno - <i>Mitchell Family</i> <i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Aug. 31st 7:45 a.m.	St. Raymond Nonnatus, <i>Confessor, III Class</i> Sr. Marie Bernarde - <i>Clair Mitchell</i>
Tues. Sep. 1st 7:45 a.m.	St. Giles, <i>Confessor, IV Class</i> † Joseph S. Agolino - <i>Holden Family</i>
Wed. Sep. 2nd 7:45 a.m.	St. Stephen of Hungary, <i>King &amp; Confessor, III Class</i> † Edward & Doloris Bellington - <i>John Bellington</i>
Thu. Sep. 3rd 7:45 a.m.	St. Pius X, <i>Pope &amp; Confessor, III Class</i> Anthony Mitchell - <i>His Parents</i>
Fri. Sep. 4th 6:00 p.m.	Sacred Heart of Jesus, <i>III Class</i> Megan and Maria Allen
Sat. Sep. 5th 9:00 a.m.	Immaculate Heart of Mary, <i>III Class</i> † Colin Johnston - <i>Trish &amp; Jack McGovern</i>
Sun. Sep. 6th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, <i>II Class</i> Quintan & Adam Davis & Jude Herrick - <i>Their Mother</i> <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

& 9:15-10:05

### **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

# Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## INTROIT

*Ps. 83, 10, 11*

Behold, O God, our protector, and look on the face of Thy Christ: for better is one day in Thy courts above thousands. *Ps. 83, 2, 3.* How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord. *V.* Glory. "Behold, O God..."

## COLLECT

Guard Thy Church, we beseech Thee, O Lord, with Thy continual kindness; and, because without Thee human frailty falleth, let it, by Thine assistance, ever be both withheld from harm and guided to what is salutary. Through Our Lord.

## EPISTLE

*Gal. 5, 16-24*

Brethren: Walk in the spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh: for the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh; for these are contrary one to another; so that you do not the things that you would. But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest; which are, fornication, uncleanness, immodesty, luxury, idolatry, witchcrafts, enmities, contentions, emulations, wraths, quarrels, dissensions, sects, envies, murders, drunkenness, reveling, and such like; of the which I foretell you, as I have foretold to you, that they who do such things shall not obtain the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the spirit is, charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, longanimity, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, chastity. Against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified their flesh with the vices and concupiscences.

## GRADUAL

*Ps. 117, 8, 9*

It is good to confide in the Lord, rather than to have confidence in man. *V.* It is good to trust in the Lord, rather than to trust in princes.

## ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

*Ps. 94, 1*

Come, let us praise the Lord with joy; let us joyfully sing to God our Saviour. *Alleluia.*

## GOSPEL

*Matt. 6, 24-33*

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples, No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will sustain the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore

I say to you, be not solicitous for your life, what you shall eat, nor for your body, what you shall put on. Is not the life more than the meat, and the body more than the raiment? Behold the birds of the air; for they neither sow, nor do they reap, nor gather into barns, and your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are not you of much more value than they? And which of you, by taking thought, can add to his stature one cubit? And for raiment why are you solicitous? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they labor not, neither do they spin; but I say to you, that not even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed as one of these. Now if God so clothe the grass of the field, which is today, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, how much more you, O ye of little faith! Be not solicitous therefore, saying, what shall we eat, or what shall we drink, or wherewith shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the heathen seek. For your Father knoweth that you have need of all these things. Seek ye therefore first the kingdom of God, and His justice; and all these things shall be added unto you.

## OFFERTORY

*Ps. 33, 8, 9*

The angel of the Lord shall encamp round about them that fear Him, and shall deliver them. O taste, and see that the Lord is sweet!

## SECRET

Grant us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that this saving Victim may become both the cleansing of our sins, and the propitiation of Thy might. Through our Lord.

## COMMUNION

*Matt. 6, 33*

Seek first the kingdom of God; and all things shall be added unto you, saith the Lord.

## POSTCOMMUNION

May Thy Sacraments, O God, ever purify and fortify us, and bring us to the effect of everlasting salvation. Through our Lord.



## Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, *Divine Intimacy*

Give strength to my weakness, O Lord, so that I may come to possess Your kingdom.

We find the central thought of today's Mass synthesized in the Collect: "O Lord... because the frailty of man without Thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by Thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation." Behold the position of man in respect to the spiritual life: he is like a child who finds himself at a crossroad: he cannot go on alone, and he does not know which road leads to his home. Two roads open up before the Christian: one leads to the kingdom of the spirit, the kingdom of God; the other to the kingdom of the flesh, the kingdom of Mammon; which of the two will he choose? Evidently, he wishes to give the preference to the one leading to the kingdom of God, the calm, peaceful kingdom described by Jesus in today's Gospel. Unfortunately, however, the kingdom of Mammon also has attractions and tries to seduce his heart. The Epistle (*Gal 5,16-24*) tells us that we must struggle against these allurements. "For the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh; for these are contrary one to another, so that you do not the things that you would."

The struggle is hard sometimes, even in souls that are decidedly advanced in the things of God. Why? Because the path that leads to the kingdom of God is rough and tiring; it is often shrouded in dense darkness, rendering it impossible for the soul to discern the progress already made. Then the soul must proceed in the night, believing and hoping. Meanwhile, its gaze falls on the other road, which is broader and more comfortable, strewn with sensible goods which can be seen and touched, gathered and enjoyed immediately, by merely stretching out one's hand. The soul feels the temptation and realizes that alone it could not resist, but if it takes refuge in God, if it yields to the guidance of the Spirit, it will be saved, although not without sacrifice. "I say then, walk in the spirit," continues St. Paul, "and you shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh... Now the works of the flesh are manifest..." and the Apostle gives a very unattractive list of them. It is always true: material goods present themselves like flowers,

attractive, yes, but doomed to quickly vanish and decay; it is not worthwhile to stop to enjoy them. That is why "they that are Christ's have crucified their flesh, with the vices and concupiscences.

The Gospel again puts us on our guard against the attractiveness of earthly goods. First it affirms that no man can simultaneously serve two masters, God and Mammon, any more than one can follow the two roads at the same time: the one leading to the kingdom of God and the other to worldly pleasure. Anyone giving himself to God must have the courage to give himself entirely, with no regrets, no backward glance—however fleeting—at the things of the world. The soul who, after choosing the path of perfection, does not go forth generously, with its whole heart, will never be contented. It will neither experience the joy of knowing that it belongs entirely to God, nor will it have the satisfaction of being able to follow all the attractions of the world; the first will be impeded by the soul's unfaithfulness, the second by the fear of God which it still possesses. Such a soul is unhappy, torn between the two and in continual struggle with itself. But what keeps it from seeking the kingdom of God with its whole heart? Jesus gives us the answer in today's Gospel: too much solicitude about material things, about ease and security in this present life. Even though we have the will to live according to the spirit, as long as we are pilgrims here below and in a mortal body, we shall always have to face the possibility of becoming engrossed in worldly cares: "What shall we eat? What shall we drink? Wherewith shall we be clothed?" Precisely to relieve us of such anxieties, Jesus presents to us the marvelous picture of divine Providence. "Behold the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are not you of more value than they?" These are words that give us wings and fill us with a desire to cast aside all vain preoccupations about earthly things and concentrate on seeking the kingdom of God. "Seek ye therefore first the kingdom of God, and His justice, and all these things shall be added unto you." Oh, if we only had greater faith in divine Providence, how much freer we would be to attend to the things of our soul! Although obliged to occupy ourselves with earthly affairs, we would not remain entrapped by them, but would know how to attend to them with complete liberty of spirit.

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

**THE HOUSE OF GOD:** There is too much noise coming from the back of the church during holy Mass. Out of **reverence** due to Our Lord, **please drop kneelers quietly** and limit the coming and going during Mass to a minimum. God bless you.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMS** are now available in the vestibule of the Church. These should be completed by parents whose children are to receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation next year. Please be advised that classes will begin on **September 13th** this year. Registration forms must be in by Monday **August 31st**. The age for First Communion is seven and for Confirmation twelve and up.

**CANONICAL RETREAT:** Fr. Zepeda will be away on canonical retreat from today, August 30th through Friday, September 4th. Masses will resume on Friday at 6:00 p.m. There will be no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on this day.

**FIRST FRIDAY** is September 4th. Don't forget: there is no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

**FIRST SATURDAY** is September 5th. Our Lady requests that we pray the Rosary, meditate for 15 minutes on the Mysteries, make sacramental confession and Communion in reparation for sins and blasphemies against Her Immaculate Heart.

**PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE WYOMING VALLEY CHAPTER** is having it's 31st annual banquet on Monday, October 19th at 6 p.m. at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre. Featured speaker is Fr. Frank Pavone. For more information please see the poster in the church vestibule.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** We are now taking mass intentions for the 2016 year. Please submit your stipend at the time of your mass request.

**COLLECTION:** August 23rd - \$3,933.00

## *Altar Boy Schedule*

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY**  
**AFTER PENTECOST**

**Aug. 30th**  
**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**ACI** Dominic Gardner  
**AC2** Jack Gardner

**TEAM B**

**MC** Francis LaFata  
**TH** Joseph McWhirter  
**AC1** John Gillenkirk  
**AC2** Stephen LaFata  
**C**  
**S1** Brian LaFata  
**S2** Ian McGuirk

**WEEK THREE**

**Monday** Patrick Schneider  
**7:45 a.m.**

**Tuesday**  
**7:45 a.m.**

**Wednesday** Dominic Gardner  
**7:45 a.m.** Jack Gardner

**Thursday** Sean Michelin  
**7:45 a.m.**

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY**  
**AFTER PENTECOST**

**Sep. 6th**  
**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**ACI** Patrick Schneider  
**AC2** Collin Chidester

**TEAM C**

**MC** Dominic Gardner  
**TH** Robert Seeley  
**AC1** Matt Gillenkirk  
**AC2** Patrick Seeley  
**C** Jack Gardner  
**S1** Michael Gardner  
**S2** Sean Michelin